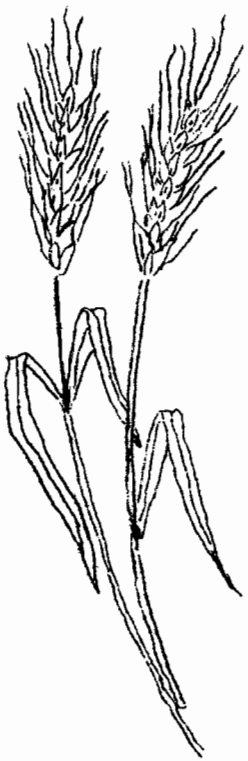
SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE IRRIGATED BARLEY IN SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY



Agricultural Extension Service
University of California
San Joaquin County

UC Cooperative Extension

A. D. Reed

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE IRRIGATED BARLEY
San Joaquin County - 1965

By
Philip S. Parsons, Extension Economist and R. S. Baskett, Farm Advisor

1. Hourly Labor Rates Used: Skilled, $1.75; Irrigators, $1.50 (Includes Social Security, Compensation Insurance, etc.)

2. Hourly Tractor Rates Used: 60 HP crawler diesel, $2.00; 30 HP wheel diesel, $1.00; 20 HP wheel, gas, $.80. (covers fuel and repairs)

Based on 100 acres of Barley on 300 acre irrigated farm--yield, 4,000 lbs.

Operation	Hours per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST PER ACRE: Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials		Total
Cultural:						
Coil Shank	.2	.35	.43			.78
Disc 3x	.9	1.58	2.25			3.83
Drill	.4	.70	1.20	125# seed @ $5.50 = $6.88		
				$1.25 drill rent	8.13	10.03
Fertilize				.75 application		
				100N + 50P = 12.50	13.25	13.25
Weed Control				Air $2.50 2,4-D-$1.00	3.50	3.50
Irrigate	1.0	1.50		.5 acre feet @ $3.16	1.58	3.08
Miscellaneous	.5	.88	1.00		.85	2.73
Total Cultural	3.0	5.01	4.88		27.31	37.20
Harvest:						
Combine $6/ton					12.00	12.00
Total Cash & Labor Cost	3.0	5.01	4.88		39.31	49.20
				Taxes		10.00

Investments	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest	
Land	$700.00		42.00	
Equipment	99.00	7.27	2.96	
Irrigation Facilities	86.00	4.97	2.57	
Buildings	15.00	.61	.46	
		$12.85	$47.99	60.84
		Total Cost Per Acre		120.04

Cost per cwt. @ 4,000 lbs. yield = $3.00

Local price 1965 season - $48/ton F.O.B. ranch = $2.40/cwt.

COMMENTS ON SAMPLE COSTS:

(1) The fertilizer costs are for barley following barley or grain sorghum. It would be less following such crops as beans or tomatoes.

(2) Irrigation would not be needed every year. It has been beneficial in some years. Examples are 1959-61 and 1964.

(3) We show a high investment cost against barley in this case. This would not be unrealistic if it were a single crop on this type of land. The equipment would be less, however, if barley were the only crop grown.

(4) Barley would not be profitable with these costs. This helps us to see why more double-cropping is being done. Also the fact that there may have to be a non-profit season when growing barley for some of the soil and rotation advantages of the crop.

For owner-operators, barley would pay the taxes and provide some returns if the depreciation and interest on investment costs were disregarded. Renters on irrigated land could not make a profit with barley alone.

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