

Field Crops

SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS FOR BARLEY IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

YIELD: 2000 lbs/acre

100 Crop Acres

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash & Labor Costs/A		Total Cost	My Cost
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs		
Cultural Costs:					
Plow (disk)	.5	.75	1.00	1.75	
Disk twice	.7	1.05	1.00	2.05	
Harrow	.2	.30	.20	.50	
Drill & Fertilize	.3	.45	.45	.90	
Materials:					
Seed, 75 lbs. @ 4.85/100				3.65	
Nitrogen, 50 lbs. @ 10½¢				5.25	
Weed spray, average ½ acreage contract @ 2.50/A				1.25	
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		2.55	2.65	5.20	
Harvest Costs:					
Combine	.5	.75	2.00	2.75	
Haul	.5	.75	1.00	1.75	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		1.50	3.00	4.50	
Cash overhead					
Misc., office, ins., etc. (5% of cultural & harvest costs)				1.00	
Taxes \$75.00 X 7.00 tax rate				5.25	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD				6.25	
TOTAL CASH COST				26.10	
Management, 5% of total cash costs				1.30	
INVESTMENT					
	Per Acre	Annual Cost			
		Depreciation	Interest		
Land	\$300.00		\$18.00		
Equipment	26.00	2.65	.80		
Tractor 1/2 cost	12.00	1.25	.40		
TOTAL	338.00	3.90	19.20	23.10	
TOTAL COST PER ACRE				50.50	
Cost per Cwt @ 2000 lb. yield				2.50	

The labor costs above are figured at the rate of \$1.50 per hour. This sample cost data assumes a W-40 tractor, disk harrow, drill, and combine of 10-foot width, a 16-foot spike-tooth harrow, and a 4-disk plow.

GROWING BARLEY IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

BARLEY PRODUCTION IN MENDOCINO COUNTY: Barley is the most widely grown cereal crop in the county. The major portion of the acreage is harvested for grain; however, there is some barley planted for hay. Barley yields vary, however grain yields on good land can approximate 2000 pounds per acre.

FERTILIZATION: Nitrogen fertilization can materially increase production in most sections of the county. Simple nitrogen fertilizers, such as ammonium sulfate, are recommended for most semi-coastal and inland sections of the county. On bench lands on the coast, nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers are used on phosphate-deficient soils.

VARIETIES: The highest-yielding varieties include Arivat, Winter Tennessee, Atlas, and California Mariout. Arivat is a very productive variety for deeper soils with good water-holding capacity. Winter Tennessee is recommended for very heavy, wet soils with poor drainage conditions. California Mariout has been used for late plantings as a short maturity variety where moisture could become limiting.

DISEASES: Yellow dwarf, or virus yellows of barley, is the most serious disease problem in barley production. This virus disease is transmitted by aphids and will depress yields and, in serious infestations, can ruin the crop for grain production. Planting in the late fall or early spring can materially reduce the potential damage from this disease.

Damping off diseases are prevalent in all sections of the county, and all barley seed should be treated with a fungicide before planting.

COST OF PRODUCTION PER CWT AT VARYING YIELDS: Based on sample inputs and costs for barley in Mendocino County, returns at different levels of production are indicated. This is assuming that all other costs are the same, except hauling grain from the field.

<u>Yield - Pounds per Acre</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>1500</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2500</u>	<u>3000</u>
Cost per Cwt:	\$4.96	\$3.34	\$2.50	\$2.04	\$1.71