

Sacto. Valley - No. Coast

PEACH

AND

NECTARINE

ORCHARD COSTS

FROM

PLANTING TO PICKING

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
TEHAMA COUNTY

ESTABLISHING A FREESTONE PEACH OR NECTARINE ORCHARD - 1956

This cost study was designed to give an idea of expected costs per acre involved in establishing a freestone or nectarine orchard. The figures represent typical costs under assumed conditions. These conditions are as follows: 40 acres of level land, valued at \$500.00 per acre, 38 acres of which are planted to trees on 22 foot centers with 90 trees per acre.

Irrigation water is supplied by one of the local water districts at a cost of \$5.00 per acre per year.

A wheel tractor, 100 gallon spray rig, and all other needed tilling and digging implements were computed at retail value the first year. The costs of a fertilizer spreader and a 400 gallon air carrier sprayer were added in the third year.

Major variations from these per acre costs will occur with variation of size of planting, use of machinery already on hand, and incidence of disease and insect pest infestation.

The total cost per acre will remain about constant from the third year until self-sustaining, expected between the fourth and sixth year, depending on vigor, cultural practices, and other factors.

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH FREESTONE PEACH OR NECTARINE ORCHARD

First Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost Per Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials	Total	PerAcre	
Disc	Nov.	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Mark & stake	Jan.	2.5	2.50		Stake 90 @ 5¢	4.50	7.00	
Dig holes	Jan-Feb.	1.3	1.30	.80			2.10	
Plant & Prune	Jan-Feb.	4.0	4.00		Trees 90 @ .75	67.50	71.50	
Watering	Jan-Feb.	4.0	4.00	2.50			6.50	
Fertilize	April	1.5	1.50		Nitrogen 25# @ 15¢	3.75	5.25	
Spray twice	March-May	1.5	1.50	1.50	D.D.T.	.50	3.50	
Disc twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow 4 times	April-June-Aug.	.8	.80	.80			1.60	
Irrigate 8 times	March-Sept.	4.0	4.00	.50	Water	5.00	9.50	
Hoe	May	7.0	7.00				7.00	
Disc furrows 3 times	April-Aug.	.8	.80	.80			1.60	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12.5 ¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow		.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			1.10	.75		1.00	2.85	
Total			31.00	10.00		94.00	135.00	
Investment	Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation						
Land	\$ 500.	\$ 25.						
Bldgs.	130.	6.						
Irrigation	50.	3.						
Equipment	120.	16.						
Total	800.						50.00	

Total Cost Per Acre 185.00

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH FREESTONE PEACH OR NECTARINE ORCHARDS
Second Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost For Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Material	Total	PerAcre	
Spray	Oct.-Nov.	1.0	1.00	1.00	Bordeaux 5-5-50	1.00	3.00	
Prune & train	Nov.-Dec.	5.0	5.00				5.00	
Remove brush	Nov.-Dec.	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Replant 2%	January	.2	.20	.10	5 trees @ 75¢	3.70	4.00	
Hoe 2 times	Feb.-July	14.0	14.00				14.00	
Spray 2 times	March-May	1.4	1.50	1.50	D.D.T.	1.00	4.00	
Disc covercrop twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow 3 times	April-June-Aug.	.6	.60	.60			1.20	
Irrigate 7 times	April-Sept.	3.5	3.50	.50	Water	5.00	9.00	
Disc furrows twice	June-August	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12½¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			4.20	2.45		1.55	8.20	
Total			33.00	9.00		24.00	66.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation					
Land		\$ 500.		\$ 25.				
Bldgs		130.		6.				
Irrigation		50.		3.				
Equipment		120.		16.				
Trees		185.		9.				
Total		<u>985</u>						
							59.00	

Total Cost Per Acre 125.00

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH FREESTONE PEACH ORCHARD
Third Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost For Acr.
			Labor	Equipment	Material	Total	Per Acre	
Spray	Oct.-Nov.	.7	.70	1.80	Bordeaux 5-5-50	6.00	8.50	
Prune & train	Nov.-Dec.	20.0	20.00				20.00	
Remove brush	Nov.-Dec.	2.0	2.00	2.00			4.00	
Replant 2%	January	.2	.20	.10	5 trees @ 75¢	3.70	4.00	
Hoe	June	7.0	7.00				7.00	
Spray twice	March-May	1.4	1.40	3.60	D.D.T.	1.10	6.10	
Disc cover crop								
twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow twice	April-July	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Irrigate 5 times	May-Sept.	5.0	5.00	.50	Water	5.00	10.50	
Disc	July	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12½¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			2.20	1.65		1.45	5.30	
Total			42.00	13.00		29.00	84.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest and Depreciation					
Land		\$500.		\$ 25.				
Bldgs.		130.		6.				
Irrigation		50.		3.				
Equipment		220.		27.				
Trees		310.		15.				
Total		<u>1,210.</u>					76.00	

Total Cost Per Acre

160.00