

Grower's labor paid at \$4.75/hour

Medium Wheel Tractor at \$5.50/hour and Small Wheel Tractor at \$4.00/hour

	MACHINERY HOURS	LABOR HOURS	MATERIALS	TOTAL COSTS
<u>Preharvest Costs</u>				
Land preparation, medium wheel tractor	2.5	2.5	\$	\$ 25.50*
Disc form beds, medium wheel tractor	1.0	1.0		10.25
Preplant fertilizer, small wheel tractor	1.0	1.0	30.00	38.75
Transplants, 3,500 @ \$30/1,000 plants, 2 persons @ 8 hours		16.0		76.00
Irrigate 4 acre feet @ \$30/acre foot, 14 times 1 hour		14.0	120.00	186.50
Fertilize, 10x 180 lbs N @ \$0.40, small wheel tractor	10.0	10.0	72.00	159.50
Stake poles, small wheel tractor		55.0		261.25
Trellis 1lx, 8 hrs each time, twine 1.5 cases @ \$130/case		88.0	195.00	613.00
Haul stakes	1.0			4.00
Cultivate, 4 x small wheel tractor	4.0	4.0		35.00
Pest and disease control, 3 to 5x, 2 hrs each time	10.0	10.0	75.00	162.50
Pull stakes, cleanup and haul stakes	1.0	24.0		118.00
Rent				150.00
Repairs				30.00
Overhead @ 6%				96.00
TOTAL PREHARVEST COSTS				\$1,966.25
<u>Harvest Costs</u>				
Cartons 2,500 @ \$0.75				\$1,875.00
Labor/carton pick \$1.02/carton				2,550.00
Packing/grading \$0.84/carton				2,100.00
Transportation \$0.10/carton				250.00
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS				\$6,775.00
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Equipment - tractors \$1,300/acre 7 years				\$ 186.00
Stakes - 1,400 @ \$0.60/stake 7 years				120.00
Irrigation equipment \$250 10 years				25.00
TOTAL DEPRECIATION COSTS				\$ 331.00
<u>Interest on Investment @ 12%</u>				
1/2 Equipment, tractors \$650.00				\$ 78.00
1/2 Stakes \$420.00				50.50
1/2 Irrigation Equipment \$125.00				15.00
TOTAL INVESTMENT COSTS				\$ 143.50
TOTAL COSTS PER ACRE				\$9,215.75

*Rounded to nearest \$0.25

Marketing costs need to be computed by the grower. Salesperson will explain to you percentage charged on commission or other charges that may be levied.

CHERRY TOMATOES

COSTS AT VARYING YIELDS

<u>Marketable Yield/Acre (cartons)</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>3,000</u>
<u>Variable Costs/carton</u>	4.68	4.02	3.69	3.50	3.37
<u>Total Costs/carton</u>	5.15	4.34	3.93	3.69	3.53

There are determinate varieties available which do not require as much trellising as the standard indeterminate varieties, thus trellising costs may be reduced considerably.

This cost study was based on interviews with several growers in the Nipomo-Santa Maria area. Cherry tomato season extends from April through December and is terminated by the first killing frost.

Much labor is required for cherry tomato culture. The grower and his/her family can normally provide much of this labor, even though each hour of labor is charged at \$4.75 per hour in this cost study. Total estimated labor requirements per acre is 1,205 hours, for a 2,500 box yield, which is approximately .46 full-time man years. $(1,205 \text{ hrs.} \div 2,600 \text{ hrs./man/year}) = .46$

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