

BLACKKEYES

Sample

Costs of Production

Suggestions on Growing

University of California
Farm and Home Advisor's Office
2610 'M' Street

Kern County
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UC Cooperative Extension

About These Cost Data---

The costs of production in any agricultural enterprise will vary considerably from ranch to ranch. The input and cost data in this booklet are sample costs. They are intended to be used only as educational guides in assisting you to appraise and plan your own crop and livestock program.

These cost data do not represent industry averages.

SUGGESTIONS ON GROWING BLACKEYES

By

Roy M. Barnes - Farm Advisor

SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

Blackeyes prefer sandy soils. The heavy soils of the west side have not been found satisfactory for profitable production. Blackeyes produce an abundant growth of vines on heavy soils, but the setting of fruit and the quality of seed is usually inferior.

VARIETY:

Blackeye No. 5 is the most popular variety and can be recommended for Kern County. Always Plant Certified Seed.

SEED TREATMENT:

For seed decay, treat seed with Arasan SFX 1 1/3 oz. (slurry) per 100 lbs. of seed or Sperguson 3 oz. (dust) or Sperguson SL 2 oz. (slurry). For wireworm and seed corn maggot, treat seed with Lindane 0.66 ozs. of the 75% spray or dust per 100 lbs. of seed. Both fungicide and insecticide should be applied together.

In well established areas where Blackeyes have been grown, nodule culture need not be applied. But in new areas where the beans have not been previously grown, nodule bacteria must be applied to the seed immediately before planting.

COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BLACKEYES IN KERN COUNTY - 1965

Based on man labor at \$1.20 and \$1.40 per hour; 35 H.P. wheel tractor cash cost per hour \$1.10;
 Depreciation \$.60; Interest \$.23

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** Burt B. Burlingame

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre			Sample Costs	My Costs
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs- Equipment	Material and Other Costs		
Cultural:						
Land preparation	2.5	\$ 3.50	\$ 2.75		\$ 6.25	
Plant	.5	.70	.55	Seed: 25 lbs. @ 10¢ \$ 2.50	3.75	
Irrigate: 1 pre 3 crop	6.0	7.20	2.50	Water: 2 1/2 ft. @ \$6.00 15.00	24.70	
Cultivate: 3 times	1.5	2.10	1.65		3.75	
Taxes					12.50	
Miscellaneous overhead		3.20	2.60		4.00	9.80
Total Cultural Costs		\$16.70	\$10.05	\$34.00	\$ 60.75	
Harvest:						
Cut and windrow - 50 A/day			Contract:	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	
Combine - 50 A/day			Contract: \$6.00 + .50¢/cwt.	16.00	16.00	
Haul			Contract: \$2.75/ton (clean basis)	2.75	2.75	
Reclean, sacks, fumigate, storage			Contract:	17.00	17.00	
Total Harvest Costs					\$ 41.75	
Total Cash and Labor Costs		Cash and Labor Cost per cwt. @ 2,000 lb. yield			\$102.50 (\$ 5.13)	
<u>Costs at Varying Yields</u>		<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>		
<u>Pounds Per Acre</u>	<u>Total Cost Per CWT.</u>			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest</u>	
1,500	\$11.84	Land	\$900.00		\$54.00	
2,000	9.25	Irrigation System	200.00	\$15.00	6.00	
2,500	7.70	Tractor: 6 hrs.		3.60	1.38	
3,000	6.67	Equipment	20.00	2.00	.60	
3,500	5.93	Total		\$20.60	\$61.98	\$ 82.58
		TOTAL COST PER ACRE			\$185.08	
		TOTAL COST PER CWT @ 2,000 LB. YIELD			\$ 9.25	

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PREPARATION OF SOIL AND PLANTING:

A well prepared seed bed, of course, is essential for a good stand. Pre-irrigation is essential to provide sufficient moisture to germinate the seed and to promote normal growth until the plant reaches the third or fourth leaf.

Rows are usually spaced 30 inches apart. In-the-row spacing should be about 4 inches. A two or four rowed plate type planter is commonly used for planting. In the southern and coastal areas the Ventura type planter is used. No seed injury occurs with use of the Ventura planter.

PLANTING RATE:

Twenty to thirty lbs. per acre are sufficient when planted in 30 inch rows.

PLANTING TIME:

In Kern County, April 15 to May 20 is a good time to plant blackeyes.

PLANTING DEPTH:

The depth of planting averages 2 1/2 inches but can be deeper if moisture conditions demand.

FERTILIZATION:

Blackeyes are a legume and normally the application of nitrogen is not necessary. If phosphate is now being used on cotton or other crops in your area, the application of from 80 to 100 lbs. of P_2O_5 may be profitable. Phosphate should be applied

only if it has proven deficient by actual tests.

IRRIGATION:

From the beginning of blooming until the first crop of pods are well set, the plants should be fully supplied with water. Irrigation should not be postponed until the plants suffer. This point is indicated when the leaves become dark green.

CULTIVATION:

Cultivation is to destroy weeds only, but if no weeds grow cultivation is of no measurable benefit. Unnecessary cultivation may destroy feeder roots growing close to the surface, thus reducing your crop.

HARVESTING:

Harvesting begins as soon as the major part of the pods have turned straw color. Windrowing 6 to 8 rows together to dry for the pickup combine is the usual practice.

YIELDS:

On good soil and with proper management, yields from 2,000 to 3,500 pounds per acre in a normal season may be expected.