

COSTS OF PRODUCING SUGAR BEETS
Woodland Area - Yolo Co.
1977-78



INTRODUCTION

This study was designed to be a guide rather than an exact cost study. It should represent a general average rather than an individual operation. The intent was for growers to use it as a basis of comparison when evaluating their operations.

Certain assumptions had to be made. Most of these assumptions were based on information supplied by growers or other agribusiness enterprises.

BASIS OF STUDY

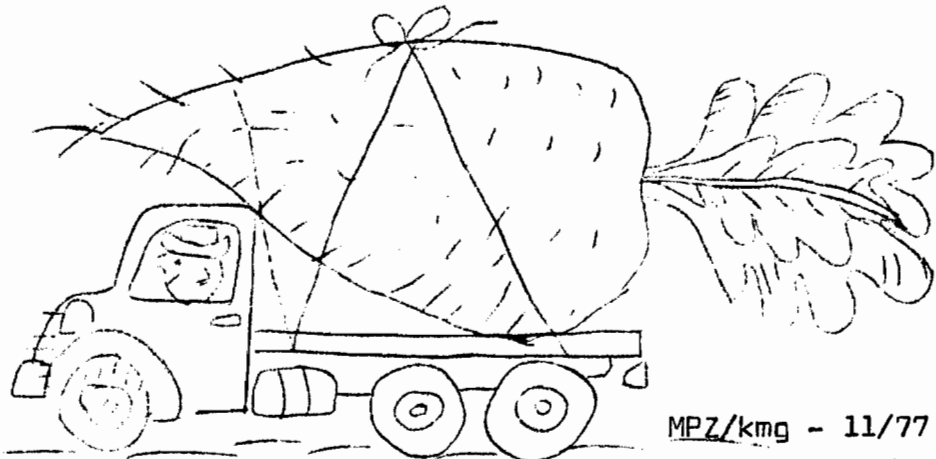
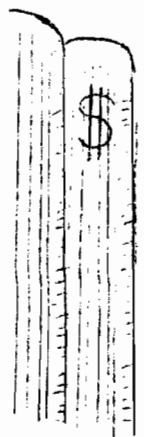
This Sugar Beet cost study was originally a part of a multiple crop enterprise--cost of production study. Thus, more precise values for use and costs of equipment could be established. The current study was taken from the larger study, and updated using current or as current as possible costs. Some are 1977 costs. Others are costs that will be in effect in the 1978 growing season.

LABOR

Labor was charged at \$3.24 per hour for common labor plus a 32¢ per hour benefit package. Irrigator wages were charged at \$3.28 plus 32¢ benefit package per hour. Tractor drivers were charged at \$4.15 per hour plus 32¢ package for heavy equipment operator; \$4.05 plus package for skilled operators; \$3.95 plus package for semi-skilled; and \$3.49 per hour plus the same 32¢ benefit package for light tractor work drivers.

EQUIPMENT CHARGES

Since 1974, when the original multicrop enterprise study was released, equipment costs have gone up approximately 25%. This 25% was calculated into the charges in this study.



MPZ/kmg - 11/77 - 250c
1/78 - 350c

SUGAR BEETS
Yield - 28 Tons
(240 Acres - Following Corn, Wheat or Tomatoes)

	Hours/ Acre	Cash & Labor Costs Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs Tractor	Implt.	Materials	
<u>SEED BED PREPARATION</u>						
<u>Fall</u>						
Plow or Subsoil	.50	2.24	4.06	3.54	--	9.84
Landplane 2X	.40	1.79	2.75	.30	--	4.84
Chisel	.40	1.79	3.33	.69	--	5.81
<u>Spring</u>						
Disc 2X	.40	1.79	3.33	3.49	--	8.61
Springtooth & Roll 2X	.16	.70	1.34	1.01	--	3.05
Harrow & Roll	.07	.31	.49	.59	--	1.39
List & Fertilize	.33	1.44	2.16	.33	--	3.93
Fertilizer - 10 gal/ac starter @ \$1.25/gal.					12.50	12.50
Saddle Tanks	.33	--	--	.25	--	.25
Move equip., set up & service @ 10% of operating time	<u>.23</u>	<u>.88</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>.38</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>1.26</u>
Total	2.82	10.94	17.46	10.58	12.50	51.48
<u>PLANTING</u>						
Sled, Shape, Incorporate Herbicide, apply Insecticide & Plant (2 men)	.28	1.20	1.84	.38	--	3.42
Herbicide - 6#/ac ÷ 3 = 2#/ac @ \$4.45/lb (10" Band)					8.90	8.90
Seed - 3# @ \$2.75/lb					8.25	8.25
Insecticide - Temik 10# @ \$2.00/lb.					20.00	20.00
Saddle Tanks	.28	--	--	.21	--	.21
Gandy Applicator (borrow)						
Move equip., set up & service @ 20% of operating time	<u>.06</u>	<u>.27</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>.10</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>.37</u>
Total	.62	1.47	1.84	.69	37.15	41.15
<u>GROWING COSTS</u>						
Roll	.07	.27	.29	.21	--	.77
Cultivate - Sled	.28	1.20	1.84	.28	--	3.32
Thin - mechanical	.10	.43	.65	.86	--	1.94
Hoe (trim, & hoe, hoe & pull weeds)	19.80	70.49	--	--	--	70.49
Cultivate & Furrow	.84	3.59	3.40	.83	--	7.82
Fertilize - Sidedress N	.28	1.20	1.84	--	--	3.04
Nitrogen - 125# N @ 20¢/lb.					25.00	25.00
Sled & Saddle Tanks	.28	--	--	.49	--	.49
Layby Herbicide	.20	.85	1.31	--	--	2.16
Rolling cultivator	.20	--	--	1.13	--	1.13
Saddle Tanks	.10	--	--	.08	--	.08
Herbicide - 3/4 # Treflan @ \$30.50/gal (4#/gal)					5.72	5.72

SUGAR BEETS - Continued

	Hours/ Acre	Cash & Labor Cnsts Per Acre				Materials	Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs Tractor	Implt.			
<u>GROWING COSTS - Continued</u>							
Irrigate - 7X @ 1.5 hr/ac							
Labor	10.5	37.80	--	--	--		37.80
Water - 4½ ac ft @ \$10.75/ac ft					48.38		48.38
Misc. Irrig. equip.--pipes, dams, shovels, etc.					.63		.63
Ditch - open & close 4X	.20	.89	1.66	.25	--		2.80
Insect Control - Air 2X @ \$3.15/ac					6.30		6.30
Cutworm Bait - 40#/ac @ 35¢/lb					14.00		14.00
Misc. Insect (mites or crown borer or armyworm or etc.)					13.20		13.20
Powdery Mildew Control - Air (35# @ 9¢/lb)					3.15		3.15
Sulfur Dust - 35# @ 6.5¢/lb					2.28		2.28
Move equip., set up & service @ 15% of operating time	.30	1.14	--	.13	--		1.27
Total	33.15	117.86	10.99	4.26	118.66		251.77

MISCELLANEOUS GROWING COSTS

Misc. Production & Operation costs @ 11% of cultural costs							42.31
Soc. Sec., comp. ins., fringe benefits, etc. @ 14% of cash wage							18.24
Additional charges for general and seasonal labor (Includes camp charges, bussing, supervision, etc.) @ 15% of cash wage							19.54
Pickup & Truck Use							2.50
Total							82.59
Management charge @ 5% of Gross Income - 28 tons @ \$24.50/ton							34.30
Taxes (land)							20.00
Total Production Costs to Harvest							481.29
Cost Per Ton							17.19

HARVEST COSTS - Contracted

Top & dig @ \$1.50/ton - 28 ton							42.00
Haul @ \$1.25/ton + 4¢/mile @ 10 mile							46.20
Total Harvest Costs							88.20
Harvest Cost Per Ton							3.15

INVESTMENT COSTS

Land - \$2200/acre (developed) @ 8%							176.00
Buildings							4.48
Irrigation Wells & Pumps							25.65
Tractors & Equipment							74.55
Total Investment Costs							280.68
Investment Cost Per Ton							11.23

TOTAL OVERALL COST PER ACRE \$850.17
COST PER TON - 28 Ton \$30.36