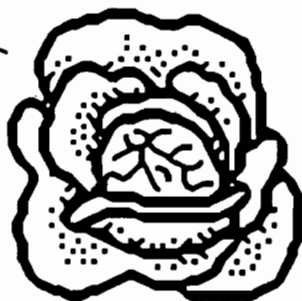


1988-89



Sample Costs to Produce Lettuce in

**Santa Barbara  
and  
San Luis Obispo  
Counties**

University of California  
Cooperative Extension

UC Cooperative Extension

.....COOPERATIVE EXTENSION, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA.....

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE LETTUCE--1988-89

SANTA BARBARA AND SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTIES

Based on: 775 Cartons per acre yield

Interest Rate: 12.00 percent

Hourly Tractor Costs: Cash Costs Depreciation Interest

Labor costs per hour (wages and fringe benefits)	Base Wage	Wage plus Fringes	100 Hp wheel diesel	15.00	3.33	2.00
Class I equipment operator	7.58	10.23	60 Hp wheel diesel	7.30	1.57	.94
Class II equipment operator	7.47	10.08	40 Hp wheel diesel	5.50	1.19	.71
Other labor	6.80	9.18				

Operation	Hours per Acre	-----DOLLARS-----				TOTAL
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials and other Costs		
Land Preparation	6.00	61.40	94.45			155.85
Plant	.50	5.12	9.50	seed/seed treatment 2.5 lbs	37.50	52.12
Weed Control				herbicides and application	43.00	43.00
Irrigate 4x	5.50	50.49	11.83	1.25 ac ft @ 45.00 dlrs/af	56.25	118.57
Thin	11.00	100.98				100.98
Cultivate 5x	2.50	22.95	25.00			47.95
Hoe	8.00	73.44				73.44
Fertilize 3x				materials and application	185.00	185.00
Pest Control 4x(fungicides and insecticides)				materials and application	185.00	185.00
Miscellaneous	2.00	18.36	8.00			26.36
Total hours, costs and Preharvest cultural costs	35.50	332.73	148.78		506.75	988.26

Harvest: cut, trim, haul, precool, and sell 775 cartons @ 2.85 dollars per carton 2208.75

Total Cultural and Harvest Costs 3197.01

Miscellaneous overhead, office, and business costs	.03 of cultural and harvest costs	95.91
Personal property taxes	.50 x 8.00 dollars	4.00
Rent 6 months	400.00 dollars per year	200.00
Interest on Operating Capital		143.55
Total miscellaneous costs		443.46

Total Cash Costs 3640.47

Supervision and Management .05 of yield @ 5.00 per carton 193.75

Annual Costs:	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest	
	Irrigation system	300.00	20.00	18.00	
	Buildings	60.00	3.00	3.60	
	Equipment	400.00	40.00	24.00	
	Totals	760.00	63.00	45.60	1/2 year 54.30

TOTAL COSTS PER ACRE \$ 3888.52

COST PER CARTON 775 Cartons yield per acre 5.02

Compiled by: M.J. SNYDER and L.H. VALENZUELA, Farm Advisors