

**SAMPLE COSTS**  
**TO PRODUCE**  
**SUDANGRASS SEED**  
**IN THE LOWER**  
**SACRAMENTO VALLEY**  
**1974**

Prepared by:

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUDANGRASS SEED  
Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of sudangrass on a 1,000 acre farm. Yield: 2,500 lbs. per acre.  
Labor rates including fringe benefits, \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
dollars						
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Disc 2X	.8	2.80	5.60			8.40
Ridge	.2	.70	.55			1.25
Fertilize	.2	.70	.65	N 100# @ \$.20	20.00	21.35
				60# P2O5 @ \$.25	15.00	15.00
Drag-shape levees	.3	1.05	1.60			2.65
Pre-irrigate	.2	.70		3" water @ \$4/ac.ft.	1.00	1.70
Springtooth	.2	.70	1.10			1.80
Harrow & roll	.2	.70	1.65			2.35
Plant	.2	.70	1.45	20# seed @ \$.20	20.20	22.35
Irrigate 7X	1.2	3.15		2 ac.ft. water @ \$4	8.00	11.15
Weed control				12 oz. 2,4-D amine applied	3.50	3.50
Crop loan interest					2.75	2.75
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>11.20</b>	<b>12.60</b>		<b>70.45</b>	<b>94.25</b>
<u>Harvest Costs</u>						
Swath				Contract	5.00	5.00
Combine	1.0	3.50	6.70			10.20
Haul				1.5 tons @ \$3.50/ton	5.25	5.25
Cleaning,				1.25 tons @ \$2/cwt.	2.50	2.50
Post-harvest chopping				Contract	4.00	4.00
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>		<b>3.50</b>	<b>6.70</b>		<b>16.75</b>	<b>26.95</b>
<u>Cash Overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					7.45	
Taxes					1.90	
Rent				25% of 2500# @ \$.10	62.50	
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>						<b>71.60</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>14.70</b>	<b>19.30</b>		<b>159.05</b>	<b>193.05</b>
Management 5% of 2,500 lbs. @ \$.10						12.50
<u>Annual Cost</u>						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>			<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest 8%</u>	
Equipment	\$189			\$18.90	\$7.55	
Total						26.45
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>232.00</b>
Cost per pound @ 2,500 lb. yield						.09

## SUDANGRASS CULTURAL BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: Sudangrass does best on deep, fertile, soils but good crops are often obtained under less favorable conditions. Sudan is frequently used as a soil conditioner on tight clay pan soils and newly leveled land. Small amounts of alkali will reduce yields.

Planting Dates: Mid April to July. Plantings after June 10 may encounter harvest problems or incur shattering losses because of adverse fall weather conditions.

Harvesting: 110-130 days after planting. Begin swathing when 85-95 percent of the tiller heads have matured through the early dough stage.

Varieties: Check with your marketing outlet for varieties in demand.

Seeding Rate: 15-20 pounds under irrigation, 12-15 pounds dry land.

Fertilizer: Up to 100 pounds of nitrogen, up to 60 pounds of phosphate where needed.

Irrigation: 5-6 inches every three to four weeks. More often on sandy or shallow soils.

Weed Control: Use 2,4-D as necessary for broadleaf weeds. Weedy grasses are usually crowded out.

Insect Control: Usually not a problem.

Diseases: Usually not a problem.

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