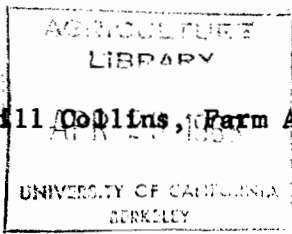


**SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCING ALFALFA HAY
(SPRINKLER IRRIGATION)
San Benito County, 1967**



H. Bill Collins, Farm Advisor

Philip S. Parsons, Extension Economist

150 acres on a 250 acre farm
Yield -- 6 tons per acre in 5 cuttings

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor cost per acre			
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity Cost	Total
Cultural Costs					
Irrigate 6 times	4.8	\$7.20		Power to pump and boost 36 acre inches \$18.64	\$ 25.84
Rodent control 2 times	.4	.74	\$.40	3 lbs. bait @ \$1.04 3.12	4.26
Weed Control (contract)				½ of acreage 2.62	2.62
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$7.94	\$.40	(\$5.45/ton)	\$24.38
Harvest Costs					
Swath, 5 times	1.25	\$ 2.31	\$ 4.75		\$ 7.06
Rake, 5 times	1.5	2.78	2.06		4.84
Bale, 5 times	1.0	1.85	2.92	(Wire @ \$1/ton) \$ 6.00	10.77
Haul to roadside, stack (2 men)	4.0	6.00	1.20		7.20
TOTAL HARVEST COST		\$12.94	\$10.93	(\$4.98/ton)	\$ 6.00
Cash Overhead					
Misc., office, interest on operating capital, insurance, etc.					\$ 3.13
Taxes on equipment					1.64
Land rent, including well					60.00
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD				(\$10.80/ton)	\$ 64.77
TOTAL CASH COST				(\$21.23/ton)	\$127.36
MANAGEMENT				5% of 6 tons @ \$26.00	\$ 7.80
Investment Overhead					
				<u>Annual Cost Per Acre</u>	
<u>INVESTMENT</u>		<u>PER ACRE</u>		<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2 ton truck		\$ 21.33		\$ 2.13	\$.75
½ ton pickup truck		10.00		1.00	.35
2 30 HP wheel tractors		43.33		2.89	1.52
14 foot swather		38.55		4.82	1.35
8 foot rake		5.00		.49	.18
3 wire baler		41.81		4.18	1.46
gopher bait applicator		1.83		.18	.06
bale loader		2.94		.29	.10
irrigation equipment (booster pump, pipe, etc.)		52.00		3.47	-1.82
Alfalfa stand (4 years)		49.07		12.27	1.72
TOTAL INVESTMENT COST		\$265.86		\$31.72	\$9.31
TOTAL COST PER ACRE					\$176.19
TOTAL COST PER TON					\$ 29.37

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH AN ALFALFA STAND
 SPRINKLER IRRIGATION
 San Benito County, 1967

H. Bill Collins, Farm Advisor

Philip S. Parsons, Extension Economist

150 acres of alfalfa on a 250 acre farm

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor cost per acre			Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity Cost	
Cultural Costs					
Plow	.5	\$.93	\$1.49		\$ 2.42
Disc, 4 times	1.3	2.40	4.58		6.98
Fertilize (contract)				fertilizer applied \$13.50	13.50
Plant and roll	.4	.74	.61	20 lbs. of seed @ 60¢ 12.00	13.35
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$4.07	\$6.68	\$25.50	\$36.25
Cash Overhead					
Misc., office, interest on operating capital, insurance, etc.					\$ 1.80
Taxes on equipment					.75
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD					\$ 2.55
TOTAL CASH COST					\$38.80
Investment Overhead					
			<u>Annual Cost Per Acre</u>		
<u>INVESTMENT</u>		<u>PER ACRE</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest</u>	
75 HP Crawler tractor		\$ 49.00	\$2.45	\$1.72	
2 30 HP Wheeler tractors		43.33	2.89	1.52	
3 bottom plow		1.29	.09	.05	
10½ foot disc		2.08	.21	.07	
Seed drill		2.70	.18	.09	
12 foot spike harrow		.60	.03	.02	
12 foot ringroller		2.52	.25	.09	
6 foot subsoiler		4.50	.45	.16	
TOTAL INVESTMENT OVERHEAD		\$106.02	\$6.55	\$3.72	\$10.27
TOTAL COST OF STAND					\$49.07

COST OF ALFALFA HAY PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield -- tons per acre	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Cost per ton	\$41.83	\$34.35	\$29.37	\$25.81	\$23.14	\$21.06	\$19.40

Hourly cash costs used: 75 HP crawler tractor \$2.52, 30 HP wheel tractors \$.82, swather \$3.80, rake \$.55, plow \$.45, disc \$1.00, alfalfa drill \$.70, baler \$2.10. Labor including fringe benefits: skilled \$1.85, irrigator \$1.50.