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SAMPLE COSTS
TO PRODUCE
CANNING TOMATOES
IN THE LOWER
SACRAMENTO VALLEY
1974

Prepared by:

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Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of tomatoes on a 1,000 acre ranch. Yield: 25 tons. Labor rates including fringe benefits \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and quantity	Cost	
Cultural Costs						
Fall: plow	.5	1.75	3.35			5.10
stubble disc	.3	1.05	2.10			3.15
landplane 2X	.5	1.75	3.40			5.15
subsoil or chisel 2X	1.2	4.20	8.40			12.60
Spring: disc 2X	.4	1.40	2.80			4.20
springtooth	.2	.70	1.10			1.80
harrow & roll	.2	.70	.70			1.40
list or ridge & fertilize	.3	1.05		10 gal. @ \$.93/gal. Rent tag-a-long @ \$.75	9.30 .75	11.10
Pre-plant herbicide-Tillan					24.45	24.45
Plant (2 men)	.4	1.40	2.70	1.8# @ \$4/lb. Seed 1 lb. @ \$15 Rent tag-a-long @ \$.75	7.20 15.00 .75	27.05
Cultivate	.5	1.75	2.20			3.95
Thin	.4	1.40	1.25			2.65
Rolling cultivator	.2	.70	.90			1.60
Cultivate & furrow 2X	.5	1.75	2.40			4.15
Hoe	9.5	24.70				24.70
Ditch, open & close 3X	.1	.35	.65			1.00
Irrigate 7X	10.5	27.30	.50	5 ac.ft. @ \$4/ac.ft.	20.00	47.80
Fertilize	.3	.90	.80	75 lb. N @ \$.20 Rent tag-a-long @ \$.75	15.00 .75	17.45
Insect control 4X	.9	2.45	3.35	Material Air application 1X	35.75 8.00	49.55
Etherel					32.00	32.00
Fungicide					10.75	10.75
Miscellaneous	.8	2.75				2.75
Additional charges seasonal labor		7.00				7.00
Crop loan interest					3.75	3.75
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		85.05	36.60		183.45	305.10
Harvest Costs						
Harvester (15 people)	2.7	117.60	25.20			142.80
Auxiliary service (5 men)	3.0	49.35	17.80		53.25	120.40
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		166.95	43.00		53.25	263.20
Cash Overhead						
Misc., office, etc.					35.70	
Taxes on equipment					5.90	
Rent				17% of 25 ton @ \$54	230.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						271.60
TOTAL CASH COST						839.90
Management 5% of 25 tons @ \$54						67.50
Annual Cost						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>		<u>Interest 8%</u>		
Equipment	\$590	\$59.00		\$23.60		
Total						82.60
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						990.00
Cost per ton @ 25 ton yield						39.60

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TOMATO CULTURAL BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: Grown on a wide variety of soils but does best on the loam and sandy loam soils. Must be free of injurious salts, fertile but not so rich as to induce vine growth instead of fruit, four feet or more in depth, and have good moisture holding capacity. With good management Class II soils can be used successfully.

Planting Dates: February thru May. Schedule plantings to assure an orderly, uninterrupted harvest. Plant when the first true leaf is about 0.5 inches long in the seedlings of the previous planting.

Harvest Dates: Late July until stopped by rain in the fall, usually late October.

Varieties: Many. Check with your processor.

Seeding Rate: 1.0-2.0 pounds per acre equivalent to 12 to 20 seeds per row with rows 5-5.5 feet apart. Thin to 6-12 inches between plants.

Fertilizer: A combination of 8-10 pounds of nitrogen and 10-20 pounds of phosphorus placed 1 or 2 inches below the seed will help to get all plants off to a good start. Fertilizer applications should be limited to about 80 pounds of nitrogen. Apply at or before thinning. Avoid late nitrogen application.

Irrigation: Plants must have good moisture supplies but the soil moisture should be exhausted at harvest time. 4-5 acre feet of water usually applied during season.

Weed Control: Selective herbicides can be incorporated at planting. Certain herbicides may cause injury to seedlings. Follow instructions. Prepare soil carefully so the harvester will have a smooth, flat bed to work on.

Insect Control: Tomato fruit worms usually require several control measures. Nematode control occasionally needed.

Disease Control: Mid to late season fields can benefit from fruit mold control.

Ripening Agents (Ethephon): In problem fields or late maturing fields, Ethephon may be beneficial. Follow instructions.