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1974

A FIG ORCHARD

ORCHARD ESTABLISHMENT COSTS IN THE SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

COST ANALYSIS WORKSHEET
SHOWING SAMPLE COSTS

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SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH A FIG ORCHARD IN THE SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

Costs and prices are based on the Calimyrna variety. Others will vary somewhat in costs, yields and values. Tree spacing 23' x 23' triangle (95 trees per acre). Costs are developed for the first four years.

	COSTS PER ACRE			
	1ST YEAR	2ND YEAR	3RD YEAR	4TH YEAR
YIELD: FIELD RUN				300
PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:				
Disc & float - 2 hrs.	\$ 10.20			
Fumigate: \$110 per acre	110.00			
*Land preparation	-----			
Trees: 95 @ \$1.25	118.75			
Mark, stake, dig holes, plant & prune: 45¢/tree	42.75			
Replant 2nd yr.: 2 trees @ \$3		6.00		
Prune & train: starting 2nd yr.		14.25	28.50	33.25
Brush removal			6.00	6.00
Fertilize: labor & materials	8.00	12.50	15.00	12.00
Irrigate: water, labor & district taxes	25.00	36.00	44.00	40.00
Spray: pest control		15.00	22.50	30.00
Caprification				16.00
Disc 4x	20.40	20.40	20.40	20.40
Weed control	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Misc. labor, material, field power	7.50	9.00	10.50	11.50
Taxes	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Repairs to equip. except tractor	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Office, car, business costs, etc. 6% cash costs	22.35	8.59	10.61	13.19
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	394.95	151.74	187.51	212.34
HARVESTING COSTS:				
Hand harvest				9.00
Haul				1.25
Sort & dry yard costs: 3½¢/lb. field run				10.50
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS				20.75
TOTAL CASH AND LABOR COSTS	394.95	151.74	187.51	233.09
DEPRECIATION:				
Surface irrigation system: \$300, 15 yrs.	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
Bldgs. & Equip.: \$120, 15 yrs.	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
Tractor: \$2/hr.	12.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	40.00	36.00	36.00	36.00
**INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 8%:				
Surface irrigation system: ½ cost, \$150	12.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Bldgs. & equip: 6 x tractor, ½ cost, \$60	4.80	4.80	4.80	4.80
Tractor: \$1/hour	6.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Land: \$800	64.00	64.00	64.00	64.00
Interest on accumulated costs	0	41.74	66.88	96.90
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	86.80	126.54	151.68	181.70
TOTAL COST FOR THE YEAR	521.75	314.28	375.19	450.79
CREDIT FOR FRUIT 45¢/lb. for merchant- able - 4¢/lb. for substandard	0	0	0	110.40
NET COST FOR THE YEAR	521.75	314.28	375.19	340.39
TOTAL ACCUMULATED COST	\$521.75	\$836.03	\$1211.22	\$1551.61

*Site may require costs up to \$75 for subsoiling, leveling, etc.

**This rate of interest assumes that the grower owns a substantial equity in the business, and that indebtedness is much less than total value.

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ABOUT THIS SHEET

This worksheet was developed to show sample costs for establishing a fig orchard under southern San Joaquin Valley conditions. These costs will be useful as a guide when a specific orchard planting is under consideration. When using this worksheet, it is important to consider the following:

1. The sample costs were based upon a 23' x 23" tree spacing giving 95 trees per acre. Tree spacing can vary depending upon soil conditions.
2. Tree loss was calculated at two per acre the first year. Under adverse soil, water or disease conditions, this loss could be much greater.
3. Preplant land preparation costs are not included in accumulated costs, but are itemized because many situations require subsoiling, leveling, etc.
4. The present cost of a new irrigation system is used. Under some replant situations, the old system is adequate and its value should be used. Similar considerations may apply to buildings, equipment, etc.

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