

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SAFFLOWER

Sutter County - March 1970

Leonard Buschmann, Farm Advisor - Dr. Doyle Reed, Extension Economist

Production data: Yield: 2500 lb. Labor at \$2.20 and \$1.90 including Social Security and Compensation Insurance. Based on 200 acres in a 1,000 acre farm operation.

Operation	Hours		Fuel and repairs	Cash and labor cost per acre		Total
	Per Acre	Labor		Kind and Quantity	Materials Cost	
Cultural costs						
Plow	.4	.90	1.30			2.20
Disk 2x	.4	.90	1.70	Herbicide	6.00	8.60
Harrow 2x	.2	.45	.35			.80
Fertilize	.2	.45	.30	Nitrogen - 100 lb.	10.00	10.75
Plant	.3	.65	.60	Seed 30 lb @ 11¢	3.30	4.55
Misc.	.5	1.10	.60		2.20	3.90
Irrigate	.5	.95			3.50	4.45
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS	5.40		4.85	Water	25.00	35.25
Harvest costs						
Combine				2500 lb. @ .32		8.00
Haul				2500 lb. @ \$3.50 ton		4.35
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						12.35
Cash overhead						
Misc., office, etc.					4.80	
Taxes					10.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						14.80
TOTAL CASH COST						62.40
Management 5% of 2500 @ \$85 ton						5.30
Investment and Annual Cost						
<u>INVESTMENT</u>		<u>Per Acre</u>		<u>Annual Cost</u>		
Land		900		<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest (7%)</u>	
Equipment		80		8.00	2.80	
Total		980		8.00	65.80	73.80
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						141.50
Cost per ton @ 1-1/4 on yield						113.20

SAFFLOWER CULTURAL BRIEFS

Areas of Adaptation: Soils with high water holding capacity and sub-irrigated soils. Mainly Meridian and Sutter Basin.

Planting Dates: February 15 - March 25 optimum.

Harvest Dates: August and September. When seed moisture is about 8%.

Soil Requirements: Deep, well drained soils with high water holding capacity.

Varieties: Many private varieties; several UC varieties, such as UC-1; Gila, US-10, etc.

Seeding Rates: 20-25 lb/A in 20 inch rows 30 lb/A drilled.

Fertilization: 40-150 lb/A nitrogen, depending on previous crop, soil type and moisture conditions. 15-20 lb/A phosphorus in deficient areas.

Irrigation: Sub-irrigated or none in our area. If irrigation is contemplated plant on beds. This is done successfully in *some* other areas. Adequate drainage is essential for irrigating safflower.

Yield: 2,000-4,000 lb/A.

Insect Problems: Usually not serious on early planted. Late plantings may be damaged by lygus bugs and thrips.

Disease Problems: Rust if planted on same soil two years in succession. Verticillium wilt in some areas. Phytophthora root rot in irrigated areas. Fusarium and botrytis blight may be occasional problem.

Weed Control: Trifluralin and EPTC may be used pre-plant soil incorporated. Harrowing when plants are 3-6 inches tall. Cultivation of row planted safflower.

References: Safflower UC Circular 532.

Safflower Fact Sheet, T. S. Torngren, Sacramento County and P.S. Parsons, UC Davis