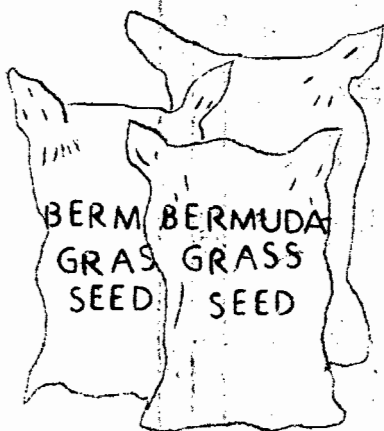


BERMUDAGRASS SEED

SAMPLE COSTS
AND
PRODUCTION



Coöperative Extension
University of California
Imperial County
Court House, El Centro

Cost Data Sheet No. 27

UC Cooperative Extension

BERMUDAGRASS SEED--PROJECTED PRODUCTION COSTS--1982-1983

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Labor at \$5.50 per hour (\$4.30 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, and fringe benefits.)

Yield--900 pounds seed, double cropped--2 tons hay and pasturings.

OPERATIONS	Custom Rate	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR		SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Plow or subsoil	23.50					\$ 23.50
Disc 2x	8.00					16.00
Build & Break border	12.00					12.00
Flood		Water .8 ac ft	6.00	1.9	10.45	16.45
Disc 2x	8.00					16.00
Fertilize	6.00	75#	25.50			31.50
Landplane 2x	9.00					18.00
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION						\$ 133.45
COST OF ESTABLISHMENT						
Plant ^{a/}	12.00	Seed 8# ^{b/}	29.20			41.20
Irrigate 2x		Water .8 ac ft	6.00	1.0	5.50	11.50
COST OF ESTABLISHMENT						\$ 52.70
TOTAL COST OF STAND ESTABLISHMENT						\$ 186.15
ANNUAL COSTS OF SEED PRODUCTION--5 YEAR LIFE						
Irrigate 14x		Water 6 ac ft	45.00	8.0	44.00	89.00
Fertilize		250#	42.50			42.50
Insect Control 5x	3.65	Insecticides	45.00			63.25
TOTAL ANNUAL COSTS						\$ 194.75
PREHARVEST COSTS						
Land Rent (new lease)						\$ 170.00
Depreciation 1/5 on total cost of stand establishment						37.23
Cost Overhead--10% of land rent and dep.						20.72
TOTAL PREHARVEST						\$ 227.95
HARVEST COSTS						
Swather 1x	8.00					8.00
Bale 2 tons	9.00/ton ^{c/}					18.00
Haul & Stack	.25/bales					8.50
TOTAL HARVEST COST						\$ 34.50
SEED HARVEST & POST HARVEST COSTS						
Combining 2x	34.00					\$ 68.00
Hauling	6.00/ton					2.70
Cleaning Seed	5.00/cwt ^{d/}					45.00
Bags	1.00/cwt					9.00
Baling straw 5 tons	9.00/ton					45.00
Rake 2x	4.00					8.00
Haul & Stack	21.25					21.25
TOTAL SEED HARVEST & POST HARVEST COSTS						\$ 198.95
TOTAL ALL COSTS						\$ 656.15

Value of pasturing and straw \$200
 Value of hay \$75-2 tons = \$150
 Total \$350
 Total all costs \$656.15 less return \$350.00 = \$306.15 seed cost

- a/ Corrugation extra \$7.50/acre
- b/ Plant heavier if soil is saline
- c/ Pasturing is also done
- d/ Lab tests \$22

\$ 0.33 cost per lb.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The average yield for certified bermuda seed during the 1980-81 season was 800 pounds per acre with average selling price of \$1.45 per pound clean seed.

SOIL PREPARATION

A uniform seed bed is a prerequisite to a good stand. High spots in the field cause an uneven germination, irrigation and poor stands.

PLANTING DATES

Late May and early June is the preferred time for plantings.

SEEDING RATES

Plant 5 to 10 pounds of seed per acre on corrugation or flat. There are approximately 1,800,000 plants per pound. This would mean there are 41 plants per square foot with one pound of seed.

VARIETIES

Two varieties are normally grown for seed in Imperial County and they are Common and Giant, however, there may be other varieties grown.

Varieties that have domestic and foreign demand should be planted.

IRRIGATION

Tensiometers help to obtain a better irrigation. Call the Farm Advisors' office for further information.

PEST CONTROL

Early crop control of insects is necessary and more important than later in the crop. Cutworms, spider mites, thrips and weevils may cause damage. Call the Entomology farm advisor for further information.

WEED CONTROL

A large amount of hand labor may be needed if fields have off-types and other grassy weeds. Call the Weed Control farm advisor for further information.

HARVESTING

Most seed bermuda is harvested for two crops in the summer and winter. However, some fall crops may be used for pasturing only while the spring crop is usually always harvested for seed.

Prepared by
Robert W. Hagemann
Farm Advisor

June 1982

To simplify our information, it is sometimes necessary to use trade names of products or equipment. No endorsement of named products is intended nor is criticism implied of similar products which are not mentioned.

The University of California Cooperative Extension in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, sex, or mental or physical handicap in any of its programs or activities. Inquiries regarding this policy may be directed to: Eugene D. Stevenson, Affirmative Action Officer, 3171 University Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, (415) 642-9300.

Cooperative Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics, Division of Agricultural Sciences, University of California and United States Department of Agriculture cooperating. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8, and June 30, 1924. Jerome B. Siebert, Director, California Agricultural Extension.