

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA HAY
Eastside Stanislaus County 1984

Labor rate	\$	5.50 /hr. tractor operator
Fuel cost	\$	1.05 per gallon
Tractor - 85HP		3.56 gallons per hour
Swather		.85 gallons per hour
Farm size		250 acres
Yield		6.5 tons
Number of cuttings		6 per year
Stand to last		3 years

Cash and Labor Costs per Acre

Operation	No. Times	Acres /Hr.	Hrs./ Acre	Labor	Fuel	Materials and Custom Work		\$/Acre	My Cost
						No. Units	\$/Unit		
Fertilize									
commercial fertilizer	1					400 lbs.	.13	52.00	
Spread fertilizer	0	15	0	.00	.00	1 acre	4.00	4.00	
Irrigate	8	3	2.67	14.67		1 irrig.	.45	18.27	
Winter weed control 1	1					2.5 pounds	5.00	12.50	
Winter weed control 2	1					.40 gallons	51.00	20.40	
Apply herbicide	0	10	0	.00	.00	1 acre	6.25	6.25	
Insecticide	1					.19 gallons	59.00	11.21	
Apply Insecticide	0					1 acre	6.25	6.25	
SUBTOTAL				14.67	.00		PER ACRE	130.88	
							PER TON	20.13	
HARVEST COSTS									
Swath	0	5	0	.00	.00	1 acre	9.00	9.00	
Rake	2	10	.20	1.10	.75	0 acre	3.00	1.85	
Bale	0	13	0	.00	.00	1 bale	.75	13.00	
Pickup Bales	0					1 bale	.27	4.68	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS							PER CUTTING	28.53	
							PER YEAR	171.17	
							PER TON	26.33	
CASH OVERHEAD									
Interest on operating capitol @		14	percent for		6	months.		11.00	
Misc., office, etc.								7.86	
Taxes						1 year	10.18	10.18	
Insurance								1.57	
Equipment repairs								3.49	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS								34.10	
TOTAL CASH COSTS							PER YEAR	336.15	
							PER TON	51.71	

Investment	Per Acre	Years life	Annual Cost			
			Interest @ 12%	Depreciation		
Land	1000.00		120.00			
Equipment			14.21	17.51		
Irrigation system	225.00	30	27.00	7.50		
Laser leveling	100.00	8	12.00	12.50		
Stand Establishment	231.9	3	13.91	77.30		
TOTAL INVESTMENT COSTS PER 1 YEAR PER ACRE			187.12	114.81		301.93

TOTAL COST				PER ACRE	638.07
				PER TDN	98.17

EQUIPMENT LIST										Total
Item	Hours Used	New Cost	Hours Life	Years Life	Acres Used	Repair Cost/hr.	Depre- ciation	Interest	Repair Cost/A	Annual Costs
85 HP wheel tractor	2.67	3200	12000	10	250	.27	1.28	.77	.71	2.76
Field sprayer	.00	5000	2500	15	100	1.20	0	.00	.00	.00
Self propelled swather	.00	25000	2500	10	100	10.00	0	.00	.00	.00
Rake	.20	6000	2500	12	100	2.40	5	3.60	.48	9.08
Baler	.00	20000	2500	10	100	6.40	0	.00	.00	.00
Harrowbed	.00	27000	2500	10	100	10.80	0	.00	.00	.00
Pickup truck		15000	2000	10	250	4.50	6	3.60	1.50	11.10
Shop tools		10000		15	250		2.67	2.40	.67	5.73
Buildings		16000		25	250		2.56	3.84	.13	6.53
TOTAL EQUIPMENT COST							.175	14.21	3.49	35.20

Prepared by Marsha Feyler, Farm Advisor
 October, 1984

Cash Overhead:	
Misc., office, etc.	8.26
Insurance	1.65
Equipment repairs	17.31

TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS 27.22

TOTAL CASH COSTS 192.34

INVESTMENT COSTS	Cost per acre for 6 months		
	Interest @ 12%	Depreciation	
Equipment	17.02	22.54	39.56

TOTAL COST PER ACRE 231.90

EQUIPMENT LIST

Item	Hours New Used	Hours Cost	Years Life	Acres Used	Repair Cost/hr.	Depre- ciation	Interest	Repair Cost/A	Total Annual Costs	
130 HP Wheel tractor	1.39	50700	12000	10	250	5.07	20.3	12.17	7.03	39.47
85 HP Wheel tractor	.10	3200	12000	10	250	.27	1.28	.77	.03	2.07
Ripper, Big Ox	.58	10000	2500	15	250	4.80	2.67	2.40	2.40	7.47
Chisel	.00	7000	2500	15	250	3.36	0	.00	.00	.00
Disk, stubble, 12'	.54	18000	2500	15	250	8.64	4.8	4.32	4.63	13.75
Landplane	.00	12000	2500	15	250	2.88	0	.00	.00	.00
Float, 12'	.25	1300	2500	10	250	.31	.52	.31	.08	.91
Border Maker	.20	7000	2500	15	150	3.36	3.11	2.80	.67	6.58
Harrow, spike, 12'	.25	950	2500	20	250	.46	.19	.23	.11	.53
Drill, 12'	.00	5300	1200	20	250	4.42	0	.00	.00	.00
Ring roller, 16'	.10	3000	2500	20	150	.72	1	1.20	.07	2.27
Sprayer, 300 gal.	.00	18000	2500	15	200	5.76	0	.00	.00	.00
Pickup truck		15000	2000	10	250	4.50	6	3.60	1.50	11.10
Shop tools		10000		15	250		2.67	2.40	.67	5.73
Buildings		16000		25	250		2.56	3.84	.13	6.53

TOTAL EQUIPMENT COST 45.1 34.04 17.31 96.42

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October, 1984

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA
Eastside Stanislaus County 1984

Labor rate	\$	5.50 /hr. tractor operator
Fuel cost	\$	1.05 /per gallon
Tractor - 85HP		3.56 gallons per hour
Tractor - 130HP		5.45 gallons per hour
Stand life		3 years
Farm size		250 acres

Cash and Labor Costs per Acre

Operation	No. Times	Acres /Hr.	Hrs./ Acre	Labor	Fuel	Materials and Custom Work		My Cost
						No. Units	\$/Unit	
Land preparation:								
Rip	2	4	.50	2.75	2.86	0 hour(s)	60.00	5.61
Chisel	0	5	0	.00	.00	0 acre	5.00	.00
Disk	2	7	.29	1.57	1.64	0 acre	8.00	3.21
Landplane	0	4	0	.00	.00	0 acre	4.50	.00
Float	1	4	.25	1.38	1.43	0 acre	4.00	2.81
Pull checks	1	10	.10	.55	.57	0 acre	2.50	1.12
Shape checks	1	10	.10	.55	.57	0 acre	2.50	1.12
Preirrigate	1	3	.33	1.83	1.91	1 irrig.	.45	4.19
Fumigant	0					10 gallons	11.00	.00
Apply fumigant	0					1 acre	15.00	.00
SUBTOTAL				8.63	8.98			18.06
Fertilize								
manure	0					30 yards	3.00	.00
Spread manure	1					30 yards	1.30	39.00
commercial fertilizer	0					400 lbs.	.12	.00
Spread fertilizer	0	15	0	.00	.00	1 acre	4.00	.00
Soil amendment(s)	0					1 ton	26.00	.00
Spread amendment	0	15	0	.00	.00	1 acre	4.00	.00
Preplant herbicide	1					.25 gallons	24.00	6.00
Disk	1	4	.25	1.38	.93	1 acre	3.00	5.31
Seed						25 lbs	2.10	52.50
Plant (drill)	0	4	0	.00	.00	0 acre	9.00	.00
Plant (airplane)	1					.03 /lb. +	2.25/AI	3.00
Cover seed	1	10	.10	.55	.37	0 acre	2.50	.92
irrigate	2	3	.67	3.67		1 irrig.	.45	4.57
water run herbicide	1					.5 gallons	24.00	12.00
Postemergent herbicide	1					.25 gallons	51.00	12.75
Apply herbicide	0	10	0	.00	.00	1 acre	6.25	6.25
SUBTOTAL				5.59	1.31			142.30
Interest on operating capital @ 14 percent for 6 months								4.76
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS								165.12