

## CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California and Lake County cooperating

Kelseyville, Calif. 95451

May, 1964

## SAMPLE COST ANALYSIS FOR PRODUCING BARTLETT PEARS IN LAKE COUNTY

COSTS - This analysis has been prepared from a recent survey of representative pear growers. The cost figures are typical of well managed Lake County orchards under present conditions rather than average or actual. Its purpose is to aid producers in studying their own operations and management practices.

IRRIGATION - Pears can be grown on our good deep soils without irrigation but yields are lower than in irrigated orchards. In general, growers are irrigating their orchards wherever water is available. Irrigation is essential for profitable operation on the soils having factors that restrict deep root penetration, or those orchards on lighter soils.

SPRAYING - Recent years have brought further changes in pest and disease control materials and methods of application. Three applications of DDT or other materials may be necessary to provide good control of codling moth.

Multiple applications of copper dusts or dilute sprays have reduced the spread of pear blight, stop drop spray has increased yield of merchantable fruit by preventing drop.

OUTLOOK - Pears have fluctuated in price and yield during the past years, and the factors of supply and demand will continue to operate in the future. Factors such as frost and unfavorable weather likewise will continue as variables. The potential for excess production of Bartletts exists on the Pacific Coast.

Bartlett pears are the leading fruit crop in Lake County, based on value, although the acreage in pears is less than in walnuts. Favorable growing conditions aid in the production of a high quality crop of fresh shipping or canning pears. During the past five years, approximately 50 per cent of the crop has moved into fresh market channels. During the coming years, growers should continue to follow the latest cultural practices, and thereby satisfy the higher quality requirements that consumers will be demanding.

A record yield of Bartlett pears was produced in 1962 when the crop yielded 62,000 tons from 4589 acres. Non-producing acreage in 1964 amount to 1779 acres. It should be expected that the average yield of pears in this county will trend slightly upward during the next 5 - 10 years. Bearing acreage in 1964 is near 4,800 acres.

COST CHANGES - The previous cost sheet prepared in February 1962 reflected a figure of \$66 cost per ton for producing Bartlett pears. The current costs as determined under present conditions indicate a rise from 1962 costs to \$71.58 for 1964.

Labor costs above are figured at \$1.65 and \$2.30 (tractor drivers, etc.) and includes various charges for Social Security, Compensation, etc.

*Doyle Reed*

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE BARTLETT PEARS IN LAKE COUNTY - Russell H. Gripp & A. Doyle Reed Revised May 1964  
 Yield - 15 ton Income 5 yr. avg. Price \$89.65 = \$1,344.75 - 60 Acre Unit

Operation	Hrs/Acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre			Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials and/or Service	
<b>Cultural</b>					
Prune 90 trees @ \$1.25	(piece rate)	\$112.50			\$112.50
Brush disposal	1	3.30	\$1.50		4.80
Blight Inspection	5	8.25			8.25
Dust 6 times (min.)	2	4.60	2.75	Dust \$17.00	24.35
Spray 6 times (min.)	3	6.90	15.00	66.00	87.90
Cultivate 4 times	2	4.60	5.50		10.10
Irrigate 5 times	5	11.50	4.00	Power 2½ ft. 20.00	35.50
Heat 4 times	10	16.50	8.00	Oil 500 gals. @ 13¢ 65.00	89.50
Fertilizer 125# of N	0.5	1.15	.75	Fertilizer 14.40	16.30
Misc.	10	16.50	5.00	4.00	25.50
<b>Total Cultural</b>		<b>\$185.80</b>	<b>\$42.50</b>	<b>\$186.40</b>	<b>\$414.70</b>
<b>Harvest</b>					
Pick 27 bins @ \$6.90		\$186.30			\$186.30
Haul	6	13.80	\$ 8.00		21.80
Supervision	6	20.70			20.70
<b>Total Harvest</b>		<b>\$220.80</b>	<b>\$ 8.00</b>		<b>\$228.80</b>
<b>Total Cash &amp; Labor Cost</b>					<b>\$643.50</b>

Investment	Per Acre (60 A)	Years Life	Annual Cost		Overhead	
			Depreciation	Interest		
Land	1000		0	60.00	Taxes	50.00
Trees	2400	50	48.00	72.00	Misc.	32.00
Buildings	50	25	2.00	1.50	Mgt. 5% of gross	67.25
Irrigation Equip.	150	10	15.00	4.50		
Machinery & "	600	10	60.00	18.00		
<b>Total</b>	<b>4200</b>		<b>125.00</b>	<b>156.00</b>		<b>149.25</b>
						<b>\$430.25</b>

Equipment List		Per Hour Chg.	Per Acre	
Tractor 30 hp wheel	4000	1.00		Total Cost Per Acre \$1073.75
40 - 50 hp diesel track	8000	2.00		
Sprayer	6500	3.00		
Duster \$400; Disc \$900	1300			
Trailers	1500			
Pick-up	2300			
Misc.	1000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>24600</b>			
			410.00	
			190.00	Total \$600.00