

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE POTATOES AFTER ALFALFA
Siskiyou County - 1974

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor \$3.45	Fuel & Repair	Material Kind and Quantity	Cost	
dollars						
Cultural Costs						
Rototill 2x	1.14	3.93	4.17			8.10
2 plows	.29	2.00	2.69			4.69
Disc & float	.25	.86	1.10			1.96
Fertilizer (contract)		Spread \$1 + 21-0-0		300 lbs	21.25	21.25
Disc & spray	.50	1.73	2.26	Chlordane 4 lbs	6.82	10.81
				Eptam 3 lbs	9.73	9.73
Plant 4 rows	.50	5.18	3.30	14 sacks @ \$11 (cut & treated)	154.00	162.48
				12-12-12 1000 lbs	100.00	100.00
Place irrigation pipe	.50	5.18	1.12			6.30
Cultivate	.29	1.00	1.06			2.06
Move pipe	.38	2.62				2.62
Irrigate 16x	.80	2.76	7.50	(pickup 50 mi. @ 15¢/mi.)		10.26
Spray 2x (contract)				Aphids & blight	22.00	22.00
Spray 1x (contract)				Blight	7.00	7.00
Power					12.00	12.00
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		25.26	23.20		332.80	381.26
Harvest Costs						
Pick up pipe	.40	2.76	.90			3.66
Roll	.18	.62	.55			1.17
Dig	1.00	13.80	9.00			22.80
Haul & storage (5 men)	.90	15.53	4.56			20.09
Storage common (contract)				15¢/cwt x 400 sacks	60.00	60.00
Grading (contract)				\$1.40/cwt x 400 sacks	560.00	560.00
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		32.71	15.01		620.00	667.72
Cash Overhead						
Misc., office, etc.		x 6%				55.74
Taxes (\$600 x 25%)		x \$7 rate + \$10.50 + machinery \$1.76				12.26
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						68.00
TOTAL CASH COST						1116.98
Management 5% of 400 sacks @ \$5						100.00
Annual Cost						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest 10%</u>			
Land	\$ 600.00	--	\$ 60.00			
Irrigation system	1,100.00	\$73.00	55.00			
Equipment	234.60	22.42	10.17			
Total	\$1,934.60	\$95.72	\$125.17			220.89
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						1437.87
Cost per cwt. @ 400 sack yield						3.59

INVESTMENT FOR POTATOES

Siskiyou County, November 1974. Based on 100 acres of potatoes on a 750 acre farm.

Item	Cost	Annual Use (acres)	Cost Per Acre	Life (yrs.)	Depre- ciation	Interest at 10%	Cash costs Per Hour		
							Fuel	Repairs	Total
Tractor 100 hp	\$ 8,000	750	\$ 10.67	10	\$ 1.07	\$.53	\$1.50	\$1.55	\$3.05
Tractor 115 hp	6,000	750	8.00	10	.80	.40	1.70	1.67	3.37
Rototiller 80"	2,500	100	25.00	8	3.12	1.00	--	.29	.29
Plow 3-16 rollover	1,250	350	3.57	20	.18	.15	--	1.32	1.32
Plow 4-16 rollover	1,500	350	4.29	20	.21	.17	--	1.55	1.55
Offset disc 12'	1,500	350	4.29	10	.43	.17	--	1.04	1.04
Planter 4 row	3,500	100	35.00	10	3.50	1.40	--	3.22	3.22
Cultivator 4 row	2,000	100	20.00	20	1.00	.80	--	.63	.63
Bulker 2 row	6,000	100	60.00	10	6.00	3.00	--	5.63	5.63
Truck	2,000	350	5.71	5	1.14	.23	.12	.08	.20
Truck	2,000	350	5.71	5	1.14	.23	.12	.08	.20
Truck	7,000	350	20.00	15	1.33	.80	.12	.08	.20
Truck	7,000	350	20.00	15	1.33	.80	.12	.08	.20
Sprayer	500	100	5.00	10	.50	.20	--	1.00	1.00
Roller behind plow	300	350	.86	10	.09	.03	--	.10	.10
Roller to roll potatoes	150	100	1.50	20	.08	.06	--	--	.01
Gas tractor with pipe carrier	500	100	5.00	10	.50	.20	1.50	.74	2.24
Total	\$51,700		\$234.60		\$22.52	\$10.17			

Labor included social security, workman's compensation, and any fringe benefits.

This study is on land that is clean and does not have nematodes. If nematodes are present then an additional cost must be considered.

On new lands extra tillage costs would be encountered. Such as breaking up old sod, etc.

Some growers may use more seed, and some may raise their own for a different seed cost, however, this is probably average.

Grading is quite expensive. If one does his own grading and loads bulk, this cost can be reduced considerably.

Today's irrigation systems are quite high and investment costs are very high.

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* The University of California's Agricultural Extension programs are available to all, without regard to race, color, or national origin.