

1972

GRAPE PRODUCTION COSTS IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

WINE VARIETIES

This cost analysis worksheet considers the highly productive varieties Carignane, Grenache, French Colombard, Rubired, and Chenin blanc, and the moderately productive varieties, such as Ruby Cabernet, Barbera, Tinta Madeira, and Royalty.

Cost Analysis Worksheet Showing Sample Costs

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COST ANALYSIS WORKSHEET: Wine Varieties – Samples Costs for a Mature Vineyard, 1972

	COSTS PER ACRE	
	Sample Costs	Your Costs
PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS		
Pruning – contract @ 9¢/vine	\$ 43.20	\$
Brush disposal – alternate middles, contract	2.25	
Fertilizer – 40 pounds N @ 14¢ applied	5.60	
Mildew control – 2 hours labor + 2 tractor-hours + material @ \$5.00	12.90	
Pest management and materials	25.00	
Irrigation preparation and weed control – 4 hours labor + 4 tractor-hours	15.80	
Irrigate – 5 hours labor @ \$2.65	13.25	
Water – district tax and/or power	12.00	
Misc. labor – 3 hours labor + 1 tractor-hour	8.55	
Misc. materials	12.00	
County taxes	31.00	
Repairs, except tractor	9.00	
Business and office costs, operating capital, insurance, etc.	23.27	
Total Pre-Harvest Cash Costs	\$213.82	\$
DEPRECIATION		
Vines, stakes, trellis – cost \$1,234, 30 years	\$ 41.13	\$
Irrigation system – \$250, 20 years	12.50	
Buildings and equipment, except tractor – \$114, 12 years	9.50	
Tractor – 7 hours @ \$1.30	9.10	
Total Depreciation	\$ 72.23	\$
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%		
Vines, stakes, trellis – 1/2 cost, \$617	\$ 43.19	\$
Irrigation system – 1/2 cost, \$125	8.75	
Buildings and equipment, except tractor – 1/2 cost, \$57	3.99	
Tractor – 7 hours @ 75¢	5.25	
Land – @ \$900/acre	63.00	
Total Interest on Investment	\$124.18	\$
TOTAL COST EXCEPT HARVESTING	\$410.23	\$

HARVESTING AND TOTAL COSTS PER TON				
	COSTS PER TON			
	Moderate Yielding		High Yielding	
	Sample Cost	Your Cost	Sample Cost	Your Cost
Total cost, except harvesting	\$ 51.28	\$	\$ 37.29	\$
Pick and haul to winery – contract	20.00		17.00	
Misc. harvesting costs	.75		.50	
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION PER TON	\$ 72.03	\$	\$ 54.79	\$

TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS				
Moderate Yielding Varieties				
6 tons = \$89.12	7 tons = \$79.35	9 tons = \$66.33	10 tons = \$61.77	
High Yielding Varieties				
8 tons = \$68.78	10 tons = \$58.52	12 tons = \$51.69	14 tons = \$46.80	

Based on an 80-acre unit. Labor @ \$2.30 and \$2.65 per hour total. Tractor per hour cash costs, \$1.30; depreciation, \$1.30; interest, \$.75. Yield at 11 tons for high yielding varieties and 8 tons for moderate yielding varieties.

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This sheet is one of a series on sample costs of producing grapes in the San Joaquin Valley. The series includes information on Thompson Seedless for Raisins and Wine, Thompson Seedless for Table Use, Emperors, and Wine Varieties. 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 what are considered good management practices in many vineyards. They do not represent industry averages.

YIELD – Yield is the most important factor affecting costs per ton and profit per acre. The yield per acre used in this sample is average over a period of years for a typical, well-managed vineyard. Although this figure is higher than the industry average, some vineyards do better.

IRRIGATION – Sample costs for irrigation labor and water costs are based on a pumping system with pipeline. Labor cost per acre is affected by the number of irrigations, quantity applied, and size of head. Large heads of water may lower the labor costs. When all the water is from an irrigation district, the investment overhead costs of depreciation and interest on irrigation facilities are normally lower.

PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL – Dusting and spraying costs may vary considerably from year to year. Control measures required also vary between vineyards. The sample costs shown on this sheet are based on average conditions.

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