

Farm & Home Advisors Office
1720 So. Maple Ave.
Fresno, Calif. (Phone 3-2284)

THOMPSON SEEDLESS RAISINS

Soil: Thompsons will grow fairly well in many soils in Fresno County. It is well, however, to avoid very heavy clays, very shallow soils, poorly drained soils and soils containing relatively high concentrations of alkali, boron or other toxic materials.

The deeper and more fertile soils usually produce the heaviest crops and are usually preferred for raisins. Where raisins are to be dried on paper trays, sandy soils lend themselves to quicker drying.

Fertilizer: Fertilizer requirements for Thompsons are not as great as for many other crops. Insufficient growth and light green color are indications that nitrogen is lacking. Some of the better soils may not benefit from an application of nitrogen while the poorer sandy soils may require from 50 to 100 pounds of actual nitrogen each year which is best applied in January or February.

Quite often zinc deficiency is evidenced in vineyards as little leaf and leaf mottling. Zinc deficiency on cane-pruned vines has not been remedied satisfactorily with any cure to date. Chelated zinc compounds used as a foliage spray may hold some promise for the future.

Irrigation: Irrigation requirements for Thompsons grown for raisins in Fresno County are 30-40 acre inches of irrigation water per acre depending upon the soil type. Annual rainfall in Fresno is about 9 inches, which leaves 20-30 inches to be supplied from ditch water or by pumping.

During the dormant season; winter or early spring, all portions of the root zone should be filled with moisture. Most Thompsons grown in soils suited to raisin production will benefit by a light fall irrigation especially in dry years. Having an available source of water which can be supplied whenever there is a need for it is desirable.

Vines will not respond to water and fertilizer if root pests are present in sufficient numbers to destroy the feeder roots as rapidly as they develop.

January 1955

Grapes Jan/53

WHAT WILL IT COST TO PRODUCE THOMPSON SEEDLESS RAISINS IN FRESNO COUNTY

Based on a Yield of 2 Dry Tons Per Acre
Labor at \$.90 per hr; 20 h.p. wheel tractor at \$1.20
and truck at \$1.50 per hr.

	<u>Sample Costs</u>		<u>My Costs</u>	
	<u>Per</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>Per</u>	<u>Per</u>
	<u>Acre</u>	<u>Ton</u>	<u>Acre</u>	<u>Ton</u>
LABOR COSTS:				
Pruning - 22 man hrs.	\$ 19.80			
Brush disposal - remove large wood & shred	2.25			
Tying - 7 man hrs.	6.30			
Fertilize & cover crop - 2 man & 1 tractor hr.	3.00			
Dust & spray - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ man & 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ tractor hr.	4.05			
Tillage, irrig. prep. & shovel - 16 man & 6 tractor hr.	21.60			
Irrigation - 8 man hrs.	7.20			
Misc. - 4 man & 1 tractor hr. & 1 truck	6.30			
Total Pre-harvest Labor	70.50	35.25		
Picking (contract 800 trays at 6¢)	48.00	24.00		
Turn, roll and box	18.20	9.10		
Hauling out & to market	10.60	5.30		
Misc. Harvesting	5.00	2.50		
Sub-Total Harvest Labor	81.80	40.90		
Total Labor Cost	152.30	76.15		
MATERIAL COSTS:				
Irrigation tax & power cost	6.75			
Fertilizer & cover crop seed	14.00			
Dust & spray material	6.00			
Paper trays @ \$8.40 per 1000	7.65	3.82		
Misc.; replants, stakes, twine, etc.	3.50			
Total Material Cost	37.90	18.95		
CASH OVERHEAD COSTS:				
General expense - 5% of total labor & material	9.38			
County taxes	11.00			
Repairs, except tractors & trucks	2.50			
Insurance & misc.	4.00			
Total Cash Overhead	27.33	13.66		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	217.53	108.76		
DEPRECIATION:				
Vines, stakes & trellis; (\$400 cost-30 yrs. life)	13.50			
Bldgs., irrig. facilities & equipment	10.00			
Total Depreciation	23.50	11.75		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 5%:				
Vines, stakes & trellis - (Av. value \$200)	10.00			
Bldgs. irrig. facil. & equip. (av. value \$90)	4.50			
Land at \$500	25.00			
Total Interest on Investment	39.50	19.75		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	280.53	140.26		