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Tulare County
Farm Advisor's Office
Post Office Bldg., VisaliaWHAT DOES IT COST TO GROW AN ACRE OF COTTON?

This cost sheet is made up for an average grower and many of the costs are only approximate. Some cost items will vary for different areas within the county. The column "My Costs" is for your convenience in recording your actual costs.

Yield 1800# seed cotton
Large tractor \$3.00 per hour

Man labor \$.90 per hour
Light tractor \$1.50 per hour

	Typical Costs Per Acre	My Costs Per Acre
Land preparation, man and heavy tractor, 2 hrs. @ \$3.90	\$ 7.80	
Plant, 2 men and light tractor 6/10 hrs.	1.98	
Irrigation, 1 pre and 5 crop, 18 hrs. @ \$.90	16.20	
Fertilize, 2 men and light tractor, 6/10 hrs.	1.98	
Chopping and weeding, 7 hrs. @ \$.90	6.30	
Cultivate 6 times @ 1/2 hr. man and light tractor	7.20	
Hand weeding 1 time, 4 hrs. @ \$.90	3.60	
Pest control-dust twice-contract @ \$.05 per pound	2.50	
Miscellaneous other work	2.00	
Defoliation contract @ \$.05 per pound	2.00	
*Picking contract, machines @ \$2.50 cwt., 1800 cwt.	45.00	
Hauling - field to gin	1.00	
Ginning, including bagging and ties	12.00	
LABOR AND FIELD POWER COSTS	\$109.56	
Irrigation water 3 1/2 ac. ft. @ \$3.00	10.50	
Seed 25# @ \$.08 per pound	2.00	
Fertilizer to provide 70# N/acre @ \$.16 per pound	11.20	
Insecticides for pest control 50# @ \$.08 per pound	4.00	
Defoliant material 40#/acre @ \$.06 per pound	2.40	
MATERIAL COSTS	\$ 30.10	
General expense	7.50	
County taxes \$100 value @ \$5.50	5.50	
Misc., repairs, insurance, etc.	2.50	
CASH OVERHEAD COSTS	\$ 15.50	
TOTAL CASH EXPENSE	\$155.16	
Depreciation - Irrigation facilities, cost \$80 - 20 yr. life	4.00	
Crop equipment other than tractors \$12/acre cost by 10 years	1.20	
DEPRECIATION COSTS	\$ 5.20	
Interest on investment at 5%		
Facilities and equipment \$56.00 average value	2.80	
Land \$300 per acre	15.00	
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT COSTS	\$ 17.80	
TOTAL ALL COSTS	\$178.16	

*Picking contract, hand, @ \$4.00 cwt., 1800 cwt. \$72.00