

**SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

March - 1965

*Agriculture*

• Notes from the Sacramento County Farm Advisor •

SAFFLOWER FACT SHEET

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Areas of Adaptation: Delta, Natomas--high water table soilsPlanting Dates: February 15-April 15Harvest Dates: August 1-September 1, when moisture content of seed is about 8%Soil Requirements: Clays, clay loam, muck, non-hardpan soilsVarieties: US 10, Gila, Private varietiesSeeding Rates: 20-25 lbs. per acre, row planted, 20" rows. Increase seeding 10 lbs. per acre for drilled plantings on sub-irrigated land.Fertilizer Requirement: 40-120 lbs. per acre nitrogen depending on previous crops and soil moisture conditions. 15-20 lbs. P in P deficient areas.Irrigation: Usually none. If irrigation is planned, plant on beds. Do not allow plants to stress. Avoid prolonged irrigation, especially in warm weather. Provide adequate drainage.Rotation: Delta area as soil-drying crop in rotation with row crops. Natomas area in rotation with rice. A pre-irrigation to replenish soil moisture may be needed for crops following safflower.Normal Yield: 3000 lbs. (Delta)  
2000 lbs. (other areas)Special Insect Problems: Cutworms, aphids, lygus, thrips. Early planting preferred to decrease possibility of damage from latter two.Disease Problems: Usually not serious. Rust, phytophthora root rot, botrytis blight, fusarium, and verticillium wilt. Rust not a problem except when crop is grown two years consecutively in the same field. Phytophthora may occur when safflower is grown under irrigated conditions.Weed Control: Harrowing when 3-6" tall. Cultivation of row planted safflower. EPTC pre-plant, soil-incorporated. Trifluralin pre-plant, soil-incorporated.References: "Safflower", U.C. Circular 532

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SAFFLOWER ON HIGH WATER TABLE LAND IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY, 1965

3000 Lbs. per Acre

Labor Costs\* per Hour: Harvester Operator \$2.25  
 Tractor Driver 1.75  
 Truck Driver 1.50

Operation	Date	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor Costs per Acre				Total
			Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials		
		Kind and Quantity			Cost		
Cultural							
Plow 1X	Fall	.3	\$ .53	\$ .81			\$ 1.34
Disk 2X	Feb.-Mar.	.5	.88	1.30			2.18
Harrow 1X	Feb.-Mar.	.1	.18	.22			.40
Fertilize	Feb.-Mar.	.2	.35	.28	80# N @ \$.10	\$ 8.00	
					Rent Tagalong	.50	9.13
Weed Control	Feb.-Mar.						
Spray	Feb.-Mar.	.2	.35	.34	Herbicide	12.00	12.69
Disk 2X	Feb.-Mar.	.5	.88	1.30			2.18
Harrow 1X	Feb.-Mar.	.1	.18	.22			.40
Drill	Feb.-Mar.	.25	.44	.33	35# @ \$.10	3.50	4.27
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>2.15</b>	<b>\$3.79</b>	<b>\$4.80</b>		<b>\$24.00</b>	<b>\$32.59</b>
Harvest							
Combine	August	.4	\$ .90	\$1.72			\$ 2.62
Haul	August	Contract			\$2.00 per ton	\$ 3.00	3.00
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>		<b>.4</b>	<b>\$ .90</b>	<b>\$1.72</b>		<b>\$ 3.00</b>	<b>\$ 5.62</b>
Cash overhead							
Misc., office, etc.							\$ 1.91
Taxes							1.00
Rent 1/3 Share Rent							38.50
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>							<b>\$41.41</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>							<b>\$79.62</b>
Management 5% of 3000 lbs. @ \$3.85/cwt							\$ 5.78
Equipment Depreciation \$10.65, Interest \$3.20							\$13.85
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>							<b>\$99.25</b>
<b>TOTAL COST PER CWT @ 3000 lb. yield</b>							<b>\$ 3.31</b>

\* Includes social security, workmen's compensation, etc.