

FARM

management

BRIEFS

ALFALFA

Sutter

County

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

APRIL 1956

UC Cooperative Extension

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA

YIELD = 7 TONS

OPERATION	HOURS PER ACRE	CASH & LABOR COST PER ACRE				MY COSTS	
		LABOR	TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT	MATERIALS, ETC	TOTAL	PER ACRE	TOTAL FOR ACRES
CULTURAL					\$		
IRRIGATE 8 TIMES	5.0	5.00		WATER 4'	12.00	17.00	
MISC. - WEED CONTROL ETC.		1.60	1.00		1.75	4.35	
APHID CONTROL 5 TIMES	.5	.65	.75	PARATHION 15 oz.	3.25	4.65	
TAXES					3.00	3.00	
TOTAL CULTURAL \$		7.25	1.75		20.00	29.00	
HARVEST							
MOW 6 TIMES	3.0	3.75	4.75			8.50	
RAKE 6 TIMES	3.0	3.75	4.75			8.50	
BALE 6 TIMES				7 TON @ \$5	35.00	35.00	
HAUL				7 TON @ \$2	14.00	14.00	
TOTAL HARVEST \$		7.50	9.50		49.00	66.00	
TOTAL CASH COSTS						95.00	
INVESTMENT		PER ACRE		INTEREST & DEPRECIATION			
LAND		300.00		15.00			
IRRIGATION SYSTEM		10.00		1.00			
STAND		25.00		7.00			
TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT		30.00		4.00			
		\$ 365.00		\$27.00		27.00	
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						122.00	
COST PER TON AT 7 TON YIELD						17.45	

E. H. WOOD, JR. - A. DOYLE REED

OTHER PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE: "THE SPOTTED ALFALFA APHID" AND "ALFALFA PRODUCTION IN CALIFORNIA"

FARM MANAGEMENT BRIEFS can help you in:

- * Analyzing the various enterprises which may best fit your farm.
- * Budgeting for cash operating expenses.

PRACTICES INVOLVED IN CROP PRODUCTION ARE VARIABLE WITHIN THE COUNTY DUE TO DIFFERENCES IN SIZE OF OPERATIONS SOIL TYPES, AND GROWER'S PREFERENCE.

THE COSTS IN THE TABLE ARE BASED ON TYPICAL OPERATIONS FOR GOOD FARMING PRACTICES. THE PRODUCTION COSTS AND YIELDS LISTED IN THIS LEAFLET AND OTHERS OF THIS SERIES ARE NOT INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE *averages* FOR SUTTER COUNTY.

The greatest single factor in determining your cost of production per unit is *YIELD*. You may increase your efficiency by:

- * Planting the adapted variety on soils suitable for high production.
- * Avoid unnecessary operations in seed bed preparation.
- * Avoid overfertilizing as well as underfertilizing the crop.
- * Plan your operations to meet the most favorable time in planting and harvesting. This will help insure maximum yields.