

Peppers

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BELL PEPPERS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1967

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	Sample Costs		Your Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Crate	Per Acre	Per Crate
PRE-HARVEST CASH COST				
Plowing: 1 hour man and tracklayer	4.20			
Discing: 2 hours man and tracklayer	8.40			
Float and level: 1 hour man and tracklayer	4.20			
List and shape beds: 1 hour man & wh tractor	3.05			
Planting: Seed: 1 1/2 pounds @ \$9	13.50			
Labor: 1 hr/acre 2 men & wh tractor	4.70			
Thinning (contract or hired labor)	25.00			
Irrigation 7 times: Labor: 13 hours	21.45			
Water: 2 1/2 acre feet @ \$9	22.50			
Cultivate 6 times: 3 hrs man & wh tractor	9.15			
Hoe and weed: 11 hours	18.15			
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 (6% of above)	15.10			
Rent (one-half year)	60.00			
Total Pre-Harvest Cost	\$326.90	.82		
HARVESTING COST				
Picking: 400 crates @ 70¢	280.00			
Hauling: 12 hours labor	20.40			
Truck cost	18.00			
Total Harvest Cost	\$318.40	.80		
DEPRECIATION (for one-half year)				
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	11.15			
Total Depreciation	\$ 26.90	.07		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7% (one-half year)				
Buildings: on 1/2 cost \$25	.88			
Irrigation Equipment: on 1/2 cost \$15	.52			
Equipment: on 1/2 cost \$130	4.55			
Tractors	5.95			
Total Interest on Investment	\$ 11.90	.03		
Management (5% of 400 crates x \$3.50)	70.00	.17		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$754.10	\$1.89		

SAMPLE COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS					
Yield: Carton per acre	300	350	400	450	500
Sample cost of production per carton	\$2.22	\$2.03	\$1.89	\$1.77	\$1.68

Based on a yield of 400 cartons (30#) per acre. Tractor operator, \$1.85 per hour; other labor, \$1.65. 60 hp crawler tractor per hour cash costs, \$2.35, depreciation \$1.60 and interest, \$1.05. 40 hp wheel tractor, \$1.20, 95¢ and 35¢.

Note: These costs do not include packing shed charges.