

Sample Costs to Produce Watermelons on Rented Land in Tulare County - 1971
Based on a yield of 12 tons per acre

	Sample Costs Per Acre	Sample Costs Per Ton	Sample Costs Per Acre	Sample Costs Per Ton
PREHARVEST CASH COSTS:				
Land prep: man & tractor 3 hrs.	\$ 10.50			
Plant (machine): 2 men & tractor ½ hour	2.70			
Seed: 2 lbs. @ \$2/lb.	4.00			
Hoe & thin: 8 man-hours	15.20			
Cultivation: man & tr. 2 hours, 4 times	7.00			
Fertilize: man & tractor ½ hour	1.75			
Fertilizer: 80 lbs. nitrogen @ 12¢/lb.	9.60			
Ditch for irrig: man & tractor ½ hour	1.75			
Irrigate: 12 man-hrs, 12 times; dam 2 hours	26.60			
Water: power 2½ acre-feet @ \$10; dist. tax @ \$6	16.00			
Turn runners: 4 man-hours, 4 times	7.60			
Dusting: hand - 1 man-hour; 2 x by plane; material 70 lbs. @ 5¢/lb.	5.40			
Dust: 80 lbs. - avg. cost @ 15¢/lb.	12.00			
Prune culls: included in irrigation labor	-----			
Rent: 6-month basis	60.00			
Misc. 2 man-hrs., 1 tr. hr., mat. @ \$1	6.40			
County taxes: equipment	2.00			
Office, car, operating capital, etc.	13.49			
Repairs on equip. except tr.	4.00			
TOTAL PREHARVEST LABOR AND CASH COST	\$205.99	\$17.17		
HARVESTING COSTS:				
Picking: contract @ \$3/ton	36.00	\$ 3.00		
Pitch & haul out of field: contract @ \$7	84.00	7.00		
Load & pack truck @ \$2.50	30.00	2.50		
Misc: straw, etc. + equip. used @ \$1/ton	12.00	1.00		
TOTAL HARVESTING COST	\$162.00	\$13.50		
TOTAL CASH AND LABOR COSTS	\$367.99	\$30.67		
DEPRECIATION COSTS:				
Irrig. system: tenants' equip. @ \$20, 10-yr. life	\$ 1.00			
Tractor: 7½ hrs. @ 74¢/hr.	5.55			
Equipment: \$25 cost, 10-yr. life	1.25			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION (6-mo. basis except tractor)	\$ 7.80	\$.65		
TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION COST	\$375.79	\$31.32		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%:				
Irrigation system: on ½ cost (\$10.00)	\$.35	\$		
Tractor: 7½ hours @ 30¢/hour	2.25			
Equipment: on ½ cost (\$12.50)	.44			
TOTAL INTEREST COST (6-mo. basis except tractor)	\$ 3.04	\$.25		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$378.83	\$31.57		

COST PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield in Tons per Acre	8	10	12	14	16	18
Total Cost per Ton	\$40.60	\$35.18	\$31.57	\$28.99	\$27.05	\$25.55

Man labor @ \$1.90/hr. and equipment operator @ \$2.10/hr. Cash cost/hr. of medium, diesel, wheel tractor, \$1.40, depreciation, 74¢; interest, 30¢.

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