

1970**NONIRRIGATED,
HEAD-PRUNED VARIETIES****WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION COSTS
IN THE NORTH COAST COUNTIES**

Sample costs presented in this sheet are chiefly for the production of standard varieties in older nonirrigated vineyards. The data were developed in Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties.

Cost Analysis Worksheet
Showing Sample Costs

Prepared by James V. Lider, Farm Advisor, Napa County; Robert L. Sisson, Farm Advisor, Sonoma County; Bruce E. Bearden, Farm Advisor, Mendocino County; and A. N. Kasimatis, Extension Viticulturist, Davis; and Burt B. Burlingame, Extension Economist, Berkeley.

University of California**Agricultural Extension**

AXT-158

Rev. 7/70

UC Cooperative Extension

COST ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

STANDARD WINE VARIETIES IN OLDER NONIRRIGATED VINEYARDS – Sample Production Costs, 1970

	Cost Per Acre	Cost Per Ton	Your Cost
PREHARVEST CASH AND LABOR COST			
Pruning – average 600 vines @ 6¢	\$ 36.00	\$	\$
Brush disposal (chopper) – .5 man-hour and .5 tractor-hour	2.05		
Sulfuring 4 times (power duster) – 1.2 man-hour and 1.2 tractor-hour	5.00		
Sulfur – 40 pounds @ 6¢	2.40		
Spraying for mites once (contract) @ 2¢/gallon	6.00		
Spray material (miticide)	7.00		
Apply commercial fertilizer – .5 man-hour .1 truck-hour, and .4 tractor-hour	2.15		
Fertilizer – to supply 50 pounds actual N @ 12¢	6.00		
Cultivation, 4 times over – 4 man-hours and tractor-hours	16.40		
Misc. labor, suckering, etc. – 6 man- hours, .5 tractor-hour, and 1 truck-hour	16.65		
Misc. material	4.50		
County taxes	54.00		
Office, car, etc.	20.00		
Repairs, except field power	6.00		
Total Preharvest Cash and Labor Cost	\$184.15	\$ 36.83	\$
HARVESTING COST			
Picking – @ \$18/ton	\$ 90.00	\$ 18.00	\$
Supervision – 4 man-hours @ \$2.70	10.80	2.16	
Move gondolas and misc. – 2 man-hours, .5 tractor-hour, and .5 truck-hour	7.20	1.44	
Haul to winery – @ \$3/ton	15.00	3.00	
Total Harvesting Cash Cost	\$123.00	\$ 24.60	\$
Total Cash and Labor Cost	\$307.15	\$ 61.43	\$

	Cost Per Acre	Cost Per Ton	Your Cost
DEPRECIATION PER ACRE ON 40 ACRES			
Vines – cost basis \$1,590, 30-year life	\$ 53.00	\$	\$
Building for equipment – cost \$33, 30-year life	1.10		
Tractor, tillage equipment, chopper – cost \$195, 15-year life	13.00		
Truck or pickup (used) – cost \$50, 10-year life	5.00		
Duster, gondolas, and misc. equipment – cost \$60, 10-year life	6.00		
Total Depreciation Cost	\$ 78.10	\$ 15.62	\$
Total Cash and Depreciation Cost	\$385.25	\$ 77.05	\$
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%			
Vines – on ½ cost (\$795)	\$ 55.65	\$	\$
Building for equipment – on ½ cost (\$16.50)	1.16		
Tractor, tillage equipment, chopper – on ½ cost (\$97.50)	6.83		
Truck or pickup (used) – on ½ cost (\$25)	1.75		
Duster, gondolas, and misc. equipment – on ½ cost (\$30)	2.10		
Land – @ \$2,000	140.00		
Total Interest on Investment	\$207.49	\$ 41.50	\$
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION*, (5-ton yield)	\$592.74	\$118.55	\$
TOTAL COST AT VARYING YIELDS			
3 tons	\$543.54	\$181.18	
4 tons	568.14	142.04	
6 tons	617.34	102.89	
8 tons	666.54	83.32	

Based on a 40-acre vineyard with a yield of 5 tons/acre. Man labor @ \$2.20 and \$2.70/hour (includes compensation insurance and Social Security, but no allowance for housing or other benefits). Tractor cash cost/hour @ \$1.40, truck @ \$2.00.

* Does not include any cost for management. This is sometimes calculated at 5% of the gross income.

UC Cooperative Extension

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This is one of the two sheets available on wine grape production costs in north coast counties. The other cost sheet, AXT-226, is for irrigated, cane-pruned premium wine varieties. Costs for establishing premium wine variety vineyards are given in AXT-156. The input and cost data are to be used only as guides in determining the production costs for a specific vineyard and to help growers analyze costs and practices that would increase production efficiency. The figures shown are based on good management practices. They do not represent industry averages.

YIELD – The yield of 5 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 which follow the recommended cultural practices included in costs.

IRRIGATION – The added investment for sprinkler irrigation facilities might be about \$260 per acre. Annual costs covering depreciation and interest on the system, plus power and labor cost, probably would run from \$35 to \$40 an acre a year.

DEER FENCING – In some vineyards, permanent fencing may be an added cost. Overhead and maintenance costs might be from \$5 to \$7 an acre annually.

FROST PROTECTION – Frost protection facilities would be an added cost. Refer to Agricultural Extension publication, *Frost Protection Costs for North Coast Vineyards*, AXT-267, available at the county Farm Advisors' office.

Co-operative Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics,
College of Agriculture, University of California, and United States
Department of Agriculture co-operating. Distributed in furtherance of
the Acts of Congress of May 8, and June 30, 1914. George B. Alcorn,
Director, California Agricultural Extension Service.

UC Cooperative Extension