

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CELERY IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1978

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YIELD: 1,000 crates (60 lbs.) per acre

HARVEST: June through December

PLANT-TRANSPLANT: February through mid-August

TOTAL LABOR COSTS/HR^{1/}

Cl. I Equipment Operator	5.85
Cl. II Equipment Operator	5.72
Irrigator	4.84
Other Labor	4.78

HOURLY TRACTOR COSTS

		Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
80 H.P. Crawler Diesel		7.71	3.81	2.29
50 H.P. Wheel Diesel		2.82	1.80	.90

Operation	Tractor Used	Hours Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total Acre
CULTURAL:						
Manure, 3.5 tons @ \$12.50 per ton spread						43.75
Disc & roll 3x	C-80	0.69	3.95	6.56		10.51
Chisel 2x	C-80	1.00	5.72	8.80		14.52
Landplane 2x	C-80	0.52	2.97	5.28		8.25
List & preplant fertilizer					Contract @ \$5.00/acre, 600 lbs. 5-17-17 @ \$55.50	60.50
Shape beds & roll	WD-50	0.25	1.43	0.86		2.29
Plant - 4 bed ^{2/}	WD-50	0.50	2.93	1.98	Seed 1.5 lbs. coated seed @ \$12.50	23.66
Herbicide					Contract @ \$7.00/acre Materials @ \$18.00	25.00
Irrigation 12x (5x sprinkler, 7x furrow)		38.75	187.55		3.0 ac. ft. @ \$7.50/ac. ft. \$2.00 booster pump	212.05
Thin		21.00	100.38			100.38
Fertilizer - Sidedress 2x					Contract @ \$4.25/ac./applic. 250 lbs. @ 0.30/lb.	83.50
Fertilizer-Irrigation					Application @ \$2.00/acre 40 lbs. @ 0.30/lb.	14.00
Insecticide applications 5x					Contract @ \$5.60/ac./applic. Materials \$80.00 (includes fungicides)	108.00
Cultivations 7x	WD-50	3.00	17.55	9.75		27.30
Hoe & weed		6.00	28.68			28.68
Miscellaneous (includes setup & moving)		4.00	20.19	5.50		25.69
TOTAL CULTURAL AND MATERIAL COSTS						\$788.08

Overhead:

Business Costs: Office and business expense @ 8% of cultural costs	63.05
Taxes: Equipment	3.50
Rent: \$500.00 per acre, 2/3 to celery	334.00
TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS	400.55

Harvest: \$3.00 per crate - includes, crate, cutting, packing, hauling and selling charge. 3,000.00

TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVESTING COSTS 4,188.63

Annual Costs:

	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 8%
2/3 charged to celery. Tractors are on an hourly basis.	Buildings	\$ 50.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.00
	Irrigation system	90.00	9.00	3.60
	Port. Irrig. system	25.00	2.50	1.00
	Tractors	150.00	15.19	8.44
	Equipment	100.00	10.00	4.00
		<u>\$415.00</u>	<u>\$39.19</u>	<u>\$19.04</u>
	8 Months (except tractors and equipment) to celery			46.70

TOTAL COST PER ACRE 4,235.33

TOTAL COST PER CRATE 4.24

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study.

1/

Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. FDI, social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, holidays, and pension plan.

2/

About half of the celery produced in Monterey County is started from transplants. Transplants are either produced in growers' seed beds at \$2.00 to \$3.00 per thousand or purchased from greenhouses at \$11.00 to \$12.00 per thousand. At a 6- to 7-inch spacing between plants, about 46,000 plants are required per acre. Labor costs to transplant are about \$150.00 per acre.

Irrigation, thinning, weed control and other cultural programs are changed or altered when producing transplanted celery. The time from transplanting to market maturity is shorter than when the direct seeded method is followed.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD: CARTONS PER ACRE	900	1,000	1,100	1,200
PRODUCTION COSTS	\$1,235.33	\$1,235.33	\$1,235.33	\$1,235.33
HARVEST COSTS	2,700.00	3,000.00	3,300.00	3,600.00
TOTAL COST PER ACRE	3,935.33	4,235.33	4,535.33	4,835.33
COST PER CRATE	4.37	4.24	4.12	4.03