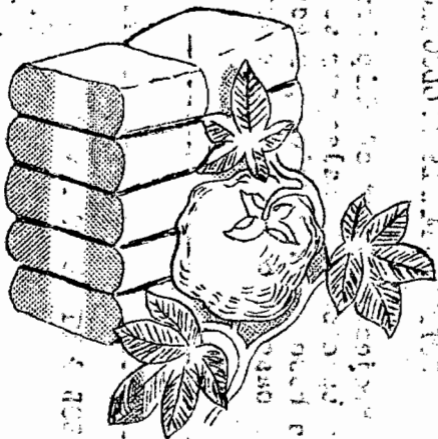


cotton
sample costs
and
production



Agricultural Extension Service
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Cost Data Sheet No. 26
UC Cooperative Extension

COTTON--SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Projected Costs of Skip Row Plantings^{1/}

(Assume a base of 3.00 bales per acre on solid planting)

(Assume a base of 4.50 bales per acre on 2 x 1 planting)

(Assume a base of 6.00 bales per acre on 2 x 2 planting)

OPERATIONS	Planting Pattern		
	Solid	2 x 1	2 x 2
LAND PREPARATION - LABOR & FIELD POWER			
Plow	\$ 8.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 16.00
Disc 2x	4.00	6.00	8.00
Land Plane	5.00	7.50	10.00
Fertilize	3.00	4.50	6.00
Listing	3.00	4.50	6.00
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION	\$ 23.00	34.50	\$ 46.00
CULTURAL LABOR & FIELD POWER			
Plant	3.00	3.00	3.00
Cultivate 4x	12.00	18.00	24.00
Fertilize 3x	9.00	13.50	18.00
Hoe & Weed	23.00	34.50	46.00
Insect control application 7x	14.00	21.00	28.00
Irrigation 14x	14.00	21.00	28.00
Setting irrigation pipe	3.00	4.50	6.00
TOTAL CULTURAL LABOR, ETC.	\$ 78.00	\$ 115.50	\$ 153.00
MATERIALS			
Water 7 ft.	14.00	21.00	28.00
Seed - 20# @ \$250/Ton	2.50	2.50	2.50
Fertilizer 240# N & 100# P205	41.00	41.00	41.00
Insecticides 7x	21.00	31.50	42.00
TOTAL MATERIALS	\$ 78.50	\$ 96.00	\$ 113.50
TOTAL GROWING COSTS	\$ 179.50	\$ 246.00	\$ 312.50
HARVESTING			
Machine picking - \$22.50/bale	67.50	101.25	135.00
Hauling	3.00	4.50	6.00
Ginning \$1.25/cwt.	56.00	84.00	112.00
TOTAL HARVESTING	\$ 126.50	\$ 189.75	\$ 253.00
CASH OVERHEAD (10% of above)	30.60	43.50	56.55
RENT	\$ 100.00	\$ 150.00	200.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 430.60	\$ 629.25	\$ 822.05
RECEIPTS			
Lint @ 31¢	465.00	697.50	930.00
Seed @ \$47/Ton	60.50	90.75	121.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 525.50	\$ 788.25	\$1054.00
TOTAL COSTS	\$ 430.60	\$ 629.25	\$ 822.05
NET PROFIT	\$ 94.90	\$ 159.00	\$ 231.95

^{1/} Costs of solid plantings projected into skip row patterns.

NOTE: These figures are to be used only as a guide. Skip row planting is an expensive operation. Just how expensive it is will depend upon the practices that each individual grower follows. Some savings can be made from the above figures; using ground rigs, for early insect application will reduce the amount of insecticides that are used. The same might be said for water, because some growers probably will not irrigate as many furrows early in the season, so some savings might be made in this respect.

In general, the costs for growing cotton on the 2 x 2 skip row pattern will be approximately double that of solid planting. The costs for the 2 x 1 pattern will lie somewhere between those of solid plantings and the 2 x 2 pattern. In all cases, costs will vary with grower practices.

YIELDS

The average production for the county for the past 2 years is above 3 bales per acre.

PLANTING DATES

March 1 to April 15. Cotton planted around the 1st of April has fewer stand problems than earlier plantings.

PLANTING

Cotton usually is grown on raised beds 38 to 42 inches apart.

SOILS

Cotton can be grown on all soil types in Imperial County.

IRRIGATION

Do not allow the plants to wilt at any time. Cotton plants stressed for water will shed squares and bolls.

VARIETIES

Delta Pine Smooth-Leaf dominates acreage planted.

FERTILIZERS

One hundred to 150 lbs. of P₂O₅ per acre (put on ahead of planting) should be sufficient.

About 400 lbs. of nitrogen will produce a good crop applied in 4 applications: before planting, at thinning, and in early June.

PLANT SPACING

Spacing within the row of 3 to 12 inches result in approximately the same yields.

INSECT AND DISEASE CONTROL

Seedling diseases can reduce cotton stands to the point where replanting may be necessary.

Many pests attack cotton in Imperial County. For the latest control recommendations, consult your Farm Advisor's office.

WEED CONTROL

Several herbicides show promise both as preemergence and layby applications. For the latest recommendations consult your Farm Advisor's office.

SKIP ROW COTTON

Costs raise proportionately with the amount of land skipped. Lint quality will improve. The increased sunlight penetration will tend to reduce boll rots provided the cotton does not lodge.

GOOD STAND

To increase yield to the maximum, a good stand is necessary. Most efficient machine harvest can be achieved when the grower obtains a good uniform stand throughout the field.

QUALITY

This is one factor that is sure to improve with skip row plantings. The increased sunlight penetration and aeration will tend to reduce boll rots providing there is no lodging.

INSECT CONTROL

The cost of insect control will increase proportionately as the acreage under cultivation increases. All applications, should be based on the gross acreage.

Prepared by

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