

RED DEER PRODUCTION

Breeding hinds (productive life 12-15 yrs 90% Calving) good quality £350.00 - £400.00

Breeding stags (herd life 6 – 8 yrs 1 stag – 35 Hinds) 2 year old good quality £1500 - £2000

Fencing costs £8 – 10.00 per m supplied and erected, gates £150.00 wooden, £250.00 steel

Handling Crush £1000 - £8000 (vary between manual drop floor – hydraulic workroom)

Handling systems can be simple adaptations of existing buildings or purpose built

Gross Margins For Store Calf Production and Stag Calf Finishing

<u>Store Calf Production</u>	<u>Per 100 Hinds</u>
Sales:	£
45 Stag Calves @ 45kg liveweight @ £2.20/kg	4,455
35 Hind Calves@ 40kg liveweight @ £2.00/kg	2,800
8 Cull Hinds @ 53kg carcase weight @ £2.50/kg (sold to game dealer)	1,060
Average Annual Value of Cull Stags	120
Less Average Annual Cost of Replacement Stags	250
<u>Output</u>	<u>8,685</u>
Variable Costs:	
Feed (100 hinds plus 3 stags/150 days)	2,439
Feed (80 weaned calves 21 days pre sale)	420
Feed (10 replacement hind calves 150 days)	299
Vet and Med	300
Miscellaneous	300
<u>Total Variable Costs</u>	<u>3,758</u>
Gross Margin per 100 Hinds	£ 4,927

Assumed feed intakes: Stags 6kg silage+1.5kg conc/day . Hinds 6kg silage/day. Sale calves 2kg silage +1kg conc/day. Replacement hind calves 2kg silage+0.75kg conc/day. **Costs;** Silage £15.00 per 600kg bale. Concentrates £200/tonne.

Finishing Store Calves (stags)	Per 100 stags
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Sales:

97 Stags (15-18 months)@55 kg dead wt @ £4.60/kg	24,541
Less Purchases: 100 stag calves @ 45kg live wt @ £2.20/kg	(9,900)
Less Transport @£10 per head	(1000)
Output	13,641

Variable Costs:

Feed	2,688
Vet and Med	300
Miscellaneous includes bedding straw)	1,000
Transport to slaughter @ £15.00 per head	1,455
Total Variable Costs	5,443

Gross Margin per 100 stag calves	£ 8,198
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Assumed Feed intakes : 2.5kg silage+0.75kg conc /day. 130 day winter. Costs: Silage £15.00 per 600kg bale. Concentrates £200/tonne.

A Breeding and Finishing unit could achieve a gross margin per 100 hinds of more than double that of a store calf producing unit but would require a larger area of better quality grazing to be efficient.

Grants and Subsidies

Substantial grant aid (up to 40% of capital cost) is available for new entrants and farmers diversifying into deer farming. Incorporating woodland plantings and hedgerows into the farm design may attract further grant assistance and provide valuable shelter whilst creating wildlife habitat.

New entrants are eligible for Single Farm Payment and LFASS.

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