

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUGAR BEETS IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1980

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YIELD: 32 tons per acre  
 HARVEST: August 15 to November 15  
 PLANT: December through March

| Total Labor Costs/Hour <sup>1</sup> |      | Hourly Tractor Costs   |            |              |          |
|-------------------------------------|------|------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|
|                                     |      |                        | Cash Costs | Depreciation | Interest |
| C1. I Equip. Operator               | 8.58 | 80 h.p. Crawler Diesel | 13.00      | 4.89         | 2.67     |
| C1. II Equip. Operator              | 8.44 |                        |            |              |          |
| Irrigator                           | 7.39 |                        |            |              |          |
| Other Labor                         | 7.28 | 60 h.p. Wheel Diesel   | 4.85       | 1.84         | 1.10     |

  

| Operation   | Tractor Used  | Hours Acre | Labor        | Fuel & Repairs | Contract and Materials   | Total Acre      |
|---|---|------------|--------------|----------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>CULTURAL</b>                                       |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
| Subsoil 2x  | C-80  | 1.24       | 10.47        | 18.88          |  | 29.62           |
| Disc & roll 3x  | C-80  | 0.69       | 5.82         | 10.83          |  | 16.65           |
| Chisel 2x   | C-80  | 1.0        | 8.44         | 14.38          |  | 12.82           |
| Level 2x  | C-80  | 0.52       | 4.39         | 8.48           |  | 12.87           |
| List & preplant fert.                                 |   |            |              |                | Contract @ \$7.00/ac.<br>40 lb. 16-20-0 @ \$47.00  | 54.00           |
| <b>Fumigation for nematodes<sup>2</sup></b>           |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
| Shape beds & roll                                     | WD-50   | 0.25       | 2.11         | 1.28           |  | 45.00           |
| Plant-4 beds  | WD-50   | 0.50       | 4.22         | 3.40           |  | 3.39            |
| Herbicide 2x (incl. pre- & post applic.)              |   |            |              |                | Contract @ \$9.00/ac.<br>materials @ \$42.00   | 18.12           |
| Irrigation 9x   |   | 14.0       | 103.46       |                | 3.5 ac. ft. @ \$24.00/ac.<br>ft. \$4.00 for booster pump   | 60.00           |
| <b>Thin<sup>3</sup></b>                               |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
| Fertilizer - sidedress 2x                             |   |            |              |                | Contract @ \$6.25/ac./appli.<br>100 lbs. N @ \$.32/lb. - one sidedress add \$2.50 for appli. & \$36.00 for Tinok (insecticide) | 83.00           |
| Pest Control 3x (incl. 2x sulphur for mildew)         |   |            |              |                | Contract @ \$6.00/ac./appli.<br>materials @ \$31.00  | 49.00           |
| Cultivate 5x  | WD-50   | 1.2        | 10.30        | 7.18           |  | 17.48           |
| Hoe & weed  |   | 8.0        | 58.24        |                |  | 58.24           |
| Miscellaneous (incl. setup & moving)                  |   |            | 31.38        | 8.27           |  | 39.65           |
| <b>CULTURAL &amp; MATERIAL COSTS</b>                  |   |            |              |                |  | <b>656.36</b>   |
| <b>OVERHEAD</b>                                       |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
| Business Costs:                                       | Office and business expense @ 12% of cultural costs |            |              |                |  | 78.76           |
| Taxes:  | Equipment   |            |              |                |  | 5.00            |
| Rent:   | \$400.00  |            |              |                |  | 400.00          |
| <b>OVERHEAD COSTS</b>                                 |   |            |              |                |  | <b>483.76</b>   |
| <b>HARVEST</b>  |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
| Harvest: Dig  | \$2.00 per ton                                      |            |              |                |  | 64.00           |
| Haul  | \$2.50 per ton                                      |            |              |                |  | 80.00           |
| <b>HARVEST COSTS</b>                                  |   |            |              |                |  | <b>144.00</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD, AND HARVESTING COSTS</b> |   |            |              |                |  | <b>1,284.06</b> |
| <b>ANNUAL COSTS</b>                                   |   |            |              |                |  |                 |
|   | Investment  | Per Acre   | Depreciation | Interest - 12% |  |                 |
|   | Buildings   | 60.00      | 3.00         | 3.60           |  |                 |
|   | Irrig. System                                       | 300.00     | 30.00        | 18.00          |  |                 |
|   | Tractors  | 190.00     | 20.46        | 11.36          |  |                 |
|   | Equipment   | 150.00     | 15.00        | 9.00           |  |                 |
|   |   | 680.00     | 68.46        | 41.96          |  | 110.42          |
| <b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>                            |   |            |              |                |  | <b>1,394.48</b> |
| <b>TOTAL COST PER TON</b>                             |   |            |              |                |  | <b>43.58</b>    |

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study.

- 1 Labor costs per hour include fring benefits paid by the farmer, FDI, social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, holidays, and pension plan. (Farmers may figure a higher fringe rate)
- 2 It is sometimes necessary to fumigate for nemotodes, when required, the contract application would be \$10.00 per acre and materials would run about \$35.00 per acre.
- 3 With good weed control and good soil preparation, many farmers are planting to stand. If hand thinning or electronic thinning is used then costs are increased.  
For herbicide materials, rates and application consult a Pest Control Advisor or contact your local Agricultural Extension Office.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

| YIELD: TONS PER ACRE | 30       | 32       | 34       | 36       | 38       |
|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| PRODUCTION COSTS     | 1,140.06 | 1,140.06 | 1,140.06 | 1,140.06 | 1,140.06 |
| HARVEST COSTS        | 135.00   | 144.00   | 153.00   | 162.00   | 171.00   |
| ANNUAL COSTS         | 110.42   | 110.42   | 110.42   | 110.42   | 110.42   |
| TOTAL COST PER ACRE  | 1,385.48 | 1,394.48 | 1,403.48 | 1,412.48 | 1,421.48 |
| COST PER TON         | 46.18    | 43.58    | 41.28    | 39.24    | 37.41    |