

Computerized Herd Management Software for Cow-Calf Producers

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With the increasing use of electronics in agriculture, producers who have computers frequently ask about the availability of software programs to handle cow-calf production records. Before purchasing a software program, it is important to analyze the value of such a system with regard to making better management decisions. Producers should evaluate their existing records to determine the types of information needed from a software program. By considering specific recordkeeping needs, the producer is better equipped to choose an appropriate software package. The hardest steps to valuable recordkeeping are (1) making time for recordkeeping, (2) determining the herd information that is economically feasible to collect and (3) summarizing the herd data for use in the decision-making process.

If the producer is not currently keeping any records on herd performance, a good starting point may be working on some basic calf crop records, cow information (if individual identification is used), calving and weaning data, inventory numbers, number of females exposed to the bull(s), etc. Seedstock and commercial cow-calf producers have different needs. Also, herd size can influence the degree of detail that a producer is willing or able to assemble on the cattle. Meaningful cow-calf records may be handwritten or computerized. Calendars, journals and IRM Redbooks are a few examples of handwritten record systems. Many producers have developed simple spreadsheets that help them track their production and inventory.

The typical program purchase costs range from \$75 to \$695. Most management software companies offer detailed web sites that explain the computer requirements to run the software and the specific features of the program. In addition to the desktop database, which will provide comprehensive cow, calf and sire data entry fields as well as herd production summaries, most are compatible with electronic identification (EID) readers to electronically identify and transfer information to the database. Several companies offer additional software for mobile devices, such as Pocket PC or Palm, to allow the producer to enter information while in the field. Pasture movement, breeding or calving data, observation notes or veterinary information can be logged in the field and uploaded to the desktop program at a later time. Online data management programs offer an alternative, allowing the producer to log on anywhere there is internet connectivity and access herd information. Registered cattle users should check with their breed association to verify the recommended management program for that breed.

Before purchasing any software, determine the level and cost of software support that will be provided by the company. In addition, some programs have specific cattle information requirements before the program will work. Sorting applications and the type of reports generated may vary, but in many cases, producers have the opportunity to customize reports to meet specific needs.

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Another important feature may include the ability to query or search the data for specific animal information. Every cow-calf operator must determine the amount of time available to devote to practical recordkeeping and weigh this commitment against software costs, data entry features and desired summary reports.

Information provided about the following programs was adapted from an Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service publication (CR-3279). The summary does not cover all available packages or individual program features. Programs may have other capabilities that are not described in the summary. Producers should contact the respective companies for purchase information, details on features and specific hardware requirements.

Contact information for various software vendors:

- **Ranch Manager**
Lion Edge Technologies
7663 South Duquesne Way
Aurora, Colorado 80016
Phone: 720-870-5086
Fax: 303-699-5485
Web site: www.lionedge.com
- **Cow Calf 5**
University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Great Plains Veterinary Education Center
P.O. Box 148, State Spur 18D
Clay Center, Nebraska 68933-0148
Phone: 402-762-4357
Fax: 402-762-4509
E-mail: Support@CowCalf.com
Web site: www.cowcalf.com
- **Farm Stock**
Farm Works Software
Martens Farms
539 Buckskin Road
Inman, Kansas 67546
Phone: 620-585-6761/877-585-6761
E-mail: info@123farmworks.com
Web site: www.123farmworks.com
Contact: Lorra Martens
- **Cow Sense®**
Midwest Microsystems, LLC
3100 'O' Street, Suite 7
Lincoln, Nebraska 68510
Phone: 402-323-6969/800-584-0040
E-mail: sales@cowssense.com
support@cowssense.com
Web site: www.cowssense.com
Contact: Tim Davis, vice president
- **CattleMax**
Cattlesoft, Inc.
P.O. Box 2647
College Station, Texas 77841
Phone: 877-454-COWS (2697)
E-mail: sales@cattlemax.com
Web site: www.cattlemax.com
Contact: Penny Miller
- **The Beef Cattle firm**
University of Tennessee Extension
315 John Rice Boulevard, Suite 101
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129
Phone: 615-898-7710
Fax: 615-898-7999
E-mail: kferguson@utk.edu
Web site: economics.ag.utk.edu/firm.html
Contact: Kevin Ferguson
- **Cattle Pro**
Global Livestock Management Systems LLC
1725 Dryden Road
Sadieville, Kentucky 40370
Phone: 800-204-2002/859-234-2002
E-mail: support@cattlepro.com
Web site: www.cattlepro.com
- **Cattleworks**
CattleWorks, LLC
5411 Dishner Valley Road
Bristol, Virginia 24202
Phone: 800-507-2902
E-mail: info@cattleworks.com
Web site: www.cattleworks.com

Calf Information

| | Ranch Manager | Cow Calf 5 | Farm Stock | Cow Sense | | | | CattleMax | | The fIRM | Cattle Pro 2005 | Cattleworks |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | | | EZ-75 | Lite | Commercial | Seedstock | Commercial | Registered | | | |
| Individual ID, Name | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breed Composition | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breed Registration Number | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | N | Y | Y | |
| Tattoo/Brand Number/Ear Tag | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Pedigree | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | N | Y | N | |
| Sex | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Dam ID | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Sire ID | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Birth Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Calving Ease Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Calving Period | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Age of Dam at Birth | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Management Code (e.g., creep) | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Weaning Date/Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Horned/Polled/Soured | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Color | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Hip Height/Frame Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Muscling Score | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Grade/Carcass Data | N | Y | Y | N | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Health/Vaccination Records | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Death/Disposal Cause/Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Sold To/Price | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Pasture/Location | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Adjusted Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Age in Days | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Daily Gain (weaning) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Weight Per Day of Age (weaning) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Adjusted 205-Day Weaning Weight/Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Adjusted Hip Height | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | U | |
| Yearling Weight and Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Adjusted 365-Day Weight/Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | U | U | U | N | |
| Average Daily Gain/Ratio (yearling) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Ratio/Index by Sex/Group | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Number of User-Defined Entries | 0 | 13 | Unlimited | VU | VU | Unlimited | VU | Unlimited | 0 | Unlimited | Unlimited | |

Y = Yes, N = No, U = User-Defined Field, VU = Virtually Unlimited

Cow Information

| | Ranch Manager | Cow Calf 5 | Farm Stock | Cow Sense | | | | CattleMax | | The fIRM | Cattle Pro 2005 | Cattleworks |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | | | EZ-75 | Lite | Commercial | Seedstock | Commercial | Registered | | | |
| Individual ID, Name | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breed Composition | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breed Registration Number | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | |
| Tattoo/Brand Number/Ear Tag | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Birth Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Pedigree | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | Y | N | |
| Weaning Weight/205-Day Weight and Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Yearling Weight/305-Day Weight and Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Additional Weights | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Cow Weight/Weigh Dates | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Condition Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Hip Height | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Age | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Color | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Horned/Polled/Scurred | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Temperament Score | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | U | |
| MPPA Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Management Code | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Number Calves Born, Weaned | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number Calves Held as Yearlings | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Calving Interval | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Date of Last Calf | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Projected Calving Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Days Open | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Average Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Adjusted Calf Production Weights | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Calf Performance Ratios | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Daily Gain of Calves | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Heat Detection Information | N | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | N | Y | Y | |
| Breeding Information | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Pregnancy Status | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Pregnancy Check Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Pelvic Area Measurements | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Health/Vaccination Records | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Death/Disposal Cause/Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Sold To/Price | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Pasture/Location | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Embryo Transfers | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N | |
| Average Calving Ease Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of User-Defined Entries | 0 | 8 | Unlimited | VU | VU | Unlimited | VU | Unlimited | 0 | Unlimited | Unlimited | |

Y = Yes, N = No, U = User-Defined Field, VU = Virtually Unlimited

Sire Information

| | Ranch Manager | Cow Calf 5 | Farm Stock | Cow Sense | | | | CattleMax | | The fIRM | Cattle Pro 2005 | Cattleworks |
|---|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | | | EZ-75 | Lite | Commercial | Seedstock | Commercial | Registered | | | |
| Individual ID, Name | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breed Composition | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Percentage Fullblood/Purebred | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Breed Registration Number | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | Y | U | |
| Purchased/Raised, Cost and Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Birth Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Pedigree | Y | Y | Y | N | N | N | Y | N | Y | Y | N | |
| Weaning Weight/205-Day Weight and Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Yearling Weight/305-Day Weight and Ratio | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Central Bull Testing Information | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| On-Farm Bull Testing Information | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Health/Vaccination Records | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Percent Pregnancy Rate | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Condition Score | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Hip Height | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | U | |
| Color | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Horned/Polled/Scurred | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Contemporary Group | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Breeder of Bull | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Pelvic Area Measurements | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Management Code | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |
| Number of Calves Sired | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Number of Calves Sired Weaned | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of Calves Sired Yearling | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Average Calf Performance Weights (Birth, Weaning, Yearling) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Adjusted Calf Performance Weights/Ratios | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average ADG of Calves | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average WDA of Calves | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Semen Inventory | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| List of Sires | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Death/Disposal Cause | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Purchase/Sale Price | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breeding Soundness Exams | Y | Y | NA | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | U | |

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Herd Information

| | Ranch Manager | Cow Calf 5 | Farm Stock | Cow Sense | | | CattleMax | | The fIRM | Cattle Pro 2005 | Cattleworks |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------|------------|-----------|------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------------|-------------|
| | | | | EZ-75 | Life | Commercial | Seedstock | Commercial | | | |
| Pounds Weaned Per Cow | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Common Weaning Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Average Inseminations/Cow Bred | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Average Inseminations/Live Calf | Y | N | Y | Y | N | N | N | N | Y | N | |
| Average Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Adjusted Birth Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Average Weaning Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Days of Age (Weaning) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average ADG (Weaning) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average WDA (Weaning) | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Average 205-Day Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Hip Height | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Average Cow Age | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Yearling Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Average Adjusted 365-Day Weight | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Averages by Calf Sex | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average by Cow Age | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Average by Calf Sire | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Averages by Management Code | N | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of Cows in Herd | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Number of Open Cows | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of Bred Cows | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of Cows Exposed | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Number of Cows Added to Herd | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Cattle Purchases Records | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Number of Calves Born | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Number of Nursing Calves | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Number of Calves Weaned | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Feed and Pasture Records | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | |
| Expected Calving Date | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Calf Crop Percent | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Percent of Cows Pregnant | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Length of Calving Season | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Average Calving Interval | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Calving Distribution Summary | N | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Health/Vaccination Records | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Yearling List | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Yearling Summary | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Potential Replacement Heifers | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Potential Cull Cows | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Sort by Index | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Sort by ID | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Sort by Other | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Historical Cow Performance | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Pedigree Report | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Breeding Worksheet | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Preg-Check Worksheet | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Herd Composition by Age | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| Conception Rate by Age | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |
| List of Open Cows | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| List of Cows Bred | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Inventory by Calf Sex | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Inventory by Location | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Inventory by Sire | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | |
| Open Cows Carried Forward | Y | Y | N | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | |
| Management Calendar | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | N | Y | N | |

Y = Yes, N = No, U Sort by Index = User-Defined Field, VU = Virtually Unlimited

Computer Requirements

| | Ranch Manager | Cow Calf 5 | Farmstock | Cow Sense |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
| Operating System | Windows XP or newer; 32 or 64 bit computer; Mac OSX 10.4.1 or newer | Windows 95/98/ME/XP/Vista | Windows XP or newer; Mac running Softwindows | Windows 32 bit or XP |
| Minimum RAM | 512 MB | 64 MB | 128 MB | 512 MB |
| Hard Disk | 500 MB | 50 MB | 20 MB | 100 MB |
| Printer | Inkjet or laser | Any Microsoft Windows printer | Any graphics printer | No requirements |
| Monitor | 800 x 600 | 800 x 600 | 800 x 600 | Any |
| Updates | Free electronic updates | Free electronic updates; constant revision | 2012 (Ver. 17) | Sept. 2011 (quarterly updates online) |
| Cost | \$99.99/Commercial or Purebred, unlimited herd size | \$500 | \$250 | EZ-75 (\$157.50), Lite (\$265.50), Commercial (\$445), Purebred (\$535.50), Multi-User (\$1,995) |
| Demo Availability/Cost | Free/fully functional | Free/fully functional | Online demo | Free working demo version |
| Support Availability/Cost | Free e-mail, phone and web site | Free/multiple options | 30 days free; remote on-site (\$68/hour); other options available | 30 days/30 minutes free; other options available; free online support at Cow Sense Corral |
| Mobile Device Options/Cost | Yes/\$100 | Yes/preloaded PDA \$70/\$140/\$160 or free software with purchase | Yes/\$250 | Yes/\$195 |
| Types of Handhelds | Palm OS or Windows mobile devices. iPhone app to be released in 2012. | Palm (minimum 8MB RAM) or pocket PC (Windows CE) | Windows mobile devices 6.x and above; Pocket PC 6 and above; laptops XP and above | Any pocket PC with Windows |
| Online Options | No | No | No | Online management system (\$60/year) |
| EID Interface | Allflex, I.D.ology, Syscan | Allflex, I.D.ology, Digital Angel, Temple Tag, Y-TEX | Y-TEX, I.D.ology | AgInfoLink, Allflex, Avid, Destron Fearing, Farnam, Gallagher, Y-TEX |
| Breed Association Interface | No | No | No | Yes |
| Facebook | Yes | Yes | No | Yes |

Computer Requirements (continued)

| | CattleMax | The firm | Cattle Pro | Cattleworks |
|------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| Operating System | Windows XP or newer | Windows 95 or newer | Windows XP, Vista, Windows 7; Mac with available free download | Windows 95 or newer |
| Minimum RAM | 32 MB | 24 MB | 500 MB | 32 MB |
| Hard Disk | 40 MB | 10 MB | 550 MB | 40 MB |
| Printer | Most except all-in-one | No requirements | No requirements | Inkjet or laser |
| Monitor | 1024 x 768 | 800 x 600 | 800 x 600 | 800 x 600 |
| Updates | Free electronic updates | Windows Ver. (\$25); DOS Ver. (\$75) | Free electronic updates | Free electronic updates |
| Cost | Commercial small herd (\$125), large herd (\$245); Registered small herd (\$295), large herd (\$495) | \$125 | Standard (\$195) Select (\$295) Choice (\$395) Choice Plus (\$495) Prime (\$495) Prime Plus (\$595) | \$74.95 |
| Demo Availability/Cost | Free/fully functional | No | Free/fully functional | Free/fully functional |
| Support Availability/Cost | Free e-mail, phone and web site | Free phone and e-mail | Free phone and e-mail | Free phone, e-mail and web site |
| Mobile Device Options/Cost | Coming in 2012 | No | No | Yes |
| Types of Handhelds | | | | Includes software to view on Palm® handheld |
| Online Options | Online backup (\$60/year) | No | No | No |
| EID Interface | Allflex, Destron; Limited interface with I.D.ology, Syscan, Y-TEX | No | Yes | Yes |
| Breed Association Interface | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Facebook | Yes | No | No | No |

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