

ESTABLISHING AN ALMOND ORCHARD - 1971

Sample costs to establish an Almond Orchard in Kern County. Costs are based on a planting of 75 trees per acre (24' x 24'). Man labor \$2 per hour total, and equipment operator \$2.20 medium wheel tractor per hour. Cash costs \$1.40, depreciation 60¢, and interest 30¢. Practices are representative of flood irrigation on the valley floor.

	Costs per acre			
	1st year	2nd year	3rd year	4th year
YIELD: Lbs. nut meats per acre	0	0	0	650
PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:				
Disc 2x: 1 hr. man & tractor	3.60			
Mark & stake, dig holes, plant & prune: 30¢ per tree	22.50			
Trees: 75 @ \$1	75.00			
Re-plant 2nd year: 2 trees @ \$1.50		3.00		
Prune & train starting 2nd year		10.00	16.00	
Furrow out 3x first 3 years, flood 4th yr.	2.70	2.70	5.40	
Fertilize: handwork 3 yrs. spreader 4th yr.	5.11	8.35	11.60	14.84
Irrigate: power \$12 ac. ft. labor	12.00	24.00	36.00	48.00
Spray	6.50	10.00	12.00	16.00
Disc 3x, first 3 years	10.80	10.80	45.00	65.00
Hoe: first 2 years	14.00	14.00		
Border tree rows for flood irrig. 4th yr.				5.00
Mow centers, spray borders for weeds				40.00
Bees: 4th year 2 hrs. @ \$4.50				9.00
Taxes	24.00	24.00	24.00	24.00
Misc. labor & materials	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00
Repairs to equipment except tractor	10.00	10.00	10.00	8.00
Supervision of foreman	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
Business expenses, office capital, etc.	12.85	8.69	11.45	16.43
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	227.06	153.54	202.25	290.27
HARVESTING COSTS:				
Pre-harvest land prep. 1 hr. man & tractor				3.60
Knock, pick, hull, 5¢/lb. net cost				32.50
Hauling:				1.15
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS				37.25
TOTAL CASH COSTS	227.06	153.54	202.25	327.52
DEPRECIATION:				
Irrig. system, pump well, \$350-15 yrs. life	23.33	23.33	23.33	23.33
Tractor	4.20	3.60	3.60	1.80
Bldgs. & equip. ex. tract. \$120-12 yrs. life	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	37.53	36.93	36.93	35.13
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%				
Irrigation system: ½ cost \$175	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25
Tractor:	2.10	1.80	1.80	.60
Bldgs. & equip. ex. tract. ½ cost \$60	4.20	4.20	4.20	4.20
Land \$900	63.00	63.00	63.00	63.00
Interest on accumulated costs	0.00	24.23	44.97	70.54
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	81.55	105.48	126.22	150.59
TOTAL COST FOR THE YEAR	346.14	295.95	365.40	513.24
CREDIT FOR CROP: 54¢ lb. nut meats	0.00	0.00	0.00	351.00
NET COST FOR THE YEAR	346.14	295.95	365.40	162.24
TOTAL ACCUMULATED COST	346.14	642.36	1007.76	1170.00

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ABOUT THESE COST DATA

The costs of production in any agricultural enterprise will vary considerably from ranch to ranch. The input and cost data are sample costs. They are intended to be used only as educational guides in assisting you to appraise and plan your own crop and livestock program.

THESE COST DATA DO NOT REPRESENT INDUSTRY AVERAGES.