

# MILO

sample  
costs of production  
suggestions on growing

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
~~FARM AND HOME ADVISORS' OFFICE~~  
KERN COUNTY  
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# SUGGESTIONS ON GROWING MILO

By

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## GENERAL:

MILO IS AN EXCELLENT CROP TO USE IN A DOUBLE CROP-  
PING PROGRAM. IT IS OFTEN USED FOLLOWING WHEAT,  
BARLEY, OATS, EARLY POTATOES, OR ANY OTHER CROP  
THAT IS HARVESTED IN MID-SEASON. AS A FEED, MILO  
HAS A PROTEIN CONTENT SLIGHTLY LESS THAN No. 2  
YELLOW CORN.

## SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

MILO CAN BE GROWN ON ANY OF KERN COUNTY'S SOILS.  
IT IS MODERATELY TOLERANT TO ALKALI.

## VARIETY:

<u>110-120 D's</u> <u>EARLY</u>	<u>120-130 D's</u> <u>MED. EARLY</u>	<u>130-140 D's</u> <u>MED. LATE</u>	<u>OVER 140 D's</u> <u>LATE</u>
NK 120	AMAK R-10	AMAK R-12	DEKALB F70
NK 125	DEKALB C-44B	RANGER	NK 310
ROCKET	FRONTIER 400C	RED RAIDER	PAG 625
STECKLEY R99	NK 210	DEKALB F63	APACHE
	RS 610	FRONTIER 400F	STECKLEY R214
	PAG 430	NK 283	

## SEED TREATMENT:

SEED SHOULD BE TREATED WITH A SUITABLE DISINFECTANT.  
ONE OUNCE OF NEW IMPROVED CERESAN PER 100 LBS. OF  
SEED CAN BE RECOMMENDED.

COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE MILO IN KERN COUNTY (SINGLE CROP) - 1962

BASED ON MAN LABOR AT \$1.10 AND \$1.30 PER HOUR; 30 H.P. WHEEL TRACTOR CASH COST PER HOUR \$1.10;  
DEPRECIATION \$.48; INTEREST \$.22

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OPERATION	HOURS PER ACRE	CASH AND LABOR COST PER ACRE			SAMPLE COSTS	MY COSTS
		LABOR	FUEL AND REPAIRS- EQUIPMENT	MATERIALS AND OTHER COSTS		
<b>CULTURAL:</b>						
LAND PREPARATION	2.0	\$ 2.60	\$ 2.20		\$ 4.80	
PLANT & FERTILIZE (2 MEN)	.5	1.20	.55	SEED: 10 LBS. @ 22¢ \$ 2.20 NITROGEN: 90 LBS. @ 12¢ 10.80	14.75	
IRRIGATE: 1 PRE 3 CROP	6.0	6.60	2.50	WATER: 1.6 FT. @ \$6.00 9.60	18.70	
CULTIVATE: 2 TIMES	1.0	1.30	1.10		2.40	
TAXES					12.50	
MISCELLANEOUS OVERHEAD		3.50	2.60		9.60	
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$15.20	\$ 8.95	\$38.60	\$ 62.75	
<b>HARVEST:</b>						
COMBINE			CONTRACT: \$6.00 + 10¢CWT OVER 2,000 LBS.	\$ 9.00		
HAUL			2 1/2 TONS @ \$2.00	5.00		
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS					\$ 14.00	
TOTAL CASH AND LABOR COSTS					\$ 76.75 (\$ 1.54)	
CASH AND LABOR COST PER CWT. @ 5,000 LBS. YIELD						
<u>COSTS AT VARYING YIELDS</u>		<u>INVESTMENT</u>	<u>PER ACRE</u>	<u>ANNUAL COST</u>		
<u>POUNDS PER ACRE</u>	<u>COST PER CWT</u>	LAND	\$800.00	<u>DEPRECIATION</u>	<u>INTEREST</u>	
		IRRIGATION FACILITIES	200.00	\$15.00	6.00	
		TRACTOR 4 1/2 HRS.		2.16	.99	
		EQUIPMENT	20.00	2.00	.60	
4,000	\$3.74	TOTAL		\$19.16	\$55.59	\$ 74.75
5,000	3.03					\$151.50
6,000	2.56					\$ 3.03
7,000	2.22					
				TOTAL COST PER ACRE		
				TOTAL COST PER CWT @ 5,000 LBS. YIELD		

## PREPARATION OF SOIL AND PLANTING:

UNLIKE MANY OTHER CROPS, A FIRM, MOIST SEEDBED IS REQUIRED. PRE-IRRIGATION IS THE BEST PRACTICE, HOWEVER, PLANTING DRY, THEN IRRIGATING UP, IS SOMETIMES DONE SUCCESSFULLY. MILO MAY BE BROADCAST, DRILLED OR SEEDING IN ROW.

## PLANTING RATE:

HYBRIDS REQUIRE ABOUT 10 TO 12 LBS. OF SEED PER ACRE. ALWAYS PLANT SEED OF KNOWN QUALITY.

## PLANTING TIME:

MILO MAY BE SEEDING FROM MAY 1 TO JUNE 15. WHEN SEEDING BEFORE OTHER FIELDS IN THE COMMUNITY, WHICH WOULD BE FIRST TO HEAD, BIRDS ARE LIKELY TO CONCENTRATE, RESULTING IN A GREAT LOSS OF GRAIN. A MAJORITY OF THE FIELDS IN THE COUNTY ARE PLANTED ABOUT JUNE 15.

## PLANTING DEPTH:

THE PLANTING DEPTH NEED NOT EXCEED 2 1/2 INCHES.

## FERTILIZATION:

WHEN FOLLOWING POTATOES, WHERE THERE IS USUALLY A LARGE AMOUNT OF CARRYOVER, THE APPLICATION OF NITROGEN MAY NOT BE NECESSARY. IN ANY INSTANCE, PROBABLY 90 LBS. OF NITROGEN IS ALL THAT WILL BE REQUIRED. IF NITROGEN IS TO BE APPLIED, APPLICATION SHOULD BE MADE AT SEEDING TIME, IF POSSIBLE.

## IRRIGATION:

TIMING THE IRRIGATION ON MILO IS VERY IMPORTANT. SINCE MILO IS USUALLY PLANTED IN HOT WEATHER, A PRE-IRRIGATION IS NECESSARY. THEN, ON GOOD PERMEABLE SOIL, THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE CAN BE USED FOR MAXIMUM YIELDS: IF WATER IS AVAILABLE FOR ONLY ONE IRRIGATION, MAKE SURE THIS IS APPLIED WHEN THE CROP IS IN THE "BOOT STAGE". IF WATER IS AVAILABLE FOR TWO IRRIGATIONS, APPLY IN THE "BOOT STAGE" AND TWO WEEKS AFTER HEADING. IF THREE IRRIGATIONS ARE POSSIBLE, APPLY IN THE TILLER STAGE, THE BOOT STAGE AND TWO WEEKS AFTER HEADING.

ON SOILS THAT ARE TIGHT OR VERY SANDY, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO WATER AS FREQUENTLY AS EVERY 7 TO 10 DAYS DURING THE HEAT OF THE SUMMER UNTIL THE SEED IN THE CENTRAL OR MAIN STEMS ARE IN THE SOFT DOUGH STAGE.

## CULTIVATION:

SINCE SOIL WILL USUALLY DRY OUT AS DEEPLY AS IT IS TILLED, CULTIVATION SHOULD BE DONE ONLY TO CONTROL WEEDS.

## HARVESTING:

HARVESTING IS DONE BY COMBINE. ANY OF THE GRAIN HARVESTERS ARE GOOD.

## YIELD:

FROM 4,000 TO 7,000 LBS. PER ACRE CAN BE EXPECTED. YIELDS AS HIGH AS 9,000 LBS. HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.