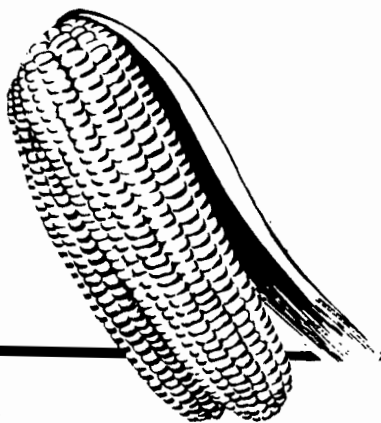


CO-SV-67-1

# *FIELD CORN*

## *PRODUCTION COSTS*



*IN*

*GLENN COUNTY*

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Extension Economist

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Agricultural Extension Service  
Orland, California UC Cooperative Extension

*W.D. Reed*

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE FIELD CORN IN GLENN COUNTY

YIELD: 6,000 <sup>lb.</sup> cwt. . . . . YEAR: 1967

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repair	Description of Materials	Total Materials	Total	Your Cost Per Acre																																										
<b>Cultural Costs</b>																																																	
Plow	.50	\$ 1.13	\$ 1.40			\$ 2.53																																											
Disk 3X	.90	2.03	2.88			4.91																																											
Landplane 2X (every other year)	.30	.68	1.30			1.98																																											
Fertilize	.25	.57	.51	125 N @ 7¢ 15 Zn on 1/2 acreage (every 3 yrs)	\$ 8.75 1.05	10.88																																											
Prepare Borders	.20	.45	.21			.66																																											
Pre-irrigate (1/2 acreage)	.50	.98		8 ac-in on 1/2 of acreage @ 2.25 ac-ft.	.76	1.74																																											
Springtooth	.15	.34	.29			.63																																											
Spiketooth	.10	.23	.17			.40																																											
Plant	.33	.75	.59	25 N/A & 26 P (60 P, 25 A) @ 9¢ Seed 18 lbs/A @ 45¢	7.65 8.10	17.09																																											
Cultivate 1X	.33	.75	.34			1.09																																											
Weed Control (1/2 acreage)	.20	.45	.35	3.13 lbs. (80 W) @ \$2.75	4.30	5.10																																											
Irrigate 8X	2.00	3.90		3 ac-ft @ \$2.25 ac-ft	6.75	10.65																																											
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>	<b>5.76</b>	<b>\$12.26</b>	<b>\$ 8.04</b>		<b>\$37.36</b>	<b>\$57.66</b>																																											
<b>Harvest Costs</b>																																																	
Combine	.67	\$ 1.51	\$ 4.90			\$ 6.41																																											
Hauling (1/2 of crop)	.67	1.51		Hauling @ 5¢ per cwt.	\$ 1.50	3.01																																											
Drying (1/2 of crop)				3 1/2¢/cwt. drying	\$ 1.05	1.05																																											
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>\$ 3.02</b>	<b>\$ 4.90</b>		<b>\$ 2.55</b>	<b>\$10.47</b>																																											
<b>Cash Overhead</b>																																																	
Misc., office, etc.						\$ 3.41																																											
Taxes & Insurance						12.37																																											
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>\$15.78</b>																																											
<b>TOTAL CASH COSTS</b>						<b>\$83.91</b>																																											
Management	5% of 6,000 <sup>lb.</sup> cwt. at \$2.60 cwt.					\$ 7.80																																											
<table border="0" style="width:100%"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">INVESTMENT</th> <th rowspan="2">Per Acre</th> <th colspan="2">Annual Cost</th> <th rowspan="2">Total</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Depreciation</th> <th>Interest</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Land</td> <td>\$700.00</td> <td></td> <td>\$42.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Irrigation System</td> <td>150.00</td> <td>\$ 7.50</td> <td>4.50</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Equipment &amp; Bldg.</td> <td>127.00</td> <td>10.50</td> <td>3.92</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>\$977.00</td> <td>\$18.00</td> <td>\$50.42</td> <td>\$ 68.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td colspan="2">Credit for Stover</td> <td>3.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>\$157.13</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost Per cwt. @ 6,000 <sup>lb.</sup> Yield</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>\$ 2.62</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>								INVESTMENT	Per Acre	Annual Cost		Total	Depreciation	Interest	Land	\$700.00		\$42.00		Irrigation System	150.00	\$ 7.50	4.50		Equipment & Bldg.	127.00	10.50	3.92		Total	\$977.00	\$18.00	\$50.42	\$ 68.42			Credit for Stover		3.00	<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>				<b>\$157.13</b>	Cost Per cwt. @ 6,000 <sup>lb.</sup> Yield				<b>\$ 2.62</b>
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Sample Costs Per Cwt. at Varying Yields

Yield - lbs./Acre	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000
Cash & Management Cost/cwt.	\$1.79	\$1.53	\$1.34	\$1.20	\$1.09
Investment Cost/cwt.	1.37	1.14	.98	.85	.76
minus Credit for Stover/cwt.	.06	.05	.04	.04	.03
<b>Total Cost/cwt.</b>	<b>\$3.10</b>	<b>\$2.62</b>	<b>\$2.28</b>	<b>\$2.01</b>	<b>\$1.82</b>

## BASIS OF FIELD CORN COST STUDY

1. The cost study is based on a 1,280 acre field crop operation with 300 acres of field corn. Other crops grown on the ranch may include one or more of the following crops: seed crops, other grain crops, alfalfa hay, sugar beets, etc. Most of the equipment listed will be used on the entire acreage sometime during the year.
2. In allocating the equipment cost per acre in the equipment list the following calculations were made: (a) "Original cost" of equipment is the estimated new cost. (b) "Original cost per acre" is the new cost divided by the number of acres the equipment will be used on. (c) "Depreciation" is based on the "per acre cost" divided by the expected life of the equipment. (d) "Interest" on investment is figured on one-half of the new cost per acre multiplied by 6%. Land is not considered a depreciable item and interest on it is figured at 6% of the full value.
3. Miscellaneous expenses have been found to be about 5% of the total cultural and harvest costs. They include such costs as preparing roadways, general weed control, office, bookkeeping, interest on operating money, etc.
4. Labor costs are based on a \$2.25 hourly rate for skilled labor and \$1.95 hourly rate for unskilled (irrigator). Included are cash wages, compensation insurance, Social Security and other benefits that the employer must pay.
5. Equipment operating costs are listed under fuel and repair. Included is the cost of fuel, maintenance, replacement parts, tires, etc. Tractor charges per hour are: 55 HP crawler diesel, \$2.04; 40 HP crawler diesel, \$1.24; 50 HP wheel diesel, \$1.27; 40 HP wheel diesel, \$1.02; and 30 HP wheel diesel, \$.82. (Horsepower is based on 75% of maximum).
6. Management (what the grower's decision making is worth) is figured at 5% of the market value of the crop.
7. Three Glenn County field corn growers furnished the basic information for this study. Appreciation is expressed to these growers.

## EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING LIST

Item	Original Cost		Years Life	Annual Use (acres)	Non-Cash Overhead	
	Total	Per Acre			Depre- ciation	Interest at 6%
Crawler Tractor 55 HP - Diesel	\$21,000	\$16.41	15	1,280	\$1.10	\$ .50
Crawler Tractor 40 HP - Diesel	12,000	9.38	15	1,280	.63	.29
Wheel Tractor 50 HP - Diesel	7,500	5.86	15	1,280	.39	.18
Wheel Tractor 40 HP - Diesel	6,500	5.08	15	1,280	.34	.16
Wheel Tractor 30 HP - Diesel	5,000	3.91	15	1,280	.26	.12
Disk, Offset - 12 ft.	2,000	1.57	10	1,280	.16	.05
Disk, Stubble - 12 ft.	4,000	3.13	10	1,280	.32	.10
Plow, 5-16 one-way	1,100	1.70	10	650	.17	.06
Chisel - 12 ft.	800	.63	10	1,280	.07	.02
Springtooth - 20 ft.	1,100	.86	10	1,280	.09	.03
Spiketooth - 32 ft.	800	.63	10	1,280	.07	.02
Ditcher - 4 ft.	400	.62	10	650	.07	.02
Border Disk, single	300	.34	10	900	.04	.01
Cultivator 4-row	800	1.23	10	650	.13	.04
Planter 4-row	700	1.08	10	650	.11	.04
Fertilizer Attachments	300	.47	5	650	.10	.02
Cultipacker or Roller	800	1.23	10	650	.13	.04
Stalk Shreader 8-ft.	1,000	1.54	10	650	.16	.05
Landplane 10' x 60'	4,000	3.13	10	1,280	.32	.10
Tool Carrier	1,750	1.37	10	1,280	.14	.05
Combine S.P. 16 ft.	15,000	15.63	10	960	1.57	.47
Corn header 4-row	5,000	11.67	10	300	1.17	.35
2 Trucks, 2 ton	12,000	9.38	8	1,280	1.18	.29
Pickup, 1/2 ton	2,500	1.96	5	1,280	.40	.06
Elevator	1,000	1.00	10	1,000	.10	.03
Weed & Insect Sprayer	1,500	1.50	5	1,000	.30	.05
Shop Tools	3,000	2.35	15	1,280	.16	.07
Storage W/driers (For 800 Tons)	20,800	20.80	30	1,000	.70	.63
Building	3,000	2.35	20	1,280	.12	.07
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$135,650</b>	<b>\$126.81</b>			<b>\$10.50</b>	<b>\$3.92</b>

The sample costs to produce field corn in Glenn County as outlined in this pamphlet are basically sample costs as adapted from information furnished by growers. Specific operation and sequence of operations vary from grower to grower and year to year. A column is provided on the cost sheet for growers to calculate their costs and insert them for comparison.

Dynamic changes are taking place in field corn production. Closer row spacings, higher plant populations, improved varieties, higher rates of fertilizer, etc., may make this crop more attractive on some of the better field crop land in Glenn County. Consult your farm advisor if you have questions regarding field corn production.

Farm Advisors' Office  
Glenn County

April 1967  
300 copies

UC Cooperative Extension

Co-operative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics,  
U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, University of California and County of co-operating.