

## **Some Economic Benefits and Costs of Vegetarianism: Errata**

In the original article, we used an incorrect conversion factor to convert grams to pounds. Here are the tables with the corrected calculations. Although the magnitudes have changed, the ranking of the relative costs of providing calories and nutrients from different commodities has not.

**Table 1.** Cost of Producing Nutrients from Various Agricultural Commodities

Commodity	Production Costs <sup>a</sup>			Nutrient Content <sup>b</sup>		Cost per Nutrient Produced at the Farm Level	
	Cost of Production	Yield	Cost (\$/lb)	Energy (kcal/lb)	Protein (grams/lb)	Cost of Energy (\$/kcal)	Cost of Protein (\$/gram)
<i>Crops</i>							
Corn	\$387.03 per acre	162.5 bushels per acre; 56 lbs per bushel	\$0.043	1655.61	42.73	\$0.00003	\$0.00100
Soybeans	\$256.7 per acre	46 bushels per acre; 60 lbs per bushel	\$0.093	2023.02	165.52	\$0.00005	\$0.00056
Wheat	\$196.68 per acre	38.1 bushels per acre; 60 lbs per bushel	\$0.086	1483.25	57.20	\$0.00006	\$0.00150
Peanuts	\$638.88 per acre	3186.5 lbs per acre	\$0.201	2571.87	117.03	\$0.00008	\$0.00171
<i>Livestock, Poultry, and Milk</i>							
Hogs (farrow to finish)	\$50.53 per cwt live weight gain	75.5 lbs of meat per live cwt;	\$0.669	1705.51	63.09	\$0.00039	\$0.01061
Cattle (finishing one steer)	\$917.87 per head live weight	1150 lbs per head; 0.65 lbs of meat per live lb	\$1.228	1319.95	78.56	\$0.00093	\$0.01563
Broilers	\$0.33 per lb live weight	0.7 lbs meat per live lb	\$0.471	975.22	84.37	\$0.00048	\$0.00558
Milk	\$20.57 per cwt	100 lbs per cwt	\$0.206	272.16	14.61	\$0.00076	\$0.01408

<sup>a</sup>Cost of production data for all commodities except cattle and broilers are from USDA-ERS Commodity Costs and Returns data averaged across years 2004 and 2005; production costs for cattle, averaged across years 2004 and 2005, are from Lawrence (2005); production costs for broilers (converted from Canadian dollars to US dollars) for year 1999 are from the Manitoba Chicken Producer Board.

<sup>b</sup>All nutritional information was obtained from the USDA-ARS National Nutrient Database. Nutritional information for livestock is based on the entire carcass.

**Table 2.** Cost of Producing Nutrients at the Farm and Retail Levels

Commodity	Cost per Nutrient Produced at the Farm Level		Farmer's Share of Retail Dollar <sup>a</sup>	Cost per Nutrient Produced at the Retail Level	
	Cost of Energy (\$/kcal)	Cost of Protein (\$/gram)		Cost of Energy (\$/kcal)	Cost of Protein (\$/gram)
<i>Crops</i>					
Corn	\$0.00003	\$0.00100	5.7%	\$0.0005	\$0.0175
Soybeans	\$0.00005	\$0.00056	5.7%	\$0.0008	\$0.0099
Wheat	\$0.00006	\$0.00150	5.7%	\$0.0010	\$0.0264
Peanuts	\$0.00008	\$0.00171	17.1%	\$0.0005	\$0.0100
<i>Livestock, Poultry, and Milk</i>					
Hogs (farrow to finish)	\$0.00039	\$0.01061	31.1%	\$0.0013	\$0.0341
Cattle (finishing one steer)	\$0.00093	\$0.01563	46.9%	\$0.0020	\$0.0333
Broilers	\$0.00048	\$0.00558	40.3%	\$0.0012	\$0.0139
Milk	\$0.00076	\$0.01408	31.2%	\$0.0024	\$0.0451

<sup>a</sup>Source: USDA, ERS for year 2005; the share for corn, soybeans, and wheat correspond to the farmer's share of "cereal and bakery products," whereas the peanut farmer's share of the retail dollar is assumed to equal that for "processed fruits and vegetables."