

SAMPLE INPUTS AND COSTS FOR BARLEY IN SAN BENITO COUNTY  
Yield 2000 lbs. after fallow -- 400 acres total, 200 farmed

	Man	40 h.p.	1½ ton	Cost per acre	Cost per cwt.	
	Labor	Tractor	Truck			
Hours per Acre						
Plow or disc twice for fallow	0.6	0.6		\$ 1.89		
Disc or cultivate fallow twice	0.6	0.6		1.89		
Disc before planting (10 ft.)	0.3	0.3		.95		
Plant, drill, pulling harrow 14'	0.2	0.2	.02	.67		
Total cultural	1.7	1.7		5.40	.27	
Harvest - s.p. combine	.5	.5		2.25	.11	
Haul grain	.5		.5	1.75	.09	
Total labor and field power	2.7	---	.52	9.40	.47	
Seed, certified, 75 lbs. @ \$4.65				3.49		
Weed spray, \$1.50 + .75, ½ of time				1.13		
Total labor material and field power				14.02	.70	
General expense, 5% of above				.70		
County taxes, \$40 at 3.5% land x 2 yrs. = \$2.80 Eqt. .40				3.20		
Repairs to equipment not included in above rates				2.00		
Insurance: compensation, grain, social security, etc.				.50		
Total cash costs				20.42	1.02	
Investment overhead based on 200 A of grain & some other ranch use.	Orig. . Cost Total	Average Value	5% Interest	Depreci- ation		
		Dollars per Acre				
Building for equipment	1500	3.75	.19	.15		
Land, \$150/acre (2 yrs.)	--	300.00	15.00	--		
Subtotal real estate		303.75	15.19	.15		
Tillage equipment	2400	6.00	.30	1.20		
Drill	900	2.25	.11	.25		
Grain storage and Eqt.	1500	3.75	.19	.38		
Combine, 12' self pr.	7000	17.50	.88	2.34		
Diesel tractor, 40 h.p. and grain truck	10750	26.88	1.34	3.58		
Total investment & depreciation		360.13	18.01	7.90	7.90	
Total cash and depreciation costs				28.32		
Total interest on investment				18.01		
Total all costs, owner basis				46.33	2.32	
Less value for stubble and fallow pasture				2.00	.10	
Net cost of grain				44.33	2.22	

The above labor costs are figured at the following hourly rates: man labor, \$1.50; cash costs including repairs 40 h.p. truck diesel tractor, \$1.65; truck, \$2; 12 foot self propelled combine, \$3. The total combining cost per acre included above is the \$2.25 in labor and operating costs, general expense .11, depreciation \$2.35, and interest .88 on combine for a total of \$5.58 which is around the cost of contract work.

Even with the good yield assumed above cost per hundred pounds at the farm is \$2.22. Lower costs could be attained by obtaining a better yield, doing less working of the soil, or using the equipment for more acreage.

This study applies to the enterprise in which barley is raised as a supplement to the beef cattle operation. Only one-half of the capital investment of the truck is charged against the grain enterprise as the other half would probably be charged against the beef cattle enterprise.

## GROWING BARLEY IN SAN BENITO COUNTY

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Barley production in San Benito County: Barley is the most widely planted dry-farmed crop grown in San Benito County. of 35 thousand acres produced annually approximately one-half is harvested for grain, and the balance is cut for hay or pastured. Grain yields average 1300 pounds per acre and hay production  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons per acre. However, normal yields on summer fallow land will approximate 2000 pounds per acre.

Requirements: Barley is grown on many different soils. While the bulk of it is grown on good upland hill soils, best yields are normally expected in level valley areas. Well drained, non saline to mildly saline soils are generally satisfactory for barley production.

Fertilization: Increased yields from fertilization have not generally offset costs of fertilizing on summer fallow ground. Certain shallow soils similar to the Rincon series have a low level of available phosphates. Applications of phosphate fertilizers during short rainfall years may depress yields.

Varieties: Highest yielding adapted varieties include Arivat, Rojo, Atlas, California Mariout, and Club Mariout. During years of short rainfall, or when barley is planted late, early maturity is important. The earliest maturing variety, California Mariout, is followed in order by Arivat, Atlas, Club Mariout, and Rojo.

Diseases: Yellow dwarf, a serious virus disease of barley, is transmitted by aphids. Its presence in a field depresses yields and sometimes completely destroys a crop. Rojo barley has the highest degree of resistance to this disease. Rojo yields, however, are also significantly depressed. Until resistant strains of barley can be developed, best control probably lies in early planting. Barley that is comparatively mature at the time the aphid invades the field is not injured as much as late planted grain. Best yields can be expected from barley planted between November 1 and February 1.

Other common diseases that may be found are scald, blotch, mildew, smut, and stripe.

Weeds: When weeds are present, spraying the fields with 2,4-D conserves moisture and nutrients for the barley, and simplifies harvesting.

Production Costs: Costs of producing barley shown on this sheet are relatively high because of high capitalization in machinery and equipment. If the same equipment were used on 400 acres of grain (800 of land) instead of 200, cost per acre would be reduced by \$5.46 or 27¢ per cwt.