

Relative Costs and Values of Selected Energy and Protein Feeds

Feed	Percent DM	Mcal NE _L /lb DM	% CP (DM basis)	Feed Cost (\$/ton as fed)	Cost/lb DMD	Cost per Mcal NE _L	Corn-Soy Values (cost/ton as fed)	Cost Relative to Corn-Soy Value
Corn grain, ground	88	0.88	10	196	0.112	0.127	194	100%
Soybean meal-48	90	0.92	54	340	0.189	0.205	340	100%
Barley malt sprouts	91	0.64	20	80	0.044	0.069	187	43%
Beet pulp, wet	24	0.64	10	100	0.208	0.326	41	245%
Corn gluten feed, dried	90	0.74	24	155	0.086	0.116	217	71%
Distillers grain with solubles, dry	89	0.82	30	175	0.098	0.120	249	70%
Distillers grain with solubles, wet	50	0.82	30	70	0.070	0.085	140	50%
Soybean hulls	91	0.63	14	190	0.104	0.166	166	115%
Wheat middlings	90	0.73	18	137	0.076	0.104	196	70%
Corn silage	35	0.64	9	40	0.057	0.089	58	69%
Alfalfa silage midbloom	35	0.54	20	60	0.086	0.159	65	93%

A corn-soy value is the current comparison based on corn at \$5/bushel and 48-soybean meal at \$340/ton. Corn at \$5/bushel is \$179/ton. Corn price per bushel/56 x 2,000 = corn price per ton. Costs for most feeds, except forages, were f.o.b. from North Dakota feed mills or ethanol plants in May 2008. They were found at www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/aginfo/dairy/Nutrition/index.htm. An approximate calculation for the corn-soy value of a feed is: $\{(1.5C - 0.25S) \times NE_L/lb + 2.5 \times (S-C) \times \% CP\} \times \% DM$ (gets within 2% of CS value), where C is price per ton of corn grain and S is price per ton of 48-SBM (both on as-fed basis). These estimates of prices are not guaranteed.