AVERAGE COST OF RAISING DAIRY HEIFERS

Of course, the cost of raising dairy heifers in the Midwest is a pressing concern for many farmers. Here's a breakdown of the costs:

- Feed: This includes the cost of feeding the heifers throughout their growth period. It's estimated that feed accounts for approximately 60% of the total cost.
- Labor: Labor costs, including the time spent caring for the heifers, are also significant. This can include the cost of hired labor or the time of the farmer.
- Equipment: The cost of equipment used in the dairy operation, such as milking machines and feeding equipment, is also a factor.
- Health Care: The cost of veterinary care and medications for the heifers.
- Housing: The cost of housing facilities, such as barns and pens, is also a consideration.

These costs can vary depending on the location, size of the farm, and the specific practices used in raising dairy heifers. It's important for farmers to carefully manage these costs to ensure profitability.