Equine Production Costs and Considerations
Mark Russell
University of Arkansas – Division of Agriculture

Where can I keep a horse?
- At home
- On a rented pasture
- At a commercial stable

The needs of your horse
- Nutrition
- Health
- Space
- Hoof Care
**EQUIPMENT**
- Saddle (used) $600
- Bridle $60
- Pad $30
- Blanket $80
- Halter $20
- Curry Comb $4
- Hoof Pick $1
- Brush $5
- Lead $8
- Buckets $35

**EQUIPMENT AND HORSE**
- Total for equipment...... $843
- Horse $800

**FACILITIES**
- Corral (50ftx50ft) $1,000
- Shed (10ftx12ft) $720
- Storage (tack and feed) $640

Total $2360
## OPERATING COST: FEEDING

- **Feeding**
  - Grain (4 pounds per day @ $10.00 per bag)
    - $0.80 per day  
    - $292.00 per year
  - Hay ($4.50 per bale) x 20 pds per day
    - $1.60 per day  
    - $584.00 per year
  - Salt and Minerals
    - $1.10 per day  
    - $36.50 per year
  - **TOTAL**
    - $2.34 per day  
    - $912.50 per year

## OPERATING COST: HEALTH CARE

- **Veterinary Service ($30 per month – routine)**
  - $1.00 per day  
  - $365.00 per year
- **Foot Care ($50 every 6 weeks)**
  - $1.20 per day  
  - $438.00 per year

- **Total**  
  - $803.00
- **TOTAL OPERATING**  
  - **$1715.50**

## OTHER REPAIRS AND DEPRECIATION

- **Repairs**
  - Facilities (10% of $2,360.00)
    - $0.65 per day  
    - $236.00 per year
  - Tack (5% of $843.00)
    - $0.12 per day  
    - $42.15 per year

- **Depreciation**
  - Facilities (10% of $2,360)
    - $0.65 per day  
    - $236.00 per year
  - Tack (20% of $843.00)
    - $0.46 per day  
    - $168.60 per year

- **Total**  
  - **$682.75**
**OTHER**

**INTEREST (ON MONEY SPENT)**

- **Interest (12%)**
  - Average operating ($1,715.50)
    - $0.56 per day
    - $205.86 per year
  - Horse ($800.00)
    - $0.26 per day
    - $96.00 per year
  - Facilities ($2,060.00)
    - $0.78 per day
    - $283.20 per year
  - Tack ($843.00)
    - $0.28 per day
    - $101.16 per year
  - **Total**
  - **TOTAL of Other** $1,368.75

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**TOTAL COSTS**

- Feeding and Health Care (Operating)
  - $1,715.50
- Repairs, Depreciation, and Interest (Other)
  - $1,368.75
- **TOTAL**
  - $3,084.27 per year
  - $8.55 per day

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**BREEDING**

- Why breed your mare?
- Why buy a mare to breed?
EXPENSE AREA #1

Stud Fee
$1,000

EXPENSE AREA #2

Mare Cost
Ex. $10,000 paid for mare
70% foaling success rate

Based on 7 productive breeding years:
($10,000/7 years) = $1,429 per year

EXPENSE AREA #3

Breeding Expenses
Collection Fee
$200
Transportation Costs
$150
Vet Expenses
Breeding Soundness Examination
Ultra Sound
$400
TOTAL: $750
EXPENSE AREA #4
MARE MAINTENANCE

Board
- 13 months
- $10 per day
- Total board cost (for mare only) = $4,260

EXPENSE AREA #5
MARE MAINTENANCE

Veterinary Care
- Checkups, shots, worming… (13 months)
- $20/month
- Total veterinary cost = $260

EXPENSE AREA #6
MARE MAINTENANCE

Farrier Care
Basic trim
- Every 45 days (9 times in 13 months)
- $30 per trim
- Total farrier cost = $270
**EXPENSE AREA #7**

**mare maintenance**

**insurance**

$10,000 mare

- 13 months of premium = $800

Total for all *mare maintenance* for 13 months:

$5,500

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**foal maintenance**

**board**

- $2/day as a foal
- $10/day as a weanling and yearling

1st 6 months = $360

Next 12 months = $3650

Total board costs for foal (18 months) = $4010

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**foal maintenance**

**veterinary care**

$20 per month * 18 months = $360

*(Only takes into account routine procedures)*
FOAL MAINTENANCE
FARRIER

- 12 trims over 18 months
- $30 for each trim

Total for farrier work = $360

FOAL MAINTENANCE
INSURANCE

Foal is valued at $5,000

Annual Premium = $300

The total of all foal maintenance expenses is: $5,030

SALES PREP FEES

Transportation to sale = $200
Advertising = $250
Auction entry fee = $350
Other (supplies) = $200

Total for sales prep of yearling = $1,000
TOTAL COST FOR ONE YEAR OF BREEDING WITH ONE MARE...

$14,799
(take this number and work down)

CRUCIAL ELEMENTS OF A BREEDING PROGRAM

Breeding contracts
- Stallion service contracts
  - No guarantee stallion service contract
  - Guaranteed live foal stallion service contract
  - No guarantee/guaranteed live foal service contract

Insurance
- Stallion infertility coverage
- Breeding mares infertility coverage

FACTORS TO CONSIDER:
- Overall health of mare(s)
- Uncertainties of birth
- Purpose of foal
- Time of year
- Continued increase of expenses
- Energy and stress involved
FACTORS TO CONSIDER:
- Know your market
- Have a plan
- Keep track, adjust, evaluate
- Partnerships

SUMMARY - BREEDING
- Evaluate your mare and plan a health maintenance program for her
- Select a stallion
- Decide when and how to breed your mare
- Monitor your mare's reproductive cycles and breed at the appropriate time

KEEP IN MIND...
- Goal setting
- Plan budget ahead of time
- What kind of horse do you want
SUMMARY

- Keep accurate records
- If you can’t afford to lose the money spent, then don’t proceed forward