

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CORN IN THE LOWER SACRAMENTO VALLEY 1974

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CORN
Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of corn on a 1,000 acre ranch. Yield: 9,550 lbs. @ 18% moisture; 8,000 lbs. @ 12.5% moisture. Labor rates including fringe benefits \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	Total
dollars						
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Stubble disc	.3	1.15	2.70			3.85
Landplane	.3	1.05	2.05			3.10
Disk 2x	.3	1.15	2.30			3.45
Springtooth	.2	.50	.80			1.30
List & fertilize	.2	.90	1.70	150# N @ 20¢/#	30.00	32.60
Plant	.4	1.40	1.50	Seed	20.00	22.90
Fertilize				Starter 20 gal/acre	18.60	18.60
Irrigate 8x (1 pre-plant & 7 crop)	4.0	10.40	1.15	Water	8.00	19.55
Cultivate	.4	1.40	1.40			2.80
Weed control				Herbicide contract	6.50	6.50
Insect or mite control				Material contract	5.00	5.00
Misc. (move, set up & service equipment)	.7	2.35	1.00			3.35
Crop loan interest					3.10	3.10
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS	6.8	20.30	14.60		91.20	126.10
<u>Harvest Costs</u>						
Combine				4.77 tons @ 5.00	23.85	
Hauling				4.77 tons @ 2.50	11.95	
Drying (renter's share)				3.0 tons @ 2.00	6.00	
Storage				2.62 tons @ 4.00	10.50	
Chop stubble	.2	.70	.60			1.30
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		.70	.60		52.30	53.60
<u>Cash Overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					13.40	
Taxes on equipment					1.90	
Rent				25% of 8,000# @ \$5.35 cwt	107.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						122.30
TOTAL CASH COST		21.00	15.20		265.80	302.00
Management 5% of 8,000 lbs. at \$5.35 cwt						21.40
<u>Annual Cost</u>						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>		<u>Interest 8%</u>		
Equipment	\$190	\$19.00		\$7.60		
Total						26.60
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						350.00
Cost per cwt @ 8,000 lbs. yield after shrinkage to 12.5% moisture						4.37

Cost of Production at Varying Yields

Yield per acre-cwt:	40	60	80	100	120	140
Total production cost per cwt	\$7.85	\$5.54	\$4.37	\$3.67	\$3.21	\$2.88

CORN CULTURAL BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: For maximum production fertile, deep, well drained soil is required.

Planting Dates: As soon as soil warms up, usually around April 15 in our area.

Harvest Dates: September

Varieties: Many commercial varieties available. Days to maturity is important. Many of the varieties have been grouped by days to maturity. List is available from your Farm Advisors Office.

Seeding Rate: Depends on size of seed and plant population desired, usually about 15 lbs/A.

Fertilizer: Soil tests for phosphorus and potassium are helpful. At planting 10-20 lbs. N and 13-26 lbs. P (30-60 lbs. P₂O₅) under or two inches to the side of seed plus around 200 lbs. N preplant or sidedressed. Depends on soil type, previous crop, etc.

Irrigation: 2-1/2 - 3-1/2 acre feet of water - 5-8 irrigations.

Weed Control: Timely cultivation for grass and broadleaf weed control. Herbicides -- 2,4-D amine for broadleaved weed control. Atrazine - preplant, pre-emergence or early post-emergence. See U.C. recommendations. Atrazine and Oil -- post-emergence. When atrazine is used no other crop except corn or sorghum can be planted for 18 months. Other herbicides are being tested.

Insect Control: Mites - 1 lb. Kelthane when plants are 3-4 feet tall. Other - cutworms, armyworms, darkling ground beetles, flea beetles, wireworms, etc. See U.C. Pest Control Recommendations for control.

Diseases: Sugar cane mosaic - carried by aphids. Root and stalk rot, fusarium ear rot, head smut, boil smut.

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