



LASSEN - PLUMAS - SIERRA COUNTIES  
PRODUCTION COSTS



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## EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT FOR ALFALEA PRODUCTION - FLOOD IRRIGATED

Lassen County - 1975

Alfalfa is grown on 100 acres of a 300 acre farm.

Item	Cost	Operation Cost per Hour
Tractor, 60 h.p. wheel diesel	\$14,000.	\$2.60
Tractor, 30 h.p. wheel diesel	7,200.	1.30
Disk, 10' offset	2,000.	.90
Drill, 10'	2,800.	2.25
Harrow, 12'	1,600.	.75
Ditcher	500.	.90
Easy-Flow spreader, 10'	700.	.40
Sprayer	700.	2.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,500. (300 acres)</b>	
<b>Harvest:</b>		
Swather, SP, 14'	10,200.	3.85
Baler, motor, 2 wire	6,200.	2.40
Rake, side-delivery	1,100.	.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,500. (100 acres)</b>	
<b>Irrigation System:</b>		
Well, 400', 14" diameter	7,200.	
Pump, 1,000 gpm, 80' lift, 30 h.p.	5,300.	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,500. (100 acres)</b>	
<b>Total Investment</b>	<b>59,500.</b>	
Per Acre on 300 acres for \$29,500. = 90	}	Total investment of \$390. per acre of which \$125 is irrigation system.
Per Acre on 100 acres for \$30,000. = 300		

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA - FLOOD IRRIGATION

Lassen County - 1975

Production data: 5.5 ton yield. Labor @ \$3/hr. including social security and comp. insurance.

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials		
Kind and Quantity	Cost					
<u>Cultural costs</u>						
Irrigate--8 times	8.0	\$24.00	\$4.00	Water: 4 ac. ft. @ \$2.20	\$ 8.80	\$ 36.80
Fertilize				Sulphur 50# @ 3¢ Application	1.50	1.50
	.2	.60	.30			.90
Gopher control	.1	.30	.10		1.00	1.40
Herbicide--1/2 times	.2	.60	.30		3.00	3.90
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$25.50</b>	<b>\$4.70</b>		<b>\$14.30</b>	<b>\$ 44.50</b>
<u>Harvest costs</u>						
Swath--3 times	.75	2.25	2.35			4.60
Turn windrows	.60	1.80	.75			2.55
Bale--3 times	.60	1.80	1.65	Wire \$4/ton	22.00	25.45
Roadside				5.5 tons @ \$4	22.00	22.00
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 5.85</b>	<b>\$4.75</b>		<b>\$44.00</b>	<b>\$ 54.60</b>
<u>Cash overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					5.70	
Taxes					10.00	
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>\$ 15.70</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>\$31.35</b>	<b>\$9.45</b>		<b>\$74.00</b>	<b>\$114.80</b>
Management 5% of 5.5 tons @ \$60 = \$330						\$ 16.50
<u>INVESTMENT</u>						
	<u>Per Acre</u>			<u>Annual Cost</u>		
Land	\$500			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest--8%</u>	
Stand	88			\$17.60	\$40.00	
Irrigation system	125			8.35	5.00	
Equipment	265			26.50	10.60	
Total	\$978			\$52.45	\$59.10	
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>\$111.55</b>
<b>Cost per ton @ 5.5 ton yield</b>						<b>\$242.85</b>
						<b>\$ 44.15</b>

SAMPLE COST TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA - FLOOD IRRIGATION

Lassen County 1975

Production data: Labor @ \$3 including social security and comp. insurance.

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Kind and Quantity	Materials Cost	
<u>Cultural costs</u>						
Landplane				Contract	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Fertilize	.3	.90	.15			1.05
Fertilizer				200# sulphur	5.40	5.40
Disc - 1 time	.3	.90	.90			1.80
Harrow - 1 time	.3	.90	.60			1.50
Check	.3	.90	.90			1.80
Drill - 1 time	.3	.90	1.10			2.00
Seed				16# @ 75¢/lb.	12.00	12.00
Ditch	.2	.60	.30			.90
Irrigate - 3 times	3.0	9.00		Power to pump 1 a.f. @ \$2.20	2.20	11.20
Weed control (post emergence)	.2	.60	.30	2,4 DB - 1# active	10.70	11.60
Weed control (preplant)	.8	2.40	2.10	Eptam - 3-4#	9.70	14.20
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$17.10</b>	<b>\$6.35</b>		<b>\$45.00</b>	<b>\$ 68.45</b>
<u>Harvest costs</u>						
Harvest				Custom 1 1/2 tons @ \$15/T	22.50	
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>						<b>\$ 22.50</b>
<u>Cash overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					4.30	
Taxes					10.00	
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>\$ 14.30</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>\$17.10</b>	<b>\$6.35</b>		<b>\$81.80</b>	<b>\$105.25</b>
<u>INVESTMENT</u>						
	<u>Per Acre</u>			<u>Annual Cost</u>		
Land	\$500.			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest - 8%</u>	
Irrigation system	125.			\$ 8.35	\$40.00	
Equipment	265.			26.50	5.00	
Total	\$890.			\$34.85	10.60	
					\$55.60	
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>\$ 95.70</b>
Less income from harvest 1 1/2 T @ \$60						- 90.00
<b>TOTAL COST TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA/ACRE</b>						<b>\$105.70</b>

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