

ALFALFA HAY PRODUCTION IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1975

Cost Analysis Worksheet

by
 Wilfred E. Cawelti, Farm Advisor
 E. A. Yeary, Farm Advisor-Statewide

	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Ton	Per Acre	Per Ton
PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:				
Irrigate: 10X Labor: 7 hrs	\$ 21.00			
Water: 4 ac. ft @ \$8	32.00			
Fertilize: 100 lbs. P ₂ O ₅ every 4th year	5.50			
Application \$2.10 every 4th year	.53			
Weed control: inc. application, custom	12.50			
Insect control: (weevil) custom	5.50			
Taxes: (in Ag. Preserve)	35.00			
Misc. labor: materials, 1 hr wheel tractor	8.80			
Office and business expenses	11.31			
Total Pre-Harvest Costs	\$132.14	\$16.52		
HARVESTING COSTS (Cash Costs)				
Swathing: 1 1/4 hrs	\$ 9.75			
Rake: 2 cuttings 1/4 hr wheel tractor	1.79			
Bale: including wire 1.20 hrs	51.77			
Roadside: .8 hr/A	6.56			
Total Harvesting Cash Costs	\$ 69.87	\$ 8.73		
DEPRECIATION				
Swather: 1 1/4 hrs @ \$6	\$ 7.50			
Rake and tractor: 1/4 hr @ \$2	.50			
Baler: 1.20 hrs @ total of \$6.60	7.92			
Bale loader and stacker: .8 hr @ \$8.40	6.72			
Harvest sub-total per acre \$22.64		(2.83)		
Wheel tractor: 1 hr @ \$1.60	1.60			
Irrigation system and equipment: \$2.50, 15 yrs	16.67			
Stand cost: \$139.68 - 6 yrs	23.28			
Total Depreciation	\$ 64.19	\$ 8.02		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 8%				
Swather: 1 1/4 hrs @ \$1.50	\$ 1.88			
Rake and tractor: 1/4 hr @ \$1	.25			
Baler: 1.20 hrs @ \$2.98	3.58			
Bale loader and stacker: .8 hrs @ \$3.36	2.69			
Harvest, sub-total /A \$8.40		(1.05)		
Wheel tractor: 1 hr @ .80¢	--			
Irrigation system: 1/2 cost \$125	10.00			
Stand: 1/2 cost \$69.84	5.59			
Land: \$1,400	112.00			
Total Interest on Investment	\$135.99	\$17.00		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$402.19	\$50.27		

SAMPLE COSTS PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS PER ACRE					
Yield: Tons /A	6	7	8	9	10
Total Cost of Production per Ton	\$64.60	\$56.41	\$50.27	\$45.50	\$41.68

Costs are based on a stand life of 6 years, producing an annual average of 8 tons per acre. Equipment operators wages \$4 per hour and other labor \$3 per hour, cost to the grower. 60 h.p. wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$2.70, depreciation \$1.60, interest 80¢. Hay is produced and harvested with owned equipment.