

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CAULIFLOWER FOR FRESH MARKET SALE IN MONTEREY COUNTY - Dec. 1974

By J.W. Inman and E.A. Yeary

Yield: 500 cartons per Acre (Wt. 25 pounds)

Labor Costs/Hour	Hourly Tractor Costs				
	Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest		
C1. I Equipment Operator	3.92	80 h.p. Crawler Diesel	7.05	3.12	2.34
C1. II Equipment Operator	3.80	80 h.p. Wheel Diesel	3.78	1.80	.90
Other Labor	3.00	55 h.p. Wheel Diesel	2.82	1.52	.76

Operation	Tractor Used	Hours Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total Acre
CULTURAL						
Cover Crop					Proportion of cost to cauliflower \$12.00	12.00
Disc and Roll 3x	C-80	0.69	2.70	6.33		9.03
Chisel 2x	C-30	1.0	3.92	8.05		11.97
Landplane 2x	C-80	0.52	1.98	4.58		6.56
List & Preplant Fertilizer					Contract @ \$4.50/Ac 500# 13-13-13 \$51.25	55.75
Shape Beds	WD-80	0.25	.98	1.10		2.08
Plant-4 Bed Planter	WD-80	0.5	1.96	4.08	Seed 1/2 lb \$12.00	18.04
Herbicide					Contract @ \$5.75/Ac. Materials @ \$15.00/Ac.	20.75
Irrigation 5x (2 Sprinkler, 3 Furrow)		10.0	30.00	8.00	2-1/2 Ac Ft @ \$6.00 per Ac Ft, \$2.00 Booster Pump	55.00
Thin					Contract \$22.00	22.00
Dress Fertilizer 2x					Contract \$3.75/Ac 200# N @ \$0.34 per lb.	75.50
Insecticides 4x					Contract @ \$4.25/Ac Materials \$32.00/Ac	49.00
Cultivate 5x	WD-55	2.0	7.84	7.04		14.88
Hoe and Weed		8.0	24.00			24.00
Miscellaneous (includes setup and moving)		4.0	13.84	5.64		19.48
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS						396.04

OVERHEAD		
Business Costs: Office and Business Expense - 7% of Cultural Costs		27.72
Taxes: Equipment		9.10
Rent: \$300.00 per acre, 6 mos. to cauliflower		150.00
TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS		186.82

Harvest: Contract @ \$2.35 per carton (cost includes harvesting, hauling, packing carton and sales charge)	1175.00
TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVESTING COSTS	1757.86

ANNUAL COSTS	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 8%
1/2 charged to cauliflower.	Buildings	50.00	2.50	2.00
Tractors are on hourly basis	Irrigation System	90.00	9.00	3.60
	Portable Irrig. System	25.00	2.50	1.00
	Tractors	150.00	11.85	9.35
	Equipment	90.00	9.00	3.60
		405.00	34.85	19.55
6 Months (Except Tractors and Equipment) to Cauliflower				37.80

TOTAL COST PER ACRE	1795.66
TOTAL COST PER CARTON (BASED ON 500 CARTONS/ACRE YIELD)	3.59

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD CARTONS PER ACRE	400	450	500	550	600
Cost to Grow per Acre	620.66	620.66	620.66	620.66	620.66
Cost to Harvest	940.00	1057.50	1175.00	1292.50	1410.00
Total Cost per Acre	1560.66	1678.16	1795.66	1913.16	2030.66
Cost per Carton	3.90	3.73	3.59	3.48	3.38

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study. It may be as much as 5% of the farm value of the crop.