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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CELERY IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1979  
By J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

YIELD: 1,000 crates (60 lbs.) per acre  
HARVEST: June through December  
PLANT-TRANSPLANT: February through Mid August

TOTAL LABOR COSTS/HR<sup>1</sup>

			HOURLY TRACTOR COSTS		
			Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
Cl. I Equipment Operator	7.86	80 H.P. Crawler Diesel	12.19	5.42	2.78
Cl. II Equipment Operator	7.74	50 H.P. Wheel Diesel	4.61	1.11	.67
Irrigator	6.67				
Other Labor	6.55				

Operation	Tractor Used	Hours Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total Acre
<b>CULTURAL:</b>						
Manure, 3.5 tons @ \$13.50 per ton spread						47.25
Disc & roll 3x	C-80	0.69	5.34	10.24		15.58
Chisel 2x	C-80	1.0	7.74	13.29		21.03
Landplane 2x	C-80	0.52	4.02	7.72		11.74
List & preplant fertilizer					Contract @ \$6.50/acre, 600 lbs. 6-20-20 @ \$66.60	73.10
Shape beds & roll	WD-50	0.25	1.94	1.28		3.22
Plant - 4 bed <sup>2</sup>	WD-50	0.5	3.93	3.08	Seed 1.5 lbs. coated seed @ \$14.00	28.01
Herbicide					Contract @ \$7.75/acre Materials @ \$20.00	27.75
Irrigation 12x (5x sprinkler, 7x furrow)		38.75	258.46		3.0 ac. ft. @ \$12.50/ac.ft. \$3.00 booster pump	298.96
Thin		21.0	137.55			137.55
Fertilizer - Sidedress 2x					Contract @ \$5.75/ac./applic. 250 lbs. N @ 0.40/lb.	111.50
Fertilizer-Irrigation					Application @ \$2.00/acre 40 lbs. N @ 0.40/lb.	18.00
Insecticide applications 5x					Contract @ \$7.00/ac./applic. Materials \$85.00 (includes fungicides)	120.00
Cultivations 7x	WD-50	3.0	23.58	16.53		40.11
Hoe & weed		8.0	52.40			52.40
Miscellaneous (includes setup & moving)		4.0	28.20	8.27		36.47
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL AND MATERIAL COSTS</b>						<b>1,042.67</b>

**Overhead:**

Business Costs: Office and business expense @ 12% of cultural costs	125.12
Taxes: Equipment	4.00
Rent: \$600.00 per acre, 2/3 to celery	400.00
<b>TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS</b>	<b>529.12</b>

Harvest: \$3.35 per crate - includes, crate, cutting, packing, hauling and selling charge. 3,350.00

**TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVESTING COSTS 4,921.79**

**Annual Costs:**

	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 12%
2/3 charged to celery. Tractors are on an hourly basis.	Buildings	\$ 50.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 4.00
	Irrig. System	110.00	11.00	7.20
	Port. Irrig. System	35.00	3.50	2.00
	Tractors	150.00	16.13	8.65
	Equipment	120.00	12.00	8.00
		<u>\$ 485.00</u>	<u>\$ 45.13</u>	<u>\$ 29.85</u>

8 Months (except tractors and equipment) to celery 74.98

**TOTAL COST PER ACRE 4,996.77**

**TOTAL COST PER CRATE 5.00**

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study.

- /1 Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. FDI, social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, holidays, and pension plan.
- /2 About half of the celery produced in Monterey County is started from transplants. Transplants are either produced in growers' seed beds at \$2.50 to \$3.50 per thousand or purchased from greenhouses at about \$16.00 per thousand. At a 6- to 7-inch spacing between plants, about 46,000 plants are required per acre. Labor costs to transplant are about \$200.00 per acre.

Irrigation, thinning, weed control and other cultural programs are changed or altered when producing transplanted celery. The time from transplanting to market maturity is shorter than when the direct seeded method is followed.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD: CRATES PER ACRE	900	1,000	1,100	1,200
PRODUCTION COSTS	1,571.79	1,571.79	1,571.79	1,571.79
HARVEST COSTS	3,015.00	3,350.00	3,685.00	4,020.00
ANNUAL COSTS	74.98	74.98	74.98	74.98
TOTAL COST PER ACRE	4,661.77	4,996.77	5,331.77	5,666.77
COST PER CRATE	5.18	5.00	4.85	4.72