JALAPENO CHILI PEPPER PRODUCTION FOR FRESH MARKET
Cost Analysis Work Sheet - 1989

Prepared by Pedro Ilic, Fresno County Farm Advisor

Sample costs to produce Jalapeno Chili Peppers in Fresno County are based on 800, 10 lbs. boxes per acre. Field labor is $4.50 per hour cost to the grower. A 70 hp diesel powered tractor per hour cash costs $6.00. Grower has invested in various specialized pieces of equipment to lay mulch, build tunnels and fumigate. Peppers are planted on a single row 12" apart, 6' of distance between beds. This is considered to be a crop on a 80-acre farm, where raisin grapes and vegetables are produced.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Costs</th>
<th>My Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Per Per</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Acre Box</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRE-HARVEST COSTS:**

Land Preparation:
- Plow: 3 hrs. tractor & labor $31.50
- Disc: 1 hr. tractor & labor $10.50
- Springtooth: 1 hr. tractor/labor $10.50
- Laser Leveling: $75.00
- Bed Fumigation (CH₃Br):
  - 2 hr. labor/tractor $21.00
  - CH₃Br-240 lbs. at 1.05/lb. = 80 lbs. $84.00
- Plastic Mulch/Tarp: $171.00
- Drip Tape: $145.00
- Planting: 7000 plants at $35/1000 $245.00
  - labor 10hrs./2hrs. tractor $57.00
- Tunnel Plastic: $248.00
- Construction:
  - 12 hours labor/3hrs. tractor/machine $72.00
- Fertilization:
  - preplant 300 lbs. -15-15-15 $42.00
  - labor/tractor .5 hrs. $5.25
- Sidedress:
  - 300 lbs. 15-15-15 $42.00
  - labor/tractor .5 hrs. $5.25
- Liquid Fertilizer $75.50
- Irrigation: P.G. & E - $50 @ 3 months $150.00
- Venting: 30 hrs. labor $135.00
- Tunnel Removal:
  - 27 hrs. labor & 2 hrs. tractor $133.50
- Staking & Tying: 36 hrs. material cost $20.00
- Cultivating: 16 hrs. labor $72.00
- Tractor Cultivating: 4hrs. 1.5 tractor $26.00
- Miscellaneous Expenses: 6% $128.00
- Office Expenses $118.20

**TOTAL PRE-HARVEST COSTS** $2,256.90 $2.83
### Jalapeno Chili Peppers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample Costs</th>
<th>My Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Acre</td>
<td>Per Box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picking:</td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box:</td>
<td>344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Packing:</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation:</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cold Storage:</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</td>
<td>1784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CASH COSTS</td>
<td>$4,050.80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Depreciation:**

- Tractor 75 hp (large) $43.00
- Kubota tractor $50.00
- Tunnel machine $35.00
- Equipment - wire hoops $41.00
- Shed (other) $3.00
- Drip Irrigation $70.00

**TOTAL DEPRECIATION** $242.00

**INTEREST ON INVESTMENT AT 8%**

- 1/2 cost of $30,000 for 80 acres $15.00
- Tractor, tunnel equip. & other wire $54.00
- Shed $2.00
- Drip Irrigation: (filters, mains, etc.) $26.00

**TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT** $99.00

**TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION** $4,391.80 $5.48

### COSTS AT VARYING YIELDS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>10 Lbs. Boxes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASH COST</td>
<td>$10.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COSTS</td>
<td>$10.97</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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