

**ALFALFA HAY PRODUCTION IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1975**  
**Cost Analysis Worksheet**

by  
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	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Ton	Per Acre	Per Ton
<b>PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:</b>				
Irrigate: 10X Labor: 7 hrs	\$ 21.00			
Water: 4 ac. ft @ \$8	32.00			
Fertilize: 100 lbs. P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> 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			
<b>Total Pre-Harvest Costs</b>	<b>\$132.14</b>	<b>\$16.52</b>		
<b>HARVESTING COSTS (Cash Costs)</b>				
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			
<b>Total Harvesting Cash Costs</b>	<b>\$ 69.87</b>	<b>\$ 8.73</b>		
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
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			
<b>Total Depreciation</b>	<b>\$ 64.19</b>	<b>\$ 8.02</b>		
<b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 8%</b>				
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			
<b>Total Interest on Investment</b>	<b>\$135.99</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>		
<b>TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>\$402.19</b>	<b>\$50.27</b>		

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.