

COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET
SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALMONDS IN TULARE COUNTY - 1970

Costs are for a mature orchard containing 64 trees per planted acre, producing 3273 lbs. of in-shell nuts, or 1800 lbs. of nutmeats per acre. Man labor \$2.00 per hour total*, and equipment operator \$2.20. Medium wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$1.40, depreciation \$1.10 and interest 50¢.

*including social security and workman's compensation.

	Sample Costs		Your Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Cwt.	Per Acre	Per Cwt
				(meats)
<u>PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:</u>				
Pruning: 8 man hrs.		\$ 16.00		
Brush disposal: contract shred		8.00		
Fertilizer: 96 lbs. N at 11¢		10.56		
Spray 3 times: materials		39.60		
application @ 1½¢ gal.		22.50		
Weed control		15.00		
Irrigate 6 times: labor 5 hrs.		10.00		
3½ ft. water: power \$19.25, dist. tax \$6.00		25.25		
Mow weeds, 1/3 hr. M & T, 4 x		4.80		
Bees: 2 hives at \$4.00		8.00		
Taxes		50.00		
Misc. labor, materials, field power; includes 4 man hrs. and 2 tractor hrs.		16.20		
Repairs to equipment except tractor		7.00		
Office, car, operating capital, insurance, etc.		26.00		
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS		\$258.91	\$14.38	
<u>HARVESTING COSTS:</u>				
Knock, pick, haul and hull @ 8¢/lb.		\$144.00		
Haul to market @ \$4.40 per ton		3.96		
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS		\$147.96	\$ 8.22	
TOTAL CASH COSTS		\$406.87	\$22.60	
<u>DEPRECIATION:</u>				
Irrigation system & well: \$200 cost		12.00		
Bldgs. & equipment except tractor: \$100 cost		7.50		
Tractor: 4 hrs. at \$1.10		4.40		
Trees: cost \$1200 30 yr. life		40.00		
TOTAL DEPRECIATION		\$ 63.90	\$ 3.55	
TOTAL CASH & DEPRECIATION COST		\$470.77	\$26.15	
<u>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT AT 7%:</u>				
Irrigation system & well: ½ cost \$100		7.00		
Bldgs. & equipment except tractor: ½ cost \$50		3.50		
Tractor: 4 hrs. at 50¢		2.00		
Trees: ½ cost \$600		42.00		
Land: \$1,000		70.00		
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT		\$124.50	\$ 6.92	
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION - MEATS		\$595.27	\$33.07	
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION - IN SHELL		\$595.27	\$18.19	

G. Steven Sibbett
Farm Advisor
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UC Cooperative Extension

Burt B. Burlingame
Extension Economist
400 c. - 5/19/70

ALMOND PRODUCTION

Cost Analysis Work Sheet

This work sheet was developed to show sample costs for a good yield, mature orchard under Tulare County conditions. These costs will be useful as a guide when a specific orchard planting is under consideration. When using this work sheet it is important to consider the following items:

1. Almonds require cross-pollination. In Tulare County it is common to find orchards containing 60% Nonpareils, 30% Texas and 10% NePlus. Where pollinators are reduced in number or the varieties do not overlap sufficiently in bloom dates, the total crop will often be reduced.
2. Seasonal variations tremendously influence fruit set. Wet weather during bloom will cause jacket rot and reduced bee flight. Frosts during bloom are also hazardous. No account is taken for partial or complete crop loss due to frost, rain, labor problems, etc.
3. These sample costs are based on 30-acre operations and larger. Costs increase sharply on small operations. No allowance is made for cost of management.
4. Costs are based on manual harvesting rather than mechanical. However, present costs in Tulare County are approximately equal for both operations.

Sample Costs at Varying Yields

Yield lbs. meats	500	800	1000	1500	1800	2000	2500
Cash & depreciation costs per cwt nutmeats	72.78	48.57	41.03	29.74	26.15	24.36	21.19
Total costs per cwt nutmeats	97.68	64.13	52.95	38.04	33.07	30.58	26.11