

AF-IR-75

LASSEN - PLUMAS - SIERRA COUNTIES  
PRODUCTION COSTS



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LASSEN - PLUMAS - SIERRA COUNTIES PRODUCTION COSTS

The information which you will find enclosed in this publication is an effort to update the costs of production of beef cattle and some of the major crops of the area. As many of you know, the production costs have been rising rapidly due to fuel shortages, and many other factors. While on the other hand, prices received for beef cattle are now about half of the amount paid in the high year of 1973.

It is realized that each of the operations in the area have a set of costs which are different from their neighbor, depending on labor, equipment used, and many other factors which influence production costs. However, if the producer can use these as guidelines and plug in his own costs, the information may be helpful in making management decisions.

SAMPLE COST TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA - FLOOD IRRIGATION

Lassen County - 1975

Production data: Labor @ \$3 including social security and comp. insurance.

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Kind and Quantity	Materials Cost	
<u>Cultural costs</u>						
Landplane				Contract	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
Fertilize	.3	.90	.15			1.05
Fertilizer				200# sulphur	5.40	5.40
Disc - 1 time	.3	.90	.90			1.80
Harrow - 1 time	.3	.90	.60			1.50
Check	.3	.90	.90			1.80
Drill - 1 time	.3	.90	1.10			2.00
Seed				16# @ 75¢/lb.	12.00	12.00
Ditch	.2	.60	.30			.90
Irrigate - 3 times	3.0	9.00		Power to pump 1 a.f. @ \$2.20	2.20	11.20
Weed control (post emergence)	.2	.60	.30	2,4 DB - 1# active	10.70	11.60
Weed control (preplant)	.8	2.40	2.10	Eptam - 3-4#	9.70	14.20
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$17.10</b>	<b>\$6.35</b>		<b>\$45.00</b>	<b>\$ 68.45</b>
<u>Harvest costs</u>						
Harvest				Custom 1 1/2 tons @ \$15/T	22.50	
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>						<b>\$ 22.50</b>
<u>Cash overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					4.30	
Taxes					10.00	
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>\$ 14.30</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>\$17.10</b>	<b>\$6.35</b>		<b>\$81.80</b>	<b>\$105.25</b>
<u>INVESTMENT</u>						
Land		\$500.				
Irrigation system		125.				
Equipment		265.				
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$890.</b>				
<u>Annual Cost</u>						
				<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest - 8%</u>	
				\$ 8.35	\$40.00	
				26.50	5.00	
				<u>\$34.85</u>	<u>10.60</u>	
					\$55.60	
						<b>\$ 95.70</b>
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>195.70</b>
<b>Less income from harvest 1 1/2 T @ \$60</b>						<b>- 90.00</b>
<b>TOTAL COST TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA/ACRE</b>						<b>\$105.70</b>

# SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALFALFA - FLOOD IRRIGATION

Lassen County - 1975

Production data: 5.5 ton yield. Labor @ \$3/hr. including social security and comp. insurance.

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
<u>Cultural costs</u>						
Irrigate--8 times	8.0	\$24.00	\$4.00	Water: 4 ac. ft. @ \$2.20	\$ 8.80	\$ 36.80
Fertilize				Sulphur 50# @ 3¢	1.50	1.50
	.2	.60	.30	Application		.90
Gopher control	.1	.30	.10		1.00	1.40
Herbicide--1/2 times	.2	.60	.30		3.00	3.90
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$25.50</b>	<b>\$4.70</b>		<b>\$14.30</b>	<b>\$ 44.50</b>
<u>Harvest costs</u>						
Swath--3 times	.75	2.25	2.35			4.60
Turn windrows	.60	1.80	.75			2.55
Bale--3 times	.60	1.80	1.65	Wire \$4/ton	22.00	25.45
Roadside				5.5 tons @ \$4	22.00	22.00
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 5.85</b>	<b>\$4.75</b>		<b>\$44.00</b>	<b>\$ 54.60</b>
<u>Cash overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					5.70	
Taxes					10.00	
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>\$ 15.70</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>\$31.35</b>	<b>\$9.45</b>		<b>\$74.00</b>	<b>\$114.80</b>
Management 5% of 5.5 tons @ \$60 = \$330						<b>\$ 16.50</b>
<u>INVESTMENT</u>						
	<u>Per Acre</u>			<u>Annual Cost</u>		
Land	\$500			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest--8%</u>	
Stand	88			\$17.60	\$40.00	
Irrigation system	125			8.35	3.50	
Equipment	265			26.50	5.00	
Total	\$978			\$52.45	\$59.10	
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>\$111.55</b>
<b>Cost per ton @ 5.5 ton yield</b>						<b>\$242.85</b>
						<b>\$ 44.15</b>

EQUIPMENT INVESTMENT FOR ALFALFA PRODUCTION - FLOOD IRRIGATED

Lassen County - 1975

Alfalfa is grown on 100 acres of a 300 acre farm.

Item	Cost	Operation Cost per Hour
Tractor, 60 h.p. wheel diesel	\$14,000.	\$2.60
Tractor, 30 h.p. wheel diesel	7,200.	1.30
Disk, 10' offset	2,000.	.90
Drill, 10'	2,800.	2.25
Harrow, 12'	1,600.	.75
Ditcher	500.	.90
Easy-Flow spreader, 10'	700.	.40
Sprayer	700.	2.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$29,500. (300 acres)</b>	
<b>Harvest:</b>		
Swather, SP, 14'	10,200.	3.85
Baler, motor, 2 wire	6,200.	2.40
Rake, side-delivery	1,100.	.45
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$17,500. (100 acres)</b>	
<b>Irrigation System:</b>		
Well, 400', 14" diameter	7,200.	
Pump, 1,000 gpm, 80' lift, 30 h.p.	5,300.	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,500. (100 acres)</b>	
<b>Total Investment</b>	<b>59,500.</b>	
Per Acre on 300 acres for \$29,500. = 90	}	Total investment of \$390. per acre of which \$125 is irrigation system.
Per Acre on 100 acres for \$30,000. = 300		

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