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Sample Costs to Produce Processing Onions in Monterey County - 1971
By J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

Based on a yield of 2000 tons per acre	Hours per Acre				Cost per Acre	Cost per Ton
	Man Labor	80 hp. Tract.	45 hp. Tract.	Truck Pickup		
Land preparation:	3.0	3.0			17.85	
Pre-plant fertilizer and list: contract @ \$3.75/Ac					3.75	
Shape and rotovate beds	0.5	0.5*			2.98	
Plant: 2 men, 4 bed planter	1.0		0.5		3.10	
Irrigations: 9x	10.0				22.00	
Herbicides: 4x contract \$7.50 preplant, other at \$3.00 per acre					19.50	
Side dress fertilizer: 2x contract @ \$3.00/Ac					6.00	
Insecticide applications: 2x contract @ \$3.00/Ac					6.00	
Cultivations: 6x	3.0		3.0		12.15	
Hoe and weed:	9.0				19.80	
Misc., other work	3.0			0.5	7.68	
Total Cultural Labor and Field Power					120.81	6.04
Irrigation water: 2.5 acre ft @ \$5.00 for power \$1.00 booster pump cost					13.50	
Seed: 4 lb/Ac (\$3.75/lb)					15.00	
Fertilizer materials and application 400 lb 12-12-12 preplant and 300 lb N side dress					60.00	
Insecticide and fungicide materials \$15.00 herbicides \$36.50					51.50	
Total Material Cost					140.00	7.00
Total Labor, Field Power and Materials				Tenants	260.81	13.04
Business costs, office, car, operation capital, etc., 6% of above				14.75	14.75	
Taxes: real estate and improvements					48.00	
Taxes: equipment, except tractors				3.00	3.00	
Repairs; except trucks and tractors				8.00	8.00	
Rent: 12 months' basis				130.00	---	
Total Cash Overhead Costs				155.75	73.75	3.69
Total Cash Costs				416.56	334.56	16.73
Investment overhead	Dollars per Acre					
Costs based on 2000 crop acres	Orig. Cost	Avg. Value	7% Int.	Depre- ciation		
Buildings for equipment	18.00	9.00	.63	.60		
Irrigation wells, pipeline	150.00	75.00	5.25	7.50		
Land: \$1800 12 mos. basis	1800.00	1800.00	126.00	----		
Subtotal Real Estate	1968.00	1884.00	131.88	8.10		
Tractors, trucks, etc.	110.00	55.00	3.85	11.00		
Tillage equip., planter, etc.	32.00	16.00	1.12	3.20		
Portable irrig. pipe, sprinklers	28.00	14.00	.98	2.80		
Misc. small equipment	14.00	7.00	.49	1.40		
Total Operator's Equipment	184.00	92.00	6.44	18.40		
Total invest. and depreciation	2152.00	1976.00	138.32	26.50	18.40	26.50
Total Cash and Depreciation Costs					434.96	361.06
Interest on Investment					6.44	138.32
Total Costs to Harvest					441.40	499.38
Harvest -- by processor: Cost is 45¢ Cwt.					180.00	180.00
Total Cost of Production Tenant \$31.07 per ton					621.40	679.38

Wheel diesel tractor - 80 hp. range

Labor costs per hour include Social Security and Workman's Comp. insurance. Equipment operator \$2.75 per hour, all other labor at \$2.20 per hour. 80 hp tracklayer \$3.20 per hr. cash costs, depreciation \$1.80 and interest 72¢. 45 hp wheel tractor \$1.30, 68¢ and 28¢. Light truck \$2.00 per hr. cash costs and pickup \$1.60 for light work. Sprinkler booster pump costs \$2.00 per acre ft. of water.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Owner

Yield: Tons per Acre	14	16	18	20	22
Total Growing Costs per Acre	625.38	643.38	661.38	679.38	697.38
Total Costs per Ton	44.67	40.21	36.74	33.97	31.68

Tenant

Yield: Tons per Acre	14	16	18	20	22
Total Growing Costs per Acre	567.40	585.40	603.40	621.40	639.40
Total Costs per Ton	40.53	36.59	33.52	31.07	29.06