

# ORCHARD BRUSH REMOVAL COSTS

AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

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BRUSH REMOVAL COSTS

Contra Costa County  
Apricot Orchard: 36 acres - 75 trees/acre

INVESTMENT COSTS

<u>Machine</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Life</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Total</u>
P.T.O. Gyro Mower	\$650	5	\$ 130.00	\$19.50	\$13.00	\$162.50
Chain Saw	220	5	44.00	6.60	4.40	55.00
Dump Trailer (1/2 share)	325	12	27.08	9.75	6.50	43.33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1195</b>		<b>\$ 201.08</b>	<b>\$35.85</b>	<b>\$23.90</b>	<b>\$260.83</b>

CASH COSTS PER ACRE

<u>Brush Removal</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Rate/Hour</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Labor</u>	2.8	\$2.25	\$ 6.37
Cutting diseased wood	2.8	\$2.25	\$ 6.37
Cutting 2 trees per acre (3%)		1.60 & 2.00	3.41
Raking limbs out of tree row	.5	1.60	.80
Hauling out big wood (2" diameter +)	2.0	1.60 & 2.25	3.85
Operating gyro mower (1 minute/tree)	1.5	2.25	3.38
<b>TOTAL LABOR</b>	<b>6.5</b>		<b>\$17.81</b>

Equipment

Tractor and trailer	1.5	2.50 <sup>1/</sup>	\$ 3.75
Tractor and gyro mower	1.2	2.75 <sup>1/</sup>	3.30
<b>TOTAL EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>2.7</b>		<b>\$ 7.05</b>

**TOTAL CASH COSTS** \$24.18

Total overhead costs per acre - \$260.83 ÷ by 36 acres \$ 7.25

**TOTAL CASH AND OVERHEAD COSTS PER ACRE** \$32.11

<sup>1/</sup> Includes cash and overhead costs on 40 H.P. wheel diesel tractor operating around 500 hours per year and repair costs of the attached equipment.