

Sample Costs for Producing Emperor Table Grapes in the San Joaquin Valley - 1988



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Introduction

This publication is one of a series on sample costs of producing grapes in the San Joaquin Valley. The data is to be used only as a guide to help analyze costs and practices that might increase production efficiency. The data is based on what are considered good management practices and do not represent industry averages.

Establishment Costs

Refer to the publication "*Sample Costs for Establishing and Producing Cordon Trained, Spur Pruned Table Grape Varieties*" for information on establishment costs.

Yield

Yield is the most important factor affecting costs per ton and profit per acre. The yield per acre used in this sample is average over a period of years for a typical, well-managed vineyard. Although this figure is higher than industry average, some vineyards do better.

Irrigation

Sample costs for irrigation, labor and water costs are based on a pumping system with pipeline, and access to water from an irrigation district. These costs vary widely depending on pumping depth, efficiency, and irrigation district taxes. Labor cost per acre is affected by the number of irrigations, quantity applied, and size of head.

Pest Management and Growth Regulators

Pest management costs include materials and application for control of insect, mite, and disease pest problems, including powdery mildew. Pest management programs and costs vary widely depending on pest pressure, vineyard location, pesticides selected, and many other factors. Sample costs shown on this sheet are based on average conditions and a well-managed integrated pest management program. Some growth regulators are combined with pesticide applications.

EMPEROR TABLE GRAPES
Sample Costs for a Mature Vineyard - 1988

Based on a 120-acre unit, vines spaced at 8' x 12'. Wages include social security, worker's compensation, and insurance. Yield of 457, 23-pound lugs (87/ton), 5.25 tons shipped and 1.75 tons culls. Tractor and supervisory labor \$6.80/hour, field labor \$5.50/hour. Tractor costs \$6.60/hour.

OPERATION	LABOR HRS/AC	LABOR RATE	LABOR COST	FUEL & REPAIRS	MATERIALS TYPE AND QUANTITY PER ACRE	COST	TOTAL COST
Preharvest Cash Costs							
Pruning	20	\$5.50	\$110				\$110
Brush Disposal -- Contract					Alternate middles	\$6	\$6
Fertilizer					50 lbs N @ \$0.30/lb + \$5.00/Ac application	\$15 \$5	\$15 \$5
Growth Regulators, Disease & Pest Control						\$132	\$132
Application costs (growth regs & other)						\$49	\$49
Herbicides					Materials & application	\$37	\$37
Cultivation & Irrigation Preparation	4	\$6.80	\$27	\$26			\$53
Irrigation	5	\$5.50	\$28				\$28
Water Power and/or District tax @ \$32.70 4.5 ac ft (2 ac ft pumped)						\$47	\$47
Fruit Exposure	17	\$5.50	\$94				\$94
Misc. Repairs & fuel (not tractor)							\$20
Miscellaneous	8	\$5.50	\$44	\$13	Materials	\$32	\$89
Interest on Operating Capital @12.5%							\$85
Total Preharvest Costs							\$769
Cash Overhead							
Office & Business Costs							\$30
County Taxes							\$39
Total Cash Overhead Costs							\$69
TOTAL CASH COSTS							\$838
TOTAL CASH COST/LUG @ 457 LUGS/ACRE							\$1.83
ANNUAL COST							
INVESTMENT	Per Acre	DEPRECIATION		INTEREST @12.5%		TOTAL	
Equipment, buildings, irrigation	\$899		\$70		\$56		\$126
Vines, stakes, trellis - 20 yr life	\$5,830		\$292		\$364		\$656
Land	\$3,000				\$375		\$375
Total Investment Costs	\$9,729		\$362		\$796		\$1,157
TOTAL COSTS PER ACRE							\$1,995
COSTS PER LUG @ 457 LUGS/ACRE							\$4.37

Costs Per Lug of Packed Fruit

House Packed		Field Packed	
Preharvest Costs	\$4.37	Preharvest Costs	\$4.37
Harvest Costs		Harvest Costs	
Pick & Haul	\$0.85	pick, pack, supervise	
Packing House cost	\$2.50	boxes, spread, swamp	
Total Harvest Costs	\$3.35	storage & handling	\$3.30
Total House Packed Costs/Lug	\$7.72	Total Field Packed Costs/Lug	\$7.67

**TABLE VARIETY
EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING LIST**

ITEM	ORIGINAL COST	ANNUAL USE (ACRES)	COST/ACRE	LIFE (YEARS)	DEPRECIATION	INTEREST @ 12.5%	REPAIR COSTS/HR	FUEL COSTS/HR
TRACTORS								
30 hp Wheel Diesel	\$13,000	120	\$108	10	\$11	\$6.77	\$1.30	\$1.95
60 HP Wheel Diesel	\$31,000	120	\$258	10	\$26	\$16.15	\$2.58	\$3.90
Disk, tandem 8'	\$7,500	120	\$63	15	\$4	\$3.91	\$3.60	
Border disc	\$2,000	120	\$17	15	\$1	\$1.04	\$0.96	
Springtooth 8'	\$1,500	120	\$13	20	\$1	\$0.78	\$0.90	
Flat furrower	\$2,800	120	\$23	20	\$1	\$1.46		
Three-point hitch	\$1,100	120	\$9	10	\$1	\$0.57	\$0.92	
Power Sprayer (100 gals)								
Duster	\$2,650	120	\$22	10	\$2	\$1.38		
Mower	\$4,000	120	\$33	10	\$3	\$2.08		
ATV	\$2,200	120	\$18	5	\$4	\$1.15		
Pickup	\$12,000	120	\$100	5	\$20	\$6.25		
Misc tools	\$5,000	120	\$42	10	\$4	\$2.60		
Cane cutters	\$2,679	120	\$22	10	\$2	\$1.40		
2 Tool bars	\$800	120	\$7	10	\$1	\$0.42		
Air Compressor	\$600	120	\$5	20	\$0	\$0.31		
Irrigation System	\$81,600	120	\$680	20	\$34	\$42.50		
Buildings	\$12,000	120	\$100	30	\$3	\$6.25		
TOTAL COST	\$179,779		\$1,498		\$116	\$93.63	\$10.26	\$5.85
60% OF NEW COSTS	\$107,867		\$899		\$70	\$56.18	\$6.16	\$3.51