

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUGAR BEETS IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1966
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Production data: Yield, 25 tons. Labor @ \$1.95 and \$1.55 per hour including social security and compensation insurance.

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cost per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
dollars						
<u>Cultural costs</u>						
Land preparation	1.8	3.50	4.15			7.65
List and fertilizer				Contract	2.25	
Side dress fertilizer				Contract	2.00	
				160 lbs. N, 60 lbs. P	27.00	31.25
Shape and roll beds	.5	1.00	.55			1.55
Weed control				Herbicide applied	18.00	18.00
Plant, 2 men	.3	1.15	.45	Seed, 6-1/2 lbs. @ \$.70	4.55	6.15
Thin		30.00				30.00
Cultivate 5 times	1.8	3.50	2.00			5.50
Hoe		8.00 ^{5.10}				8.00
Irrigate 6-9 times	12.0	18.60	3.30	Water, 3 ⁰ Applied	12.00	33.90
Insecticide 2 times					12.00	12.00
Miscellaneous	3.0	5.50	3.60			9.10
Total cultural costs		71.25	14.05		77.80	163.10
<u>Harvest costs</u>						
Dig				25 tons @ \$1.50	37.50	37.50
Haul				25 tons @ \$1.00	25.00	25.00
Total harvest costs					62.50	62.50
<u>Cash overhead</u>						
Miscellaneous, office, etc.					9.85	9.85
Taxes					1.50	1.50
Rent				25% of 25 tons @ \$13.60	85.00	85.00
Total cash overhead					96.35	96.35
Total cash cost		71.25	14.05		236.65	321.95
Management - 5% of 25 tons @ \$13.60						17.00
<u>Investment</u>						
Equipment	Per Acre	Annual Cost		Depreciation	Interest	
	135.00	13.50	4.05			
Total investment	135.00	13.50	4.05			17.55
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						
						356.50
Cost per ton @ 25 ton yield						14.26

SUGAR BEET PRODUCTION IN MONTEREY COUNTY

During the past three years, sugar beet production has varied from a high of 32,000 acres in 1964 followed by 26,000 acres in 1965. In 1966, approximately 18,000 acres are currently being grown. The extreme variation in crop acreage during the past season has been contributed to a high incidence of disease conditions during the production year of 1965 which resulted in low sucrose and root yields attributing to a reduced income from this crop.

In an area of highly speculative crops, growers have generally considered sugar beets as a stable item in their cropping sequence. The crop is grown as a single cash crop. The addition of new crops to the Salinas Valley has somewhat altered this concept in our agricultural economy. Sugar beets are grown as an irrigated crop and normally are included in a crop rotation once every three to four year period. On an acreage basis, beets are the second largest irrigated field crop. This report was prepared to present information on sample costs of growing sugar beets in Monterey County.

The completed cost study represents a composite study of seven sugar beet growers in the Salinas Valley. The extreme variation in farming operations within the Salinas Valley does not lend itself to uniform procedure in crop production. Consequently, this study should be used as a comparative guide to the individual grower's operation.

SUMMARY OF COSTS AND PROFIT WITH VARYING YIELDS AND PRICES

Yield, Tons Per Acre	20	25	30	35	40
Growing and overhead costs per acre	294.00	294.00	294.00	294.00	294.00
Harvesting @ 2.62/T including general expenses	52.40	65.50	78.60	91.70	104.80
Total cost per acre	346.40	359.50	372.60	385.70	398.80
Total cost per ton	17.32	14.38	12.42	11.02	9.97
<u>Net income or profit per acre</u>					
With beets at \$12 a ton	-106.40	-59.50	-12.60	34.30	81.20
\$13 a ton	-86.40	-34.50	17.40	69.30	121.20
\$14 a ton	-66.40	-9.50	47.40	104.30	161.20
\$15 a ton	-46.40	15.50	77.40	139.30	201.20