SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA HAY
(Based on an average yield of 8 tons per acre per year for 3 years including the first.)

For labor @ $1.40 and $1.65 per hour, including Social Security and Compensation Insurance; light tractor per hr. cash cost $1.00; depreciation $0.50 and interest $.20. (Larger tractors used for land preparation.)

O. D. McQuiston, Kings County Farm Advisor

Burt B. Burlingame, Ext. Economist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Cost</th>
<th>My Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Acre</td>
<td>Per Ton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1/3 Of Land Prep. seed & plant by air ($18.00) $6.00
Irrigate: 13 times - 8 man hours 11.20
Water: pumping power only, 4.2 A. ft. @ $5.00 22.50
Fertilize: 1/
Misc. labor 1 hr.; tractor 3/4 hr.; material $.50 3.13
County Taxes 7.50
Office, car, operating capital, etc. 3.00
Repairs: Except tractor 2.50

TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH AND LABOR COSTS $55.83 $6.98

HARVESTING:
Swathing: 7 times - contract @ $1.50 per time $10.50 $1.31
Turning: man and tractor - 1.5 hrs. 3.98 .50
Yielding: contract @ $3.75 per ton 30.00 3.75
Seeding: contract @ $1.50 per ton 12.00 1.50

TOTAL HARVESTING COST $56.48 $7.05

TOTAL CASH AND LABOR COSTS $112.31 $14.04

DEPRECIATION:
Irrigation system (original cost $130): 16 yrs. life $8.75
Tractors: 2½ hrs. - $1.13 + 1/3 land prep. & plant 55c 1.78
Equipment: cost $30 - 10 yrs. life 3.00

TOTAL DEPRECIATION $13.53 $1.69

TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION COST $125.84 $15.73

INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 6%:
Land @ $700 $42.00
Irrigation system: on 1/2 cost ($70) .30
Tractor: 2½ hrs. - $.45 + 1/3 land prep. & plant 26c .71
Equipment: on 1/2 cost ($15) .90

TOTAL INTEREST $47.91 $5.98

TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION $173.65 $21.71

Any income from winter green chopping or pasturing would be deducted from total cost to obtain a net cost for the hay.

1/ Approximately 100 lbs. P₂O₅ per year needed on about 20% of the alfalfa in the county. The cost including application would be around $10.50 per acre.

Cost Per Ton At Varying Yields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield - Tons per acre</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and depreciation cost</td>
<td>$22.02</td>
<td>$19.22</td>
<td>$17.23</td>
<td>$15.73</td>
<td>$14.57</td>
<td>$13.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost Per Ton</td>
<td>$31.58</td>
<td>$27.19</td>
<td>$24.06</td>
<td>$21.71</td>
<td>$19.88</td>
<td>$18.41</td>
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