

**CABBAGE
PROJECTED PRODUCTION
COSTS
1989 - 1990**

CB-SE-90

IMPERIAL COUNTY



**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

Cabbage Projected Production Costs 1989-1990

Mechanical operation at custom rates. Hand labor at \$5.75 per hour (\$4.50 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, transportation, supervision and fringe benefits).

Yield--500 cartons per acre 50 lbs. per carton 100-120 days to maturity. Headstart variety

OPERATION	CUSTOM RATE	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR		COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Stubble disc	18.25					18.25
Subsoil	29.25					29.25
Disc 1x	9.50					9.50
Landplane 2x	10.00					20.00
Border, cross check & break borders	15.00					15.00
Flood		Water 1/2 ac/ft	5.50	1	5.75	11.25
Fertilize	6.00	450# 11-52-0	61.00			67.00
Disc 2x	9.50					19.00
Triplane 1x	8.75					8.75
List	11.50					11.50
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION						209.50
GROWING PERIOD						
Precision plant	14.50	Seed @ 3" spacing	150.00			164.50
Spray herbicide	8.00	Herbicide	33.75			41.75
Sprinkler irrigate						135.00
Thin				10	57.50	57.50
Cultivate 3x	9.75					29.25
Fertilize & furrow out 2x	10.50	120# N @ .31	37.20			58.20
Water-run fertilizer		60 # N @ .31	18.60			18.60
Hand weed 1x				12	69.00	69.00
Irrigate 6x		Water 3 1/2 ac/ft	38.50	7	40.25	78.75
Insect control 7x	5.00	Insecticides	59.50			94.50
Disease control 1x	5.00	Fungicides	7.00			12.00
Stubble disc 1x	18.25					18.25
TOTAL GROWING PERIOD						612.80
GROWING PERIOD & LAND PREPARATION COSTS						822.30
Land Rent (net acres)						200.00
Cash Overhead-----		12% of preharvest costs & land rent				122.68
TOTAL PREHARVEST COSTS						1144.98
HARVEST COSTS						
Custom harvest: cut, pack, and haul		500 cartons @	3.40 /ctn.			1700.00
TOTAL ALL COSTS						2844.98

PROJECTED INCOME ABOVE COSTS (PER ACRE)

		price/ 50 lb. carton					Breakeven \$/carton
		4.00	5.00	6.00	7.00	8.00	
Cartons	500	-845	-345	155	655	1155	5.69
	600	-785	-185	415	1015	1615	5.31
per	700	-725	-25	675	1375	2075	5.04
acre	800	-665	135	935	1735	2535	4.83
	900	-605	295	1195	2095	2995	4.67

CABBAGE CULTURE

1989-1990

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>YIELD/ACRE (CARTONS)</u>	<u>VALUE/ACRE</u>
1988	840	546	\$2527
1987	708	394	1249
1986	519	432	1844
1985	915	444	2085
1984	353	599	10326

PLANTING DATES: Cabbage is planted from Mid-September through October. Harvesting begins in December and continues through February. The market for local cabbage depends upon the volume of the cabbage harvested in coastal California and Texas. Oversupply depresses prices rapidly to the point where harvesting is impractical; low supplies, however, can create windfall profits. Cabbage is a very high risk crop!

VARIETIES: The standard green variety is "Headstart". "Charmant" is also grown. "Rubyball" is the standard hybrid red variety. Open pollinated "Red Meteor" is an alternate choice.

PLANTING & SPACING: Standard double-row 42-inch beds are used. The seed is planted with a precision planter at 2 inch spacing in-row at a seeding depth of 1/4 inch. The rows are 13 inches apart. When the plants have 2-3 true leaves, the seedlings are thinned to 12 inches apart.

IRRIGATION: Sprinkler irrigation is used to germinate the crop. Once the seedlings have emerged, the field is furrow irrigated. Cabbage grows well on medium and moderately heavy soil.

FERTILIZERS: Four hundred fifty pounds of 11-52-0 broadcast prior to listing is standard practice. Sidedress applications of nitrogen at 60-80 lbs. N/acre are common. Ammonium nitrate or UAN32 solutions are often used.

PEST CONTROL: Watch for crickets, cutworms, flea beetles, salt-marsh caterpillars, aphids, thrips, and cabbage looper. Once the insect burrows into the heads, chemical control will be nearly impossible. Cabbage should not follow sugar beets due to possible cyst nematode infection. Downy mildew may require control in some years. For the latest information on pest control consult your farm advisor.

HARVESTING: Fields are hand harvested and packed 24 heads per 50 pound in bulge packed cartons. The average yield varies according to price, but it may reach 1000 cartons per acre. Normally yield are low due to lack of sales. Cooling and palletizing are paid by the receiver.

GUIDELINES TO PRODUCTION COSTS AND PRACTICES
IMPERIAL COUNTY CROPS, CIRCULAR 104
 1989 - 1990

CUSTOM RATE CHARGES

HEAVY TRACTOR WORK

	<u>PRICE/ACRE</u>
Plow	\$ 24.75
Subsoil 2nd Gear	29.25
Disc, Regular	9.50
Disc, Stubble	18.25
Float	8.25
Triplane	8.75
List, Regular	11.50
List, and Rerun 80" Melon Beds	22.00
Reshape 80" Melon Beds	10.00
Landplane	10.00
Chisel	20.75

PLANTING AND CULTIVATING

Plant and Shape Melon Beds	16.75
Precision Plant 42" Beds	14.50
Plant Carrots	13.75
Plant Onions	16.75
Cultivate 4-Row 42" Beds	10.75
Cultivate Melon Beds	14.00
Spike and Furrow Out (2 row)	10.50
Lilliston	9.50
Furrow out alone	8.00
Move N-Side 80" Beds for Irrigation	9.50

INCORPORATING, BORDER AND BED WORK

Power Incorporate herbicides	20.25
Border, Cross checks and Break Borders	15.00
Bust Melon Beds	9.00
Roll Beds	5.00

FERTILIZER APPLICATION

Broadcast Fertilizer	6.00
Inject Fertilizer (Flat)	9.00
Fertilize and Furrow Out 42" Beds	10.50
Fertilize and Furrow Out 80" Beds	10.50

IRRIGATION

Custom Sprinkle	135.00-145.00
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MISCELLANEOUS

Motor Grader/Hour	42.75
Chop Broccoli, Corn Stalks, Etc.	10.00
Water truck/Hour	34.00
Cultipacker	6.00
Ground Spray Pesticides (4 Row)	7.00
Aerial Spray 5 Gal. (Insecticides)	4.50
Aerial Spray 10 Gal. (Fungicides)	5.00