

*Agricultural Briefs*

## SACRAMENTO COUNTY

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## 1982 - SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE PEARS

The sample costs in this study are based on a typical set of conditions and include the operations of an average or better producer. Figures are not average and will vary one year to another with weather variations, cultural practices, and prices paid and received.

Sacramento County Bartlett Pear Production For Years 1972 through 1981

Year	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	Av.(10 Yrs)
Yields/Acre	15.8	13.8	15.7	14.6	18.1	13.0	12.5	18.0	19.0	19.0	15.9

Sprinkler instead of flood irrigation costs were used since the trend is toward this method. For any individual grower, some items might be omitted, others added depending on his methods of production.

Basis of Cost Calculation

Labor: 1. Skilled, which includes equipment operators and crew supervisors.  
2. Unskilled, including pruners, pickers, irrigators and other labor that does not operate equipment or perform specialized tasks.

Interest: The 14% interest charge on investment is based on the assumption that this money could reasonably be expected to provide a 14% return if it were invested elsewhere.

EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT

ITEM	COST
2 Tractors, 50 H.P.W.D. (1 used)	\$ 24,000
2 Tractors, 30 H.P.W.D. (used)	12,000
10 Tractors, used 15-30 HP @ \$3,000 each	30,000
12 Bin trailers @ \$1,500 each	18,000
2 Sprayer Air Carriers 36" diesel (1 used)	40,000
1 Tree Squirrel, sp	8,000
1 Cover crop and limb shredder 9'	6,000
1 Nurse truck (for sprayer)	7,000
1 Weed sprayer, P.T.O.	3,000
1 Pickup truck, 3/4 ton	10,000
100 Ladders @ \$85.00 each	8,500
120 Picking bags @ \$16.00 each	1,920
1 Forklift	20,000
1 Duster	7,000
<b>TOTAL INVESTMENT</b>	<b>\$195,420</b>
Per Acre on 150 acres	\$1,302.80
Depreciation per acre	130.28
Interest per acre @ 14%	91.20

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE PEARS  
 Sacramento County - January 1982  
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Production Data: Yield - 20 tons per acre  
 134 trees per acre -- 150 acre orchard  
 Skilled Labor: \$6.75 per hour total  
 Unskilled labor: \$4.75 per hour total

OPERATION	HOURS		FUEL & REPAIRS	Cash and labor cost per acre		TOTAL
	PER ACRE	LABOR		MATERIALS	COST	
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Prune - Contract		\$350.00				\$ 350.00
Brush Disposal	1.4	7.45	2.50			9.95
Spray 7X (3M)	4.5	91.13	35.60	Chemicals	200.00	326.73
Blight Spray 9X	1.8	12.15	26.98	Chemicals	41.00	80.13
Blight Cutting	5.0	23.75	10.30			34.05
Fertilizer	.5	3.38	2.00	100 lbs. N @ .33¢ + 250 lbs. K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> @ .23¢	90.50	95.88
Chop cover crop 6X	2.5	16.88	14.20			31.08
Weed control (strip 3X)	1.2	8.10	2.95	Chemicals	18.00	29.05
Irrigate (sprinkler 9X)	5.0	23.75	1.15	Power for 4 acre feet @ \$10.00	40.00	64.90
Supervision	6.0	40.50				40.50
Miscellaneous	2.0	9.50	5.20			14.70
Interest on operating capital ½ yr.-16%					86.16	86.16
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$586.59</b>	<b>\$100.88</b>		<b>\$475.66</b>	<b>\$1,163.13</b>

Harvest Costs

Pick and Haul				Contract: 20 tons @ \$38.00	760.00	760.00
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>						<b>\$760.00</b>

Cash Overhead

Misc., office, etc.				8% of above costs	154.22	154.22
Taxes				County & Reclamation	48.00	48.00
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>202.22</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>586.59</b>	<b>100.88</b>		<b>1,437.88</b>	<b>\$2,125.35</b>

Management 5% of 20 tons @ \$170.00 170.00

INVESTMENT	Per Acre	Annual Cost		
		Depreciation	Interest @ 14%	
Land	\$ 3,500		490.00	
Trees	8,000	200.00	560.00	
Irrigation system	1,150	76.67	80.50	
Buildings	400	20.00	28.00	
Equipment	1,303	130.28	91.20	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,353</b>	<b>\$426.95</b>	<b>1,249.70</b>	<b>\$1,676.65</b>

<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>	@ 20 ton yield	<b>\$3,972.00</b>
	@ 15 ton yield	<b>3,739.50</b>
Cost per ton	@ 20 ton yield	198.60
	ton yield	249.30