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University of California
Agricultural Extension Service
Imperial County
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OATS - 1953

WHAT DOES IT COST YOU TO GROW OATS?
(Based on 1 ton yield)

ITEMS	SAMPLE COSTS		YOUR COSTS	
	Per A.	Per Cwt.	Per A.	Per Cwt.
LAND PREPARATION				
Disc 2x	3.50			
Border 1x	1.00			
Fertilize 1x	2.00			
Disc 1x	1.75			
Float 1x	1.50			
Irrigate 5x (1 for mulch)	3.40			
Mulch 1x	2.00			
Cultipack 1x	1.00			
Ditch & miscellaneous	1.60			
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION	20.00	1.00		
MATERIALS				
Fertilizer - 40# N.	6.00			
Water - 2 acre feet + 5 gate charges	4.75			
Seed - 75 lbs./acre	5.81			
Miscellaneous	1.15			
TOTAL MATERIALS	17.71	.89		
HARVEST				
Combine	8.00			
Haul (bulk)	2.25			
TOTAL HARVEST	10.25	.51		
CASH OVERHEAD				
General expense (5%)	2.40			
Insurance	1.25			
Miscellaneous	2.00			
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD	5.65	.28		
LAND RENT	22.50	1.13		
TOTAL ALL COSTS	76.11	3.81		

The above costs are based on current contract rates which are higher than efficient owner-operator costs. Taxes are included in rent.

Estimate your own costs by filling in the last two columns based on your own expected yields, cost of operations, and material that would be required on your land.

SEE REVERSE SIDE

OATS

ACREAGE: 1,025 acres were planted in the 1952 crop year. A part of this was as a second crop following vegetables or cotton.

YIELDS: Will vary considerably. One ton should be obtained but anything over 1 ton can be considered a good yield.

VARIETIES: Palestine oats has consistently outyielded every other variety tested.

SOILS: Oats can be grown under a wide variety of soil conditions. It is not as tolerant of salinity (alkali) as barley but is a satisfactory crop.

LAND PREPARATION: The cultural practices generally followed are given on the reverse side of this sheet in the order in which they are usually carried out.

PLANTING & PLANTING DATES: November 1-December 15 produces the better yields. Planted in drilled 7 inch rows at rate of around 75 lbs. per acre.

FERTILIZERS: Nitrogen is essential for better-than-average yields. 40 to 80 lbs. actual nitrogen per acre has given excellent yields when other conditions are right as on other grains. Phosphate has not given the consistent yield increases obtained with nitrogen. Get all the nitrogen needed first and then, if you wish, invest in phosphate. 80 to 100 lbs. actual phosphate is normal application.

IRRIGATION: Initial irrigation for moisture for planting should be heavy. Space later irrigations such that crop does not wilt. Irrigate till grain is in "stiff-dough" stage. If irrigated up, do not "water back" until all seed is up.

HARVESTING: Harvesting is by direct combine or from windrows. The first fields are generally harvested in late April but most will not be ready until May.

PESTS & DISEASES: Aphids at times have been a pest along with stink bugs. Consult your Farm Advisor for controls.

SEE REVERSE SIDE