

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ARTICHOKE IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1979

By J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

YIELD: 7350 pounds, 250 - 25 pound cartons and 1100 pounds processing
 HARVEST: September Through May

LABOR COSTS/HR¹

			HOURLY TRACTOR COSTS		
			Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
CL I Equipment Operator	6.88	80 H.P. Crawler Diesel	7.96	2.90	2.13
CL II Equipment Operator	6.75	60 H.P. Crawler Diesel	4.62	2.57	1.54
Head Irrigator	6.07	135 H.P. Wheel Diesel	6.79	2.93	1.43
Other Labor	5.62	65 H.P. Wheel Diesel	4.32	1.95	0.78

Operation	Tractor Used	Hours/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total/Acre
CULTURAL						
Cut Tops	WD-55	0.4	2.75	1.73		4.48
Top Cutter	CD-80	0.33	2.27	2.63		4.90
Rototill	WD-65	1.0	6.88	4.32		11.20
Subsoil	WD-135	0.5	3.44	3.40		6.84
Float - 2X	CD-60	0.5	3.44	2.16		5.60
Irrigate 5X (sprinkler)		12.0	67.89		1.75 Ac. Ft. @ \$9.00 per acre ft. for power. \$2.00 for booster pump	85.64
Fertilize 3X 3 sidedress and 1 sprinkler applic.					Contract @ \$4.75/ac. 500# 12-12-12 @ \$40.00 and 266# N at 0.30/lb.	134.25
Insect Control 18X ²					Contract @\$6.00/App. ma- terials \$102/Ac.	210.00
Stumping ³		5.5	30.91			30.91
Rodent Control 7X		17.00	95.54		Materials @ \$27.00/Ac.	122.54
Cultivate 9X	WD-65	4.0	27.00	17.28		44.28
Hoe & Weed		16.0	89.92			89.92
Miscellaneous (includes moving & set up)		5.0	28.10	5.50		33.60
TOTAL CULTURAL AND MATERIAL COSTS						784.31
Overhead						
Business Costs: Office & Business Expense @ 10% of Cultural Costs						78.43
Taxes: Equipment, except tractors						4.00
Rent: \$275.00/Acre - includes taxes						275.00
TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS						357.23
Harvest						
Pick and Haul: 55 Hrs. (\$10.00 for fuel & repairs added)						319.10
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						319.10
TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVEST COSTS						1,460.64

ANNUAL COSTS	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 9%
	Buildings	60.00	3.00	2.70
	Irrigation System	90.00	9.00	4.05
	Portable Irrig. Sys.	30.00	3.00	1.35
	Plants	300.00	30.00	13.50
	Tractors	150.00	14.25	6.40
	Equipment	100.00	10.00	4.50
		<u>730.00</u>	<u>69.25</u>	<u>32.50</u>
TOTAL COST PER ACRE				101.75
COST PER POUND @ 7350 POUNDS PER ACRE				1,562.39
				0.213

PACKING COSTS

Artichokes: 25 lbs @ 0.213/lb.	5.33
Packing: Central Shed @ \$1.15/ctn.	1.15
Selling: 10% commission @ about 0.60	0.60
<u>COST PER CARTON</u>	<u>7.08</u>

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study. It may be as much as 5% of the farm value of the crop.

1 Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. Social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, pension plan, and paid holidays.

2 Pesticides include methyl parathion, parathion, Supracide[®], and Thiodan[®]. Zolone[®], and Guthion[®] are occasionally used.

3 Stumping is the removal of old productive shoots, and is undertaken to vary the productive cycle. Stumping is followed in about one third of the acreage and costs about \$90.00 per acre.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD: Total Pounds & Carton Per Acre	<u>6725</u> <u>225</u>	<u>7350</u> <u>250</u>	<u>7975</u> <u>275</u>	<u>8600</u> <u>300</u>
PRODUCTION COSTS	1141.54	1141.54	1141.54	1141.54
HARVEST COSTS	319.10	319.10	319.10	319.10
ANNUAL COSTS	101.75	101.75	101.75	101.75
TOTAL COST PER ACRE	1562.39	1562.39	1562.39	1562.39
COST PER POUND ARTICHOKE	0.232	0.213	0.196	0.182
PACKING AND SALES COST	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
COST PER CARTON	7.55	7.08	6.65	6.30