


# “How Does Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Work?”

## Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance

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### *Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance*



Home Study Course  
Chapter 2  
*How Does Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Work?*

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### Chapter 2 Objectives


- LGM terminology
- Calculating Expected and Actual Gross Margins, Gross Margin Guarantees, indemnity payments
- Determining premiums
- Collecting an indemnity

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### LGM Terminology

- Target Marketings:
  - ✓ Number of slaughter-ready livestock insured with LGM and expected to be marketed during the insurance period



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### LGM Terminology

- Adjusted Futures Price:
  - ✓ LGM futures price plus state- and month-specific basis
    - Basis = NASS 10-year average (cattle & corn) and 5-year average (swine) cash price for the state
    - No basis adjustment for soybean meal (LGM for Swine)
- LGM Basis:
  - ✓ Historical difference between adjusted futures price and local cash selling price

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Home Study Course Chapter 2  
<http://livestockinsurance.unl.edu>  
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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### LGM Terminology

- **Expected Gross Margin (EGM):**
  - ✓ Difference between expected fed cattle or market hog selling price and expected input prices
  - ✓ Based on LGM adjusted futures prices
- **Deductible:**
  - ✓ The portion of an insured value that producers elect not to insure
    - Cattle: \$0 to \$150 per head in \$10 per head increments
    - Swine: \$0 to \$20 per head in \$2 per head increments

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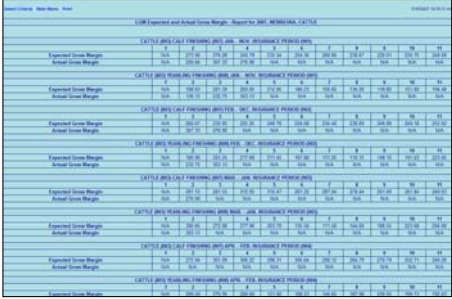
### LGM Terminology

- **Gross Margin Guarantee (GMG):**
  - ✓ Total EGM minus the deductible
- **Actual Gross Margin (AGM):**
  - ✓ Difference between the actual fed cattle or market hog selling prices and the actual input prices
  - ✓ Based on LGM adjusted futures price
- **Indemnity:**
  - ✓ Amount paid by insurance policy if GMG is higher than the total AGM

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**USDA’s Expected and Actual Gross Margin Web Page** 7

http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/livestock\_reports



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### Expected Gross Margin (EMG)

**Yearling Finishing Operation**

- $EMG_t = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Live Cattle Price}_t) - (7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Feeder Cattle Price}_{t-5}) - (57.5 \text{ bu} \times \text{Corn Price}_{t-2})$

**Calf Finishing Operation**

- $EMG_t = (11.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Live Cattle Price}_t) - (5.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Feeder Cattle Price}_{t-8}) - (54.5 \text{ bu} \times \text{Corn Price}_{t-4})$

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### Expected Gross Margin (EGM)

**Farrow to Finish Operation**

- $EGM_t = (0.74 \times 2.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Lean Hog Price}_t)$
- $(13.86 \text{ bu} \times \text{Corn Price}_{t-3})$
- $(196.16/2000 \times \text{Soybean Meal Price}_{t-3})$

**Feeder Pig Finishing Operation**

- $EGM_t = (0.74 \times 2.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Lean Hog Price}_t)$
- $(9.6 \text{ bu} \times \text{Corn Price}_{t-2})$
- $(132/2000 \times \text{Soybean Meal Price}_{t-2})$

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### Expected Gross Margin (EGM)

**SEW Operation**

- $EGM_t = (0.74 \times 2.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Lean Hog Price}_t)$
- $(9.7 \text{ bu} \times \text{Corn Price}_{t-2})$
- $(142/2000 \times \text{Soybean Meal Price}_{t-2})$

➤ **Actual Gross Margin (AGM)** is calculate using the same equations

- ✓ Prices are determined at different times

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### LGM Example

- **January 31, 2006 sales closing date**
- **Yearling finishing operation in Nebraska**
- **August 2006 target marketing month**
- **Determine the indemnity that would be due to producers for that month**
  - ✓ Total indemnity determined based GMG and AGM for entire insurance period

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Table 1. Cycles within the insurance periods for LGM for Cattle Insurance

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5	Column 6	Column 7
Sales Closing Date	Insurance Period	Insurance Month	Yearling Finishing			
			Live Cattle Price	Feeder Cattle Price	Corn Price	Live Cattle Price
January 31	February-December	March	March	October	January	March
		April	April	November	February	April
		May	May	December	March	May
		June	June	January	April	June
		July	July	February	May	July
		August	August	March	June	August
		September	September	April	July	September
		October	October	May	August	October
		November	November	June	September	November
		December	December	July	October	December
February 28	March-January	April	April	November	February	April
		May	May	December	March	May
		June	June	January	April	June
		July	July	February	May	July
		August	August	March	June	August
		September	September	April	July	September
		October	October	May	August	October
		November	November	June	September	November
		December	December	July	October	December
		January	January	August	November	January

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## Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance

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### Expected Live Cattle Price

- Expected August Live Cattle Price as of Jan
  - August 2006 CME LC Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06     \$84.475
    - 1-30-06     \$84.10
    - 1-31-06     \$84.375
    - 3-day Ave    \$84.32
  - Nebraska August LC Basis (LGM) = ??

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Table 2. Fed Cattle Basis (\$/cwt)

State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Colorado	2.49	0.25	2.42	2.77	4.24	4.99	4.47	4.91	3.46	3.16	-4.89	4.47
Illinois	-1.48	-2.54	-0.48	0.36	1.12	1.21	-1.40	-1.43	-2.99	-3.53	-1.42	-1.25
Indiana	-2.36	-3.42	-1.36	-0.52	0.24	0.33	-2.28	-2.31	-3.87	-4.41	-2.30	-2.13
Iowa	0.24	-1.23	-0.78	0.08	0.21	0.69	-1.50	-0.49	-2.68	-3.30	-0.30	-0.01
Kansas	0.12	-0.90	0.89	1.07	1.26	1.28	0.02	0.24	-0.81	-0.77	0.80	0.20
Michigan	-9.52	-9.34	-8.05	-7.85	-6.59	-4.73	-6.29	-6.48	-9.15	-11.91	-11.01	-10.15
Minnesota	-4.70	-5.47	-3.63	-2.40	-1.61	-1.15	-2.63	-3.15	-4.84	-5.82	-4.35	-3.69
Missouri	5.17	4.93	6.35	7.78	9.64	11.52	11.98	11.43	8.03	4.55	4.62	5.62
Montana	8.41	6.49	6.66	6.91	7.88	9.66	9.41	<u>9.15</u>	7.44	9.74	10.20	10.44
Nebraska	-0.19	-1.36	1.16	1.72	1.90	2.28	0.62	1.20	-0.73	-0.59	1.38	2.30
Nevada	5.43	4.60	5.99	5.87	6.79	8.16	6.86	6.82	4.87	3.83	5.57	6.58
North Dakota	5.65	3.22	3.57	3.84	4.54	3.98	2.67	6.91	6.43	6.59	6.93	7.93
Ohio	-4.36	-4.93	-3.28	-1.85	-0.40	0.09	-1.67	-1.72	-3.82	-5.74	-4.52	-4.74
Oklahoma	5.98	4.24	4.23	4.10	5.41	9.88	11.46	11.48	8.77	6.50	7.73	9.50
South Dakota	7.00	4.28	4.00	3.90	4.11	5.49	3.11	4.80	4.88	8.59	8.60	7.52
Texas	0.56	-0.16	1.41	1.76	2.18	2.77	1.71	1.64	-0.29	-1.98	0.19	1.14
Utah	-0.43	-0.80	1.04	1.59	2.06	3.17	2.50	2.86	1.45	0.10	0.83	0.82
West Virginia	-5.25	-5.54	-4.65	-2.33	0.16	1.86	2.16	1.43	-1.96	-5.53	-6.12	-5.47
Wisconsin	-5.68	-6.39	-4.47	-3.61	-2.61	-1.15	-3.08	-3.24	-5.02	-7.01	-4.84	-5.02
Wyoming	7.59	5.27	5.62	5.67	7.59	11.85	12.84	12.21	10.65	10.71	11.37	11.60

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### Expected Live Cattle Price

- Expected August Live Cattle Price as of Jan
  - August 2007 CME LC Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06     \$84.475
    - 1-30-06     \$84.10
    - 1-31-06     \$84.375
    - 3-day Ave    \$84.32
  - Nebraska August LC Basis (LGM) = \$1.20
  - Expected August LC Price = \$84.32 + \$1.20
  - Expected August LC Price = \$85.52/cwt

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### Expected Feeder Cattle Price

- Expected March Feeder Cattle Price as of Jan
  - March 2006 CME FC Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06     \$110.625
    - 1-30-06     \$109.75
    - 1-31-06     \$109.825
    - 3-day Ave    \$110.07
  - Nebraska March FC Basis (LGM) = ??

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Table 3. Yearling Basis (\$/cwt)

State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Colorado	1.64	2.11	5.06	4.58	2.89	0.71	-0.99	-2.12	-2.48	-1.92	-0.19	1.02
Illinois	1.74	3.62	6.67	6.95	5.05	2.02	-1.36	-2.65	-2.78	-2.16	-0.71	-0.76
Indiana	-6.71	-4.83	-1.78	-1.50	-3.40	-6.43	-9.81	-11.10	-11.23	-10.61	-9.16	-9.21
Iowa	-2.01	-1.21	0.40	0.76	-1.76	-3.65	-7.65	-8.01	-7.75	-7.87	-5.60	-4.68
Kansas	0.49	2.15	4.45	3.89	1.42	-0.84	-2.33	-4.36	-4.60	-3.29	-1.48	-1.32
Michigan	-12.03	-8.11	-6.30	-5.79	-6.91	-8.08	-11.63	-13.37	-14.20	-15.57	-14.99	-14.18
Minnesota	-6.90	-5.36	-2.46	-1.31	-3.55	-5.99	-9.97	-11.22	-11.14	-11.28	-11.04	-9.15
Missouri	1.80	4.07	6.38	6.89	5.36	4.09	3.28	0.99	-0.71	-2.52	-1.78	-0.01
Montana	5.39	6.01	7.02	6.07	4.10	2.53	0.92	0.60	0.06	2.48	3.17	4.42
Nebraska	0.70	1.51	4.63	4.35	1.73	-0.24	-3.10	-3.59	-4.51	-3.13	-1.50	1.14
Nevada	3.82	5.20	7.40	6.21	3.63	1.71	-0.54	-2.06	-2.18	-1.45	0.98	2.84
North Dakota	1.98	1.92	3.49	2.84	0.33	-1.68	-3.50	-2.32	-2.05	-0.68	0.08	1.41
Ohio	-7.87	-5.61	-3.02	-2.82	-4.51	-6.58	-10.47	-11.31	-12.35	-13.36	-11.70	-11.64
Oklahoma	2.80	4.30	5.61	4.79	2.41	3.03	2.65	1.02	-0.19	-0.50	1.61	3.75
South Dakota	5.08	4.41	5.42	4.73	2.29	2.17	-1.53	-1.26	-0.30	3.17	3.64	3.54
Texas	-0.50	2.00	4.51	3.97	1.06	-1.10	-3.04	-4.27	-4.76	-5.37	-3.28	-1.90
Utah	-1.48	0.86	3.81	3.05	-0.47	-2.12	-3.40	-3.95	-3.82	-4.45	-3.33	-3.09
West Virginia	-10.66	-8.15	-5.70	-4.33	-5.40	-7.22	-8.98	-10.85	-12.15	-13.72	-13.90	-13.32
Wisconsin	3.37	5.46	8.00	8.18	6.88	4.48	-3.30	-3.57	-3.34	-3.83	-2.38	-2.34
Wyoming	5.65	6.64	7.33	6.27	4.96	5.74	5.69	4.03	4.28	4.97	5.54	6.98

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### Expected Feeder Cattle Price

- Expected March Feeder Cattle Price as of Jan
  - March 2006 CME FC Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06 **\$110.625**
    - 1-30-06 **\$109.75**
    - 1-31-06 **\$109.825**
    - 3-day Ave **\$110.07**
  - Nebraska March FC Basis (LGM) = **\$4.63**
- Expected March FC Price = **\$110.07 + \$4.63**
- Expected March FC Price = **\$114.70/cwt**

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### Expected Corn Price

- Expected June Corn Price as of Jan
  - May 2006 CBOT Corn Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06 **\$2.285**
    - 1-30-06 **\$2.2775**
    - 1-31-06 **\$2.29**
    - 3-day Ave **\$2.28**



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### Expected Corn Price

- Expected June Corn Price as of Jan
  - July 2006 CBOT Corn Futures Price:
    - 1-27-06 **\$2.375**
    - 1-30-06 **\$2.365**
    - 1-31-06 **\$2.38**
    - 3-day Ave **\$2.37**



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### Expected Corn Price

- Expected June Corn Price (a weighted average)
  - =  $(1/2 \times \text{Expected May Corn Futures Price})$
  - +  $(1/2 \times \text{Expected July Corn Futures Price})$
  - =  $(1/2 \times \$2.28/\text{bu}) + (1/2 \times \$2.37/\text{bu})$
  - = **\$2.33/bu**
- Nebraska June Corn Basis (LGM) = ??

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Table 5. Corn Basis (\$/bushel)

State	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Colorado	-0.08	-0.10	-0.12	-0.13	-0.12	0.01	0.14	0.05	0.09	-0.05	-0.05	-0.03
Illinois	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.12	-0.14	-0.11	-0.10	-0.08	-0.13	-0.16	-0.13	-0.01
Indiana	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	-0.06	-0.10	-0.08	-0.07	-0.03	-0.13	-0.22	-0.16	-0.02
Iowa	-0.25	-0.25	-0.26	-0.28	-0.31	-0.28	-0.26	-0.23	-0.21	-0.28	-0.25	-0.18
Kansas	-0.10	-0.10	-0.10	-0.12	-0.14	-0.08	-0.02	-0.06	-0.07	-0.06	-0.04	-0.04
Michigan	-0.18	-0.21	-0.18	-0.19	-0.20	-0.15	-0.10	-0.09	-0.06	-0.23	-0.25	-0.19
Minnesota	-0.35	-0.37	-0.38	-0.37	-0.42	-0.36	-0.34	-0.34	-0.33	-0.38	-0.35	-0.30
Missouri	-0.09	-0.09	-0.08	-0.10	-0.12	-0.04	-0.06	-0.08	-0.18	-0.24	-0.16	-0.09
Montana	-0.25	-0.24	-0.22	-0.22	-0.32	-0.11	-0.12	-0.11	-0.10	-0.19	-0.21	-0.18
Nebraska	-0.19	-0.21	-0.22	-0.23	-0.25	-0.18	-0.16	-0.15	-0.18	-0.20	-0.19	-0.16
Nevada	-0.08	-0.10	-0.12	-0.13	-0.12	0.01	0.14	0.05	0.09	-0.05	-0.05	-0.03
North Dakota	-0.41	-0.40	-0.38	-0.38	-0.48	-0.30	-0.28	-0.28	-0.26	-0.36	-0.37	-0.34
Ohio	-0.08	-0.08	-0.09	-0.10	-0.11	-0.04	-0.02	0.01	-0.08	-0.22	-0.17	-0.06
Oklahoma	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.02	0.08	0.14	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.12
South Dakota	-0.40	-0.39	-0.39	-0.37	-0.42	-0.30	-0.33	-0.32	-0.37	-0.46	-0.46	-0.36
Texas	0.12	0.11	0.17	-0.17	0.03	0.17	0.02	0.03	0.14	0.18	0.15	0.17
Utah	0.51	0.50	0.48	0.47	0.48	0.60	0.74	0.64	0.69	0.55	0.55	0.57
West Virginia	0.30	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.32	0.36	0.42	0.43	0.33	0.12	0.14	0.26
Wisconsin	-0.26	-0.26	-0.26	-0.25	-0.31	-0.19	-0.19	-0.18	-0.14	-0.24	-0.24	-0.19
Wyoming	0.04	0.02	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.13	0.26	0.17	0.21	0.08	0.08	0.09

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### Expected Corn Price

- Expected June corn price (a weighted average)
  - =  $(1/2 \times \text{Expected May Corn Futures Price})$
  - +  $(1/2 \times \text{Expected July Corn Futures Price})$
  - =  $(1/2 \times \$2.28/\text{bu}) + (1/2 \times \$2.37/\text{bu})$
  - = **\$2.33/bu**
- Nebraska June Corn Basis (LGM) = **-\$0.18**
- Expected June Corn Price = **\$2.33 + (-\$0.18)**
- Expected June Corn Price = **\$2.15/bu**

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### Expected Gross Margin (EGM)

- Yearling Finishing Operation
  - $\text{EGM}_{\text{Aug}} = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Exp Live Cattle Price}_{\text{Aug}})$
  - $(7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Exp Feeder Cattle Price}_{\text{Mar}})$
  - $(57.5 \text{ bu} \times \text{Exp Corn Price}_{\text{Jun}})$
  - $\text{EGM}_{\text{Aug}} = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \$85.52/\text{cwt})$
  - $(7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \$114.70/\text{cwt})$
  - $(57.5 \text{ bu} \times \$2.15/\text{bu})$
  - $\text{EGM}_{\text{Aug}} = \$1,069.00 - \$860.25 - \$123.625$
  - $\text{EGM}_{\text{Aug}} = \$85.13/\text{hd}$

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**Gross Margin Guarantee (GMG)** 25  
**for August**

- **GMG = EGM – Deductible**
- **Deductible**
  - \$0 to \$150 per head at the insured’s option
  - Must be the same for each month in insurance period
  - Let’s use a \$0/head deductible
- **GMG = \$85.13 – \$0**
- **GMG = \$85.13/hd**

**Gross Margin Guarantee (GMG)** 26

- **If you have 500 head of target marketings in August and 0 head of target marketings for the rest of the insurance period:**
  - ✓ **GMG = \$42,565 (\$0 deductible)**

**Gross Margin Guarantee (GMG) and** 27  
**Actual Gross Margin (AGM)**

- **If total AGM falls below \$42,565, an indemnity makes up the difference**
  - ✓ **AGM is based on LGM’s actual prices (not the actual prices producer receives or pays)**

**Actual Gross Margin (AGM)** 28

- **Yearling Finishing Operation**
  - $AGM_{Aug} = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Act Live Cattle Price}_{Aug})$   
-  $(7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Act Feeder Cattle Price}_{Mar})$   
-  $(57.5 \text{ bu} \times \text{Act Corn Price}_{Jun})$

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**Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance**

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### Actual Live Cattle Price

- Actual August Live Cattle Price
  - August 2006 CME LC Futures Price:
    - 8-28-06 \$89.3225
    - 8-29-06 \$89.40
    - 8-30-06 \$89.8775
    - 3-day Ave \$89.53

Expected LC  
Futures =  
\$84.32

Same

- Nebraska August LC Basis (LGM) = \$1.20
- Actual August LC Price = **\$89.53 + \$1.20**
- Actual August LC Price = **\$90.73/cwt**

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### Actual Feeder Cattle Price

- Actual March Feeder Cattle Price
  - March 2006 CME FC Futures Price:
    - 3-27-06 \$103.425
    - 3-28-06 \$103.725
    - 3-29-06 \$103.50
    - 3-day Ave \$103.55

Expected FC  
Futures =  
\$110.70

Same

- Nebraska March FC Basis (LGM) = \$4.63
- Actual March FC Price = **\$103.55 + \$4.63**
- Actual March FC Price = **\$108.18/cwt**

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### Actual Corn Price

- Actual June Corn Price
  - May 2006 CBOT Corn Futures Price:
    - 5-9-06 \$2.285
    - 5-10-06 \$2.30
    - 5-11-06 \$2.3775
    - 3-day Ave \$2.32




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### Actual Corn Price

- Actual June Corn Price
  - July 2006 CBOT Corn Futures Price:
    - 7-11-06 \$2.5375
    - 7-12-06 \$2.5925
    - 7-13-06 \$2.525
    - 3-day Ave \$2.55



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### Actual Corn Price

- Actual June Corn Price (a weighted average)
  - = (1/2 × Actual May Corn Futures Price)
  - + (1/2 × Actual July Corn Futures Price)
  - = (1/2 × \$2.32/bu) + (1/2 × \$2.55/bu)
  - = \$2.44/bu
- Nebraska June Corn Basis (LGM) = **-\$0.18**
- Actual June Corn Price = **\$2.44 + (-\$0.18)**
- Actual June Corn Price = **\$2.26/bu**

Expected Corn Futures = \$2.15

Same

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### Actual Gross Margin (AGM)

- Yearling Finishing Operation
  - $AGM_{Aug} = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Act Live Cattle Price}_{Aug})$   
 $- (7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \text{Act Feeder Cattle Price}_{Mar})$   
 $- (57.5 \text{ bu} \times \text{Act Corn Price}_{Jun})$
  - $AGM_{Aug} = (12.50 \text{ cwt} \times \$90.73/\text{cwt})$   
 $- (7.50 \text{ cwt} \times \$108.18/\text{cwt})$   
 $- (57.5 \text{ bu} \times \$2.26/\text{bu})$
  - $AGM_{Aug} = \$1,134.125 - \$811.35 - \$129.95$
  - $AGM_{Aug} = \$192.83/\text{hd}$

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### Indemnity In August...

- Indemnity =  $GMG_{Aug} - AGM_{Aug}$  (if positive)
- Indemnity =  $\$85.13 - \$192.83 < 0$
- Indemnity = \$0 per head

*Important Note...*

- Indemnity is actually figured for whole 11-month (cattle) or 6-month (swine) insurance period
  - Indemnity = GMG – total AGM
  - This averages margins out over entire year

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### Indemnity?

- Again, this example assumes 500 head of target marketings in August and 0 head of target marketings for the rest of the insurance period
- GMG = \$42,565.00
- AGM = \$96,415.00
- Indemnity = \$0 (total, not per head)

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## “How Does Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Work?” Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance

### LGM Premium

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- Determined by simulation of losses
- Premiums decrease as deductible increases
- Calculated using RMA’s online calculator
  - ✓ <http://www3.rma.usda.gov/apps/premcalc/>
  - ✓ Need a user ID and password

### USDA’s GMG and Premium Pricing Web Page

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Login ID	Calc ID	Crop Year	Insurance Plan	State	County
jstahrb	235922	2007	82	31	109

Premiums	Gross Margin Guarantee	Producer Premium
\$2,698.07	\$2,698.07	\$269.00

Premium is due when  
application is due

### Collecting an Indemnity

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- Indemnity paid if  $GMG > AGM$
- Indemnity paid at the end of insurance period
- Losses in one month may be offset by gains in another month
- Insurance company issues “notice of probable loss” 10 days after AGM is determined
- Producer submits “marketings report” and “sales receipt” within 15 days after receiving notice of probable loss

### Summary

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- Expected and Actual Gross Margins are determined by an adjusted futures price
- Gross Margin Guarantee = EGM - Deductible
- An indemnity will be paid if the GMG is greater than the total AGM
- Premiums can be found at RMA’s website

**“How Does Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Work?”**  
**Understanding Risk Management Using Livestock Gross Margin Insurance**

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## What's Next?

- **Chapter 3: Additional LGM Policy Provisions**
  - ✓ Perils covered by LGM
  - ✓ Ownership and record keeping for covered livestock
  - ✓ Guaranteed pricing
  - ✓ Transferring coverage and assigning an indemnity

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