

Miscellaneous Series # 113

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Preliminary Report 1940

COLORADO CATTLE AND SHEEP RANCHES

WESTERN COLORADO

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Colorado Experiment Station  
Fort Collins, Colo.,  
in cooperation with  
Grazing Service and Forest Service

September 1941

To the cooperators:

This preliminary report for the year 1940 is based upon the information furnished T. J. Snyder or R. T. Burdick in February or July 1941 for cattle and sheep ranches in western Colorado. Some corrections have been made in a few cases, based on later information. The report is sent for your information and study.

The ranches are listed by number. Where both sheep and cattle are on the same ranch, you will find the ranch listed in two places. We made an arbitrary division of expense between cattle and sheep on such ranches on the basis that 3 head of sheep on hand the first of the year would have the same total expense as one head of cattle. This was approximately the actual ratio for ranches that had either cattle or sheep alone. Next year when we visit you to obtain the 1941 data we will go over this report and get any corrections which you have for your record.

On the last page (table 5) there is a calculated cost per head per month for grazing when the least cost per acre varies from \$0.02 to \$1 and the acres per head per month vary from .5 to 8.

Table 1.- Expense per head of cattle, based on number of head beginning inventory.

Size of herd (number head)	Ranch No.	Hired labor and groceries	Leases and grazing fees	Repairs equipment, hardware, fences, etc.	Taxes, real estate and personal	Feed and salt	Vet., vaccine, etc.	Purchase of bulls	Interest, real est., & chattel mortgages	Auto-truck expense, gas and oil	Insurance and misc. expense	Total expense per head
0-299	32*	\$3.89	\$.11	\$1.01	\$2.30	\$.45	\$.12	\$3.41	\$3.75	\$.71	\$.95	\$18.70
	45*	7.28	.69	.66	.91	.56	.17	----	1.65	.58	.17	12.67
	27*	4.11	1.08	.11	.93	1.06	.04	----	1.13	.60	---	9.06
	24*	3.28	.74	.34	.76	1.49	---	1.47	1.27	.79	2.26	13.40
	20	7.71	1.73	.56	1.24	----	1.30	.95	.39	1.72	1.13	16.78
	46*	13.54	.98	.99	2.53	.43	.90	2.24	2.63	1.66	1.55	27.45
	30	5.36	1.78	1.29	1.63	1.37	.25	1.93	2.01	1.97	.86	13.45
	12	4.24	.67	.40	1.65	.04	.08	1.60	2.60	1.44	.35	13.07
	25*	2.66	.62	.79	1.36	3.41	---	1.04	1.42	.57	.16	12.03
	7	1.36	.85	.75	1.31	.02	.02	----	1.58	1.69	.58	7.96
	42	7.50	.67	.42	1.66	.66	.07	.73	----	.81	.73	13.25
300-499	18	2.09	.40	.32	1.28	.16	---	.80	1.91	1.30	.48	8.74
	43	3.69	.07	1.81	1.68	.77	1.19	1.58 <sup>1/</sup>	.05	1.07	1.37	13.28
	15	2.94	.63	.30	1.60	.49	.03	.73	1.87	.83	.87	10.29
	1	6.06	.41	2.66	1.07	1.05	.26	.81	1.28	2.52	1.44	17.56
	9	4.82	.76	.94	2.01	3.74	.26	1.61	.94	.54	.54	16.16
	33	2.18	.80	.28	1.06	3.71	.09	.74	1.23	.97	.91	11.97
	34	1.66	.88	.22	.99	1.11	.31	1.38	1.52	.53	.33	8.93
500 plus	31	2.24	.53	.53	1.30	1.70	.28	1.84	4.53	1.35	.49	14.79
	44	7.10	.09	2.39	2.92	1.12	.53	.98	----	1.12	.38	16.63
	35	1.78	1.14	1.35	1.35	2.15	.08	1.11	.71	.26	.71	10.64
	3*	3.64	.71	.30	.83	1.34	1.95	1.28	.69	.85	1.08	13.17
	4	.63	.97	.81	.86	.89	.13	3.19	.46	.27	.13	8.34
	28	2.73	.79	.57	1.35	.59	.57	.97	.78	.52	1.10	9.97

\*Cattle and sheep ranch.

<sup>1/</sup>Purchase of yearlings.

Table 2.--Expense per head of sheep, based on number of head beginning inventory.

Size of flock (number head)	Ranch No.	Hired labor groceries and shearing	Leases and grazing fees	Repairs equipment, hardware, fences, etc.	Taxes real estate and personal	Feed and salt	Vet., vaccine, wool bags, etc.	Purchase of bucks and ewes	Interest	Auto, truck expense, gas and oil	Ins., and misc. exp.	Total expense per head	Expense per head not including purchase of ewes
0-1499	46*	\$ 4.68	\$ .33	\$ .33	\$ .84	\$ .14	\$ .30	\$ .14	\$ .87	\$ .55	\$ .52	\$ 8.70	\$ 8.70
	45*	2.43	.23	.22	.30	.19	.06	1.53	.55	.19	.06	5.76	4.37
	24*	1.30	.25	.11	.25	.50	---	.15	.42	.26	.75	3.99	3.99
	32*	1.42	.03	.33	.77	.15	.04	.46	1.25	.24	.32	5.01	4.60
	25*	1.09	.21	.26	.45	1.14	---	2.12	.47	.19	.05	5.98	3.97
	5	2.34	.80	.96	.50	.64	.68	2.11	.75	.95	.22	9.95	7.88
	29	1.53	.15	.08	.31	1.79	.10	.24	.18	.16	.37	4.91	4.91
	10	1.98	.21	.03	.28	.06	.05	1.42	.06	.42	.14	4.65	3.40
1500-2999	36	1.46	.25	.06	.37	1.95	.30	2.00	.30	.33	.15	7.17	5.34
	2	1.74	.22	---	.14	.80	.27	3.17	---	.07	---	6.41	3.41
	6	3.26	.17	.15	.45	.49	.06	.23	.94	.18	.12	6.05	6.05
	17	.86	1.22	.41	.24	.45	---	1.87	.33	.31	.28	5.97	4.28
	3*	1.21	.24	.26	.28	.45	.65	1.79	.23	.28	.36	5.75	4.19
	13	2.82	.29	.21	.21	.83	.03	1.90	.51	.24	.07	7.11	5.40
	19	1.60	.43	.24	.44	2.00	.03	.95	.33	.35	---	6.37	5.56
	38	2.10	.86	.95	.29	1.24	.11	1.92	.27	.21	.18	8.13	6.49
16	1.38	.13	---	.34	.64	.31	.17	.21	.55	.23	3.96	3.79	
3000-4999	8	1.44	.48	.21	.28	.48	.03	1.02	.22	.29	.06	4.51	3.61
	37	1.64	.68	.16	.24	.74	.01	.08	.10	.10	.24	3.99	3.99
	23	1.67	.51	---	.40	.52	.08	.06	.28	.20	.02	3.74	3.74
	27*	1.49	.36	.04	.31	.35	.01	.19	.38	.20	---	3.33	3.18
	26	1.35	.18	.04	.18	.16	---	2.47	.31	.13	.02	4.84	2.59
	40	2.37	1.11	.18	.29	.68	.07	.19	.28	.16	.19	5.52	5.52
	14	2.13	.24	.37	.33	.22	---	.18	.41	.13	.44	4.45	4.31
5000 plus	41	2.78	.35	.47	.37	.27	.08	2.15	.41	.43	.14	7.45	5.50
	11	1.74	.45	.09	.12	.85	.04	.11	---	.16	.02	3.58	3.58
	39	2.23	.74	.05	.22	.71	---	2.09	.33	.42	.33	7.12	5.23
	22	1.91	1.19	.58	.27	.91	---	1.78	.59	.18	.21	7.62	5.85
	49	2.06	.83	.22	.25	---	---	.11	.03	.24	.23	3.97	3.97

\*Cattle and sheep ranch

Table 3.- Cattle sales, weights and calf crop.

Size of herd	Ranch No.	Total receipts per head	Average sale weight			Pounds sold per head all cattle	Actual percent calf crop	Percent death loss all cattle
			Cows	Yearlings	Calves			
			Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds		
0-299	32*	\$16.60	923	579	---	236	47.6	4
	45*	23.53	1,150	700	---	322	90	4
	27*	21.49	1,000	630	375	476	72.6	5
	24*	13.60	950	625	350	248	63.4	6
	20	21.79	1,100	656	---	279	78.1	5
	46*	25.30	864	722	---	268	74.3	5
	30	25.57	1,000	588	383	298	75.3	3
	12	24.24	900	525	365	238	76.2	5
	25*	22.02	1,000	603	360	284	77.7	5
	7	21.31	950	575	380	235	86.5	1.75
42	---	1,125	626	410	302	64.9	6	
300-499	18	13.65	1,000	---	400	212	79.5	4
	43	38.70	1,100	645	330	284	70	3
	15	19.70	915	654	400	262	71.2	5
	1	28.54	1,075	549	400	302	82.5	4
	9	21.17	1,000	656	---	248	39.8	5
	33	32.42	850	550	375	422	60.8	1.5
54	17.19	800	535	281	218	69	4	
500 plus	31	19.68	1,000	600	390	237	68.6	2
	44	29.87	1,000	655	---	253	80	3
	35	21.78	900	---	426	270	58.2	1
	3*	26.76	1,080	739	---	345	82.6	2
	4	18.32	1,010	750	---	270	57	5
	28	18.66	900	633	406	241	76	2
Simple average 24 ranches						283		

\*Both sheep and cattle.

1/ Based on first inventory.

Table 4.- Sheep sales, weights, and lamb crop.

Size of flock	Ranch No.	Total receipts per head	Average sale weights		Pounds <sup>1/</sup> sold per head all sheep	Actual percent <sup>4/</sup> lamb crop in 1940	Percent death loss	
			All lambs	Ewes			Ewes	Lambs
			Lbs.	Lbs.				
0-1499	46*	\$8.43	86	120	86.8	125	5	5
	45* <sup>2/</sup>	7.84	87	110	78.2	81	10	5
	24*	5.53	66.2	120	63.6	95	10	10
	32*	6.93	70	97	59.8	99	5	10
	25* <sup>2/</sup>	8.28	73	115	89.3	107	5	5
	5 <sup>2/</sup>	12.21	80	120	117.2	128	10	4
	29	7.42	80.2	110	62.1	88	5	7
	10 <sup>2/</sup>	9.93	70	125	89.1	127	10	6
1500-2999	36 <sup>2/</sup>	8.34	79.1	120	87.4	94	3	10
	2 <sup>2/</sup>	9.45	74.1	115	92.8	100	8	10
	6	7.52	78	117	77.9	119	8	5
	17 <sup>2/</sup>	9.28	79	130	85.4	95	7	7
	3* <sup>2/</sup>	7.80	67	120	77	84	5	3
	13 <sup>2/</sup>	10.75	81.7	126	109.6	112	10	7
	19 <sup>2/</sup>	9.64	77.6	132	95.4	100	10	4
	38 <sup>2/</sup>	10.94	78	120	88.1	101	4	5
16 <sup>3/</sup>	7.68	76	132	59.3	124	12	10	
3000-4999	8 <sup>2/</sup>	7.62	69.7	123	61.4	100	12	10
	37	6.27	72	110	57.3	93	5	10
	23	5.55	72.6	110	43.5	76	8	5
	27*	5.48	78	---	51.7	90	10	6
	26 <sup>2/</sup>	6.61	74	130	77	73	10	7
	40	7.89	72	120	78.3	109	5	5
	14 <sup>2/</sup>	8.87	77	130	79.6	122	5	2
5000 plus	41 <sup>2/</sup>	9.90	82	132	94	102	7	6
	11	6.29	78	125	49.8	100	15	10
	39 <sup>2/</sup>	9.09	70	120	85.5	104	6	6
	22 <sup>2/</sup>	8.44	67.2	129	77.9	97	8	4
	49	6.34	---	---	---	95	-	-

Simple average

All records, 28	77.7
Raised ewe replacement 10, records	63.1
Purchased ewe replacement 18, records	85.8

\*Both sheep and cattle.

<sup>1/</sup> Based on first inventory.

<sup>2/</sup> Purchased ewe replacement.

<sup>3/</sup> Purchased and raised ewe replacement.

<sup>4/</sup> Based on lambs docked and ewes on hand first of year.

Table 5. Grazing cost per head per month.

Lease cost per acre	Acres per head per month									
	.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	4	5	6	8
	Grazing cost per head per month									
¢ .02	¢ .01	¢ .02	¢ .03	¢ .04	¢ .05	¢ .06	¢ .08	¢ .10	¢ .12	¢ .16
.05	.025	.05	.075	.10	.125	.15	.20	.25	.30	.40
.08	.04	.08	.12	.16	.20	.24	.32	.40	.48	.64
.10	.05	.10	.15	.20	.25	.30	.40	.50	.60	.80
.12	.06	.12	.18	.24	.30	.36	.48	.60	.72	.96
.15	.075	.15	.225	.30	.375	.45	.60	.75	.90	1.20
.20	.10	.20	.30	.40	.50	.60	.80	1.00	1.20	
.25	.125	.25	.375	.50	.625	.75	1.00	1.25	1.50	
.30	.15	.30	.45	.60	.75	.90	1.20			
.35	.175	.35	.525	.70	.875	1.05	1.40			
.40	.20	.40	.60	.80	1.00	1.20				
.45	.225	.45	.675	.90	1.125					
.50	.25	.50	.75	1.00	1.25					
.60	.30	.60	.90	1.20						
.75	.375	.75	1.125							
1.00	.50	1.00	1.50							