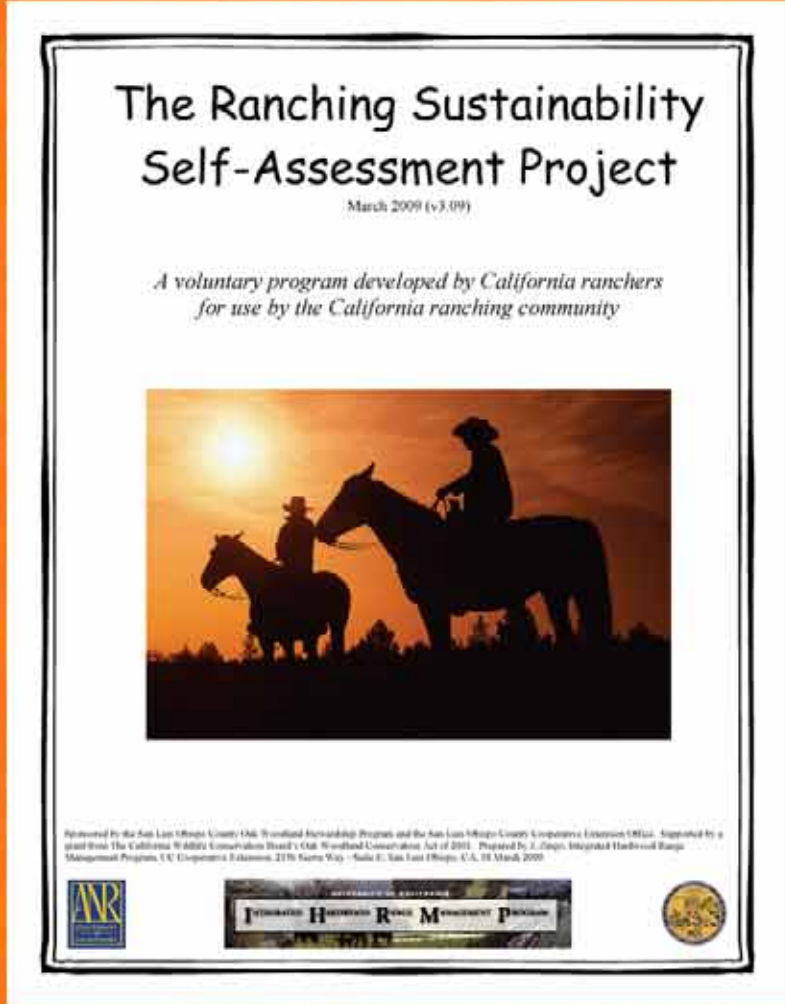


Ranching Sustainability Analysis

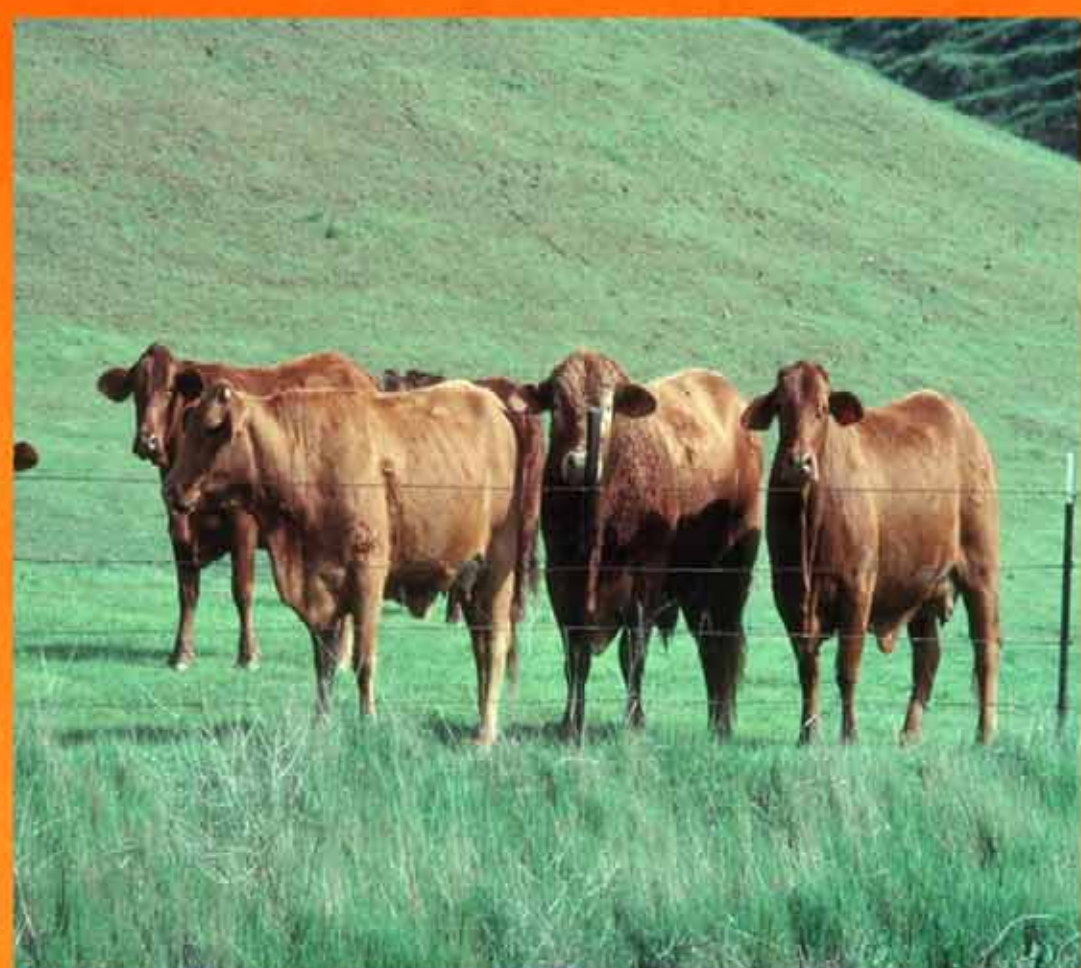
Economic



"An agriculture that isn't profitable, at least over time, will not allow its farmers to stay in business. It's not sustainable." – JOHN IKERD, Univ. of Missouri, "Farming in Harmony" talk, July 2000

Category: Economics

Do you have a diverse income?



Score = 4

- Cattle only



Score = 8

- Cattle
- Wildlife & Hunting
- Recreation

Benefits:

- Increased enterprises increases income potential
- Protects against downturn of single component
- May improve community support

Other opportunities include direct marketing, livestock diversity, many agritourism activities, and education:



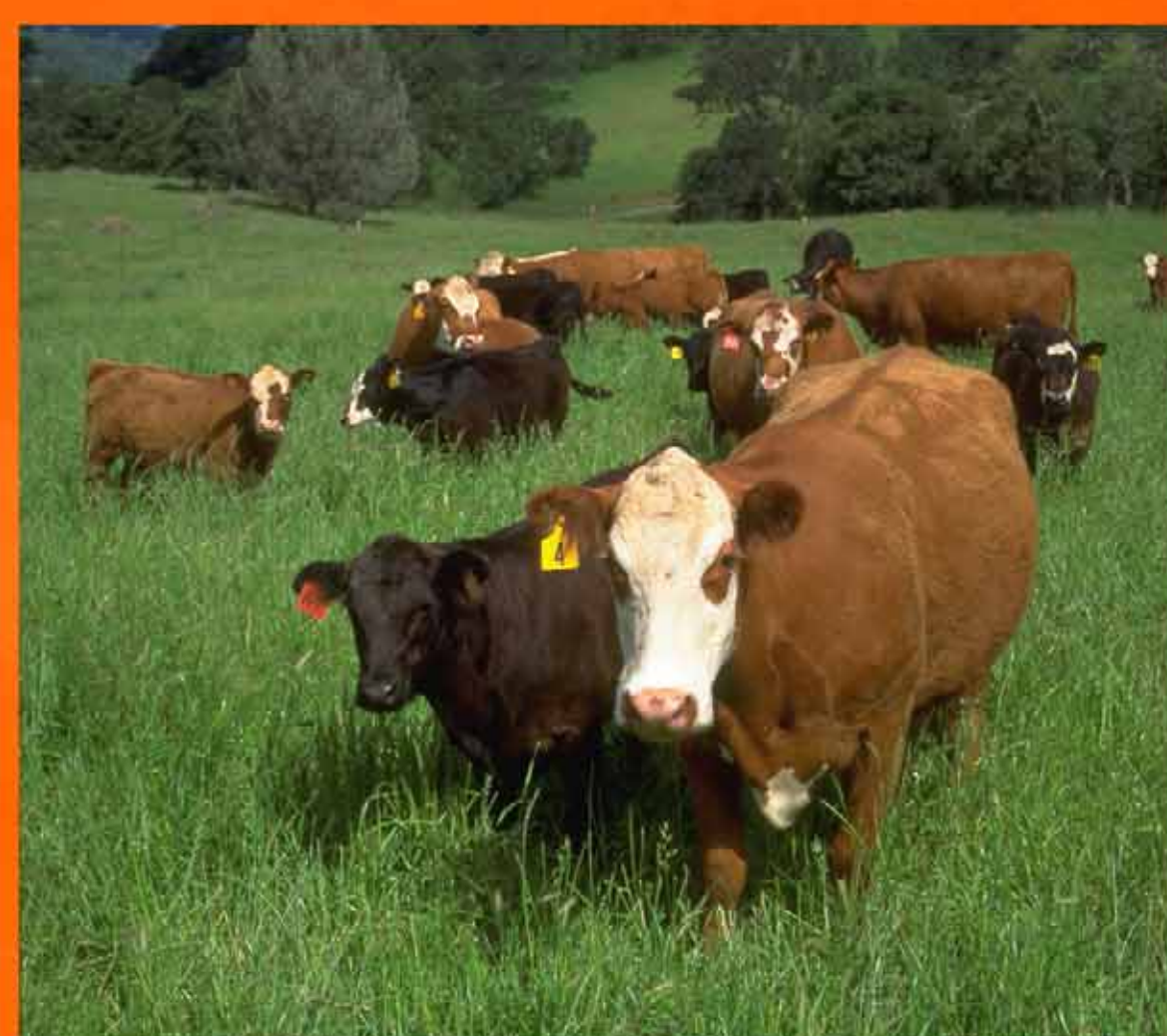
Category: Livestock Management

Do you calve in synchronization with your feed conditions?



Score = 4

- Dry fall forage
- Less nutritious
- Poor quality feed



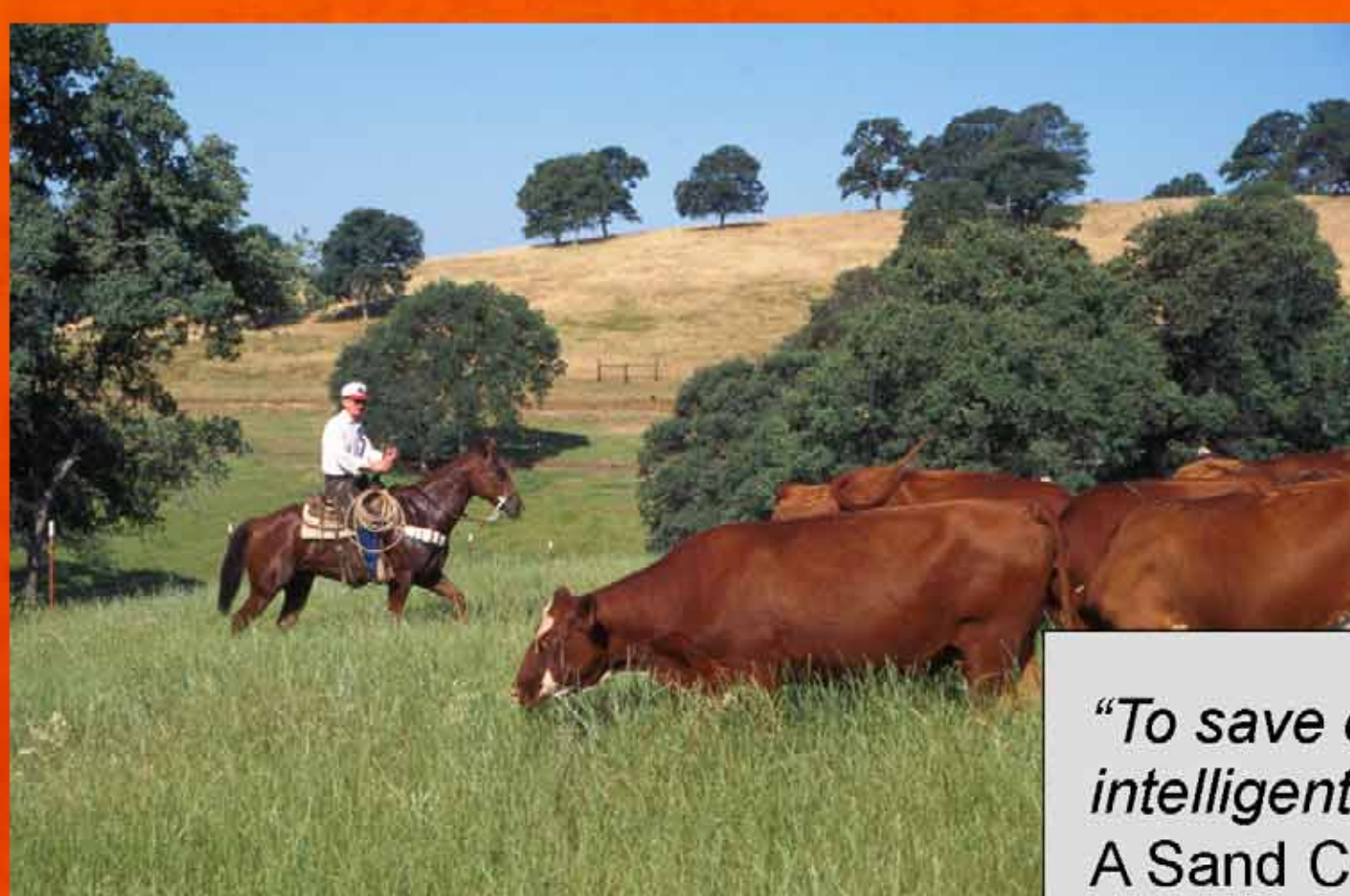
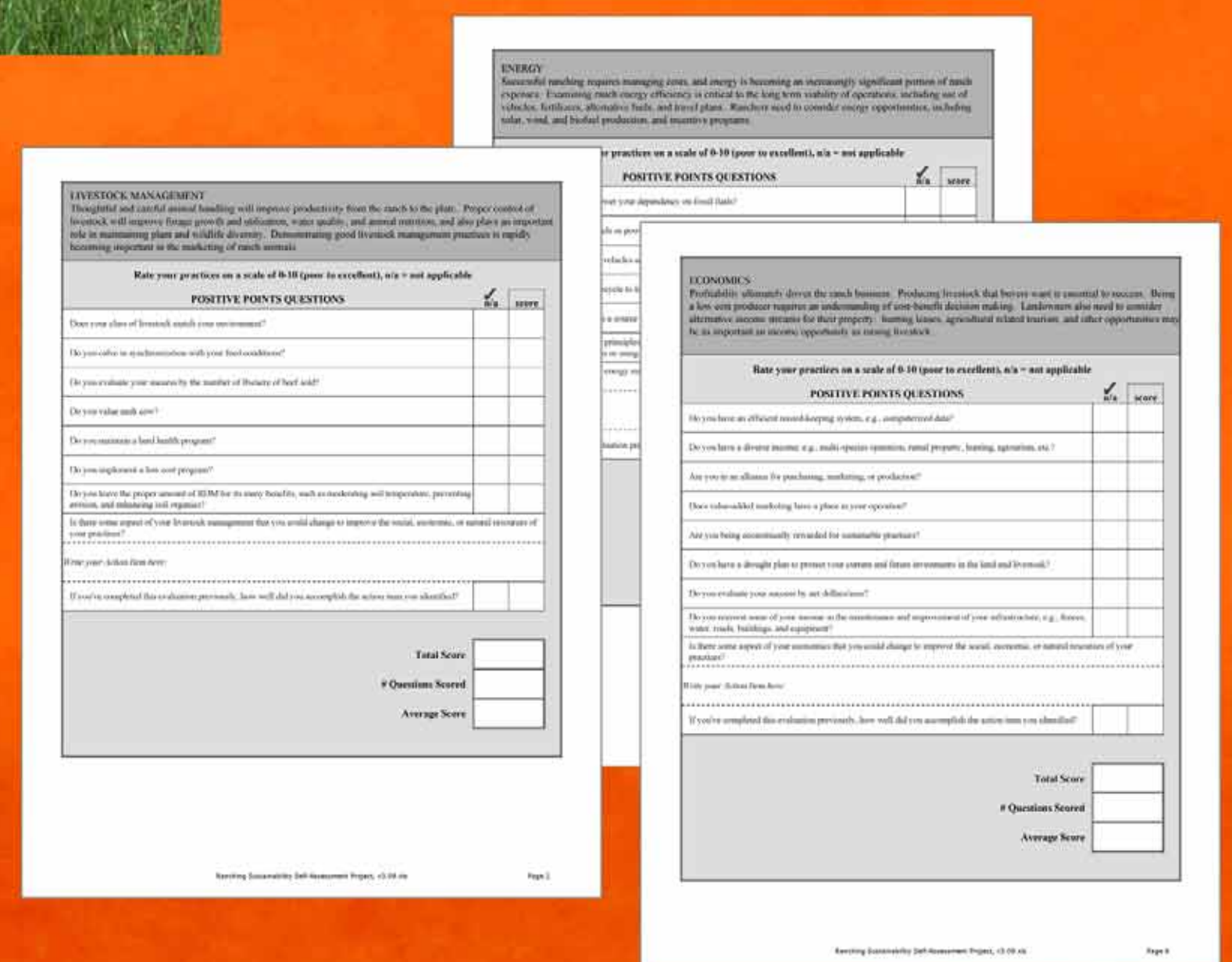
Score = 9

- Lush spring forage
- More nutritious
- High quality feed

Benefits:

Spring calving might mean:

- Improved conception
- Fewer supplements
- Improved weight gains
- Healthier calves



"To save every cog and wheel is the first precaution of the intelligent tinkerer" - ALDO LEOPOLD, A Sand County Almanac, 1949

