

SAFFLOWER ON RICELAND
SAMPLE COSTS AND CULTURAL HINTS

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Safflower has been grown successfully on rice land in Colusa County for the past four years. Most rice farmers have sufficient equipment to farm safflower without any additional purchases.

Basis of Costs:

The sample costs given in this publication are examples of costs the rice farmers may expect to have if they grow safflower in rotation with rice. One third of the annual interest and depreciation on equipment used in this example is charged to the safflower crop. The remaining interest and depreciation would be charged to the rice crop or other crops grown.

These costs are intended as a guide to help farmers figure their costs of production. The staff of the Farm and Home Advisors Office would be glad to help you figure the cost of safflower production for your farm.

Equipment Input: (for 150 acres of safflower)

| <u>Machinery</u> | <u>Approximate New Cost</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Crawler tractor 60-70 | |
| Drawbar H.P. | \$11,000 |
| Truck-1½ ton | 3,000 |
| Combine-14' | 8,000 |
| Plow-10-14" | 1,500 |
| Disk-18' | 2,000 |
| Spiketooth Harrow-40' | 400 |
| Harrow Cart | 400 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$25,300 |

Colusa County
January '55

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SAFFLOWER ON RICELAND
OWNER - OPERATED FARM

Based on producing 150 acres safflower
Yield - 1500 lbs.

Labor at \$1.20 per hour

| Operation, Crew and Equipment | Hours per Acre | Cash Cost per Acre | | | | | | Total Cash Cost | Int & Deprec. on Equip. | Total Cost per Acre |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|--------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | Labor | Tractor and Equip. | Contract | Materials | | | | | |
| | | | | | Kind | Amount | Value | | | |
| Cultural Costs | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plow: 10-14", 60 H.P. Tract., man | .5 | .60 | .85 | | | | | 1.45 | .90 | 2.35 |
| Disk: 2 times: man, tractor, 18' Disk | .6 | .75 | 1.05 | | | | | 1.80 | 1.75 | 3.55 |
| Harrow: man, Tract., 40' Harrow | .05 | .05 | .10 | | | | | .15 | .14 | .29 |
| Fertilize: Contract | | | | 2.00 | Nitrogen | 40# | 6.00 | 8.00 | | 8.00 |
| Seeding: Contract | | | | 1.00 | Seed | 40# | 4.10 | 5.10 | | 5.10 |
| Harrow: man, Tract., 40' Harrow | .05 | .05 | .10 | | | | | .15 | .14 | .29 |
| Spread Straw: man, Tract., 40' Harrow | .1 | .10 | .20 | | | | | .30 | .28 | .58 |
| After Harvest | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total cultural cost | | 1.55 | 2.30 | 3.00 | | | 10.10 | 16.95 | 3.21 | 20.16 |
| Harvest Cost | | | | | | | | | | |
| Combine: 1 man 14' | .6 | .70 | 1.65 | | | | | 2.35 | 1.68 | 4.03 |
| Haul: man, 1½ ton truck | .6 | .70 | .80 | | | | | 1.50 | .65 | 2.15 |
| Storage and Hauling to Mill: Contract | | | | 1.70 | | | | 1.70 | | 1.70 |
| Total harvest cost | | 1.40 | 2.45 | 1.70 | | | | 5.55 | 2.33 | 7.88 |
| Total | | 2.95 | 4.75 | 4.70 | | | 10.10 | 22.50 | 5.54 | 28.04 |

Miscellaneous Costs:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Taxes | 2.30 | |
| Misc. Overhead | 1.00 | |
| Interest on land \$150 @ 5% | | 7.50 |
| Total Miscellaneous | 3.30 | 7.50 |
| Total Cost per Acre | 25.80 | 13.04 |
| | | 38.84 |

Tractor and equipment cost includes fuel, repairs and other cash costs. Interest and depreciation of equipment is charged on the basis of 1/3 of their worth. The rest of the depreciation and interest would be charged to other crops grown.

Cultural Hints:

Soils - Safflower can be grown on most well drained rice land soils. It is not too tolerant of alkali.

Seedbed - A good weed free seedbed essential. Steps must be taken to conserve as much moisture as possible in preparation of land.

Planting - Plant into moisture. Drilling is preferred, however, it can be broadcast similar to grain. February 15 to March 15 are the recommended planting dates. If plantings are made later, yields usually are lower.

Planting rate - 30 to 40 lbs. of seed per acre.

Fertilizer - 40 to 60 lbs. of actual N. per acre depending on previous crop.

Irrigation - Irrigation is not recommended on rice lands because of danger of scald.

Insect Control - Safflower is susceptible to lygus bug attack. Control can be obtained through use of D.D.T. Early plantings usually escape crop damage.

Harvesting - Similar to grain, usually with slower cylinder and ground speed. Harvest usually starts the last of August for March planted safflower.

Marketing - Safflower can be marketed only through an oil seed company. A purchase contract should be obtained before the crop is planted.

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1/11/55 db