

Table 30. A Standard of Labor, Material and Other Costs of Alfalfa Production in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys with a Yield of 1938 6 Tons per Acre from 6 Cuttings, Established Stand.

	Man Labor	Horse Work	Cost per Acre	Cost per Ton
	Hours per Acre		Dollars	
Tillage, Renovating, etc.	2	4	1.00	
Border and Ditch Work	2	2	.80	
Irrigation	10		3.00	
Miscellaneous	2	4	1.00	
Total Cultural Labor	16	10	5.80	.97
Cutting 6 Times	7	14	3.50	.58
Raking 6 Times	3	6	1.50	.25
Shocking 6 Times	8		2.40	.40
Stacking 6 Tons	20	20	8.00	1.33
Total Harvesting Labor	38	40	15.40	2.56
Total Labor	54	50	21.20	3.53
Irrigation Water or Power for Pumping 50"			9.00	
Miscellaneous and Fertilizing Material			1.00	
Total Material Cost			10.00	1.67
General Expense (5% of Labor and Materials)			1.56	
County Taxes, \$100 @ 2.5%			2.50	
Machinery Repairs			1.50	
Insurance			.20	
Total Cash Overhead Cost			5.76	.96
Total Cash Costs			36.96	6.16
	Original Cost	Average Investment	5% Interest	Depreciation
	Dollars per Acre			
Stand, Checking, etc.	18.00	9.00	.45	6.00
Building for Equipment	4.00	2.00	.10	.10
Irrigation System	40.00	20.00	1.00	2.00
Mowers, Rakes, Stacker, etc.	10.00	5.00	.25	.80
Miscellaneous Other Eqt.	2.00	1.00	.05	.20
Land	200.00	200.00	10.00	
Total Investment	274.00	237.00		
Total Depreciation				9.10
Total Cash Costs and Depreciation				46.06
Total Interest on Investment			11.85	1.97
Total, All Costs of Production - Hay in Stack			57.91	9.65
Add - Additional Costs of Baling over Stacking			4.50	.75
Total Cost if Baled Hay Instead of Loose Hay in Stack			62.41	10.40

The above costs are compiled to suit alfalfa hay production on small general farms having about 40 acres of alfalfa and located in the great interior valleys of California. Costs of irrigation by owned pumping plant are provided for. In irrigation districts interest and depreciation on the irrigation system would not occur and the district tax and water charge would replace the power charge for pumping. Costs are shown for stacking the hay loose so if it were baled for sale without stacking, costs would be about \$.75 a ton higher. It is assumed that the stand would have cost \$18 to obtain to full producing condition and would be used for 3 years. Labor costs are computed at \$.30 an hour for man labor and \$.10 per hour for horse work.

Table 31. Standards of Costs of Alfalfa Production under different Conditions and with different Yields.

	San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys				Antelope Valley	Riverside San Bernardino Counties			Imperial Valley	
	Loose Hay		Baled Hay	Baled Hay	Baled Hay	Loose Hay			Loose Hay	Baled Hay
	Irrig. Dist.	Pump P.								
Yield, Tons per Acre	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	5	5
Assumed Cuttings	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	6
Cultural Labor Cost per Acre	3.00	3.00	5.80	5.80	7.00	6.00	6.00	7.00	2.00	2.00
Cutting, Raking, Shocking	7.00	7.40	7.40	7.40	7.00	7.00	7.40	8.50	6.50	6.50
Baling or Stacking	7.50	8.00	8.00	10.00	9.00	10.00	8.00	9.00	7.50	10.00
Total Labor Cost	17.50	18.40	21.20	23.20	23.00	23.00	21.40	24.50	16.00	18.50
Water Cost per Acre	5.00	6.00	9.00	9.00	20.00	18.00	18.00	20.00	4.00	4.00
Other Material Costs	.75	1.00	1.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	3.00
Cash Overhead Costs	5.25	5.50	5.76	6.00	5.00	7.25	7.00	7.50	3.00	3.50
Total Cash Costs	28.50	30.90	36.96	41.20	51.00	51.25	47.40	53.00	24.00	29.00
Depreciation	7.10	7.10	9.10	9.50	12.00	10.00	10.00	10.20	5.00	5.20
Total Cash & Depreciation	35.60	38.00	46.06	50.70	63.00	61.25	57.40	63.20	29.00	34.20
Interest on Investment	8.85	10.85	11.85	12.00	7.50	15.00	14.00	14.50	5.90	6.00
Total Cost per Acre	44.45	48.85	57.91	62.70	70.50	76.25	71.40	77.70	34.90	40.20
Cash Costs per Ton	5.70	5.15	6.16	6.87	8.50	8.54	7.90	7.57	4.80	5.80
Cash & Deprec. Costs per Ton	7.12	6.33	7.68	8.45	10.50	10.21	9.57	9.03	5.60	6.84
Total all Costs per Ton	8.89	8.14	9.65	10.45	11.75	12.71	11.90	11.10	6.98	8.04

The above table shows costs as they are likely to occur in the districts shown and for loose hay in the stack or for baled hay hauled out of the field. The first two columns show costs with 5 and 6 ton yields where low cost ditch water is available. The 3rd column is a summary of costs in table 30. The 4th column shows comparable costs for baled hay. In the Antelope valley and in Riverside and San Bernardino counties costs per acre and per ton are higher because of the higher water cost. Imperial valley (last 2 columns) shows the lowest costs because of low water and overhead costs and the prevailing high efficiency of hay making operations and equipment.