

CEREAL CROPS--SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Imperial

Nov 61

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at \$1.90 per hour (\$1.50 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, and fringe benefits).

Based on custom rates and 2 tons per acre.

| OPERATION | Custom Rate | MATERIALS | | HAND LABOR | | SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre |
|--|--|---------------------------|------|------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | | Type | Cost | Hours | Dollars | |
| LAND PREPARATION | | | | | | |
| Disc 2x | 2.00 | | | | | 4.00 |
| Fertilize | 1.00 | 100# N (NH ₃) | 6.00 | | | 7.00 |
| Border | 1.00 | | | | | 1.00 |
| Float 2 x or float 1x and float-corrugate 1x | 3.50 | | | | | 3.50 |
| TOTAL LAND PREPARATION | | | | | | 15.50 |
| GROWING PERIOD | | | | | | |
| Plant | 3.00 | seed 90# | 4.00 | | | 7.00 |
| Irrigate 6x | | 3 acre ft. | 6.00 | 3.1 | 6.00 | 12.00 |
| Weed Control | 2.00 | herbicide | 1.00 | | | 3.00 |
| Insecticide | 1.50 | | 2.50 | | | 4.00 |
| TOTAL GROWING PERIOD | | | | | | 26.00 |
| HARVEST COSTS | | | | | | |
| Combine | (6.50 per acre and .12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt over 1 ton) | | | | | 9.00 |
| Haul | 2.00 per ton | | | | | 4.00 |
| TOTAL HARVEST COSTS | | | | | | 13.00 |
| Land rent | | | | | | 25.00 |
| Cash overhead 15% of above costs | | | | | | 11.93 |
| TOTAL ALL COSTS | | | | | | 91.43 |
| | | | | | | 257 |

Cost per Ton = \$45.71

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| Item | Cost/Acre | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|-------|
| LAND PREPARATION | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Disc 2x | 4.00 | | 4.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fertilize | 7.00 | | 7.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Border | 1.00 | | 1.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Float 2x and/or Float & Corrugate | 3.50 | | 3.50 | | | | | | | | | | |
| GROWING PERIOD | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant | 7.00 | | 7.00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Irrigate 6x | 12.00 | | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | | | | |
| Weed Control | 3.00 | | | | 3.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Insect Control | 4.00 | | | | | 4.00 | | | | | | | |
| HARVEST COSTS | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Combine | 9.00 | | | | | | | | | | 9.00 | | |
| Haul | 4.00 | | | | | | | | | | 4.00 | | |
| Land Rent | 25.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cash overhead 15% of above costs | 11.93 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS | \$ 91.43 | | 24.50 | 2.00 | 5.00 | 6.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | | | 13.00 | | |

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CASH FLOW--CEREAL CROPS

CEREAL CROPS CULTURE

GENERAL INFORMATION: The foregoing sample costs are based on average production practices where grain follows grain or a short season summer crop. If the cereal crop follows cotton or early lettuce, the costs should be considerably less. For example, subsoiling and mulching could be eliminated, and fewer irrigations and less fertilizer would be required.

LAND PREPARATION: Where grains are to be planted in the mulch, the practice is disc, fertilize, disc, and float. Next apply the pre-mulch irrigation and when dry enough, mulch and plant.

PLANTING DATES, RATES, AND DEPTH: Optimum planting date for yields of grain is between November 25th and December 15th. Rates of seeding average 90 pounds per acre.

Seed should not be planted deeper than 3 to 4 inches if planted in the mulch. If the crop is to be irrigated up, shallow planting of 1 to 1/2 inches is best.

VARIETIES: Recommended varieties of barley are California Mariout, Blanco Mariout.

Indio, Curt, Palestine, and Kanota oats are about equal in yield performance.

Ramona 50 is the only wheat variety which yields consistently well.

FERTILIZATION: Imperial Valley soils usually contain sufficient phosphorus for grain production, if phosphates have been applied to other crops in the rotation. In a barley - sorghum rotation, phosphates should be applied to the barley. Cereals generally need added nitrogen at rates of 100 to 150 pounds per acre, depending on the previous crop. All nitrogen should be applied by the time stem elongation takes place.

IRRIGATION: Pre-mulch irrigations should be heavy. Subsequent irrigations should be sufficient to maintain good growth and avoid stressing.

PESTS: Weed and insect pests occasionally reduce cereal crop yields. Costs for their control have not been included because they are not widespread practices. Chemical weed control costs \$3.50 per acre and one application of insecticides for aphid control costs from \$3.00. Weeds should be controlled in barley to reduce the weed population in following crops. This is the most economical time to reduce these populations.

HARVESTING: Harvesting is by direct combine, and grain is dumped bulk into trucks which haul to the elevators.

YIELDS: Seed yields for small grains average about 1 1/2-2 tons per acre.

COTTON--SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at \$1.90 per hour (\$1.50 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, and fringe benefits).

Based on 3.00 bales per acre.

| OPERATION | Custom Rate | MATERIALS | | HAND LABOR | | SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------|------------|---------|-----------------------|
| | | Type | Cost | Hours | Dollars | |
| LAND PREPARATION | | | | | | |
| Flow or subsoil | 8.00 | | | | | 8.00 |
| Disc 2x | 2.00 | | | | | 4.00 |
| Fertilize | 1.00 | 100 lb N(NH ₃) | 6.00 | | | 7.00 |
| Float | 1.00 | | | | | 1.00 |
| List | 3.00 | | | | | 3.00 |
| Irrigate | | water .5 acre ft | 1.00 | .5 | 1.00 | 2.00 |
| Cultivate | 3.00 | | | | | 3.00 |
| TOTAL LAND PREPARATION | | | | | | \$ 28.00 |
| GROWING PERIOD | | | | | | |
| Plant and Incorporate | 10.00 | seed 20# @ .15 herbicide fungicide | 3.00 5.25 2.00 | | | 20.25 |
| Cultivate 4x | 3.00 | | | | | 12.00 |
| Fertilize 3x | 3.00 | 100# N(NH ₃)X3 | 18.00 | | | 27.00 |
| Hoe & Weed | | | | 5.2 | 10.00 | 10.00 |
| Insect Control 7x | 1.50 | insecticide | 14.00 | | | 24.50 |
| Lay by Herbicide | 3.50 | herbicide | 5.00 | | | 8.50 |
| Irrigate 14x | | water .7 acre ft | 14.00 | 7.4 | 14.00 | 28.00 |
| Defoliate | 2.00 | 10 gallon | 7.50 | | | 9.50 |
| TOTAL GROWING PERIOD | | | | | | \$ 139.75 |
| HARVEST COSTS | | | | | | |
| Machine picking | 20.00 per bale | | | | | 60.00 |
| Hauling | 1.00/bale | | | | | 3.00 |
| Ginning | 1.25/cwt of seed cotton | | | | | 56.25 |
| TOTAL HARVEST COSTS | | | | | | \$ 119.25 |
| Rent | | | | | | 100.00 |
| Cash overhead 15% of above | | | | | | 58.05 |
| TOTAL COSTS | | | | | | \$ 445.05 |

Cost per pound = 29.67¢

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