

Ventura 1975

CABBAGE

Yield: 600, 500, and 700 cartons/A Land Use: 5 months
 Plant: Mostly July through December Harvest: Mostly September through April

	<u>Labor Per Acre</u>			Machinery	Contract & Materials	Total Per A.
	Tractor	Hrs	Cost			
CULTURAL CASH COSTS						
Operations for						
Establishing Stand		6.82	\$29.58	\$15.50	\$ 14.83	\$ 59.91
Pre-plant Fertilizer			Contract	300 lbs+ Insecti.	38.00	38.00
Seed				1 lb. @ \$35.00	35.00	35.00
Herbicide			Contract		27.00	27.00
Thinning			Contract		45.00	45.00
1st Fertilizer	W 30			60 lb. N @ \$.30	18.00	18.00
2nd Fertilizer	W 30	.40	1.86	.96 60 lb. N @ \$.30	18.00	20.82
Cultivate 2 x	W 50	.50	2.32	1.92		4.24
Late Irrigation 2 x		3.00	18.24	.50 2/3 A-Ft Wtr @ \$10	6.67	25.41
Pest Control			Contract		75.00	75.00
Disc and Roll Refuse	W 80	.36	1.67	2.66		4.33
Total Cultural Cash Costs		11.08	\$53.67	\$21.54	\$277.50	\$352.71

CASH OVERHEAD						
Land Rent			\$25.00 per acre-month x 5 months			\$125.00
Taxes on Machinery	@		.29 per acre-month x 5 months			1.45
Supervision	@		5.30 per acre-month x 5 months			26.50
General Expense	@		6% of cash cultural costs			21.16
Total Cash Overhead						\$174.11
Total Cash Costs Except Harvesting						\$526.82

HARVESTING, PACKAGING, AND SELLING CASH COSTS						
Harvesting (Field pack in Cartons)	@		\$1.85, 600 Cartons			\$1,110.00
Selling charge 8% of \$3.10 x 600						148.80
Total Harvesting, Packaging, and Selling Cash Costs						\$1,258.80
Total Cultural, Overhead, Harvesting, Packaging, and Selling Cash Cost						\$1,785.62

INVESTMENT OVERHEAD						
Depreciation:	Tractor & Machinery		\$12.95	Transportation & Shop	\$3.80	\$ 16.75
Interest:	"	"	6.40	"	1.00	7.40
Total Investment Overhead						\$ 24.15
Total Cost Per Acre	@ 600 Cartons					\$1,809.77
Total Cost Per Acre	@ 500 Cartons					\$1,599.97
Total Cost Per Acre	@ 700 Cartons					\$2,019.57
Total Cost Per Carton	@ 600 Cartons/A			\$ 3.02		
Total Cost Per Carton	@ 500 Cartons/A			3.20		
Total Cost Per Carton	@ 700 Cartons/A			2.89		

CAULIFLOWER

Yields

The average yield for the past 6 years is 503 cartons. Cost for 500, 400, and 600 cartons are shown here.

Varieties and Seed

Snowball Y is the standard variety. A variety that will do better in January and February is needed.

Soil and Climate

Most soils of the Oxnard plain are satisfactory for cauliflower if they are well leveled, well drained, and salinity is not excessive.

Most of the cauliflower on the Oxnard plain is harvested while the average maximum temperature is between 65° and 75° F. and the average minimum is between 43° and 52° F. These temperatures prevail from the middle of October to the first of June. Although temperatures at Oxnard in December and early January (av. max, 67; av. min, 47) are satisfactory for maturing of cauliflower planted before September 25, they are not warm enough for proper plant growth of cauliflower planted in October, November, and December for harvesting in March and early April. Cauliflower field-seeded in January and February encounters temperatures suitable for growing crops to be harvested in late April and May.

When to Plant and Harvest

Field seeding for the fall crop to be harvested from the middle of October to the middle of January is from July 15 to September 30. Field seeding for the spring crop to be harvested from late April through May is in late December, January, and February. For harvesting in March and April cauliflower is transplanted in late December, January, and February. It is difficult to have good cauliflower from the middle of January to the first of March.

A tentative planting schedule showing how much to plant per week for harvesting at a rate of 10 acres a week is on page 28.

For continuous spring harvesting to June 1, field seeding should start about 4 weeks before transplanting stops. For both transplanting and field seeding 7 acres a week will result in maturity at 10 acres a week for the spring crop.

Planting, Cultivating, and Weed Control

Cauliflower needs more space than is allowed by two rows to a 40-inch vegetable bed. Some fields are planted one row to a 40-inch bed. One arrangement is to plant one row to a 40-inch bed so that rows are in pairs with alternate furrows having a row on each adjacent bed shoulder. Row spacings are 26 inch and 54 inch. This leaves some unused land space.

CABBAGE

Yields

Yields of cabbage as reported by the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner over the past 13 years ranged from 10.4 tons to 14.9 tons per acre. These yield figures in terms of 50-pound cartons of two dozen heads represent a range of 440 to 596 cartons per acre.

Varieties and Seed

Round Dutch was the principal cabbage variety here for a number of years, but it has been replaced by new varieties of hybrid cabbage. Cabbage growers and shippers are in the process of trying these new varieties to find which of them will excel Round Dutch and also to learn when each of the new varieties can be grown to advantage. Headstart is one of the more successful hybrids. Maturity is much more uniform than Round Dutch. Although the first harvest of Round Dutch may be close to the time for a single harvest of Headstart, harvest of Headstart is completed about a month ahead of Round Dutch. Tuffy has become the main variety for planting in September and October. Headstart, Jet-Pak Princess, Tasty, and Tuffy are used for later plantings.

Soil and Climate

Both soil and climate of the Oxnard plain are suitable for growing cabbage for harvest at any time of the year. However, most of the cabbage in Ventura County is harvested in the cooler part of the year.

When to Plant and Harvest

A tentative planting schedule for cabbage is on page 25. This schedule shows not only the predicted harvest date for each planting date but also the rate of planting required for a uniform rate of harvest. It is for Round Dutch, but may apply to the hybrids if the heading for the right hand column is changed to date of single or final harvest.

Planting, Cultivating, and Weed Control

Increasing acreages of cabbage are being precision planted. Fields with single plants spaced at 2.5 inches apart are suitable for use of a synchronous mechanical thinner. Advantages of precision planting are (1) less damage to plants at thinning time, (2) lower costs of hand thinning, (3) a stand suitable for the synchronous mechanical thinner, and (4) saving of seed. Nine inches is probably the closest acceptable spacing for cabbage. Spacings greater than 12 inches are at a disadvantage because they allow excessive head size.

Spacing requirements for cabbage are too restrictive for planting to stand. Cultivation and hoeing are still practical weed control practices and chemical weed control is used to good advantage in this crop.

Fertilizing

Because cabbage heads larger than those required for the 2-dozen carton of 50 pounds are objectionable and may be of little retail value, it is important to avoid excessive amounts of nitrogen for this crop. In many

fields the crop will get off to a satisfactory start without any fertilizer at planting time and 50 to 100 pounds of nitrogen applied after thinning seems to be adequate. Phosphorus applied under the seed at planting time in the cooler part of the year may make maturity more uniform.

Irrigation

Following irrigation for germination and another irrigation just after thinning, another two or three irrigations are usually adequate.

Pest and Disease Control

Aphids and worms are the main insect pests of cabbage. Systemic insecticides are effective against early aphid infestations. Frequent field observations are necessary to decide on timing of and material for subsequent pesticide treatments. Sugar beet nematodes are present in most fields used for cabbage. Damage from this pest is seldom recognized and it is not expected to be serious in the cooler part of the year. It is advisable to watch summer cabbage for this pest.

University of California recommendations for pest and disease control are available at the farm advisors office.

Acres, Yields, and Prices as Reported
by Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner

CABBAGE - CASH FLOW

EXCLUDING LAND RENT AND TAXES

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>50 Lb. Cartons per Acre</u>	<u>\$ per 50 Lb. Carton</u>	<u>\$/A</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>
1962	2221	596	1.88	1120	<u>Start</u>				
1963	2172	440	.88	387	\$250				
1964	2754	520	1.18	614			<u>Grow</u>		
							\$110		
1965	2580	460	1.40	644					<u>Harvest</u>
1966	2280	480	1.50	721					\$1110
1967	2325	500	1.34	670					
1968	2440	480	1.30	624					
1969	2110	480	1.70	816					
1970	2670	520	2.00	1040					
1971	3617	440	2.05	902					
1972	2891	514	2.02	1038					
1973	2924	547	2.75	1504					
1974	3172	573	2.10	1203					

TENTATIVE PLANTING SCHEDULE FOR CABBAGE

In our attempt to develop planting schedules for several vegetable crops, I collect records of planting and harvest dates and the data are processed at UC Riverside for estimates of acres to plant per week for a constant rate of harvest and of harvest dates.

Planting and harvest date records for developing the table below are provided by Leo Gisler and Pleasant Valley Vegetable Co-op for 1965 through 1968.

These figures are for Round Dutch or other varieties needing the same time to mature. They are fairly close for the hybrids if the field is left until ready for a single harvest.

Planting Date	Acres to Plant/Week for Harvesting 10 A/Wk	Date of First Harvest
July 15	16.5	Sep 10
22	17.1	Oct 1
29	17.4	15
Aug 5	17.7	27
12	18.0	Nov 9
19	18.0	19
26	18.0	Dec 4
Sep 2	17.8	17
9	17.4	28
16	17.1	Jan 12
23	16.6	22
30	16.1	Feb 4
Oct 7	15.3	14
14	14.6	25
21	13.7	Mar 8
28	12.9	16
Nov 4	12.0	25
11	11.0	Apr 1
18	10.1	9
25	9.2	16
Dec 2	8.2	23
9	7.3	30

WHOLESALE MARKET PRICES, C A B B A G E, LOS ANGELES, CARTONS, 2 DOZEN HEADS

