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WHAT DOES IT COST YOU TO GROW BARLEY
IN THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY DESERT VALLEYS

(Based on 3500# Yield Per Acre, Palo Verde Valley)

ITEMS	SAMPLE COSTS		YOUR COSTS	
	Per Acre	Per CWT	Per Acre	Per CWT
<u>Seedbed Preparation and Planting</u>				
Disc 2x	\$ 4.00		.....	.....
Border 1x . . . . .	.50		.....	.....
Fertilize 1x.	1.00		.....	.....
Irrigate 1x . . . . .	.40		.....	.....
Planting 1x	2.00		.....	.....
Ditch and miscellaneous	1.00		.....	.....
PREPARATION AND PLANTING TOTAL	\$ 8.90	\$.26	.....	.....
<u>Cultural Labor and Field Power</u>				
Weed control, chemical spray 1x	\$ 1.00		.....	.....
Irrigation 8x	3.20		.....	.....
CULTURAL TOTAL	\$ 4.20	\$.12	.....	.....
<u>Materials</u>				
Irrigation water - 1/2 yr.	\$ 6.00		.....	.....
Seed - 90# @ 5¢	4.50		.....	.....
Oats and Wheat @ Market Price . . . . .	-		.....	.....
Fertilizer - N 80# @ 16¢.	12.80		.....	.....
P ₂ O ₅ - 40# (if needed) . . . . .	-		.....	.....
Weed control - 2,4-D, 12 oz. acid equiv . . . . .	.90		.....	.....
Miscellaneous	1.00		.....	.....
MATERIAL COSTS TOTAL.	\$25.20	\$.72	.....	.....
<u>Harvesting</u>				
Combine, Bulk, contract	\$ 8.50		.....	.....
Haul @ 10¢ per CWT.	3.50		.....	.....
HARVEST TOTAL	\$12.00	\$.34	.....	.....
<u>Cash Overhead</u>				
General expense, 5% above	\$ 2.51		.....	.....
County taxes.	3.00		.....	.....
Insurance . . . . .	.50		.....	.....
Miscellaneous	2.00		.....	.....
CASH OVERHEAD TOTAL	\$ 8.01	\$.23	.....	.....
Depreciation (included in rates). . . . .	-		.....	.....
<u>TOTAL CASH COSTS</u>	\$58.31	\$1.67	.....	.....
<u>Other Costs to be Added</u>				
Land, rent or interest on invest.	\$20.00	\$.57	.....	.....
Management (estimate your own). . . . .	-		.....	.....

The above sample costs are based on commercial or contract rates and average yields and were developed with the help of growers in the area. Costs will vary widely-- compute your own costs by filling in the last two columns.

PROFITS = YIELD X PRICE - COSTS

BARLEY AND OTHER CEREAL GRAIN PRODUCTION
DESERT VALLEYS, RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Yields of over 4500 pounds of barley are possible in the desert area under careful management. Barley also works well on a double crop basis in that it is harvested early enough (May - June) to be followed by many summer crops such as Sudan grass, blackeye beans, hybrid field corn or milo.

VARIETIES: California Mariout barley is the highest yielder followed closely by Arivat barley which is stiffer strawed. Ramona 44 wheat is the recommended wheat. Oats for grain are not recommended because of high shatter. For hay, Kanota oats are preferred.

SOILS: Cereals grains will grow on a wide range of soil types and are (especially California Mariout barley) reasonably tolerant of alkali. Because they are irrigated by flooding they are often used in soil which is still being re-claimed.

LAND PREPARATION: Disc two ways, border, plant and irrigate.

PLANTING: When: December 1 to February 1. Beyond January 1 yields get progressively lower. For late plantings use California Mariout. For plantings earlier than November 1 unless planning pasture in the winter, use Arivat barley. If planting for winter pasture, plant September 15 to October 30.

Amount: Range 60-100 pounds per acre. The later the planting, the heavier the rate. Average, 85 pounds per acre.

FERTILIZING: On land low in both nitrogen and phosphate, 60-80 pounds of actual nitrogen and 60-80 pounds of actual phosphate are necessary for maximum yields. Grains following alfalfa or other legumes could use the lower rate of nitrogen and if the alfalfa has been fertilized heavily with phosphate no phosphate is needed for the first grain crop following. Nitrogen should be applied early.

IRRIGATION: Thirty to thirty-six acre inches of water if properly spread, should be adequate for grain. On light soils irrigation frequencies are greater than on heavy soils but amounts per irrigation are lower. Adequate soil moisture should be available until grain is in hard dough stage.

HARVESTING: Harvest is done almost always by direct combine unless excessive green weed growth requires windrowing previous to threshing.

DISEASE CONTROL: Seed should be treated with Ceresan M to control smut, stripe and other seedling diseases.

WEED CONTROL: Nearly all broadleaved weeds which are troublesome in grain can be completely controlled with 2,4-D at the rate of 8-12 oz. of the acid equivalent per acre in 10-50 gallons of water per acre sprayed on between the time the grain is at least 6 inches high and before heading. Permits for spraying must be obtained from the Agricultural Inspector.

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY CALIFORNIA PRODUCERS PER CWT FOR BARLEY:

1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
2.33	2.54	3.15	3.21	2.71	2.52	2.17

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