



PLANNING FOR PROFIT



BRITISH COLUMBIA

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

Oats on Stubble
Peace River
Fall 1996

Agdex 113 - 810

Introduction

The planning process provides producers with the opportunity to look at their operation as a group of distinct enterprises. Alternative enterprises should be evaluated on the basis of **Contribution Margin**, taking into consideration resource constraints, market opportunity, risk and uncertainty.

The **Contribution Margin** must provide funds for interest, overhead and other indirect expenses as well as a return for living expenses, loan repayment and investment. These items should be included in the overall farm plan which will include a **Projected Income Statement** and **Projected Cash Flow Statement**.

Key Factors Affecting Profit

	Target
Yield	80 bu/acre
Price	\$1.80/bu

Yields are affected by cultural practices including adequate and balanced fertilizer application and proper and timely weed control.

Timeliness of cultivation and seeding operations helps to conserve soil structure and moisture while good quality seed, variety selection for early maturity and high yield potential combine to maximize yields.

Profitability is improved by utilizing good storage facilities to prevent spoilage.

Marketing Alternatives

The marketing of oats has recently been removed from the control of the Canadian Wheat Board. Oats can be marketed through local elevators or grain dealers. Prices can be set at time of sale, by contracts or with commodity futures contracts.

Cash Flow Timing

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
%Inc	25*	20*	10*	5*							25	15
%Exp			10	15	20			20	10	25		

(Fall Fertilization)

The above information indicates the timing of monthly flow of funds included in the **Contribution Margin** only. A complete **Projected Cash Flow** should include indirect expenses, capital sales and purchases, loans and personal expenses.

*Denotes payment made for last year's crop.

Rules of Thumb

Bldg & Equip. Investment	\$150-200/acre
Direct Expense % of Income	45% - 55%

The above indicators are provided for comparison purposes. They are set out as potential targets for oat production.

Contact: HARVEY GLASIER, P.Ag., MBA
Farm Management Specialist
Dawson Creek
or your District Office

OATS (STUBBLE)

Target Yield - 80 bu/acre

Gross Margin 1 Acre of #1 CW Oats Peace River

Total Income

	Yield	Price	Unit	Income
Oats	80	\$1.80	bu	\$144.05

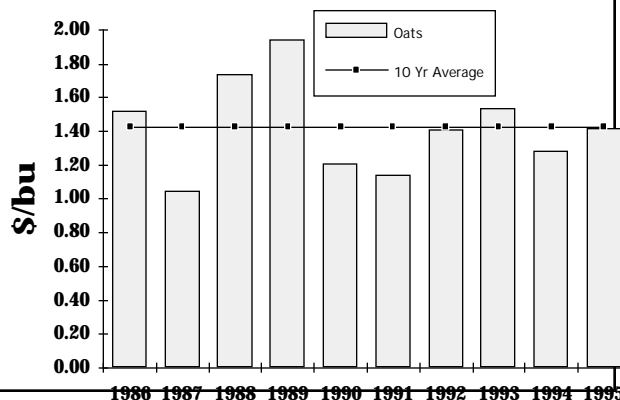
Direct Expenses

	Quantity	Price	Unit	Expense
<u>Seed</u>				
Certified	100	\$0.1765	lb.	\$17.65
<u>Fertilizers</u>				
46 - 0 - 0	160	.17	lb.	27.20
12 - 51 - 0	60	.22	lb.	13.20
0 - 0 - 62	10	.08	lb.	.80
<u>Herbicide</u>				
MCPA	.28	5.45	litre	1.53
Fuel Costs				10.00
Machine Repair & Maintenance				9.00
Trucking				4.00
Crop Insurance				5.39
Building Repairs & Maintenance				1.25
Total Direct Expenses				\$90.02
Contribution Margin				\$53.98

Buildings and Machinery Replacement Cost Total Farm Size - 2,500 Acres

Buildings	\$ 59,000
Power Machinery	222,000
Field Machinery	84,000
Tools	<u>15,000</u>
Total	\$380,000

Average Yearly Prices



Contribution Margin - Sensitivity Analysis

The table below lists the changes to gross margin as quantity of yield changes and price received varies.

PRICE \$/bu	Yield Bushels per Acre			
	60	70	80	90
1.00	-30.02	-20.02	-10.02	-0.02
1.50	-6.02	7.98	21.98	35.98
2.25	17.98	35.98	<u>53.98</u>	71.98
2.50	41.98	63.98	85.98	107.98

This information is provided as a guideline only. Target yield indicates above average production. An individual crop plan should be developed by each producer. Planning forms may be obtained from your local office of the B. C. Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.