

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE GLOBE ARTICHOKE IN MONTEREY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES

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Production Data: Yield of 250 - 22 pound crates fresh and 1,500 pound cannery (68 22 pound crates) for a total production of 318 crates or 7,000 pounds per acre. Labor at \$2.05 per hour for tractor drivers, \$1.80 per hour for irrigators, and \$1.60 per hour for field labor to include social security and compensation insurance.

	Hour Per Acre	Cost Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
CULTURAL COSTS						
Cut tops	1.1	2.25	\$ 1.21			\$ 3.46
Disc	0.8	1.65	2.40			4.05
Plow	1.0	2.05	3.00			5.05
Cultivate, 8 X	7.0	14.35	7.70			22.05
Irrigate, 4 X	17.0	14.88		Water 1.75 feet	\$ 6.13	21.01
Fertilize, 3 X				Materials (N.P.K.)	\$39.50	
				Application	6.75	46.25
Insecticide, 11 X				Materials (Parathion)	27.50	
				Application	33.00	60.50
Slug Control, 2 X	0.6			Materials (Bait)	7.24	
				Application	1.55	8.84
Miscellaneous	6.0	10.50	9.90			20.40
Total Cultural Costs		45.68	\$24.21		\$121.72	\$191.61
Harvest Costs - Central Packing						
Pick	63.0	100.80				\$100.80
Haul	5.0	9.00	\$17.15			26.15
Containers, Paper and Nails (includes nailing lid)				250 crates @ 40¢ each	\$100.00	100.00
Pack, central shed				250 crates @ 20¢ each	50.00	50.00
Total Harvest Costs		109.80	\$17.15		\$150.00	\$276.95
Cash Overhead						
Miscellaneous, office, car, etc.		(5% of above)				\$ 23.27
Taxes, County						1.50
Rent						100.00
Total Cash Overhead						\$124.77
Total Cash Costs						\$593.33

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	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest	
Stand	40.00		4.00	1.20	
Building	10.00		1.00	.30	
Equipment	200.00		20.00	6.00	
Total Investment	250.00		25.00	7.50	\$ 32.50
Total Cost Per Acre					\$625.83
Cost to grow cwt. (does not include harvest costs and 5% harvest overhead)					\$ 4.79
Cost to grow per crate .0479 x 22 pounds					\$ 1.05
Cost to harvest per crate					\$ 1.16
Total cost per crate					\$ 2.21
Total cost per cwt. for packed crates					\$ 9.95

ARTICHOKE PRODUCTION IN MONTEREY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES

Artichoke production requires a cool year-round climate, with little hazard from frost. These conditions are found in the central coastal area of California; however, the Castroville district of Monterey County provides the largest desirable area for production. Over 80% of the artichokes harvested in California are produced in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties. Acreage, yields, and prices received in 1966 and 1967 based on a compilation of crop reports from the Agricultural Commissioners of Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties are given below.

County	Year	Acreage	Production cwt.	Yield Per Acre		Total Value	Average Farm Price/Acre	
				Pounds	Crates		Cwt.	Crate
Santa Cruz	1966	430	25,800			\$ 207,000		
Monterey	1966	8817	549,040			\$5,301,000		
		9247	574,840	6215	283	\$5,508,000	\$9.58	\$2.11
Santa Cruz	1967	430	23,000			\$ 184,000		
Monterey	1967	8575	639,180			\$5,972,000		
		9005	662,180	7353	334	\$6,156,000	\$9.30	\$2.05

The development of a processing industry in 1956-57, a move to year-round production on some acreage and farms, the control of the artichoke plume moth and an increased market development through advertising and promotional activities of the California Artichoke Advisory Board are undoubtedly major factors which have contributed to over a 100% increase in yields in the last decade.

However, the cost of production and harvesting has increased by over 36% during this 10-year period. Labor costs, which represent about 41% of the production and harvesting costs have made the most significant increase. Material costs have increased about 25% and other costs such as taxes, rent, equipment, etc., have also increased.

University of California Agricultural Extension Service publication AXT-52 "Growing Globe Artichokes in California" is available and provides information on climate and soil requirements, propagation, culture, harvesting and marketing, and a description of pests and diseases. The University issues yearly recommendations for control of pests and diseases through the pest control guide for artichokes. This publication should be consulted for current recommendations.