

COST OF SUGAR BEET PRODUCTION  
Fresno County - 1966

Cost of production of this crop will vary from one farm to another depending upon size of the operation, soil characteristics, water costs, the extent of weed and insect control, in addition to other factors.

## NOTES

1. The costs given are based on an 80-100 acre single row bed planting on land owned by the grower.
2. Under a rental agreement, cash costs would be increased by the rental cost and decreased by the amount of taxes on the land, depreciation, and interest on investment on the irrigation system, and the land.
3. Wage rates include social security costs, housing (if furnished) and all other costs applicable to labor.
4. These costs are based on mechanical thinning. Hand thinning costs will be about \$16-\$20 per acre.
5. Fertilization costs are based on two applications and a total of 150# of nitrogen per acre. Rates used will vary to some degree, based on past cropping history.
6. Yields are based on the following schedule:  
23 tons hauled to the dump.  
22 tons received by the processor  
20 tons grower yield of clean beets.
7. Hauling cost is based on 85¢/ton plus 3¢ per ton-mile for an average 10 mile haul to the beet dump.
8. If fumigation for nematode control is practiced, this adds \$18-\$20/A to costs.
9. Hauling credit is based on the practice of a rebate by the processor to the grower. It is computed on the basis of 2½¢ per ton-mile (clean beets) for an average 10 mile haul to the dump.
10. Some growers may have an opportunity to pasture off beet tops and dropped or small beets. The credit for pasturage may run from \$5 to \$10 per acre.
11. This assumes a November or December planting and an August or September harvest. However, beets may be planted from October through May.
12. Total costs of production will vary with yield per acre due primarily to variation in harvest and hauling costs and amount of rebate. Included is a table to show this variation.
13. Grower returns, per ton of beets, will vary with sugar content, net selling price of refined sugar, and USDA compliance payments.

SUGARBEET PRODUCTION  
Cost Analysis Work Sheet

March 1966

Richard M. Hoover - E. A. Yeary  
Farm Advisors

Sample costs to produce sugarbeets in Fresno County. Costs are based on a yield of 20 tons of clean beets per acre. Man labor at \$1.30 per hour total, and equipment operator \$1.60. 80 h.p. tracklayer per hour, cash costs \$3.80, depreciation \$1.80 and interest \$1.00. 50 h. p. wheel tractor \$1.20, 60¢ and 30¢.

	<u>Sample Costs</u>		<u>My Costs</u>	
	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>
<u>PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS</u>				
Disc 2 X: ½ hr. man & tracklayer	2.70			
Plow 1 X: ½ hr. man & tracklayer	2.70			
Chisel 1 X: for 2 crops; charge ½ hr. man & tracklayer to beets	2.70			
Disc 1 X: ¼ hr. man & tracklayer	1.35			
Landplane 1 X: ¼ hr. man & tracklayer	1.35			
Fertilize: material, 300 lbs. at \$50/ton application; custom	7.50			
	1.00			
List beds & apply 60 lbs. N custom	3.50			
Cultipak beds: ¼ hr. man & wheel tractor	.70			
Plant & shape beds: custom rate	2.00			
seed: 2½ lbs. at \$1.00	2.50			
Irrigations: 1 pre and 6 crop water: power for 4 acre feet at \$8.00	32.00			
Thin: mechanical; ¾ hr. man & wheel tractor	2.10			
Fertilize: material; 60 lbs. N at 10¢ application; contract	6.00			
	2.50			
Hand weed: 5 hrs. labor	6.50			
Cultipak: ½ hr. man & wheel tractor	1.40			
Cultivate 2 X: (before & after thinning) total 2 hrs. man & wheel tractor	5.60			
Cultivate 2 X at 2 ac. per hr. total 1 hr. man & wheel tractor	2.80			
Misc. tractor work; ditches, borders, etc. 1½ hrs. man & tracklayer	6.75			
County taxes:	10.00			
Repairs to equipment except tractors	4.00			
Office, car, operating capital, ins., etc.	9.60			
<b>TOTAL PRE-HARVEST COSTS</b>	<b>117.25</b>	<b>5.86</b>		
<u>HARVESTING COSTS</u>				
Dig & load: contract \$1.25 ton for 22 tons	27.50			
Haul: \$1.15 ton for 22 tons	25.30			
<b>TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS</b>	<b>52.80</b>	<b>2.64</b>		
<b>TOTAL CASH COSTS</b>	<b>170.05</b>	<b>8.50</b>		
<u>DEPRECIATION</u>				
Irrigation system and well: \$210 costs 14 yr. life	15.00			
Tracklayer: 3½ hrs. at \$1.80	5.85			
Wheel tractor: 4½ hrs. at 60¢	2.70			
Other equipment: \$48 cost 12 yr. life	4.00			
<b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>27.55</b>	<b>1.38</b>		

	<u>Sample Costs</u>		<u>My Costs</u>	
	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>
<u>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT AT 6%</u>				
Irrigation system & well: $\frac{1}{2}$ cost \$105	6.30			
Tracklayer: $3\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. at \$1.00	3.25			
Wheel tractor: $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. at 30¢	1.35			
Other equipment: $\frac{1}{2}$ cost \$24	1.44			
Land: \$650	39.00			
<b>TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT</b>	<b>51.34</b>	<b>2.57</b>		
<b>TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>248.94</b>	<b>12.45</b>		
Hauling credit - rebate	5.00			
<b>NET COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>243.94</b>	<b>12.20</b>		

Sample Costs at Varying Yields

Yield: clean tons/A.		Average					Exceptional		
		16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
Cash Costs Per Ton	9.97	9.15	8.50	7.95	7.53	7.15	6.83	6.55	
Net Cost Per Ton	14.65	13.29	12.20	11.28	10.56	9.93	9.40	8.93	