

Agricultural Extension Service, University of California

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BELL PEPPERS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1970

by

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	Sample Costs		Your Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Crate	Per Acre	Per Crate
<u>PRE-HARVEST CASH COST</u>				
Plowing: 1 hour man and tracklayer	4.80			
Discing: 2 hours man and tracklayer	9.60			
Float and level: 1 hour man and tracklayer	4.80			
List and shape beds: 1 hour man & wh tractor	4.20			
Planting: Cost to grow plants, pull, transplant and irrigate	105.00			
Irrigation 7 times: Labor: 13 hours	26.00			
Water: 2 1/2 acre feet @ \$6	15.00			
Cultivate 6 times: 3 hrs man & Wh tractor	12.60			
Hoe and weed: 11 hours	22.00			
Fertilize 3 times: Material	65.00			
Application (Contract)	10.50			
Pest Control: Materials	13.00			
Application	7.00			
Misc. labor and materials	10.00			
Repairs, except tractor	12.00			
Office, car, business expense	22.90			
Rent (one-half year)	60.00			
Total Pre-Harvest Cost	\$ 404.40	\$ 1.01		
<u>HARVESTING COST</u>				
Picking: 400 crates @ 35¢	140.00			
Hauling: 12 hours labor	30.00			
Equipment cost	21.60			
Total Harvest Cost	\$ 191.60	\$.48		
<u>DEPRECIATION (for one-half year)</u>				
Buildings: cost \$50, 20-year life	1.25			
Irrigation equipment: cost \$30, 10-year life	1.50			
Equipment: cost \$260, 10-year life	13.00			
Tractors	11.20			
Total Depreciation	\$ 26.95	\$.07		
<u>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7% (one-half year)</u>				
Buildings: on 1/2 cost \$25	.88			
Irrigation Equipment: on 1/2 cost \$15	.52			
Equipment: on 1/2 cost \$130	4.55			
Tractors	7.20			
Total Interest on Investment	\$ 13.15	\$.03		
Packing shed costs 33¢ and carton 48¢	\$324.00	\$.81		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$960.10	\$ 2.40		

SAMPLE COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: Carton per acre	300	350	400	450	500
Sample cost of production per carton	\$2.81	\$2.58	\$2.40	\$2.26	\$2.15

Based on a yield of 400 cartons (30%) per acre. Tractor \$2.50 per hour; other labor \$2.00 medium crawler tractor per hour cash costs, \$2.30, depreciation \$1.55 and interest, \$1.16 medium wheel tractor, \$1.70, \$1.25 and 64¢.