



Publication 60
**Field Crop
Budgets**

2026

These crop budgets are a tool for estimating expenses. The sample costs are only a guide to illustrate a method of preparing your projections. They are based on many assumptions, including seeding rates, levels of fertilizer use, etc. Due to regional differences, there may be considerable variation in results.

To project your break-even price after total costs, enter your farm figures in the spaces provided. The resulting estimate will help you choose your crop mix and set target prices and marketing strategies for your farm.

Electronic versions of these crop budget worksheets can be found at ontario.ca/agbusiness.

The use of imperial and metric measurement in this publication reflects the way information is reported by industry. Fertilizer rates are typically reported in kilogram (kg)/hectare. See page 23 for metric and imperial conversions.

Front cover: Field of soybeans mid-season.

Back cover: Sprout of recently appeared corn. Photo source: Shutterstock.

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2026 FIELD CROP BUDGETS

Crop budgets are a management tool to estimate costs and evaluate cropping alternatives. The sample costs are not averages or recommended treatments. The budgets comprise treatments derived from crop advisors in the areas where the crops are commonly grown. There will be differences due to growing region, cropping practices, individual needs and yield expectations. The budgets, unless indicated otherwise, are based on conventional tillage practices. Seed costs, except for the *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), Roundup Ready (RR) and herbicide-tolerant corn, spring canola and soybeans, are for non-genetically enhanced varieties. The budgets developed for Bt, RR or herbicide-tolerant varieties do not represent an endorsement of these products. They are included due to the current predominance of these production systems in field crop operations.

Identity Preserved (IP) crops require budgeting for any extra expenses and revenue, e.g., increased seed, weed control, storage and equipment cleaning costs. Some of the budgets provide a line item for this.

Interest rates were calculated at 5.45% for the period between planting and harvest.

These budgets will be most meaningful if you use your expected yields and specific costs in developing production plans. Input prices for seed, fertilizer, fuel and pesticides were based on the survey results reported in the Ontario Farm Input Monitoring Project conducted by the University of Guelph, Ridgetown campus and input suppliers. The production insurance and risk management program premiums shown are the producer premiums at the highest coverage level and at the floating price, if available.

The estimated costs for machinery are derived from the Ontario average custom rates. The Ontario average custom rates are allocated across the six machinery-related expenses. It is recommended that you use your records to derive your costs. Experience is the best guide to help budget machinery costs. Prior year's statements of income and expenses can provide information on equipment repairs, maintenance and fuel costs. The portion of those costs that relates to crop production can be divided by the acres of crop produced to arrive at a cost per acre.

Overhead expenses are a major part of the total cost of doing business. In addition to the depreciation of machinery, include depreciation on all related tools and storage buildings. Land costs would include property tax and any other land-related costs. Other overhead expenses should include insurance, professional fees, office, vehicles and storage. In all cases, divide overhead expenses by the acreage of crop to express costs on a per-acre basis. Interest on investment is an opportunity cost to you — the rate of return that you expect or want on your invested capital.

If there are significant debt commitments for land and equipment, an alternative method of budgeting overhead expenses is to use the debt servicing requirements. In this case, use the actual interest and principal payment commitments, rather than depreciation and expected return on invested capital.

“Total Revenue” is the yield you expect, multiplied by the price you expect. Yield information is most accurate if based on your experience with the land and techniques you will be using. If you do not have such records, check with AGRICORP or a local farm supply dealer. They can help you develop plans and reasonable expectations for your crops.

“Contribution Margin” is the difference between total operating expenses and total revenue. “Operating Expenses” (e.g., seed, fertilizer, fuel, repairs, etc.) change with the crop grown and the production blend used. “Fixed or overhead costs” will show little or no change whether one crop or another is grown. “Contribution Margin” is a quick and easy measure for comparing relative profitability among your cropping choices.

Table 1. Adjustment of nitrogen requirements for previous crops with nitrogen credits

Type of crop	N requirement reduction (kg/ha)	
	Corn	Other Crops
Perennial forage, less than one-third legume	0	0
Perennial forage, one-third to half legume	55	55
Perennial forage, half or more legume	110	110
Clover cover crop seeded/ploughed in same year	80	45 ¹
Soybean and field bean residue	30	0

¹ Applies where the legume stand is thick and over 40 cm (16 in.) high.

2026 Crop Comparison Summary Table for Selected Field Crops (\$/acre)*

Expense	Corn Conventional Tillage	Herbicide- Tolerant Spring Canola	Non-GMO Soybeans No Till	Roundup Ready Soybeans No Till	Coloured Beans	White/ Black Beans	Soft Red Winter Wheat No Till	Oats	Hard Red Spring Wheat
Seed	116.70	84.75	70.10	96.50	195.00	140.40	88.25	44.60	84.25
Seed treatment	4.00	–	13.00	13.00	–	–	–	–	–
Fertility	251.75	176.95	80.95	80.95	81.95	81.95	180.90	96.95	118.60
Pesticides	30.80	74.70	84.55	25.60	155.80	165.55	52.30	58.80	40.75
Total Inputs	403.25	336.40	248.60	216.05	432.75	387.90	321.45	200.35	243.60
Tillage	84.00	80.00	–	–	139.50	87.50	–	80.00	80.00
Planting	33.00	32.00	32.50	32.50	33.00	43.00	32.00	32.00	32.00
Spraying	18.00	54.00	36.00	36.00	72.00	90.00	54.00	54.00	36.00
Fertilizing	21.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Harvesting & trucking	118.95	79.30	79.55	79.55	154.35	87.70	93.75	79.45	81.75
Total Machinery	274.95	262.30	165.05	165.05	415.85	325.20	196.75	262.45	246.75
Drying	102.20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Production insurance	11.00	21.80	9.70	9.70	34.50	20.05	6.85	6.40	12.30
Risk management	8.80	12.00	3.85	3.85	1.00	1.55	4.90	11.55	5.65
Interest @ 5.45%	21.00	14.80	10.95	10.05	19.05	17.45	23.10	7.60	11.35
Marketing & other	53.85	4.30	17.15	17.15	6.20	6.35	2.45	2.05	1.40
Total Costs	875.05	651.60	455.30	421.85	909.35	758.50	555.50	490.40	521.05
Yield									
Price									
Gross Return									
Net Margin/Acre									
Less:									
Land cost/rent									
Utilities/acct/misc.									
Net Return per Acre									

* The crop comparison summary table is derived from the individual budgets in the publication. Some expense items have been combined in the summary table. For the break-out of the individual expenses, refer to the respective budget in the publication.

Crop Budgeting Tools

Market and input prices projected were as of November 2025. Use the following tools to determine your cost of production:

- [Ontario Enterprise Budgeting Tools](#)
- [Custom Farmwork Rates](#)
- [Custom Farmwork Rate calculator](#)
- [Field Crop Statistics: Harvested Area, Production, Crop Prices, Corn Supply and Disposition](#)
- Crop Nutrient Removal calculator (from IPNI): <https://plantnutrition.ca/research/canadian-crop-nutrient-balance/>
- Corn Nitrogen calculator: <https://fieldcropnews.com/2024/05/ontario-corn-nitrogen-calculator/>
- Mobile App: Pest Manager: www.gfo.ca/apps

HAY

DIRECT SEEDING ESTABLISHMENT (Alfalfa-timothy 50% yield; Premium market 66% yield)		Alfalfa-Timothy	Premium Market	Your Farm Budget
Seed	13.45 kg/ha; 18 kg/ha alfalfa	71.20	94.90	
Other seed	4.48 kg/ha timothy	17.70	17.70	
Inoculant		1.05	1.05	
Fertility	45 kg/ha N	—	33.80	
	crop removal	24 kg/ha; 41 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (6.1 kg/tonne removal rate)	20.35	34.75
		92 kg/ha; 157 kg/ha K ₂ O (23.5 kg/tonne removal rate)	43.50	74.30
	lime 2,273 kg/ha	—	30.00	
Herbicide	broadleaf weed control	22.05	21.75	
	burndown	—	8.60	
Production insurance		5.15	5.15	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (31 L; 40 L) and lubricants	43.75	57.00	
	repairs	51.55	91.00	
Custom work	pesticide applications (2; 2)	36.00	36.00	
	fertilizer applications (2; 3), mixing and delivery	34.00	51.00	
	bale wrapping — plastic — 50% yield	53.95	—	
Drying (\$0.022/kg)		—	66.15	
Storage (\$0.022/kg)		—	66.15	
Twine		2.75	15.30	
Operator labour (self or hired)		33.35	41.65	
Interest		21.95	38.40	
Total Establishment Year Expenses		458.30	784.65	

ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES (based on projected yield of 3.15 tonnes DM/acre over 3 cuts; 4.05 tonnes DM/acre over 3 cuts)				
Establishment year expenses — over 3 years (less establishment year sales)				52.35
Fertility	45 kg/ha N	—	33.80	
	crop removal	47 kg/ha; 61 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (6.1 kg/tonne removal rate)	40.55	52.15
		183 kg/ha; 235 kg/ha K ₂ O (applied in fall) (23.5 kg/tonne removal rate)	86.70	111.45
	lime 2,273 kg/ha	—	30.00	
Pesticide	broadleaf weed control	—	10.85	
	insecticide	—	6.40	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (31 L; 30 L) and lubricants	44.80	42.20	
	repairs	56.70	95.00	
Twine		5.45	22.95	
Production insurance		20.10	40.40	
Custom work	pesticide applications (0; 2)	—	36.00	
	fertilizer applications (2; 2), mixing and delivery	34.00	34.00	
	bale wrapping — plastic	107.95	—	
Drying (\$0.022/kg)		—	99.25	
Storage (\$0.022/kg)		—	99.25	
Other costs		—	—	
Land rent		—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		34.00	42.60	
Interest on operating		14.20	22.05	
Total Annual Operating Expenses		496.80	778.35	

REVENUE				
Expected yield				
Expected price				
Total Revenue (Yield x Price)				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				

OVERHEAD EXPENSES				
Machinery	depreciation	80.00	126.50	
	interest on investment	28.35	47.30	
Land		—	—	
Other overhead		19.45	33.00	

NITROGEN CREDIT TO FOLLOWING CROPS IN ROTATION				
Nitrogen credit (\$/acre = N reduction (from Table 1) x price of N)				
Grain yield increase				
Total benefits/year				
TOTAL EXPENSES		624.60	985.15	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

BARLEY

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.5 tonnes/acre (70 bu/acre) feed, malting; 2.8 tonnes/acre (128 bu/acre) winter)			Feed Barley	Malting Barley	Winter Barley	Your Farm Budget Sample Costs/Acre
Expenses for Grain						
Seed	1.0–1.4 million seeds/acre (feed, malting), 1.4–1.8 million seeds/acre (winter), certified seed		66.60	66.60	89.25	
Fertility	113 kg/ha (246 kg/ha Urea (Northern Ontario — Feed)		83.95	—	—	
	90 kg/ha (196 kg/ha Urea (Southern Ontario — Feed)		66.90	—	—	
	56 kg/ha (122 kg/ha Urea (Eastern Ontario — Feed)		41.60	—	—	
	56 kg/ha (45–67 kg/ha) (122 kg/ha Urea (Malting)		—	41.60	—	
	101 kg/ha (220 kg/ha Urea) (Winter)		—	—	76.00	
	crop removal	30 kg/ha (feed, malting), 56 kg/ha (winter) P ₂ O ₅ (8.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	26.05	26.05	47.65	
		23 kg/ha (feed, malting), 44 kg/ha (winter) K ₂ O (6.3 kg/tonne removal rate)	11.30	11.30	20.65	
Herbicide	broadleaf weed control		11.65	11.65	11.65	
	grassy weed control		10.60	10.60	10.60	
Fungicide			29.45	29.45	29.45	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L) and lubricants		30.65	30.65	30.65	
	repairs and maintenance		38.60	38.60	38.60	
Production insurance			6.40	6.40	6.40	
Risk Management Program			13.10	13.10	23.95	
Marketing board fees (\$1.40/tonne)			2.15	2.15	3.90	
Custom work	fertilizer application, mixing and delivery		17.00	17.00	17.00	
	2 pesticide applications		36.00	36.00	36.00	
	other		—	—	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			16.75	16.75	30.65	
Storage			—	—	—	
Quality testing			—	—	—	
Land rent			—	—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)			14.85	14.85	14.85	
Interest on operating			13.30	12.70	15.80	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain (Feed (average of 3 regions))			408.60	385.45	503.10	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 1.89 tonnes/acre) (feed, malting), 2.13 tonnes/acre(winter)						
Fertility	crop removal	12 kg/ha (feed, malting) 14 kg/ha (winter) P ₂ O ₅ (2.6 kg/tonne removal rate)	10.50	10.50	11.85	
		94 kg/ha (feed, malting) 107 kg/ha (winter) K ₂ O (20.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	44.75	44.75	50.60	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants		7.90	7.90	7.90	
	repairs and maintenance		7.25	7.25	7.25	
Twine			9.60	9.60	10.80	
Operator labour (self or hired)			17.75	17.75	17.75	
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			97.70	97.70	106.15	
Total Operating Expenses			506.30	483.15	609.20	
REVENUE						
Expected barley yield						
Expected barley price						
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Program payment						
Total Barley Revenue						
Expected straw yield						
Expected straw price						
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Total Revenue						
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)						
		Feed Barley		Malting Barley		Winter Barley
		Barley Only	Barley & Straw	Barley Only	Barley & Straw	Barley Only
OVERHEAD EXPENSES						Barley & Straw
Machinery	depreciation	59.00	70.60	59.00	70.60	59.00
	interest on investment	20.60	23.60	20.60	23.60	20.60
Land		—	—	—	—	—
Other overhead		13.30	15.80	13.30	15.80	13.30
TOTAL EXPENSES		501.50	616.30	478.35	593.15	702.10
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):						

SPRING CANOLA (Herbicide Tolerant)

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.03 tonnes/acre (2,268 lb/acre))		Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Seed	5.6 kg/ha hybrid, treated	84.75	
Fertility	121 kg/ha N (212 kg/ha Urea + 97 kg/ha ammonium sulphate) ¹	108.45	
	crop 63 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (24.5 kg/tonne removal rate)	53.85	
	removal 31 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	14.65	
Herbicide	grass and broadleaf weed control	21.75	
Technology use agreement		–	
Insecticide	if required (swede midge)	29.50	
Fungicide	white mould	23.45	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L) and lubricants	30.65	
	repairs and maintenance	41.25	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$4.20/tonne)		4.30	
Production insurance		21.80	
Risk Management Program		12.00	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery	17.00	
	pesticide applications (3)	54.00	
	other	–	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		11.30	
Storage		–	
Land rent		–	
Operator labour (self or hired)		14.85	
Interest on operating		14.80	
Total Operating Expenses		558.35	
REVENUE			
Expected yield _____			
Expected price _____			
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)			
Program payment			
Total Revenue			
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)			
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Machinery	depreciation	58.65	
	interest on investment	21.00	
Land		–	
Other overhead		13.60	
TOTAL EXPENSES		651.60	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):			

¹ Nitrogen rate is based on 47.6 kg N/tonne removal rate. 112 kg/ha ammonium sulphate (21-0-0-24) supplies 27 kg/ha sulphur. See the canola section of the OMAFA Agronomy Guide for Field Crops, Publication 811, for more accurate nitrogen requirements for canola, adjusted for yield and fertilizer cost.

WINTER CANOLA

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.5 tonnes/acre)		Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Seed	4.0 kg/ha — hybrid, treated	70.20	
Fertility	202 kg/ha N (375 kg/ha urea + 140 kg/ha ammonium sulphate) ¹	173.40	
	crop 92 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (24.5 kg/tonne removal rate)	78.55	
	removal 45 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	21.35	
Herbicide	volunteer cereal control	12.45	
	burndown	11.55	
Insecticide	if required (cabbage seedpod weevil)	29.50	
Fungicide	white mould	23.45	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L), lubricants	29.45	
	repairs and maintenance	26.60	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$4.20/tonne)		6.30	
Production insurance		21.80	
Risk Management Program		17.55	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (2), mixing and delivery	34.00	
	pesticide applications (3)	54.00	
	other	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		16.50	
Storage		—	
Land rent		—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		13.05	
Interest on operating		17.45	
Total Operating Expenses		657.15	
REVENUE			
Expected yield _____			
Expected price _____			
		Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)	
Program payment			Total Revenue
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)			
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Machinery	depreciation	37.25	
	interest on investment	12.80	
Land		—	
Other overhead		8.95	
TOTAL EXPENSES		716.15	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):			

¹ 140 kg/ha ammonium sulphate (21-0-0-24) supplies 34 kg/ha sulphur.

COLOURED BEANS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.14 tonnes/acres (25 cwt/acre))		Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Seed	80,000 seeds/acre, 30-in. rows, certified, treated seed (with fungicide plus Cruiser insecticide)	195.00	
Fertility	40 kg/ha N crop 40 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (14.0 kg/tonne removal rate) removal 40 kg/ha K ₂ O (14.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	29.70 33.60 18.65	
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weeds	96.70	
	other weed control, if required	—	
Insecticide		—	
Fungicide	if required (white mould)	51.10	
Crop pre-harvest		8.00	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (36 L) and lubricants repairs and maintenance	51.45 71.70	
Marketing board fees (\$5.50/tonne)		6.20	
Production insurance		34.50	
Risk Management Program		1.00	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery pesticide applications (4)	17.00 72.00	
Trucking (11.00/tonne)		12.35	
Drying		—	
Land rent		—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		27.85	
Interest on operating		19.05	
	Total Operating Expenses	745.85	
REVENUE			
Expected yield	_____		
Expected price	_____		
		Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)	
Less pick charges (typically 2%–4%)			
Program payment			
		Total Revenue	
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)			
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Machinery	depreciation interest on investment	101.00 37.45	
Land		—	
Other overhead		25.00	
	TOTAL EXPENSES	909.30	
	Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):		

GRAIN CORN

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 4.90 tonnes/acre (193 bu/acre))	Tillage System			Your Farm Budget
	Conventional	Non-GMO Conventional	No-Till	
	Sample Costs/Acre			
Seed ¹ (average cost of 3 hybrids)	32,000 kernels — treated — RR ²	117.80	—	117.80
	32,000 kernels — treated — Bt	104.20	—	104.20
	32,000 kernels — treated — multi-trait	128.00	—	128.00
	32,000 kernels — treated — non-GMO	—	89.20	—
Insecticide seed treatment, if required		4.00	4.00	4.00
Fertility ³	171 kg/ha N (611 kg/ha of 28-0-0 U.A.N.)	147.35	147.35	147.35
	crop removal	75.95	75.95	75.95
	60 kg/ha K ₂ O (4.9 kg/tonne removal rate)	28.45	28.45	28.45
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weed	30.80	36.25	30.80
	burndown	—	—	11.40
	other weed control, if required	—	—	—
Insecticide/fungicide	if required	—	—	—
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (29 L conventional, 16 L no-till) and lubricant	40.95	40.95	22.90
	repairs and maintenance	38.20	38.20	20.80
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$0.48/tonne)		2.35	2.35	2.35
Production insurance		11.00	11.00	11.00
Risk Management Program		8.80	8.80	8.80
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1; 1; 1), mixing and delivery	21.00	21.00	21.00
	pesticide applications (1; 1; 2)	18.00	18.00	36.00
	other	—	—	—
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		53.95	53.95	53.95
Drying (\$20.85/tonne, 8 points)		102.20	102.20	102.20
Land rent		—	—	—
Operator labour (self or hired)		18.65	18.65	9.65
Storage (\$2.60/tonne/month x 4 months)		51.50	51.50	51.50
Interest on operating		21.00	20.40	20.55
Total Operating Expenses	790.80	768.20	775.30	
REVENUE				
Expected yield _____ (Corn following corn: 8.5% corn yield decrease)				
Expected price _____				
		Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)		
Program payment				
		Total Revenue		
		CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)		
OVERHEAD EXPENSES				
Machinery	depreciation	53.25	53.25	28.95
	interest on investment	18.20	18.20	9.90
Land		—	—	—
Other overhead		12.75	12.75	6.95
TOTAL EXPENSES	875.00	852.40	821.10	
	Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):			

¹ Seed treated with fungicide only.² Roundup Ready.³ Nitrogen rate is based on the nitrogen rate calculator. Nitrogen recommendation is for corn grown in southwestern/central Ontario, 3,000 heat units, clay loam soil, following wheat with straw removed, with projected corn yield of 4.90 tonnes/acre (193 bu/acre), nitrogen cost of \$2.15/kg and corn price of \$222/tonne (\$5.65/bu). See <https://fieldcropnews.com/2024/05/ontario-corn-nitrogen-calculator/> for more accurate nitrogen requirements for corn.

FORAGES — WARM SEASON ANNUALS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 9.65 tonnes DM/acre silage corn; 7.84 tonnes DM/acre sorghum-sudangrass over two cuts)		Silage Corn	Sorghum-Sudangrass	Your Farm Budget
		Sample Costs/Acre		
Seed	32,000 kernels, with seed treatment silage corn; 40 kg/ha sorghum-sudangrass	121.80	56.40	
Insecticide seed treatment, if required		4.00	—	
Fertility ¹	171 kg/ha N (611 kg/ha of 28-0-0 U.A.N.) silage corn; 140 kg/ha N sorghum-sudangrass	147.35	104.05	
	crop removal	5.5 kg P ₂ O ₅ /tonne DM removal rate 11.7 kg K ₂ O/tonne DM removal rate)	113.40 133.25	92.15 108.75
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weeds	30.80	30.80	
	other weed control, if required	—	—	
Insecticide/fungicide	if required	—	—	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (15 L silage corn; 4 L sorghum-sudangrass) and lubricants	21.15	5.90	
	repairs and maintenance	25.70	6.70	
Silo repair and maintenance		—	—	
Production insurance		11.00	5.15	
Silage inoculant		—	—	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1; 1), mixing and delivery	21.00	17.00	
	pesticide applications (1; 1)	18.00	18.00	
	harvest	130.00	336.20	
	storage (ensiled)	409.20	315.60	
Land rent		—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		10.55	4.45	
Interest on operating		32.60	30.00	
Total Operating Expenses		1,229.80	1,131.15	
REVENUE				
Expected yield				
Expected price				
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Program payment				
Total Revenue				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES				
Machinery	depreciation	37.20	9.50	
	interest on investment	13.70	3.20	
Land		—	—	
Other overhead		8.70	2.25	
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,289.40	1,146.10	
Cost per tonne on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

¹ Nitrogen rate is based on the nitrogen rate calculator. Nitrogen recommendation is for corn grown in southwestern/central Ontario, 3,000 heat units, clay loam soil, following wheat with straw removed, with projected grain corn yield of 4.90 tonnes/acre (193 bu/acre), ensiled at 65% moisture, nitrogen cost of \$2.15/kg and corn price of \$222/tonne (\$5.65/bu). See <https://fieldcropnews.com/2024/05/ontario-corn-nitrogen-calculator/> for more accurate nitrogen requirements for corn.

FORAGES — COOL SEASON ANNUALS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 2.43 tonnes DM/acre fall rye; 1.50 tonnes DM/acre oats)			Fall Rye	Oats and Peas	Your Farm Budget			
			Sample Costs/Acre					
Seed	112 kg/ha forage fall rye; 50 kg/ha oats and 50 kg/ha peas		41.40	54.30				
Fertility	90 kg/ha N fall rye; 55 kg/ha N oats		66.90	40.85				
	crop removal	54 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (9.0 kg/tonne DM removal rate) fall rye; 24 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (6.4 kg/tonne DM removal rate) oats/peas	47.00	20.50				
		240 kg/ha K ₂ O (40 kg/tonne DM removal rate) fall rye; 116 kg/ha K ₂ O (31.1 kg/tonne DM removal rate) oats/peas	114.95	55.70				
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weeds		11.60	11.60				
	other weed control, if required		—	—				
Insecticide/fungicide	leaf disease, if required		11.55	11.55				
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (4 L) and lubricants		5.90	5.90				
	repairs and maintenance		6.70	6.70				
Silo repair and maintenance			—	—				
Production insurance			7.80	7.40				
Silage inoculant			—	—				
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1; 1), mixing and delivery		17.00	17.00				
	pesticide applications (2; 2)		36.00	36.00				
	harvest		178.10	124.10				
	storage (bale wrapping)		100.00	61.75				
Land rent			—	—				
Operator labour (self or hired)			4.45	4.45				
Interest on operating			17.70	12.50				
Total Operating Expenses			667.05	470.30				
REVENUE								
Expected yield _____								
Expected price _____								
		Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Program payment								
		Total Revenue						
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)								
OVERHEAD EXPENSES								
Machinery	Depreciation		9.50	9.50				
	interest on investment		3.20	3.20				
Land			—	—				
Other overhead			2.25	2.25				
TOTAL EXPENSES			682.00	485.25				
Cost per tonne on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):								

FLAX

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 0.59 tonnes/acre)			Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Expenses for Grain				
Seed	49 kg/ha certified, treated		55.35	
Fertility	45 kg/ha N		33.45	
	crop removal	25 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (7.5 kg/tonne removal rate)	21.05	
		19 kg/ha K ₂ O (5.8 kg/tonne removal rate)	9.00	
Herbicide	broadleaf weed control		8.75	
	grassy weed control, if required		20.75	
	desiccant		8.60	
Fungicide			—	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L) and lubricants		30.65	
	repairs and maintenance		38.60	
Production insurance			17.10	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery		17.00	
	pesticide applications (2)		36.00	
	other		—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			6.40	
Storage			—	
Land rent			—	
Operator labour (self or hired)			14.85	
Interest on operating			8.65	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain			326.20	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 2.21 tonnes/acre)				
Fertility	crop removal	18 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (3.2 kg/tonne removal rate)	15.10	
		105 kg/ha K ₂ O (19.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	49.75	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants		7.90	
	repairs and maintenance		7.25	
Twine			11.20	
Other			17.75	
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			108.95	
Total Operating Expenses			435.15	
REVENUE				
Expected flax yield	_____			
Expected flax price	_____			
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Program payment				
Total Flax Revenue				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			Flax Only	Flax & Straw
Machinery	depreciation		59.00	70.60
	interest on investment		20.60	23.60
Land			—	—
Other overhead			13.30	15.80
TOTAL EXPENSES			419.10	545.15
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield): _____				

OATS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.31 tonnes/acre (85 bu/acre))			Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Seed	1.1 million seeds/acre, certified treated		44.60	
Fertility	90 kg/ha N (196 kg/ha Urea)		66.90	
	crop 25 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (7.5 kg/tonne removal rate)		21.05	
	removal 19 kg/ha K ₂ O (5.8 kg/tonne removal rate)		9.00	
Herbicide	weed control, if required		8.75	
Fungicide			29.45	
Plant growth regulator			20.60	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L) and lubricants		30.65	
	repairs and maintenance		38.60	
Production insurance			6.40	
Risk Management Program			11.55	
Marketing board fees (\$1.57/tonne)			2.05	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery		17.00	
	pesticide applications (3)		54.00	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			14.45	
Storage			—	
Land rent			—	
Operator labour (self or hired)			14.85	
Interest on operating			7.60	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain			397.50	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on project yield of 2.21 tonnes/acre)				
Fertility	crop	18 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (3.2 kg/tonne removal rate)	15.10	
	removal	105 kg/ha K ₂ O (19.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	49.75	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants		7.90	
	repairs and maintenance		7.25	
Twine			11.20	
Other			17.75	
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			108.95	
Total Operating Expenses			506.45	
REVENUE				
Expected oat yield	_____			
Expected oat price	_____			
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Program payment				Total Oats Revenue
Expected straw yield	_____			
Expected straw price	_____			
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)				Total Revenue
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			Oats Only	Oats & Straw
Machinery	depreciation		59.00	70.60
	interest on investment		20.60	23.60
Land			—	—
Other overhead			13.30	15.80
TOTAL EXPENSES			490.40	616.45
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

SOYBEANS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.42 tonnes/acre (52 bu/acre))		Tillage System			Your Farm Budget
		Non-GMO Soybeans Conventional	Non-GMO Soybeans No-Till	Roundup Ready No-Till	
		Sample Costs/Acre			
Seed	177,000 seeds/acre in 15-in. rows — drill (165,000 seeds/acre in 15-in. rows — planter)	70.10	70.10	96.50	
Fungicide seed treatment		13.00	13.00	13.00	
Additional seed treatments or inoculants, If required		—	—	—	
Fertility	crop removal	50 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (14.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	42.35	42.35	42.35
		81 kg/ha K ₂ O (23.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	38.60	38.60	38.60
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weeds	73.00	73.00	14.05	
	burndown	—	11.55	11.55	
	other weed control, if required	—	—	—	
Insecticide/fungicide	if required	—	—	—	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L conventional, 16 L no till) and lubricants	30.65	22.45	22.45	
	repairs and maintenance	38.10	19.75	19.75	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$1.63/tonne)		2.30	2.30	2.30	
Production insurance		9.70	9.70	9.70	
Risk Management Program		3.85	3.85	3.85	
Drying, if required		—	—	—	
Custom work	pesticide applications (1; 2; 2)	18.00	36.00	36.00	
	fertilizer applications (1; 1; 1), mixing and delivery	17.00	17.00	17.00	
Added expense for IP		—	—	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		15.55	15.55	15.55	
Storage (\$2.60/month/tonne x 4 months)		14.85	14.85	14.85	
Land rent		—	—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		14.85	11.55	11.55	
Interest on operating		10.95	10.95	10.05	
Total Operating Expenses		412.85	412.55	379.10	
REVENUE					
Expected yield	(Soybeans following soybeans: 10% soybean yield decrease)				
Expected price					
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)					
Additional revenue from IP					
Program payment					
Total Revenue					
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)					
OVERHEAD EXPENSES					
Machinery	depreciation	58.50	27.35	27.35	
	interest on investment	20.60	9.15	9.15	
Land		—	—	—	
Other overhead		13.30	6.25	6.25	
TOTAL EXPENSES		505.25	455.30	421.85	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):					

SWITCHGRASS

ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES		Direct Seeded		Your Farm Budget			
		Conventional	No-Till				
		Sample Costs/Acre					
Seed	11.25 kg/ha switchgrass	160.00	160.00				
Fertility	nitrogen, if required	—	—				
	crop P ₂ O ₅	—	—				
	removal K ₂ O	—	—				
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf control	22.65	22.65				
	burndown	—	11.55				
	other weed control, if required	—	—				
Insecticide/fungicide	if required	—	—				
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (12 L conventional, 4 L no till) and lubricants	17.75	6.30				
	repairs and maintenance	29.50	8.40				
Custom work	pesticide applications (1; 2)	18.00	36.00				
	fertilizer applications, mixing and delivery	—	—				
Harvest and trucking		—	—				
Operator labour (self or hired)		11.85	5.45				
Establishment failure rate		—	—				
Interest on operating		6.75	6.65				
Total Establishment Year Expenses		266.50	257.00				
ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 4.0 tonnes/acre (4.4 tons/acre))							
Establishment year expenses — over 7 years (less establishment year sales)		57.15	47.70				
Fertility	76 kg/ha nitrogen	57.30	57.30				
	crop P ₂ O ₅	—	—				
	removal K ₂ O	—	—				
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (16 L) and lubricants	22.40	22.40				
	repairs and maintenance	45.00	45.00				
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1; 1), mixing and delivery	17.00	17.00				
Trucking		—	—				
Removal and storage		118.60	118.60				
Twine		—	—				
Operator labour (self or hired)		15.15	15.15				
Interest on operating		9.05	8.80				
Total Annual Operating Expenses		341.65	331.95				
REVENUE							
Expected yield	_____						
Expected price	_____						
		Total Revenue (Yield x Price)					
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)							
OVERHEAD EXPENSES							
Machinery	depreciation	58.00	58.00				
	interest on investment	20.50	20.50				
Land		—	—				
Other overhead		13.50	13.50				
TOTAL EXPENSES		433.65	423.95				
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):							

SOFT RED WINTER WHEAT

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 2.61 tonnes/acre (96 bu/acre))		Tillage System		Your Farm Budget
		Conventional	No-Till	
		Sample Costs/Acre		
Expenses for Grain				
Seed	1.4–1.8 million seeds/acre, certified seed	88.25	88.25	
Fertility	135 kg/ha N (272 kg/ha urea + 47 kg/ha ammonium sulphate) ¹	107.85	107.85	
	crop removal	64 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (9.8 kg/tonne removal rate) 39 kg/ha K ₂ O (6.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	54.45 18.60	54.45 18.60
Herbicide	broadleaf weeds	11.30	11.30	
Fungicide	fusarium head blight	29.45	29.45	
	leaf disease, if required	11.55	11.55	
Plant growth regulator		20.60	20.60	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L conventional, 16 L no till) and lubricants	30.65	22.45	
	repairs and maintenance	38.60	20.35	
Production insurance		6.85	6.85	
Risk Management Program		4.90	4.90	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$0.93/tonne)		2.45	2.45	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1; 1), mixing and delivery	17.00	17.00	
	pesticide applications (3; 3)	54.00	54.00	
Added expense for IP		–	–	
Trucking (\$11.00 tonne)		28.75	28.75	
Land rent		–	–	
Operator labour (self or hired)		14.85	11.55	
Interest on operating		24.45	23.10	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain		564.55	533.45	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 2.41 tonnes/acre)				
Fertility	crop removal	10 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (1.7 kg/tonne removal rate) 72 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	8.75 34.25	8.75 34.25
	fuel (6 L) and lubricants	7.90	7.90	
Tractor and machine expenses	repairs and maintenance	7.25	7.25	
	Twine	12.20	12.20	
Other		17.75	17.75	
Total Operating Expenses — Straw		88.10	88.10	
Total Operating Expenses		652.65	621.55	
REVENUE				
Expected wheat yield				
Expected wheat price				
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Additional income from IP				
Program payment				
Total Wheat Revenue				
Expected straw yield				
Expected straw price				
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Total Revenue				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES		Conventional Tillage		No-Till
Machinery	Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw	Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw
	59.00	70.60	27.35	38.95
Land	20.60	23.60	9.15	12.15
	–	–	–	–
Other overhead	13.30	15.80	6.25	8.75
TOTAL EXPENSES	657.45	762.65	576.20	681.40
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

¹ 47 kg/ha ammonium sulphate (21-0-0-24) supplies 11 kg/ha sulphur.

HARD RED WINTER WHEAT

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 2.42 tonnes/acre (89 bu/acre))			Tillage System		Your Farm Budget	
			Conventional	No-Till		
			Sample Costs/Acre			
Expenses for Grain						
Seed	1.4–1.8 million seeds/acre, certified seed		81.75	81.75		
Fertility	165 kg/ha N (337 kg/ha urea + 47 kg/ha ammonium sulphate) ¹		130.35	130.35		
	crop removal	59 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (9.8 kg/tonne removal rate) 36 kg/ha K ₂ O (6.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	50.45 17.25	50.45 17.25		
Herbicide	broadleaf weeds		11.30	11.30		
	other weed control, if required		–	–		
Fungicide	fusarium head blight		29.45	29.45		
	leaf disease, if required		11.55	11.55		
Plant growth regulator			20.60	20.60		
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L conventional, 16 L no till) and lubricants		30.65	22.45		
	repairs and maintenance		38.60	20.35		
Production insurance			8.00	8.00		
Risk Management Program			4.55	4.55		
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$0.93/tonne)			2.25	2.25		
Custom work	fertilizer applications (2; 2), mixing and delivery		34.00	34.00		
	pesticide applications (3; 3)		54.00	54.00		
Added expense for IP			–	–		
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			26.65	26.65		
Land rent			–	–		
Operator labour (self or hired)			14.85	11.55		
Interest on operating			25.60	24.25		
Total Operating Expenses — Grain			591.85	560.75		
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 2.41 tonnes/acre)						
Fertility	crop removal	10 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (1.7 kg/tonne removal rate) 72 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	8.75 34.25	8.75 34.25		
	fuel (6 L) and lubricants		7.90	7.90		
Tractor and machine expenses	repairs and maintenance		7.25	7.25		
	Twine		12.20	12.20		
Other			17.75	17.75		
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			88.10	88.10		
Total Operating Expenses			679.95	648.85		
REVENUE						
Expected wheat yield						
Expected wheat price						
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Additional income from IP						
Program payment						
Total Wheat Revenue						
Expected straw yield						
Expected straw price						
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Total Revenue						
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)						
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			Conventional Tillage		No-Till	
			Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw	Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw
Machinery	depreciation	59.00	70.60	27.35	38.95	
	interest on investment	20.60	23.60	9.15	12.15	
Land	–	–	–	–	–	
Other overhead	13.30	15.80	6.25	8.75		
TOTAL EXPENSES	684.75	789.95	603.50	708.70		

Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):

¹ 47 kg/ha ammonium sulphate (21-0-0-24) supplies 11 kg/ha sulphur.

HARD RED SPRING WHEAT

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.52 tonnes/acre (56 bu/acre))			Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget		
Expenses for Grain						
Seed	1.4–1.6 million seeds/acre, certified seed		84.25			
Fertility	101 kg/ha N (220 kg/ha Urea)		76.00			
	crop removal	37 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (9.8 kg/tonne removal rate)	31.75			
		23 kg/ha K ₂ O (6.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	10.85			
Herbicide	broadleaf weeds		11.30			
	grass or wild oat control, if required		—			
	other weed control, if required		—			
Fungicide	fusarium head blight		29.45			
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (21 L) and lubricants		30.65			
	repairs and maintenance		38.60			
Production insurance			12.30			
Risk Management Program			5.65			
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$0.93/tonne)			1.40			
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery		17.00			
	pesticide applications (2)		36.00			
	other		—			
Added expense for IP			—			
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			16.75			
Land rent			—			
Operator labour (self or hired)			14.85			
Interest on operating			11.35			
Total Operating Expenses — Grain			428.15			
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 2.14 tonnes/acre)						
Fertility	crop removal	9 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (1.7 kg/tonne removal rate)	7.75			
		64 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	30.40			
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants		7.90			
	repairs and maintenance		7.25			
Twine			10.85			
Other			17.75			
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			81.90			
Total Operating Expenses			510.05			
REVENUE						
Expected wheat yield						
Expected wheat price						
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Additional income from IP						
Program payment						
Total Wheat Revenue						
Expected straw yield						
Expected straw price						
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)						
Total Revenue						
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)						
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw		
Machinery	depreciation		59.00	70.60		
	interest on investment		20.60	23.60		
Land			—	—		
Other overhead			13.30	15.80		
TOTAL EXPENSES			521.05	620.05		
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):						

WHITE/BLACK BEANS

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 25 cwt/acre)		Sample Costs/ Acre	Your Farm Budget
Seed	150,000 seeds/acre (78 kg/ha, 15-in. rows) certified, treated seed (with fungicide plus Cruiser insecticide)	140.40	
Fertility	40 kg/ha N	29.70	
	crop 40 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (14.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	33.60	
	removal 40 kg/ha K ₂ O (14.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	18.65	
Herbicide	annual grass and broadleaf weeds	96.70	
Crop pre-harvest		8.00	
Fungicide, if required	white mould	51.10	
	anthracnose	9.75	
Insecticide		—	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (27 L) and lubricants	39.10	
	repairs and maintenance	45.75	
Marketing board fees (\$5.50/tonne)		6.35	
Production insurance		20.05	
Risk Management Program		1.55	
Custom work	fertilizer applications (1), mixing and delivery	17.00	
	pesticide applications (5)	90.00	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		12.70	
Drying		—	
Land rent		—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		19.60	
Interest on operating		17.45	
Total Operating Expenses		657.45	
REVENUE			
Expected yield _____			
Expected price _____			
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)			
Less pick charges (typically 2%–4%)			
Program payment			
Total Revenue			
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)			
OVERHEAD EXPENSES			
Machinery	depreciation	63.10	
	interest on investment	22.55	
Land		—	
Other overhead		15.40	
TOTAL EXPENSES		758.50	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):			

ORGANIC — GRAIN CORN AND SOYBEANS*

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 3.28 tonnes/acre (129 bu/acre) grain corn; 0.98 tonnes/acre (36 bu/acre) soybeans)		Grain Corn	Soybeans	Your Farm Budget
		Sample Costs/Acre		
Seed	grain corn: 32,000 kernels, certified, organic; soybeans: 200,000 seeds/acre, certified, organic in 21–30-in. rows	117.40	110.15	
Seed inoculant		—	6.40	
Fertility	manure, compost** dry fertilizer	150.00 65.00	— 65.00	
Herbicide		—	—	
Insecticide		—	—	
Fungicide		—	—	
Soil maintenance (cover crop, fallow etc.)*		40.00	20.00	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (32 L corn, 32 L soybeans) and lubricants repairs and maintenance	45.15 52.40	46.05 74.85	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fees (\$0.48/tonne (corn), \$1.63/tonne (soybeans))		1.55	1.60	
Certification fees		3.35	3.35	
Production insurance		35.70	53.40	
Risk Management Program		5.85	2.65	
Custom work		—	—	
Added expense for handling organic crops		—	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne corn, \$11.00/tonne soybeans)		36.05	10.80	
Drying (\$20.85/tonne corn)		68.30	—	
Storage		9.00	9.00	
Land rent		—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		25.60	27.40	
Labour — hand weed		—	—	
Interest on operating		17.85	11.75	
Total Operating Expenses		673.20	442.40	
REVENUE				
Expected yield	_____			
Expected price	_____			
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Program payment				
Total Revenue				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES				
Machinery	depreciation interest on investment	76.35 26.40	104.80 41.30	
Land		—	—	
Other overhead		18.10	28.60	
TOTAL EXPENSES		794.05	617.10	
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

* Organic budget estimates do not include transition period costs.

** Manure, compost and cover crop estimates are highly variable, depending on individual farm situations.

ORGANIC — WINTER WHEAT AND SPELT*

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.66 tonnes/acre (61 bu/acre) wheat; 1.46 tonnes/acre spelt)		Winter Wheat	Spelt	Your Farm Budget
		Sample Costs/Acre		
Seed	wheat: 1.5–1.7 million seeds/acre, certified, organic; spelt: 180 kg/ha certified, organic	98.55	125.10	
Fertility	manure, compost** dry fertilizer	150.00 65.00	150.00 65.00	
Herbicide		—	—	
Fungicide		—	—	
Soil maintenance (cover crop, fallow, etc.)*		40.00	40.00	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (25 L) and lubricants repairs and maintenance	35.65 50.60	35.65 50.60	
Production insurance		27.95	17.40	
Risk Management Program		3.10	—	
Marketing board and Grain Financial Protection fee (\$0.93/tonne (wheat))		1.55	—	
Certification fees		3.35	3.35	
Custom work		—	—	
Added expense for handling organic crops		—	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)		18.25	16.05	
Storage		9.00	9.00	
Land rent		—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)		20.25	20.25	
Labour — hand weed		—	—	
Interest on operating		23.65	24.10	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain		546.90	556.50	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 2.41 tonnes/acre)				
Fertility	crop removal	10 kg/ha P ₂ O ₅ (1.7 kg/tonne removal rate) 72 kg/ha K ₂ O (12.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	8.75 34.25	8.75 34.25
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants repairs and maintenance		7.90 7.25	7.90 7.25
Twine			12.20	12.20
Other			17.75	17.75
Total Operating Expenses — Straw		88.10	88.10	
Total Operating Expenses		635.00	644.60	
REVENUE				
Expected yield				
Expected price				
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Program payment				
Total Revenue				
Expected straw yield				
Expected straw price				
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)				
Total Revenue				
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)				
OVERHEAD EXPENSES		Wheat Only	Wheat & Straw	Spelt Only
Machinery	depreciation interest on investment	67.30 23.30	78.95 26.30	67.30 26.30
Land		—	—	—
Other overhead		15.90	18.40	15.90 18.40
TOTAL EXPENSES		653.40	758.65	663.00
TOTAL EXPENSES				768.25
Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):				

* Organic budget estimates do not include transition period costs.

** Manure, compost and cover crop cost estimates are highly variable, depending on individual farm situations.

ORGANIC — BARLEY AND OATS*

OPERATING EXPENSES (costs based on projected yield of 1.2 tonnes/acre (56 bu/acre) barley; 1.0 tonnes/acre (65 bu/acre) oats)			Barley	Oats	Your Farm Budget
			Sample Costs/Acre		
Expenses for Grain					
Seed	barley: 168 kg/ha certified, organic oats: 157 kg/ha certified, organic		112.50	106.40	
Fertility	manure/compost** dry fertilizer		— 65.00	— 65.00	
Herbicide			—	—	
Fungicide			—	—	
Soil maintenance (cover crop, fallow etc.)*			40.00	40.00	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (25 L) and lubricants repairs and maintenance		34.90 47.65	34.90 47.65	
Production insurance			6.40	6.40	
Risk Management Program			10.50	8.85	
Marketing board fee (\$1.40/tonne (barley), \$1.57/tonne (oats))			1.70	1.60	
Certification fees			3.35	3.35	
Custom work			—	—	
Added expense for handling organic crops			—	—	
Trucking (\$11.00/tonne)			13.40	11.05	
Storage			9.00	9.00	
Land rent			—	—	
Operator labour (self or hired)			19.70	19.70	
Labour — hand weed			—	—	
Interest on operating			16.45	16.00	
Total Operating Expenses — Grain			380.55	369.90	
Expenses for Straw (costs based on projected yield of 1.89 tonnes/acre (barley), 2.21 tonnes/acre (oats))					
Fertility	crop removal	P ₂ O ₅ (2.65 kg/tonne removal rate) K ₂ O (20.0 kg/tonne removal rate)	10.50 44.75	15.10 49.75	
Tractor and machine expenses	fuel (6 L) and lubricants repairs and maintenance		7.90 7.25	7.90 7.25	
Twine			9.60	11.20	
Other			17.75	17.75	
Total Operating Expenses — Straw			97.75	108.95	
Total Operating Expenses			478.30	478.85	
REVENUE					
Expected yield					
Expected price					
Total Market Revenue (Yield x Price)					
Program payment					
Total Revenue					
Expected straw yield					
Expected straw price					
Total Straw Revenue (Yield x Price)					
Total Revenue					
CONTRIBUTION MARGIN (Revenue – Operating Expenses)					
OVERHEAD EXPENSES		Barley Only	Barley & Straw	Oats Only	Oats & Straw
Machinery	depreciation interest on investment	67.05 23.90	78.70 26.90	67.05 23.90	78.70 26.90
Land		—	—	—	—
Other overhead		15.60	18.10	15.60	18.10
TOTAL EXPENSES		487.10	602.00	476.45	602.55

Break-even price on your farm (total expenses/expected yield):

* Organic budget estimates do not include transition period costs.

** Manure, compost and cover crop cost estimates are highly variable, depending on individual farm situations.

OMAFA RESOURCES

Selected Factsheets and Publications

Agronomy Guide for Field Crops, Publication 811

Budgeting Farm Machinery Costs, OMAFA Factsheet

Guide to Custom Farmwork and Short-Term Equipment Rental, OMAFA Factsheet

Guide to Forage Production, Publication 30

Soil Fertility Handbook, Publication 611

To obtain a digital copy of this publication, visit ontario.ca and search for the publication number and title.

To obtain print copies of this or any other OMAFA publication, please order:

- online at ontario.ca/publications

Crop protection information on pest management and products registered for use is available through the [Ontario Crop Protection Hub](#).

OMAFA has excellent tools and information to help manage your farm business in the *Cost of production for crops and livestock* section at ontario.ca/agbusiness. For results of the Custom Farmwork and Equipment Rental Rates survey, go to ontario.ca/agbusiness. The *Ontario Enterprise Budgets*, also found on the OMAFA website, has budgets for cost of production, including field crops. You can download a Budgeting Tool Excel file, modify the numbers to reflect your operation, and the file will complete the calculations. The Budgeting Tool also lets you assess the potential effect of production and marketing risk factors and risk management strategies.

Publication 60, *Field Crop Budgets*, is updated by John Molenhuis, Business Analysis and Cost of Production Specialist, OMAFA, Brighton (john.molenhuis@ontario.ca), and the OMAFA Field Crops Unit.

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METRIC CONVERSION TABLES

Application rate conversions (approximate)

Metric to Imperial

litres per hectare $\times 0.09$ = gallons per acre
 litres per hectare $\times 0.36$ = quarts per acre
 litres per hectare $\times 0.71$ = pints per acre
 millilitres per hectare $\times 0.015$ = fluid ounces per acre
 grams per hectare $\times 0.015$ = ounces per acre
 kilograms per hectare $\times 0.89$ = pounds per acre
 tonnes per hectare $\times 0.45$ = tons per acre

Imperial to metric

gallons per acre $\times 11.23$ = litres per hectare (L/ha)
 quarts per acre $\times 2.8$ = litres per hectare (L/ha)
 pints per acre $\times 1.4$ = litres per hectare (L/ha)
 fluid ounces per acre $\times 70$ = millilitres per hectare (mL/ha)
 tons per acre $\times 2.24$ = tonnes per hectare (t/ha)
 pounds per acre $\times 1.12$ = kilograms per hectare (kg/ha)
 ounces per acre $\times 70$ = grams per hectare (g/ha)

Liquid equivalents

litres/hectare	approximate gallons/acre
50 L/ha	= 5 gal/acre
100 L/ha	= 10 gal/acre
150 L/ha	= 15 gal/acre
200 L/ha	= 20 gal/acre
250 L/ha	= 25 gal/acre
300 L/ha	= 30 gal/acre

Dry weight equivalents

grams or kilograms/hectare	ounces or pounds/acre
100 g/ha	= $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz/acre
200 g/ha	= 3 oz/acre
300 g/ha	= $4\frac{1}{4}$ oz/acre
500 g/ha	= 7 oz/acre
700 g/ha	= 10 oz/acre
1.10 kg/ha	= 1 lb/acre
1.50 kg/ha	= $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb/acre
2.00 kg/ha	= $1\frac{3}{4}$ lb/acre
2.50 kg/ha	= $2\frac{1}{4}$ lb/acre
3.25 kg/ha	= 3 lb/acre
4.00 kg/ha	= $3\frac{1}{2}$ lb/acre
5.00 kg/ha	= $4\frac{1}{2}$ lb/acre
6.00 kg/ha	= $5\frac{1}{4}$ lb/acre
7.50 kg/ha	= $6\frac{3}{4}$ lb/acre
9.00 kg/ha	= 8 lb/acre
11.00 kg/ha	= 10 lb/acre
13.00 kg/ha	= $11\frac{1}{2}$ lb/acre
15.00 kg/ha	= $13\frac{1}{2}$ lb/acre

Handy metric conversion factor

litres per hectare $\times 0.4$ = litres per acre
 kilograms per hectare $\times 0.4$ = kilograms per acre

Conversion tables —

imperial to metric (approximate)

Area

1 square foot = 0.09 m²
 1 square yard = 0.84 m²
 1 acre = 0.40 ha

Volume (dry)

1 cubic yard = 0.76 m³
 1 bushel = 36.37 L

Volume (liquid)

1 fluid ounce (imp.) = 28.41 mL
 1 pint (imp.) = 0.57 L
 1 gallon (imp.) = 4.55 L
 1 gallon (U.S.) = 3.79 L

Weight

1 ounce = 28.35 g
 1 pound = 453.6 g
 1 ton = 0.91 tonne



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