

SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

IRRIGATED PASTURE 1976

Production Data: 12 AUM production. 40 acres irrigated pasture.

Irrigated pasture is grown in the foothills and valley area of Western Placer and Western Nevada County. Approximately 35,000 acres of irrigated pasture were in production in 1975.

SOILS: Irrigated pasture is grown in almost all of the soil series in the valley and foothills, and it is one of the few irrigated crops that can be grown on the shallower soils in the area.

VARIETIES: The most widely adapted varieties are Ladino clover, Salina Strawberry clover, Broadleaf Birdsfoot trefoil, Narrowleaf Birdsfoot trefoil, orchard grass, perennial and annual ryegrass.

PLANTING: Most successful plantings in this area are made in October.

WATER: Irrigated pasture required 3 to 4 acre feet of water per acre during the season. The irrigation water is applied 13 to 20 times during the growing season in the area. Three acre inches of water applied every 7 to 10 days is a good rule of thumb.

The irrigation system referred to under investment on the back page is the well, pump, and portable hand line.

FERTILIZATION: 80 lbs. P_2O_5 /acre {35 P/acre} is recommended as an annual application of phosphorous. Sulfur is necessary to obtain maximum production, and a material such as single superphosphate containing phosphorous and sulfur should be used. Nitrogen fertilization increases grass production in irrigated pastures, but sustained nitrogen fertilization will reduce the amount of legumes in the pasture composition.

HARVESTING: Most irrigated pasture is grazed from April or May to November. During the spring many growers have surplus feed, and a portion of the irrigated pasture acreage is cut for hay.

This Sample Cost of Production is based on a 200 acre farm with 40 acres of irrigated pasture producing 12 AUM of feed per season and 10 acres cut for hay in the spring. The average life of irrigated pasture is considered to be 7 years for the purpose of this study.

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE
IRRIGATED PASTURE - PORTABLE HAND LINE 1976

Production Data: Yield: 12 AUM. Labor at \$2.85 and \$3.45 incl. fringe benefits.

Operation	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials		
				Kind & Quantity	Cost	
CULTURAL COSTS:						
Irrigate 18X	12.0	\$34.20	\$	Water: 1/2 miners inch	\$ 21.00	\$34.20 21.00
Clipping	.5	1.75	1.05			2.80
Fertilize				Contract applic. at \$1 300 lbs. 0-20-0	13.00	13.00
Misc. labor, materials, etc.		3.00	1.00		2.00	6.00
Interest on operating capital					3.50	3.50
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$38.95	\$2.05		\$39.50	\$80.50

HARVEST COSTS:						
Mow & Rake {contract}				1/4 acreage at \$5	\$1.25	
Bale {contract}				1-1/2 ton/acre at \$10	12.00	
Haul {contract}				1-1/2 ton/acre at \$5	7.50	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						\$23.75

CASH OVERHEAD:						
Misc., office, etc.					\$ 6.15	
Taxes					6.15	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						\$12.30

TOTAL CASH COST		\$38.95	\$2.05		\$75.55	\$116.55
Management 5% of 12 AUM at \$10						\$ 6.00

INVESTMENT:	Per Acre	Annual Cost		
		Depreciation	Interest 8%	
Land	\$1000	\$	\$ 80.00	
Stand Establishment	100	14.30	4.00	
Irrigation system	475	23.75	19.00	
Equipment	89	8.85	3.55	
Fences	50	2.00	2.00	
TOTAL	\$1714	\$48.90	\$108.55	\$157.45

TOTAL COST PER ACRE						\$280.00
Cost per AUM at 12 AUM yield						\$ 23.00

Prepared by:

William E. Mason Farm Advisor	L. A. Horel Research Associate	A. Doyle Reed Extension Economist
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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE
IRRIGATED PASTURE - SOLID SET SPRINKLER IRRIGATION 1976

Production Data: Yield: 12 AUM. Labor at \$2.85 and \$3.45 incl. fringe benefits.

Operation	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials Kind & Quantity	Cost	
CULTURAL COSTS:						
Irrigate 18X	1.8	\$5.15	\$	Water: 1/2 miners inch Power to pump 4 ac. ft. at \$3.50	\$ 21.00 14.00	\$ 5.15 21.00 14.00
Clipping	.5	1.75	1.05	Contract applic. at \$1		2.80
Fertilize				300 lbs. 0-20-0	13.00	13.00
Misc. labor, materials, etc.		3.00	1.00		2.00	6.00
Interest on operating capital					2.80	2.80
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$9.90	\$2.05		\$52.80	\$64.75

HARVEST COSTS:

Mow & Rake (contract)	1/4 acreage at \$5	\$ 1.25
Bale (contract)	1-1/2 ton/acre at \$10	15.00
Haul (contract)	1-1/2 ton/acre at \$5	7.50

TOTAL HARVEST COSTS **\$23.75**

CASH OVERHEAD:

Misc., office, etc.	\$ 5.90
Taxes	14.75

TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD **\$20.65**

TOTAL CASH COST **\$9.90 \$2.05 \$97.20 \$109.15**

Management 5% of 12 AUM at \$10 \$ 6.00

INVESTMENT:

	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest 8%
Land	\$1000	\$	\$ 80.00
Stand establishment	100	14.30	4.00
Irrigation system	1335	66.75	53.40
Equipment	89	8.85	3.55
Fences	50	2.00	2.00

TOTAL **\$2574 \$91.90 \$142.95 \$234.85**

TOTAL COST PER ACRE **\$350.00**
Cost per AUM at 12 AUM yield **\$ 29.00**

EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT
FOR IRRIGATED PASTURE -
SOLID SET SPRINKLER IRRIGATION PRODUCTION

Item	Cost	Operation Cost per Hour
Tractor, 30 hp WD	\$ 7,200	\$1.30
Pickup	5,000	.08/mile
Mower	1,100	.75
TOTAL INVESTMENT	\$13,300	
Per acre on 200 acres for } \$12,200 = \$61 }		
Per acre on 40 acres for } = \$1100 = \$27.50 }	\$ 88.50	
Depreciation per acre	\$ 8.85	
Interest per acre	\$ 3.55	