

## WHAT WILL IT COST TO GROW COTTON IN MADERA COUNTY

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Costs of growing any crops will vary on different ranches. The table on the following page contains approximate costs of growing cotton in Madera County. These costs are not based on conditions for any one ranch. The table is designed as a guide in helping you to determine the cost of producing cotton on your ranch and in aiding you to appraise and plan your own crop program.

This cost analysis is based on cotton grown on well developed land in rotation with alfalfa, irrigated pasture and other row crops. It is also based on a moderate sized acreage, the use of both well and ditch water and contract machine picking. When conditions and costs vary from those given, you can make adjustments accordingly in appraising your cotton enterprise.

These costs make no allowance for extra labor required for removal of crop residue. Hoeing and weeding costs are based on normal conditions. Weeding costs for some operators have exceeded \$25 per acre.

If the cotton were hand picked instead of machine picked, an additional  $4\phi$  to  $4\frac{1}{2}\phi$  per pound of lint would have to be added to the following costs, which would bring the total cost to about  $26\phi$  per pound.

Sample Costs		My Costs	
Per Acre	Per Cwt. Lint	(1) Per Acre	Per Cwt. Lint

<b>LABOR COSTS: (2)</b>			
Land preparation - 5 hrs. - man and tractor	\$12.50		
Plant (4 row planter) 2 men and tractor .33 hr.	1.16		
Irrigate: 1 pre and 8 crop - 20 man hrs.	20.00		
Chopping: 7 man hours	7.00		
Cultivate & fertilize (4 row) 3½ man, 3 tractor hrs.	8.00		
Hoe & weed: 2 times - 8 man hrs.	8.00		
Pest control: Dust 2x - contract @ 4¢/lb.	2.40		
Apply defoliant @ 4¢/lb.	1.60		
Miscellaneous other work	2.50		
Picking: Machine contract - 2000 lbs. seed cotton in 2 picking at av. of 2¢	40.00		
Hauling: - field to gin	1.50		
Ginning - at 45¢ per cwt. seed cotton	9.00		
Drying @ 10¢ & lint cleaning @ 10¢ per cwt.	4.00		
<b>Total Labor and Field Power Cost</b>	<b>117.66</b>	<b>\$15.69</b>	
<b>MATERIAL COSTS:</b>			
Irrigation water: 3½ - 4 acre ft., tax and power	9.00		
Seed: 25 lbs. delinted & treated @ 6-3/4¢	1.69		
Fertilizers to provide 80 lbs. actual nitrogen	12.80		
Dust for pest control: 60 lbs. @ 9.8¢	5.88		
Defoliant: 40 lbs. @ 6.3¢	2.52		
Bags, ties, ins., storage, sampling, etc.	7.04		
<b>Total Material Cost</b>	<b>38.93</b>	<b>5.19</b>	
<b>CASH OVERHEAD COSTS:</b>			
General expense: Office, phone, car, etc.	7.83		
County taxes	5.00		
Insurance, repairs & misc. overhead	3.00		
<b>Total Cash Overhead</b>	<b>15.83</b>	<b>2.11</b>	
<b>TOTAL CASH, LABOR AND FIELD POWER COST</b>	<b>172.42</b>	<b>22.99</b>	
<b>DEPRECIATION:</b>			
Bldgs. & Irrig. facilities: \$80 cost - 20 yrs. life	4.00		
Tillage, planter & other equip., except tractor - \$20 cost - 10 yrs. life	2.00		
<b>Total Depreciation</b>	<b>6.00</b>	<b>.80</b>	
<b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT AT 5%:</b>			
Bldgs. & irrig. facil. @ ½ cost	2.00		
Tillage & other equip. @ ½ cost	.50		
Land at \$400	20.00		
<b>Total Interest on Investment Cost</b>	<b>22.50</b>	<b>3.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>200.92</b>	<b>26.79</b>	
<b>CREDIT FOR VALUE OF 1125 SEED @ \$68/TON</b>	<b>-38.25</b>	<b>-5.10</b>	
<b>NET COST OF PRODUCTION LINT COTTON</b>	<b>162.67</b>	<b>21.69</b>	

(1) Based on a yield of 750 lbs. of lint per acre.

(2) Man labor at \$1.00 per hour, medium wheel tractor at \$1.50 per hour.