

Stanislaus Co.

Calif. University.

Cost of production
Fudical

almonds

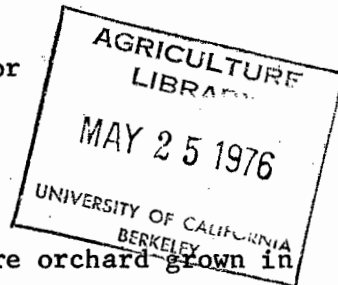
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ALMONDS

in
STANISLAUS COUNTY - 1976

Norman W. Ross, Farm Advisor

ABOUT THIS SHEET



These sample costs are based on a typical mature orchard grown in Stanislaus County. The cost data in this sheet are used as a guide to determine costs for a specific orchard situation.

PROFIT: Some orchards will consistently produce twice as many pounds of almond meats per acre as will other orchards. Yield of almond meats per acre and price per pound are the main factors that determine profit. High producing orchards are usually located on excellent soil, are located in frost-free locations, have good varieties, and are well-irrigated, fertilized and sprayed.

CROSS-POLLINATION: Most varieties are self-sterile and require cross-pollination. Two or more varieties are required. Varieties should be planted in single rows to facilitate the transfer of pollen between varieties by bees. Strong beehives are needed in the orchards during bloom.

IRRIGATION AND FERTILIZATION: Six to eight irrigations are required per season, for a total of three to four acre feet of irrigation water. Nitrogen fertilizers (175-200 pounds of actual nitrogen) are needed by most soils. Potash is needed on some soils. Zinc and boron (minor elements) are needed on many sandy soils.

ALMOND PRODUCTION COSTS FOR MATURE ORCHARD
Cost Analysis Work Sheet, 1975

Norman W. Ross, Farm Advisor, Stanislaus County

Practices are representative of flood irrigation on the valley floor. Costs are for a mature orchard with 75 trees per acre and a yield of 2750 pounds of in-shell nuts per year. Based on labor @ \$3.50 and \$4.30 per hour; medium-wheel tractor per hour cash costs @ \$2.05; depreciation @ \$2.80 and interest @ \$1.68. Shell-out is 58%.

	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Cwt.	Per Acre	Per Cwt.
Preharvest Cash Costs:				
Pruning: 10 hours labor	\$ 35.00			
Brush disposal: 2 hours labor + 1 tractor hr.	10.65			
Fertilizer: materials	84.50			
Application: 2X @ \$2	4.00			
Spray: materials + application 3 1/2 times \$69.50 + \$30.60	100.00			
Ridging and knock ridges - 1 hr. per acre man + tractor	6.35			
Water: 3 1/2 acre feet @ \$4/acre foot	14.00			
Irrigation: 3 hours labor	10.50			
Weed control: mow centers, spray tree rows - 1 hr. labor + tractor	6.35			
Bees: 2 hives @ \$10	20.00			
Disc 2X and 4X springtooth - 1 2/3 hr. man + tractor	10.60			
Taxes	75.00			
Remove and replant 2 trees per acre	20.00			
Misc. labor and materials, including 2 tractor hrs.	22.54			
Repairs, except tractor	10.00			
Frost protection - 3 man + 1 tractor hr./acre + \$45 fuel	59.95			
Harvest preparation: 1 hr. man + tractor chemical weed control	6.35 9.00			
Office and business costs	25.72			
TOTAL PREHARVEST CASH COSTS	\$ 530.51	\$19.29		
Harvest Costs:				
Knock and pole	\$ 70.00			
Rake and sweep 1 hr. labor and machine + driver	16.30			
Pick up and haul to huller: machine + driver \$32 1 hr. tractor + operator	32.00 6.35			
Hull - 2¢/lb. in-shell	55.00			
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS	\$ 179.65	\$ 6.63		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$ 710.16	\$25.82		
Depreciation:				
Irrigation system: \$275, 25 year life	\$ 11.00			
Buildings: \$84, 25 year life	3.36			
Tractor: 10 hr. @ \$2.80/hr.	28.00			
Equipment: \$375, 10 year life	37.50			
Trees: \$2500, 20 year life	125.00			
Heaters: \$56.25/acre, 10 year life	5.63			
Wind machine + tanks: \$225, -- 15 year life	15.00			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 225.49	\$ 8.19		

Almond Production

	Sample Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Cwt.
<u>Interest on Investment @ 8%:</u>		
Irrigation system: 1/2 cost, \$137.50	\$ 11.00	
Buildings and equipment: 1/2 cost, \$229.50	18.36	
Tractor: 8 hrs. @ \$1.68/hr.	13.44	
Trees: 1/2 cost, \$1350	108.00	
Land: \$2000	160.00	
Heaters: 1/2 cost, \$28.13	2.25	
Wind machine + tanks: 1/2 cost, \$225	9.00	
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	\$ 322.05	\$11.71
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$1257.70	\$45.72
TOTAL COST OF NUTMEATS (58% shell out) per 100 lbs.		
1595 lbs. nut meats		\$78.85

SAMPLE COSTS PER POUND OF NUTMEATS AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield (pounds/acre)	1000	1125	1250	1500	1750	2000	2250	2500
Cash costs per cwt.	\$ 68.96	\$ 61.68	\$55.85	\$47.12	\$40.88	\$36.20	\$32.56	\$29.65
Total Costs per cwt.	\$123.72	\$110.35	\$99.66	\$83.62	\$72.17	\$63.58	\$56.90	\$51.56

MONTHLY CASH FLOW FOR ALMONDS

Operation	Total	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Preharvest													
<u>Cultural Costs</u>													
Prune	\$35.00		\$17.50	\$17.50									
Brush removal	10.65			10.65									
Fertilizer	88.50	\$55.00				\$33.50							
Sprays	100.00	20.00			\$35.00		\$20.00		\$25.00				
Ridge & knock ridges	6.35				1.27		1.27	\$ 1.27	1.27	1.27			
Irrigation labor	10.50					1.50	1.50	1.50	3.00	1.50	\$ 1.50		
Weed control	6.35		4.35			2.00							
Bees	20.00				20.00								
Disc & springtooth	10.60							2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65		
Tree replacement	20.00	15.00		5.00									
Misc. labor and materials	22.54		7.54		5.00		5.00		5.00				
Repairs	10.00	2.50	2.50	2.50			2.50						
Frost protection	59.95				30.00	29.95							
Harvest prep.	15.35										15.35		
TOTAL PREHARVEST CULTURAL COSTS	\$415.79	\$92.50	\$31.89	\$35.65	\$91.27	\$66.95	\$30.27	\$ 5.42	\$36.92	\$ 5.42	\$19.50		
Harvest Costs													
Knock & pole	\$70.00											\$35.00	\$35.00
Rake & sweep	16.30											8.15	8.15
Pick up & haul	32.00											16.00	16.00
Tractor	6.35											3.20	3.15
Hull	55.00												55.00
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS	\$179.65											\$62.35	\$117.30
Cash Overhead													
Office	\$25.72	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14
Taxes: County	75.00		37.50				37.50						
Irrig. Dist.	14.00		7.00				7.00						
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD	\$114.72	\$ 2.15	\$46.65	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.15	\$ 2.14	\$46.64	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14	\$ 2.14
TOTAL CASH COST	710.16	\$94.65	\$78.54	\$37.80	\$93.42	\$69.09	\$76.91	\$ 7.56	\$39.06	\$ 7.56	\$21.64	\$64.49	\$119.44
TOTAL ACCUMULATED COSTS (\$)													
		94.65	173.19	210.99	304.41	373.50	450.41	457.97	497.03	504.59	526.23	590.72	710.16