

PROCESSING TOMATOES

SACRAMENTO
COUNTY

1989



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UC Cooperative Extension

1989 SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE PROCESSING TOMATOES

SOILS - Tomatoes are grown on a wide variety of soil types. Generally, soils must be free of salts and diseases, have at least four feet of root zone and good moisture holding capacity. Tomatoes should not be grown where Rhizoctonia, Fusarium, Verticillium, or Phytophthora have been a problem.

PLANTING DATES - February through May. Schedule planting to assure about the same acreage will be available for harvest each week. Plant when the true leaf is about 1/2 inch long in the seedlings of the previous planting.

HARVEST DATES - August, September, or until stopped by rain in the fall, usually mid-October.

VARIETIES - Canners require that a percentage of the contracted acreage be planted to designated varieties. Growers are advised to consult their local UC Farm Advisor, seed company representative, and canner for varieties and cultural characteristics necessary for optimum production.

SEEDING RATES - Open pollinated varieties are usually planted at 0.75 to 1.0 lbs/a (Cost approximately \$30/lb). Hybrid varieties are planted at 0.6 to 0.8 lbs/a (Cost approximately \$205/lb). Growers are advised to maintain the same seeding rates on either single or double row plantings to insure uniform stand establishment.

FERTILIZER - Preplant nitrogen applied at 100 to 150 lbs/ac. Starter fertilizer is applied 1 inch to the side and 1-2 inches below the seed. Research has shown that starter 25-30 gal/A 8-24-6 can be of benefit in stand establishment. Various products can be used either liquids or dries. Potash and/or liming may be required occasionally.

IRRIGATION - Tomato plants must have adequate water at all times especially prior to and during bloom. Soil moisture should be depleted by harvest. Irrigation cut-off times are dependent upon soil type and environmental conditions. Normally tomatoes will use between 3 and 4 acre feet of water. Excessive irrigation will cause root pruning and disease.

WEED CONTROL - Devrinol + Tillam is a standard preplant incorporated treatment for weed control on tomatoes. Hairy nightshade control is best with Tillam when incorporated no deeper than 2 inches. Yellow nutsedge control is best when Tillam is put on broadcast. Sencor is used for fall beds to keep broadleaf species under control. Herbicides for layby use include Eptam, Treflan and Tillam.

SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE PROCESSING TOMATOES

CROP CANNING TOMATOES
 YIELD/ACRE IN TONS 28
 MARKET VALUE/TON \$ 55.00

GROSS INCOME \$1,540.00
 TOTAL CASH EXPENSE/ACRE ... 1,370.60
 NET INCOME \$ 169.40

CULTURAL COSTS: FUEL & SEED

	<u>COST/A</u>	<u>LABOR COST/A</u>	<u>YOUR COST/A</u>
Chop Corn Stubble	\$ 0.28	\$ 1.50	
Disc 2x (Fall)	1.08	1.76	
Plow	1.00	1.32	
Level plane 1x	0.67	0.88	
Chisel/flat roll roundup application	1.60	2.10	
Disc 1x (Spring)	0.54	0.88	
Float ringroll	0.54	0.88	
List beds/Lilly rotterra, tagalong	0.62	1.32	
Preplant herb inc/roll	0.90	2.10	
Plant, starter fert (2 men)	0.90	2.10	
Seed, hybrid (.7 #/a x \$205/#)	143.50		
Cultivate 4x sidedr nitrogen	2.64	7.00	
Layby herbicide sidedr 8-24-6 15 gal	0.83	1.75	
Employee pickups	3.14		
TOTAL:	\$158.24	\$ 23.59*	

IRRIGATION

Sprinkler 2x stand establishment	\$ 9.00	\$ 15.00	
Sprinkler/Furrow irr. 6x in season	26.97	45.00	
Drain Manintenance	1.00		
TOTAL:	\$ 36.97	\$ 60.00*	

CHEMICALS

		<u>APPLICATION</u>	
Roundup (1pt/a)	\$ 9.00	\$ 6.00	
Preplant N (100 #/a) aqua or NH ₃	17.00		
Dyfonate 4EC, banded for centipedes	15.82		
Tillam 6E preplant, banded (.75gpa)	30.37	5.50	
Devrinol 2E preplant, banded (.75gpa)	28.88		
Starter 8-24-6 +Zinc (15gpa)	19.20		
Sevin bait for cutworms (40#/a)	26.80	6.00	
Thiodan 3EC for beetles (2/3qt/a)	5.80		
Eptam 7EC layby (3.5pt/a)(or Treflan)	10.79		
Sidedress nitrogen (50#/a) as UN32	10.50		
Micronized sulfur, russet mite (5#/a)(2x)	9.80		
Worm control-Pydrin, Monitor, Lannate, or Bt (2x)	15.81	11.00	
Dithane M45 (3#/a)(2x)	13.20		
Ethrel (may omit) (2pt/a)	17.51	5.50	
TOTAL:	\$230.48	\$ 34.00	

* Included in Labor Budget

HARVEST

COST/A

YOUR
COST/A

Harvester lease	\$ 70.00	
Fruit inspection	5.62	
CTRI dues	2.10	
Machine fuel	3.00	
Tractors bulk 2x	1.00	
Move & set up		
Machine driver		
Machine sorters 7	98.00	
Tractor drivers 2		
Electronics refurbishing	16.67	
Tomato Growers Association (.17/ton)	4.76	

TOTAL: \$201.15

LABOR

Cultural (\$5.25/hr)	\$ 23.59	
Irrigation (\$4.25/hr)	60.00	
Hand Hoeing (Nightshade)	130.00	
Shop mechanic	10.00	
Overtime (Moving Equipment)	4.64	

TOTAL: \$228.23

CASH OVERHEAD

Share rent (15% of gross income)	\$231.00	
Management salary/benefits	16.32	
Repairs, maintenance, supplies	70.00	
Employee benefits (36% of labor cost)	82.16	
Office management expense	10.86	
Insurance - Equipment, Liability	5.00	
Crop Insurance	32.94	
Taxes on equipment	2.57	

TOTAL: \$450.85

DEBT SERVICE

Interest on operating loan	\$ 29.25	
Interest on equipment	1.43	

TOTAL: \$ 30.68

TOTAL GROSS INCOME \$1,540.00
TOTAL CASH EXPENSE/ACRE ... 1,370.60

NET INCOME \$ 169.40

NON-CASH COSTS

Equipment Depreciation	\$ 20.00	
Interest on Buildings	0.24	
Building Depreciation	3.33	

TOTAL: \$ 23.57