

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA HAY IN TULARE COUNTY - 1961

Based on an average yield of 8 tons per acre per year for 3 years including the first. Man labor @ \$1.35 per hr., including Social Security and Compensation Insurance; light tractor per hr. cash cost \$1.00; depreciation 50¢; interest 20¢; medium tractor per hr. cash cost \$1.25; depreciation 70¢; interest 25¢.

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	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Ton	Per Acre	Per Ton
Pre-Harvest Cash Costs:				
Land prep. seed and planting (\$19.00 for 3 yrs.)	\$ 6.33			
Irrigate: 1 1/4 times - 7 man hours	9.45			
Water: pumping power only - 5 A. ft. @ \$3.50	17.50			
Fertilizer: 120 lbs. P ₂ O ₅ applied annually (Average)	13.50			
Misc. labor 1 hr.; tractor 3/4 hr.; material 50¢	2.79			
County taxes	7.50			
Office, car, operating capital, etc.	3.50			
Repairs; irrig. facil. \$2.00; equip. except tractor 50¢	2.50			
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	\$ 63.07	\$ 7.88		
Harvesting Costs:				
Mowing 7 times - man and tractor - 3.0 hrs.	\$ 7.05	\$.88		
Rake and turn; man and tractor - 3 hrs.	7.05	.88		
Baling: contract @ \$3.75 per ton	30.00	3.75		
Roadside: contract @ \$1.50 per ton	12.00	1.50		
Repairs and misc.	2.50	.32		
TOTAL HARVESTING COST	\$ 58.60	\$ 7.33		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$121.67	\$15.21		
Depreciation:				
Irrigation system: (original cost \$120) 16 yrs. life	\$ 7.50			
Tractor: 6.75 hrs. @ \$3.53 + 1/3 land prep. & plant 78¢	4.31			
Equipment: cost \$25 - 10 yrs. life	2.50			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 14.31	\$ 1.79		
TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION COST	\$135.98	\$17.00		
Interest on Investment @ 6%:				
Land @ \$700 per acre	\$ 42.00			
Irrigation system: on 1/2 cost (\$60)	3.60			
Tractor: 6.75 hrs. @ \$1.39 + 1/3 land prep. & plant 28¢	1.67			
Equipment: on 1/2 cost (\$12.50)	.75			
TOTAL INTEREST	\$ 48.02	\$ 6.00		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$184.00	\$23.00		

Any income from winter green chopping or pasturing would be deducted from total cost to obtain a net cost for the hay.

Added aphid control cost, if necessary, would range from approx. \$2 to \$4 per acre per application.

Cost Per Ton At Varying Yields

Yield - tons per acre	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cash and depreciation cost	\$24.05	\$20.91	\$18.68	\$17.00	\$15.69	\$14.65
Total cost per ton	\$33.65	\$28.92	\$25.54	\$23.00	\$21.03	\$19.45

2/21/61