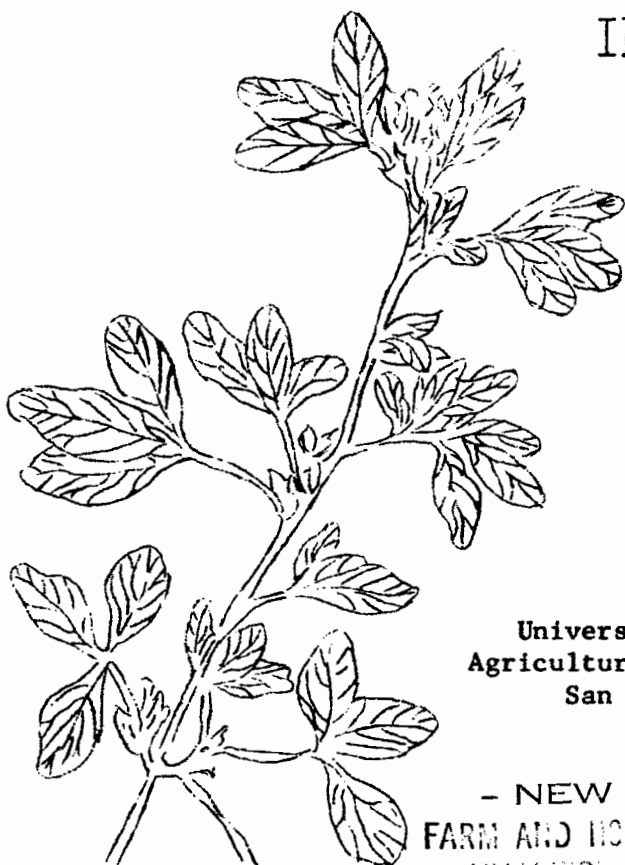


SAMPLE COSTS TO  
ESTABLISH AND GROW  
ALFALFA

IN

SAN  
JOAQUIN  
COUNTY



University of California  
Agricultural Extension Service  
San Joaquin County

- NEW ADDRESS -  
FARM AND HOME ADVISORS OFFICE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY  
420 COURT STREET  
STOCKTON, CALIF. 95205

# RICULTURE

Alfalfa

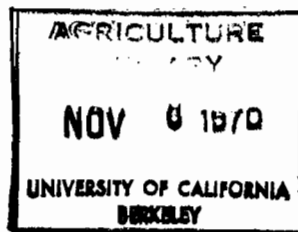
SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA  
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - JANUARY 1967  
Tracy-Islands Area

- - - - -  
- - - - -

Hourly labor rates used: Skilled, \$1.75  
Irrigators: \$1.50 (including Social Security, Compensation Insurance, etc.)  
Hourly tractor rates used: (fuel and repairs only)  
60 h.p. tractor, \$2.00; 30 h.p. wheel D, \$1.00; 20 h.p. wheel G, \$.75

Based on 150 acres alfalfa on 600-acre farm

Operation	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost per Acre			Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Kind and Quantity Cost	
<b>Cultural Costs:</b>					
Disc 2x (.3 each)	.6	1.05	1.41		2.46
Subsoil 1x	1.0	1.75	2.20		3.95
Plow	.6	1.05	1.41		2.46
Landplane 2x	.8	1.40	2.00		3.40
Ridge	.2	.35	.46		.81
Grade checks	.3	.53	.75		1.28
Work borders 2x	.1	.18	.09		.27
Work middles	.3	.53	.93		1.46
Seeding				35# @ .45 = 15.75 + 1.50 plane appl. 17.25	17.25
Covering	.1	.18	.09		.27
Weed spray, seedling stand				DN, \$3.13 + 2.50 plane 5.63	5.63
Irrigation 1x (.7)	.7	1.05		.5 A. Ft. @ 4.75 2.38	3.43
Miscellaneous	.5	.88	.55		1.75
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>8.95</b>	<b>9.89</b>		<b>27.01</b>
<b>OVERHEAD COSTS ON EQUIPMENT FOR LAND PREPARATION AND SEEDING</b>					<b>20.35</b>
<b>TOTAL COST OF STAND</b>					<b>66.20</b>



SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA - 1st, 2nd and 3rd YEAR  
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - January, 1967  
 Tracy-Islands Area

- - - - -

Hourly labor rates used: Skilled, \$1.75

Irrigators: \$1.50 (including Social Security, Compensation Insurance, etc.)

Hourly tractor rates used: (fuel and repairs only)

60 h.p. tractor, \$2.00; 30 h.p. wheel D, \$1.00; 20 h.p. wheel G \$.75

Based on 150 acres alfalfa on 600-acre farm, yield 7 tons per acre (5 cuttings)

Operation	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost per Acre			Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Kind and Quantity Cost	
<b>Cultural Costs:</b>					
Irrigate 8x (.7)	5.6	8.40		4 acre ft. @ 4.75 19.00	27.40
Insect control - weevil, worms (2x)				\$4.00 applied 8.00	8.00
Spray ditches 2x	.1	.18	.12	Oil spray 1.54	1.84
Miscellaneous	1.0	1.75	1.10	.70	3.55
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>10.33</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>29.24</b>	<b>40.79</b>
<b>Harvest Costs:</b>					
Swath 5x (.25)	1.2	1.56	3.95		5.51
Rake 5x (.2)	1.0	1.75	1.25		3.00
Bale 5x (10 T/hr.)	.7	1.23	1.75	Wire - \$.75/T 5.25	8.23
Roadside				9¢/bale x 16 bales per ton=1.44/T 10.08	10.08
Marketing Costs				\$1.38/T on 4.67 T. (op. share) 6.44	6.44
<b>TOTAL HARVEST</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>6.48</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>21.77</b>	<b>33.26</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH AND LABOR</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>16.81</b>	<b>7.22</b>	<b>51.01</b>	<b>74.05</b>

Annual Rent: 1/3 of 7 tons x \$25.20/T 58.80

Investment:

Equipment cost per acre \$98.67 Depr. \$10.88 + Int. \$2.97 + taxes and insurance \$1.97 15.82

Stand cost per acre = \$66.20 (3 yr. life) Depr. \$22.06 + Int. \$1.99 24.05

Management 5% of 7 tons @ \$25.20 8.82

**Total Cost Per Acre 181.54**

**Cost per ton @ 7 ton yield 25.93**

NET PROFIT PER ACRE  
AT VARIOUS YIELDS AND PRICES

Yield Tons/Acre		\$ 22.	\$ 24.	\$ 26.	\$ 28.	\$ 30.	\$ 32.	\$ 34.	\$ 36.
6	Total Income	132.	144.	156.	168.	180.	192.	204.	216.
	Total Cost	179.	179.	179.	179.	179.	179.	179.	179.
	Profit	-47.	-35.	-23.	-11.	1.	13.	25.	37.
7	Total Income	154.	168.	182.	196.	210.	224.	238.	252.
	Total Cost	182.	182.	182.	182.	182.	182.	182.	182.
	Profit	-28.	-14.		14.	28.	42.	56.	70.
8	Total Income	176.	192.	208.	224.	240.	256.	272.	288.
	Total Cost	185.	185.	185.	185.	185.	185.	185.	185.
	Profit	-9.	7.	23.	39.	55.	71.	87.	103.
9	Total Income	198.	216.	234.	252.	270.	280.	306.	324.
	Total Cost	188.	188.	188.	188.	188.	188.	188.	188.
	Profit	10.	28.	46.	64.	82.	100.	118.	136.
10	Total Income	220.	240.	260.	280.	300.	320.	340.	360.
	Total Cost	191.	191.	191.	191.	191.	191.	191.	191.
	Profit	29.	49.	69.	89.	109.	129.	149.	169.

COMMENTS ON COSTS OF PRODUCTION OF ALFALFA

- A. The first sheet shows the costs to establish a stand of alfalfa. The second sheet is for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd years actual production.
- B. Subsoiling and plowing were both included, although both may not always be done. A grower who does one or the other can subtract one from these costs.
- C. Spraying weeds in the seedling stand is done if the problem exists and the desirable weather conditions occur. This is in a small percentage of the operations but is a useful tool when needed and is included to show the cost. In older established stands weed control during the dormant season may be needed.
- D. The net profit or loss chart shows many minus figures. When all costs, including interest on equipment investment and depreciation are considered, it takes better than average yields and high prices to make a reasonable profit. Therefore, growers should strive for high yields and superior quality hay to be successful.

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