



The Tobacco Budgeting System: An Annual Budget Generator for Tobacco

The Center for Tobacco Grower Research, in coordination with all major land-grant universities in major tobacco states (NC, KY, VA), developed a web-based tobacco budgeting system, which allows growers to have an interactive budget tool to calculate their current costs of production. The tool will allow growers to test different scenarios such as increases or decrease in disease pressure and input costs. The tool is database driven with grower customization allowing those growers who do not keep detailed records access to a database of common chemicals and machinery along with prices to help them create a custom budget.

Growers are able to save and return to and edit their budgets and reports easily without have to start over with given defaults. It has applications for burley, dark, flue-cured, and cigar wrapper growers in numerous states and regions.

The Tobacco Budgeting System was developed in coordination with Margarita Velandia, Paul Denton, and Vickie Witcher from the University of Tennessee, Will Snell and Laura Powers from the University of Kentucky, Gary Bullen from North Carolina State University, and many other extension specialists and personnel from several land-grant universities. A previous budget tool developed by Velandia, Denton, Witcher, Snell, and Powers and funded by Tobacco Education and Research Council, Inc., was an instrumental building block for the system.

With the Tobacco Budgeting System you can:

- ✓ Answer basic questions about the tobacco enterprise then see an annual budget,
- ✓ Easily adjust budgets for disease pressure, liming, irrigation, and more,
- ✓ Create detailed budget reports,
- ✓ View charts showing breakdown of cost categories,
- ✓ Create custom fertilizer blends, and
- ✓ Keep track of pesticide use for GAP reporting.

The Tobacco Budget System includes:

- ✓ Options for H-2A Labor
- ✓ Over 45 pieces of machinery and equipment
- ✓ Over 45 chemicals and growing
- ✓ Covers 18 regions in the U.S.
- ✓ Five varieties of tobacco
- ✓ Budgets are completely customizable
- ✓ Databases are an open source and viewable