

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BELL PEPPERS IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1973

by

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Based on Yield of 500 - 30 lb cartons per acre	Sample Costs		Your Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Carton	Per Acre	Per Carton
<b>PRE-HARVEST CASH COST</b>				
Plowing: 1 hr man and tracklayer	\$ 7.44			
Discing: 2 hrs man and tracklayer	14.88			
Float and level: 1 hr man and tracklayer	7.44			
List and shape beds: 1 hr man & wheel tractor	5.09			
Pre-irrigate: 6" water @ \$6 ac ft plus 1 1/2 hrs/A labor	7.47			
Herbicide: Material \$5/A	5.00			
1 hr with tractor and operator	5.09			
Planting: Cost to grow plants, pull, Transplant and irrigate	105.00			
Irrigate 6 times: Labor 11 hrs	32.78			
Water: 2 acre feet @ \$6	12.00			
Cultivate 6 times: 3 hrs man with tractor	15.27			
Hoe and weed: 30 hrs	89.40			
Fertilize 3 times: Material	70.00			
Application (contract)	10.50			
Pest Control: Materials	13.00			
Application	7.00			
Misc. labor and materials	10.00			
Repairs to equipment, except tractor	12.00			
Office, car, business expense	43.16			
Rent (one-half year)	75.00			
<b>Total Pre-Harvest Cost</b>	<b>\$ 547.52</b>	<b>\$ 1.10</b>		
<b>HARVEST COST</b>				
Picking: 500 crates @ 38¢ including labor for hauling	190.00			
Equipment cost:	25.00			
<b>Total Harvest Cost</b>	<b>\$ 215.00</b>	<b>\$ .43</b>		
<b>DEPRECIATION (one-half year)</b>				
Buildings: cost \$50, 20-year life	1.25			
Irrigation equipment: cost \$70, 10-year life	3.50			
Equipment: cost \$260, 10-year life	13.00			
Tractors: 4 hrs crawler & 5 hrs wheel diesel	14.00			
<b>Total Depreciation</b>	<b>\$ 31.75</b>	<b>\$ .06</b>		
<b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7% (one-half year)</b>				
Buildings: on 1/2 cost \$25	.88			
Irrigation equipment: on 1/2 cost \$35	1.23			
Equipment: on 1/2 cost \$130	4.55			
Tractors: 4 hrs crawler & 5 hrs wheel diesel	7.00			
<b>Total Interest on Investment</b>	<b>\$ 13.66</b>	<b>\$ .03</b>		
Pack: labor 30¢/carton, shed costs 10¢/carton supervisor 2¢/carton, carton cost 45¢	\$ 435.00	\$ .87		
<b>TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>\$1,242.93</b>	<b>\$ 2.49</b>		

**SAMPLE COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS**

Yield: Carton per acre	350	400	450	500	600	700
Sample cost of production per carton	\$3.02	\$2.79	\$2.62	\$2.49	\$2.28	\$2.13

Tractor operator \$3.79/hr; other labor \$2.98/hr. 60 hp medium crawler tractor/hr cash costs, \$3.65, dep. \$2.40, int. \$1.20. 40 hp medium wheel tractor \$1.30, 88¢, 44¢.