

BLACKEYES

Sample

Costs of Establishing

Suggestions on Growing

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A B O U T T H E S E C O S T D A T A - - -

The costs of production in any agricultural enterprise will vary considerably from ranch to ranch. The input and cost data in this booklet are sample costs. They are intended to be used only as educational guides in assisting you to appraise and plan your own crop and livestock program.

These cost data do not represent industry averages.

Revised April 1970

SUGGESTIONS ON GROWING BLACKEYES

By

Roy M. Barnes - Farm Advisor

SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

Blackeyes prefer sandy soils. The heavy soils of the west side have not been found satisfactory for profitable production. Blackeyes produce an abundant growth of vines on heavy soils, but the setting of fruit and the quality of seed is usually inferior.

VARIETY:

Blackeye No. 5 is the most popular variety and can be recommended for Kern County. Always plant certified seed.

SEED TREATMENT:

In well established areas where blackeyes have been grown, nodule culture need not be applied. But in new areas where beans have not been previously grown, nodule bacteria must be applied to the seed immediately before planting.

PREPARATION OF SOIL AND PLANTING:

A well prepared seed bed, of course, is essential for a good stand. Pre-irrigation is essential to provide sufficient moisture to germinate the seed and to promote normal growth until the plant reaches the third or fourth leaf.

COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET
 SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BLACKKEYES IN KERN COUNTY - 1970

Based on man labor at \$1.90 and \$2.10 per hour, including compensation insurance and Social Security;
 Medium wheel tractor cash cost per hour \$1.40; Depreciation 70¢; Interest 30¢

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Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre			Sample Costs	My Costs
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs- Equipment	Materials and Other Costs		
Cultural:						
Land preparation	2.5	\$ 5.25	\$ 3.50		\$ 8.75	
Plant	.5	1.05	.70	Seed: 25 lbs. @ 15¢ \$ 3.75	5.50	
Irrigate: 1 pre, 3 crop	6.0	11.40	3.00	Water: 2-½ ft. @ \$6.00 15.00	29.40	
Cultivate: 3 times	1.5	3.15	2.10		5.25	
Taxes				13.80	13.80	
Miscellaneous overhead		5.90	5.40	6.00	17.30	
Total Cultural Costs		\$26.75	\$14.70	\$38.55	\$ 80.00	
Harvest:						
Cut and windrow - 50 A/day			Contract:	\$ 6.50	\$ 6.50	
Combine - 50 A/day			Contract: \$5.50 + 50¢/cwt.	15.50	15.50	
Haul			Contract: \$2.75/ton (clean basis)	2.75	2.75	
Reclean, sacks, fumigate, storage			Contract:	17.00	17.00	
Total Harvest Costs					\$ 41.75	
Total Cash and Labor Costs		Cash and Labor Cost per cwt. @ 2,000 lb. yield			\$121.75 (\$ 6.09)	
<u>Costs at Varying Yields</u>		<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>		
<u>Pounds Per Acre</u>	<u>Total Cost Per Cwt.</u>			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest 7%</u>	
1,500	\$13.40	Land	\$800.00		\$56.00	
2,000	10.42	Irrigation System	200.00	\$15.00	7.00	
2,500	8.64	Tractor: 6 hrs.		4.20	1.80	
3,000	7.44	Equipment	20.00	2.00	.70	
3,500	6.59	Total		\$21.20	\$65.50	\$ 86.70
		TOTAL COST PER ACRE				\$208.45
		TOTAL COST PER CWT. @ 2,000 LB. YIELD				\$ 10.42

Rows are usually spaced 30 inches apart. In-the-row spacing should be about 4 inches. A two or four row plate type planter is commonly used for planting. In the southern and coastal areas the Ventura type planter is used. No seed injury occurs with use of the Ventura planter.

PLANTING RATE:

Twenty to thirty pounds per acre are sufficient when planted in 30 inch rows.

PLANTING TIME:

In Kern County, April 15, to May 20, is a good time to plant blackeyes.

PLANTING DEPTH:

The depth of planting averages 2-1/2 inches, but can be deeper if moisture conditions demand.

FERTILIZATION:

Blackeyes are a legume and normally the application of nitrogen is not necessary. If phosphate is now being used on cotton or other crops in your area, the application of from 80 to 100 pounds of P₂O₅ may be profitable. Phosphate should be applied only if it has proven deficient by actual tests.

IRRIGATION:

From the beginning of blooming until the first crop of pods are well set, the plants should be

fully supplied with water. Irrigation should not be postponed until the plants suffer. This point is indicated when the leaves become dark green.

CULTIVATION:

Cultivation is to destroy weeds only, but if no weeds grow, cultivation is of no measurable benefit. Unnecessary cultivation may destroy feeder roots growing close to the surface, thus reducing your crop.

HARVESTING:

Harvesting begins as soon as the major part of the pods have turned straw color. Windrowing 6 to 8 rows together to dry for the pickup combine is the usual practice.

YIELDS:

On good soil and with proper management, yields from 2,000 to 3,500 pounds per acre in a normal season may be expected.