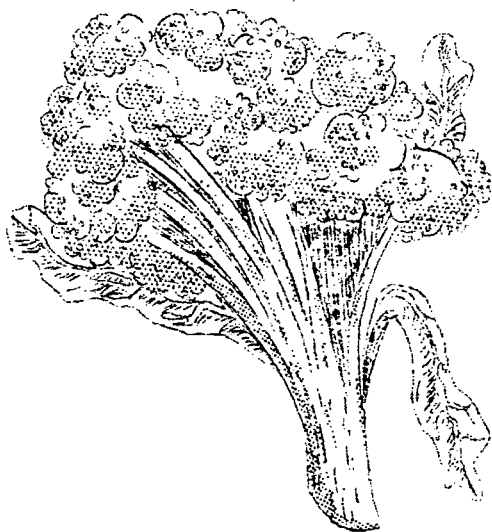


broccoli
sample costs
and
production.



Cooperative Extension
University of California
Imperial County
Court House, El Centro

Cost Data Sheet No. 23

BROCCOLI--Projected Production Costs--1982-1983

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at \$5.50 per hour (\$4.30 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, transportation, supervision and fringe benefits).

Yield--350 18-lb. cartons; (3.15 tons projected). 85-110 days to maturity.

OPERATION	Custom Rate	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR*		SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Subsoil	24.00					\$ 24.00
Disc 2x	8.00					16.00
Border, cross check & break borders	12.00					12.00
Flood		Water .75 ac/ft	5.63	1	5.50	11.13
Fertilize	6.00	400# 11-48-0	52.00			58.00
Disc 2x	8.00					16.00
Triplane 2x	8.50					17.00
List	10.00					10.00
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION						\$ 164.13

GROWING PERIOD						
Herbicide 1x	16.50	Material (Treflan®)	6.50			\$ 23.00
Plant (Precision)	14.50	Hybrid seed 1 1/2# @ 82.00	123.00			137.50
Sprinkler Irrigate						120.00
Thin				8	44.00	44.00
Cultivate 3x	10.00					30.00
Fertilize & Furrow out 1x	10.00	80# N @ 34¢	27.20			37.20
Weed				4	22.00	22.00
Irrigate 8x		4 1/2 ac/ft	33.75	8	44.00	77.75
Pest Control 5x	4.00	Insecticides	57.50			77.50
Stubble Disc 1x	18.00					18.00
GROWING PERIOD						\$586.95

GROWING PERIOD & LAND PREPARATION COSTS						\$751.08
Land Rent (net acres)						200.00
Cash Overhead--12% of preharvest costs & land rent						114.13
TOTAL PREHARVEST COSTS						\$ 1065.21

HARVEST						
Custom harvest, pack, haul to cooler, and sell 350 30-lb. cartons @ \$4.30						\$ 1505.00
TOTAL ALL COSTS						\$ 2570.21

Cost per 30-lb. carton = \$7.34 @ 350 ctn/ac
Cost per 30-lb. carton = \$6.96 @ 400 ctn/ac

* Includes shovel labor, pipe setting and miscellaneous tractor work.

YEAR	ACRES	YIELD/ACRE (TONS)	VALUE/TON
1978	2740	3.2	\$ 567
1979	2488	1.9*	374
1980	2570	3.2	615
1981	2251	3.0	680

PLANTING DATES: Broccoli is normally planted from August 25-November 1. Harvesting begins November 25 and continues through March 5. Broccoli will germinate at temperatures of 40-95°F.

VARIETIES: Green Duke hybrid is the major variety grown. Small acreages of other varieties are being grown such as Emperor and Gem. The seed is planted 1/8 to 1/4 inch deep at 2-3 inch spacing. Broccoli is then thinned to 6-8 inches between plants. Double-row 42 inch beds are used to grow the crop.

SOILS: Well-drained soils are preferred, although broccoli may be grown on a wide range of textures. Broccoli has greater salt tolerance than does lettuce, carrots, or onions.

IRRIGATION

Normally, broccoli is irrigated 6 to 8 times during the season. Sprinkler irrigation is normally used for stand establishment.

FERTILIZERS

Four hundred pounds of 0-45-0 or 11-48-0 are normally broadcast prior to listing the beds. About 80 pounds of nitrogen is applied in one sidedress application.

WEED CONTROL

Several herbicides are available for application pre-plant. Consult your weed control farm advisor for further information.

PESTS AND DISEASES

Cabbage loopers, armyworms, salt-marsh caterpillars, cutworms, sugarbeet nematodes,

flea beetles and aphids can cause extensive damage unless controlled. Downy mildew may also attack foliage and heads. For the latest information on insect control along with precautions on use of insecticides, consult your entomology farm advisor.

HARVESTING

Fields are harvested once or twice during the season. Broccoli heads are hand cut with 10-12 inch stalks and placed on a belt loader. Trucks haul the bulk bins to the shed for sorting, trimming and bunching. The broccoli is packed in 18 pound, waxed fiberboard cartons (net weight), containing 14-18 bunches. Broccoli requires rapid cooling to insure quality. Normally, broccoli is hydrocooled and may even be iced.

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INCOME ABOVE ALL COSTS PER ACRE

Price Per Carton

Cartons Per Acre	\$ 5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00
	250	-890	-640	-390	-140
300	-855	-555	-255	+ 45	+ 345
350	-820	-470	-120	+230	+ 580
400	-785	-385	+ 15	+415	+ 815
450	-750	-300	+150	+600	+1050

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