

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE POTATOES
KERN COUNTY 1987
JOHN GUERARD, FARM ADVISOR

	UNIT	QUANTITY	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
			PER ACRE	PER CWT	PER ACRE	PER ACRE
PRE-HARVEST COSTS						
Chisel 2X Man + Crawler Tractor	HR	1.00	19.50			
Disc 2X Man + Crawler Tractor	HR	1.00	19.50			
Finish Level 1X Man + Crawler Tractor	HR	.50	9.75			
PRE-IRRIGATE	AC/FT	.25	9.75			
Labor	HR	1.25	6.25			
List: Man + Crawler Tractor	HR	.50	9.75			
Soil Amendments	\$/ACRE	60.00	60.00			
Custom Spread	\$/ACRE	25.00	25.00			
Fertilizer (16-20-0) @ \$220/Ton	TON/ACRE	.50	110.00			
Potato Seed @ \$10/CWT	CWT/ACRE	20.00	200.00			
Seed Cutting, Unloading, Treatment	\$/CWT	2.00	40.00			
Plant (Custom)	\$/ACRE	45.00	45.00			
HERBICIDE	\$/ACRE	30.00	30.00			
Application: Man + Med Wheel Tractor	HR	.33	5.03			
NITROGEN (Un 32, Sprinkler Appl @ .25/lb)	LBS	90.00	22.50			
FUNGICIDE	\$/ACRE	32.00	32.00			
Application (aerial and sprinkler)	\$/ACRE	10.00	10.00			
CULTIVATE 3X: Man + Med Wheel Tractor	HR	1.50	22.88			
CROP IRRIGATIONS: \$39/AC FT + \$2 Booster	AC/FT	1.50	58.50			
Sprinkler Pipe Rental	\$/ACRE	150.00	150.00			
MISCELLANEOUS INC: Man + Med Wheel Tractor	HR	2.00	30.50			
Repairs to Equipment Except Tractors	\$/ACRE	25.00	25.00			
Rent	\$/ACRE	100.00	100.00			
Supervision	\$/ACRE	20.00	20.00			
MISCELLANEOUS OVERHEAD:						
Office + Business Expense, 4% of Costs	%	4.00	98.15			
Interest on Operating Capital (prime + 1.5%)	%	9.50	80.81			
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COST			1239.87	3.10		
HARVESTING COSTS:						
Vine Rolling + Desicant: Man + Med Wheel	HR	1.50	22.88			
Material	\$/Acre	10.00	10.00			
Dig, Load, Haul (custom)	\$/CWT	.80	320.00			
Shed Costs, Sales, Brokerage	\$/CWT	2.60	1040.00			
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS			1392.88	3.48		
TOTAL CASH COSTS			2632.75	6.58		
DEPRECIATION:						
Heavy Crawler Tractor	HR	3.00	10.68			
Medium Wheel Diesel	HR	5.33	9.59			
Other Equipment: 10 years Life	\$/Acre	150.00	15.00			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION			35.27	.09		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 9.5%:						
Heavy Crawler Tractor	HR	3.00	8.79			
Medium Wheel Diesel	HR	5.33	5.33			
Other Equipment: 1/2 Cost	\$/Acre	75.00	7.13			
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT			21.25	.05		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION			2689.26	6.72		

* Hourly figures are calculated on a per acre basis

** Shed costs based on 100 lb burlap bags

INCOME PER ACRE ABOVE ALL COSTS

Yield (CWT/Acre)	PRICE PER CWT (100 lbs)				
	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00
300	-549	-249	50	350	650
350	-419	-69	280	630	980
400	-289	110	510	910	1310
450	-159	290	740	1190	1640
500	-29	470	970	1470	1970

Pertinent Information:

- This Cost Study is based on a yield of 400 CWT (100 lb bags)/Acre
- Cash Rent Basis
- Sprinkler Irrigated
- Based on January Planting -- June Harvest
- Field Labor: \$5.00/HR Equipment Operator: \$6.25/HR (Includes Social Security and Workman's Compensation Insurance)
- Numbers have been rounded for convenience

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