

*California
file: "Crops, major"*

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CROPS

Division of Agricultural Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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LEAFLET

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UC Cooperative Extension

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CROPS

This publication is designed as a quick reference for production costs of most of the major crops in California. The costs are not presented as averages for the state but are representative of good management in the major producing areas. No attempt has been made to cover all variations in management practices, marketing methods, or geographical areas of the state.

Details on the cost data, costs for specific areas, or other information can be obtained by referring to the Enterprise Data Sheets which are prepared by the farm advisors in the various counties of the state.

A catalog of crop and livestock cost studies (*Special Publication 3023*) is available from county farm advisor offices. This catalog lists all current publications for individual crop and livestock enterprises in specific regions, and the farm advisor offices from which they are available.

Definitions

Yield per acre -- yields attainable under good management. Usually above average for the major producing areas.

Labor cost -- includes social security, compensation insurance, housing, transportation, and other labor costs in addition to the wage paid the laborer.

Fuel and repairs -- the cost of fuel, oil, and lubrication plus the total cost of repairs (labor, parts, etc.)

Material -- includes seed, fertilizer, water or power, spray, machine work hired, and other costs not included under labor, or fuel and repairs.

Equipment overhead -- depreciation and interest.

Harvest -- the total cost of harvest, up to the point where the farmer is usually paid for the product.

Cash overhead -- office, accounting, legal, and other costs of management.

Rent -- includes the actual rent paid for the land where rented or on owned land the cost of taxes, interest on investment, depreciation on fixed facilities.

Management -- usually calculated at 5 percent of the gross income.

SEASON AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS
AT FIRST DELIVERY POINT AND AVERAGE YIELDS

Crop	Unit	Price		Yield	
		1976	1977	1976	1977
		Dollars		Per acre	
Alfalfa hay	ton	76.00	65.00	6.0	5.8
Alfalfa seed	lbs	.102	.090	585.0	660.0
Almond - in shell	ton	810.00	1050.00	.9	.9
Apples	ton	119.00	128.00	11.1	11.1
Apricots	ton	189.00	195.00	5.4	5.2
Artichokes	cwt	14.40	19.30	76.0	66.0
Asparagus	cwt	32.20	38.20	37.0	37.0
Avocados	ton	1037.00	590.00	2.3	4.1
Barley	cwt	5.00	4.00	26.9	26.9
Beans - dry	cwt	25.10	28.90	15.6	17.6
Beans - green lima	ton	269.00	290.00	1.6	1.6
- snap, process	ton	150.00	156.00	2.4	2.6
- snap, fresh	cwt	20.20	21.30	86.0	87.0
Broccoli	cwt	15.90	16.30	82.0	81.0
Brussel sprouts	cwt	18.50	19.70	120.0	120.0
Cabbage	cwt	5.63	8.47	222.0	245.0
Cantaloupe	cwt	10.60	10.00	170.0	154.0
Carrots	cwt	6.28	8.25	281.0	280.0
Cauliflower	cwt	16.90	20.50	90.0	98.0
Celery	cwt	7.10	7.79	561.0	580.0
Cherries	ton	450.00	579.00	4.8	2.6
Corn - grain	cwt	5.00	4.00	61.6	65.0
Cotton - lint	bales	67.90	54.60	1064.0	995.0
- seed	ton	108.00	76.00	-	-
Cucumber - pickle	ton	104.00	105.00	14.8	14.4
Cucumber - fresh	cwt	10.30	11.60	251.0	253.0
Dates	ton	346.00	255.00	5.9	6.7
Figs - fresh basis	ton	180.00	273.00	2.2	2.7
Garlic	cwt	13.00	14.30	105.0	110.0
Grain hay	ton	-	-	1.8	1.9
Grain sorghum	cwt	4.46	4.25	39.7	40.9
Grapefruit - desert	packed box ^{1/}	1.70	1.96	425.0	474.0
- other	packed box ^{1/}	2.66	3.33	449.0	435.0
Grapes - raisin	ton-fresh	149.00	180.00	9.5	8.1
- table	ton	217.00	260.00	6.5	7.3
Grapes - wine	ton	136.00	154.00	4.8	5.2
Hops	lbs	.885	.939	1660.0	1630.0

1/ 60 pounds

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SEASON AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS
AT FIRST DELIVERY POINT AND AVERAGE YIELDS

Crop	Unit	Price		Yield	
		1976	1977	1976	1977
		Dollars		Per acre	
Ladino clover seed	lbs	.13	.10	295.0	260.0
Lemons	packed box ^{2/}	5.65	3.48	322.0	430.0
Lettuce	cwt	8.27	7.22	256.0	263.0
Nectarine	ton	245.00	203.00	9.7	10.7
Oats	cwt	6.00	4.00	15.7	16.3
Olives	ton	321.00	354.00	2.6	1.3
Onions	cwt	3.99	4.88	349.0	345.0
Oranges - navel	packed box ^{3/}	3.12	3.60	246.0	223.0
- valencia	packed box ^{3/}	2.80	3.25	296.0	271.0
Peaches - cling	ton	116.00	117.00	14.6	16.3
Peaches - freestone	ton	148.00	176.00	10.8	10.7
Pears - Bartlett	ton	104.00	116.00	10.1	9.0
Peas - process	ton	156.00	143.00	1.4	1.6
- fresh	cwt	17.80	21.70	31.0	38.0
Peppers - bell	cwt	12.40	13.10	184.0	204.0
Peppers - chili, dried	ton	44.80	45.30	43.0	38.0
Plums	ton	380.00	313.00	4.6	6.2
Potatoes	cwt	4.58	5.72	364.0	361.0
Prunes - dried	ton	412.00	490.00	2.0	2.2
Rice	cwt	6.91	9.36	55.2	58.1
Safflower	ton	243.00	246.00	1.1	1.1
Silage - corn	ton	-	-	19.0	19.5
Spinach - process	ton	45.40	51.40	9.9	10.2
- fresh	cwt	14.70	13.40	152.0	156.0
Strawberries - fresh	cwt	36.90	38.20	-	-
Strawberries - process	cwt	22.90	20.80	-	-
Sugar beets	ton	22.40	-	28.6	26.0
Sweet corn	cwt	8.03	8.95	75.0	75.0
Sweet potatoes	cwt	12.10	13.00	155.0	150.0
Tangerine	packed box	4.64	4.74	122.0	194.0
Tomatoes - process	ton	47.40	56.10	21.7	24.1
- fresh	cwt	20.70	21.70	227.0	243.0
Walnuts - shelled	ton	627.00	758.00	1.1	1.1
Watermelon	cwt	5.05	5.26	200.0	171.0
Wheat - regular	cwt	5.00	4.00	37.2	38.4
Wheat - durum	cwt	11.00	5.00	48.0	45.0

^{2/} 76 pounds

^{3/} 70 pounds

Source: California Crop and Livestock Reporting Service

SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE CROPS

Crop	County	Yield	Cost per acre								Total cost	Cost per unit
			Cultural cost				Harvest	Cash over-head	Rent	Management		
			Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials	Equipment overhead						
Alfalfa - hay	Fresno	8.5 tons	\$ 40	\$18	\$115	\$ 35	\$ 150	\$ 25	\$155	\$ 25	\$ 563	\$ 66.24 ton
Alfalfa seed	Imperial	300 lbs	←	110 ^{1/}		→	55	15	110	15	305	1.02 lb
Almonds in-shell	Kern	2,800 lbs	75	80	235	210	140	30	185	50	1,005	.36 lb
Apples	Santa Cruz	20 tons	655	40	130	260	375	75	340	125	2,000	100.00 ton
Apricots	San Benito	8 tons	173	48	170	130	320	90	330	66	1,327	165.88 ton
Asparagus	Imperial	2.2 tons	←	400 ^{1/}		→	100	10	150	105	2,265	1,029.55 ton
Avocado ^{2/}	Ventura	7,000 lbs	285	80	280	232	-	230	300	60	1,467	.21 lb
Barley - dryland	Yolo	1.35 tons	5	13	32	9	10	10	30	6	115	84.44 ton
- irrigated	Merced	1.5 tons	15	55	30	50	25	15	65	8	263	175.33 ton
Beans - blackeye	Kern	20 cwt	50	25	50	20	80	40	125	35	425	21.25 cwt
Beans - dry lima	Santa Barbara	24 cwt	60	32	142	43	156	35	200	10	678	28.25 cwt
- garbanzo	Santa Barbara	10 cwt	37	25	41	31	51	14	75	15	289	28.90 cwt
- small white	Santa Barbara	24 cwt	60	31	80	33	106	24	120	10	464	19.33 cwt
Been seed - bush beans	Santa Barbara	20 cwt	82	33	145	33	64	27	120	10	514	25.70 cwt
Broccoli	Santa Barbara	3.5 tons	140	80	330	60	190	50	105	42	997	284.86 ton
Cantaloupe	Imperial	7 tons	←	388 ^{1/}		→	875	55	150	85	1,553	221.86 ton
Carrots	Kern	13.5 tons	←	630 ^{1/}		→	1,625	70	125	70	2,520	186.67 ton
Cauliflower	Monterey	125 cwt	115	40	165	45	1,400	40	175	100	2,080	16.64 cwt
Celery	Monterey	30 tons	372	40	170	48	3,000	66	334	230	4,260	142.00 ton
Cherries	San Joaquin	4 tons	115	90	60	165	750	65	360	185	1,790	447.50 ton
Corn	Madera-Merced	70 cwt	60	25	110	50	45	15	100	20	425	6.07 cwt
Cotton	Madera-Merced	9 cwt lint	60	20	125	60	150	35	110	25	585	65.00 cwt
Figs	Kern	22.5 cwt	135	60	40	75	10	25	175	135	655	29.11 cwt
Garlic	Monterey	8 tons	240	35	360	60	320	55	250	100	1,420	177.50 ton
Grain sorghum	Madera-Merced	50 cwt	50	25	80	50	40	15	120	15	395	7.90 cwt
Grapefruit	Riverside	20 tons	175	70	300	135	-	40	200	100	1,020	51.00 ton
Grapes - raisin	San Joaquin Valley	2.25 tons	210	80	220	180	525	75	240	190	1,720	764.44 ton
- table	San Bernardino	6 tons	200	45	550	100	1,350	75	210	90	2,620	436.67 ton

- 1/ Custom operations
- 2/ Includes crop stand
- 3/ On-tree costs

SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE CROPS

Crop	County	Yield	Cost per acre									Cost per unit
			Cultural cost				Harvest	Cash over-head	Rent	Management	Total cost	
			Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials	Equipment overhead						
Grapes - wine	North Coast	4 tons	\$213	\$ 57	\$126	\$520 ^{2/}	\$ 296	\$ 40	\$783	\$120	\$ 2,155	\$538.75 ton
Irrigated pasture	Tulare	10 aum	80	60	25	80 ^{2/}	-	20	100	10	375	37.50 aum
Ladino ^{3/} clover seed	Glenn	3.5 cwt	20	5	150	25	110	120	100	20	550	157.14 cwt
Lemons ^{3/}	Ventura	15.2 tons	← 860 ^{1/} →			70	-	60	175	230	1,395	91.78 ton
Lettuce	Monterey	14.7 tons	203	45	286	55	1,220	40	175	100	2,124	144.49 ton
Limes ^{3/}	San Diego	120 cwt	100	50	820	160	-	100	525	84	1,839	15.33 cwt
Nectarines	Kern	8 tons	600	15	130	100	510	75	180	120	1,730	216.25 ton
Olives	So. San Joaquin Val.	4 tons	230	40	200	160	760	75	220	145	1,830	457.50 ton
Onions	So. San Joaquin Val.	500 cwt	120	80	200	140	200	45	100	165	1,050	2.10 cwt
Oranges ^{3/}	San Diego	13 cwt	100	50	840	254	-	100	525	84	1,953	150.23 cwt
Peaches - cling	Kern	17 tons	465	105	180	115	560	110	175	100	1,810	106.47 ton
Pears	Mendocino	13 tons	310	65	240	200	300	75	280	150	1,620	124.62 ton
Peppers - bell	San Benito	11.25 tons	350	75	250	150	1,500	275	200	150	2,950	262.22 ton
- chili	Monterey	43 cwt	315	35	275	50	475	50	250	100	1,550	36.05 cwt
Plums	So. San Joaquin Val.	5.4 tons	435	85	70	100	560	50	200	90	1,590	294.44 ton
Potatoes	Tulelake	375 cwt	100	80	370	80	1,540	70	150	75	2,465	6.57 cwt
Prunes	Sacramento	3 tons (dry)	175	115	70	80	470	35	225	65	1,235	411.67 ton
Rice	Sacramento-Placer	62 cwt	100	40	85	30	55	25	300	50	685	11.05 cwt
Safflower	Imperial	1.5 tons	15	75	65	25	35	35	80	45	375	250.00 ton
Silage - corn	Fresno-Madera	25 tons	40	15	100	30	17	15	100	25	342	13.68 ton
Strawberries	Orange	28 tons	510	335	2,450	170	6,320	345	350	810	11,290	403.21 ton
Sugar beets	Madera-Merced	30 tons	135	35	140	60	100	25	120	60	675	22.50 ton
Sweet potatoes	Merced	140 cwt	240	50	410	170	510	90	225	125	1,820	13.00 cwt
Tomatoes - process	Yolo	25 tons	100	70	200	190	450	70	200	75	1,355	54.20 ton
- fresh	Imperial	25 tons	110	235	285	45	1,750	125	140	400	3,090	123.60 ton
Walnuts	San Benito	1.5 tons	26	44	200	118	217	67	330	66	1,068	712.00 ton
Watermelon	Imperial	10 tons	225	75	210	25	350	55	150	100	1,190	119.00 ton
Wheat - irrigated	Madera-Merced	40 cwt	30	20	70	50	30	10	110	25	345	8.63 cwt

1/ Custom operations
 2/ Includes crop stand
 3/ On-tree costs

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