

# **SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE IRRIGATED, CANE-PRUNED PREMIUM WINE GRAPES IN THE NORTH COAST COUNTIES 1972**

The sample costs presented in this sheet are mainly for the production of varieties such as Cabernet-Sauvignon, Sauvignon blanc, Chardonnay, Pinot noir, Gewürztraminer, and White Riesling. The data were developed in Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties.

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**Agricultural Extension**

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**SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS FOR IRRIGATED, CANE-PRUNED PREMIUM WINE VARIETIES – 1972**

Planted 8 feet by 12 feet, 413 vines per acre

	Cost Per Acre	Cost Per Ton	Your Cost
<b>CULTURAL COST</b>			
Pruning – 413 vines, 26 man-hours	\$ 72	\$	\$
Brush disposal (chopper) – .5 hour	3		
Tying canes – 4 man-hours	11		
Sulfuring 4 times – 1.2 hours	6		
Sulfur – 50 pounds @ 6¢	3		
Spray for mites – @ 2¢	6		
Spray material (miticide)	7		
Fertilize – .5 hour	3		
Fertilizer – 50 pounds N @ 12¢	6		
Weed spray to vine row	7		
Weed spray material	6		
Cultivate, 4 times – 3 hours	16		
Irrigation labor, twice – 1 man-hour	4		
Water – pumping power	10		
Repairs on irrigation system	9		
Frost protection – labor	3		
Power for .5" water	8		
Repairs	9		
Misc. labor, supplies, etc.	21		
<b>Total Cultural Cost</b>	<b>\$ 210</b>	<b>\$ 52</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>OVERHEAD</b>			
Miscellaneous	\$ 9	\$	\$
Taxes	108		
Depreciation	215		
Interest	334		
<b>Total Overhead</b>	<b>\$ 666</b>	<b>\$167</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Preharvest Cost</b>	<b>\$ 876</b>	<b>\$219</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>HARVESTING COST</b>			
Picking – 4 tons @ \$40/ton	\$ 160	\$ 40	\$
Supervision – 4 man-hours	14	3	
Move gondolas, misc. – 2 man-hours,			
5 tractor-hours, .5 truck-hour	8	2	
Haul to winery – @ \$3/ton	12	3	
<b>Total Harvesting Cash Cost</b>	<b>\$ 194</b>	<b>\$ 48</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,070</b>	<b>\$267</b>	<b>\$</b>

Based on a 40-acre vineyard with a yield of 4 tons/acre. Man labor @ \$2.75 and \$3.30/hour (includes compensation insurance and Social Security).

	Per Acre	Annual Cost	
		depreciation	interest @ 7%
<b>INVESTMENT COST</b>			
Land	\$2,500	\$ –	\$175
Vineyard	2,690	90	94
Irrigation and frost control	1,100	37	38
Buildings	40	13	1
Equipment	750	75	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,080</b>	<b>\$215</b>	<b>\$334</b>

Tons	Picking Cost		Haul	Other Costs	Total Cost	
	per ton	per acre			per acre	per ton
<b>COST PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS</b>						
2	\$70	\$140	\$ 6	\$898	\$1,044	\$522
3	55	165	9	898	1,072	358
4	40	160	12	898	1,070	267
5	30	150	15	898	1,063	213
6	30	180	18	898	1,096	183

	Total	Per Acre
<b>EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT</b>		
Tractor – 40 hp track	\$19,400	\$
Pickup	3,200	
Disc 10'	950	
Chopper 6'	2,000	
Duster	700	
Fertilizer spreader	420	
Gondolas	1,500	
Miscellaneous	1,830	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>	<b>\$750</b>

## ABOUT THIS SHEET

This is a companion sheet to AXT-156, *Sample Costs To Establish an Irrigated, Cane-Pruned Premium Wine Variety Vineyard in the North Coast Counties*. Another cost data sheet, AXT-158, covers production costs for nonirrigated, head-pruned wine varieties. The input and cost data are to be used only as guides in determining production costs and practices that might increase production efficiency. The figures shown are based on good management practices and do not represent industry averages.

**YIELD**—The yield of 4 tons per acre is above average for the area, but is below that attained in some vineyards. This figure is typical of an attainable annual average for the better vineyards planted with certified stock and cared for in accordance with the recommended cultural practices included in the costs shown.

**DEER FENCING**—In some vineyards, permanent fencing may be an added cost. Current installation costs for deer fencing are \$1.50 to \$1.75 per linear foot. Annual overhead and maintenance costs may be from \$5 to \$7 an acre.

**FROST PROTECTION**—Detailed information on frost protection can be found in AXT-267, *Frost Protection Costs for the North Coast Vineyards*, available at the county Agricultural Extension Farm Advisors' office.

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