

TENTATIVE PLANTING SCHEDULE  
 FOR SEEDED CAULIFLOWER, 1975  
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The purpose of each planting schedule is to provide two estimates:

1. Acres to plant each week in order to have the crop ready to harvest at the rate of ten acres a week.
2. Harvest date.

This schedule is based on a small number of planting and harvest date records provided by Dullam Ranch, Pleasant Valley Co-op, and Santa Clara Produce for 2 seasons. It will be revised after collecting more records.

If sufficient records are collected a schedule for transplanted cauliflower will be made. A few transplanting records suggest using the same rate of planting (acres per week) as for seeding. Transplanted cauliflower matures 20 to 30 days sooner than seeded cauliflower when transplanting is in December, January, and February.

Planting Date	Acres to Plant/Week		Date of First Harvest	Planting Date	Acres to Plant/Week		Date of First Harvest
	For Harvest-	ing 10 A/Wk			For Harvest-	ing 10 A/Wk	
July 1	10.7		Sept 27	Nov 18*	8.6		Mar 16
8	10.7		Oct 6	25*	8.3		20
15	10.8		13	Dec 2*	8.0		24
22	10.8		20	9*	7.8	Apr	1
29	10.9		28	16*	7.6		7
Aug 5	11.5		Nov 4	23*	7.4		12
12	12.9		12	30	7.1		18
19	13.3		22	Jan 6	7.0		22
26	13.7		Dec 3	13	6.9		26
Sept 2	14.1		13	20	6.9		30
9	14.6		23	27	6.9	May	6
16	15.0		Jan 2	Feb 3	6.8		12
23	14.5		12	10	6.8		16
30	14.0		23	17	6.8		20
Oct 7	12.0		31	24	6.7		24
14	12.0*		Feb 9	Mar 3	6.7	June	1
21	11.0*		19	10✓	6.7		5
28	10.0*		26	17✓	6.8		8
Nov 4	9.5*		Mar 4	24✓	6.9		13
11	9.0*		10	31✓	7.0		19

Plantings on these dates may fail because of cool weather while plants are young.  
 Plantings on these dates may fail because of warm weather at harvest.

In the spring of 1975 a trial planting in which three rows were planted in 80 inches performed well. This allows 50 percent more plants per acre and fits the harvest trailers. Thirty-inch spacings can be left where the wheels go and the other spaces can be 25 inches.

Plants are spaced at about 12 inches in the row. Precision planting at 2 inches, drilling seed at 1 pound per acre and transplanting are used. Cultivating three to four times keeps weeds on bed tops and furrows under control, and maintains furrow shape.

Tok applied between planting and irrigation for emergence has been an effective and safe herbicide. Hoeing may be necessary.

Irrigation

Irrigation for germination is by furrow or sprinkler. Yield and quality depend on plants growing vigorously from germination to harvest, so irrigations need to be frequent enough to prevent plant stress for moisture.

Pest and Disease Control

Aphids and worms are the major insect pests. Fields need to be examined frequently and pesticides applied so fields are free of pests when head formation starts.

In very wet weather, downey mildew causes some losses.

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

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Cartons Per Acre</u>	<u>\$/Carton</u>	<u>\$/A</u>
1969	212	391	2.18	852
1970	290	576	2.16	1244
1971	356	574	3.31	1900
1972	881	556	3.80	2113
1973	1056	409	4.89	2000
1974	1567	510	4.21	2147

CAULIFLOWER - CASH FLOW  
EXCLUDING LAND RENT AND TAXES

Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
<u>Start</u>					
\$225					
<u>Grow</u>					
\$145					
<u>Harvest</u>					
\$380					

Ventura 1275

CAULIFLOWER

Yield: 500, 400, & 600 23-lb. cartons/A      Land Use: 5 months  
 Plant: July 25 to September 25                  Harvest: October 20 to January 15  
Fall Crop

	Tractor	Labor Per Acre		Machinery		Contract & Materials	Total Per A.
		Hrs.	Cost				
<b>CULTURAL CASH COSTS</b>							
Prepare Land and Establish Stand Thin		6.82	29.58	15.50		\$ 14.83	\$ 59.91
Pre-plant Fertilizer			Contract		500 lb. 14-14-7	40.00	40.00
1st Fert after Thin.					60 lb. N @ \$.30	56.25	56.25
Sidedress Midseason	WD 30	.40	1.86	.94	60 lb. N @ \$.30	18.00	20.80
Irrigate 2 x		3.00	12.16	.50	2/3 A-Ft Wtr @\$10	6.67	19.33
Cultivate 1 x	WD 50	.25	1.16	.96			2.12
Pest Control			Contract, applied			75.00	75.00
Hoe		5.00	18.50				18.50
Disc & Roll Refuse 2x	WD 80	.36	1.67	2.66			4.33
<b>Total Cultural Cash Costs</b>		<b>15.83</b>	<b>\$64.93</b>	<b>\$20.56</b>		<b>\$228.75</b>	<b>\$314.24</b>
<b>CASH OVERHEAD</b>							
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 cultural & harvest cash costs				41.35
<b>Total Cash Overhead</b>							<b>\$194.30</b>
<b>Total Cash Costs Except Harvesting</b>							<b>\$508.54</b>
<b>HARVESTING, PACKAGING, AND SELLING CASH COSTS</b>							
Cut		\$.55/carton, 500 cartons					\$ 275.00
Haul to shed		\$.20/carton, 500 cartons					100.00
Packingshed charge		\$2.25/carton, 500 cartons					1,125.00
Selling charge		8% of 500 x \$4.50					180.00
<b>Total Harvesting, Packaging, and Selling Cash Costs</b>							<b>\$1,680.00</b>
<b>Total Cultural, Overhead, Harvesting, Packing, and Selling Cash Costs</b>							<b>\$2,188.54</b>
<b>INVESTMENT OVERHEAD</b>							
Depreciation: Tractor & Machinery			\$12.97	Transportation & Shop	\$3.80		\$ 16.77
Interest:	"	"	6.11	"	"	1.00	7.11
<b>Total Investment Overhead</b>							<b>\$ 23.88</b>
<b>Total Cost Per Acre</b>	<b>@ 500 Cartons</b>						<b>\$2,212.42</b>
<b>Total Cost Per Acre</b>	<b>@ 400 Cartons</b>						<b>\$1,876.42</b>
<b>Total Cost Per Acre</b>	<b>@ 600 Cartons</b>						<b>\$2,548.42</b>
<b>Total Cost Per Carton</b>	<b>@ 500 Cartons/A</b>				\$4.42		
<b>Total Cost Per Carton</b>	<b>@ 400 Cartons/A</b>				\$4.69		
<b>Total Cost Per Carton</b>	<b>@ 600 Cartons/A</b>				\$4.25		

## CELERY

### Yields

Celery yields, as reported by the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner, have been averaging around 30 tons per acre. This is approximately 1,000 crates containing two dozen stalks of celery and weighing 60 pounds. For this sample cost yields of 1,000, 900, and 1,100 crates per acre are used.

### Varieties and Seed

For the past 15 years almost all of the celery grown in Ventura County has been of the tall Utah 52-70 variety. In the past few years the R-strain of this variety has become the most popular. It is highly advisable that growers either give their seed the hot-water treatment for control of celery blight, or that they make sure that nurserymen growing plants for them have done so.

Almost all of the celery grown in Ventura County is transplanted from greenhouse-grown plants grown by the celery grower or purchased from nurseries.

### Soil and Climate

The medium-textured soils and the climate of the Oxnard plain are suitable for celery production the year around. When winters are cooler than normal there are serious losses from bolting. Following a warm winter, losses from bolting are small.

### When to Plant and Harvest

It is a common practice among celery growers in Ventura County to harvest at a steady rate from early in November to the middle of July. Because the time from transplanting to harvest ranges from less than 100 to over 150 days, they follow the planting schedule on page 32 in order to avoid wide fluctuations in the amount of celery ready to harvest in any one week. Transplanting begins early in August following a celery-free period and should end soon after the 1st of April in order to have all fields free of celery by July 15. The celery-free period in July is for control of western celery mosaic.

It takes about 7 to 8 weeks to grow greenhouse celery plants to the transplanting stage.

### Planting, Cultivation, and Weed Control

Most transplanting is done with the aid of transplanting machines. Most celery in Ventura County is in single rows 24 inches apart with an in-the-row spacing of about 7 inches. This is a little less than a plant per square foot, and it takes around 375 flats of 110 plants to plant an acre. During most of the transplanting season, plants are transplanted on the south side of an "A"-shaped bed in order to put the plants in a position near the water applied in the furrow immediately after transplanting and in order to take advantage of a little extra heat on this side of the bed. Cultivation after the plants are established shifts the soil so that the plants end up on the top of a very low bed.