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WALNUTS IN YUBA-SUTTER COUNTIES

1968 Acreage	Bearing	Non Bearing	Total
Yuba County	1,900	910	2,810
Sutter County	9,020	2,090	11,110
California	139,290	36,920	176,210

Outlook:

Prior to World War II, 90 per cent of the state's walnuts were grown in Southern California. At that time, three-quarters of the crop was sold as unshelled nuts. Now, 50% to 75% are shelled and sold as meats. Forty-five per cent of the present acreage is in the San Joaquin Valley, with 25% each in the Sacramento Valley and the Central Coast locations. The present average yields of 1200 pounds per acre are expected to double in the new orchards now being planted. Three main reasons for this are, the newer, higher-yielding varieties, closer spacing of trees and increasing grower know-how. The walnut acreage is on the increase. It is expected that in the next 10 years, an adequate supply will be available to supply local markets, with foreign sales required to balance the larger supply expected. The production of Oregon and Washington, the only other states where English walnuts are grown, amount to five per cent of California's production. Walnuts are included under a Federal Marketing Agreement.

Growing Conditions:

The heavy investment required to plant and develop a walnut orchard should limit walnuts in the future to deep, well-drained soils from which high production can be expected. Good walnut soil found is in limited quantities, with competitive demand from other crops. Rather than intercrop young orchards with beans, milo or peaches, interplanting with additional walnuts is suggested as a means to achieve heavier early production without developing root rot problems from early over-watering. Walnuts adapt well to mechanical harvesting, chemical weed control and sprinkler or surface irrigation.

There are now available ten new varieties released by the University of California. These show considerable promise for growers who wish to remain competitive in the future. Varieties with a high kernel to shell ratio will be desirable. It is recommended that cross pollination be provided for all varieties, except the Payne or Ashley. With close plantings of the newer varieties, and with adequate care, it is expected that new orchards will reach good production in six to eight years.

Sample Cost Studies:

Wages used in these costs of $2.25 per hour for skilled labor and $1.90 for unskilled, include workmen's compensation, social security and other expenses incidental to labor. These costs shown are samples. They are not intended to show average expenses for growing walnuts in the county, but indicate typical costs for successful growers.

Calendar of Operations:

Prune	November, December, January
Irrigate	May to September
Spray	Blight: April
	Codling Moth: May
Harvest	August, September, October

Agricultural Extension Service
Yuba-Sutter Counties
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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE WALNUTS - YUBA-SUTTER COUNTIES

Based on 80-acre orchard Labor: Skilled ---$2.25 Yield: 2,000 pounds Tractor Costs: 40 H.P. = $ .90
Unskilled— 1.90 55 H.P. = 1.20

Cultural Operations	Hours Per Acre	Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials	Cost Per Acre	Cost Per Pound
Prune	9.0	$ 20.25	$	$	$ 20.25	$
Brush disposal	2.0	4.50	2.90		7.40	
Fertilize - Contract				150 Lbs. N. @ 10¢	16.50	
Ridge up and knock down 3 times	1.1	2.47	1.32		3.79	
Disc - 5 times	2.0	4.50	3.20		7.70	
Irrigate - 3 times	5.0	9.50	.90	Power for pump 6.00	16.40	
Preparation for harvest	1.5	3.37	2.25		5.62	
Miscellaneous		4.50	1.20		5.70	
Spray - 2 times	1.2	2.70	4.94	2.12	29.76	
Total Cultural					$113.12	5.6¢
Harvest:						
Shake, pick up and haul - contract					40.00	
Hull, dry and haul					41.00	
Total Harvest					81.00	4.0¢
Total Cultural and Harvest					$194.12	
Cash overhead:						
Miscellaneous					9.20	
Taxes - Real Estate and Personal Property					56.05	
Total Cash Overhead					65.25	3.2¢
Management					22.10	

	Investment Per Acre	Annual Charge: Depreciation	Annual Charge: Interest - 7%		
Land	$ 1,200	$ ---	$ 84.00		
Trees	2,000	50.00	70.00		
Irrigation System	140	7.00	4.90		
Buildings	110	3.30	3.85		
Equipment	264	26.40	18.48		
Total	3,714	86.70	181.23	267.93	14.5¢

TOTAL COST PER ACRE $549.40 27.4¢

UC Cooperative Extension