

ALMOND

ORCHARD COSTS
FROM
PLANTING TO PICKING

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
TEHAMA COUNTY

ESTABLISHING AN ALMOND ORCHARD IN TEHAMA COUNTY - 1956

This cost study was designed to give an idea of expected costs per acre involved in establishing an almond orchard. The figures represent typical costs under assumed conditions. These conditions are as follows: 40 acres of level land, valued at \$500.00 per acre, 38 acres of which are planted to trees on 32 foot centers with 42 trees per acre.

Irrigation water is supplied by one of the local water districts at a cost of \$5.00 per acre per year. A wheel tractor, 100 gallon sprayer and all other needed tilling and digging implements were computed at retail value the first year. The costs of a fertilizer spreader and a 400 gallon air carrier sprayer were added the third year.

Major variations from these per acre costs will occur with variation of the size of planting, use of machinery already on hand, and incidence of disease and insect pest infestations.

The total cost per acre will remain about constant from the sixth year until self-sustaining, expected between the sixth and eighth year, depending on vigor, cultural practices and other factors.

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALMOND ORCHARD
First Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COSTS		Cost For Ac.
			Labor	Equipment	Material	Total	Per Acre	
Disc	Nov.	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Stake & Mark	Jan.-Feb.	1.5	1.50		Stakes 40 @ 5¢	2.00	3.50	
Dig Holes		.7	.70	.50			1.20	
Plant & Prune	Jan.-Feb.	1.7	1.75		Trees 40 @ 75¢	30.00	31.75	
Watering	Jan-Feb	3.0	3.00	2.50			5.50	
Fertilize	Feb.	1.0	1.00		Nitrogen 10# 15¢	1.50	2.50	
Spray Twice	March-May	1.5	1.50	1.50	DDT	.50	3.50	
Disc 2 times	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow 3 times	April-June-Aug.	.6	.60	.60			1.20	
Disc Furrows twice	June-Aug.	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Irrigate 6 times		3.0	3.00	.50	Water	5.00	8.50	
Hoe	May	3.0	3.00				3.00	
Spray once	June-Aug.	.7	.75	.75	Miticide	.25	1.75	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12.5 ¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			3.20	.80		1.00	5.00	
Total			23.00	10.00		52.00	85.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation					
	Land	\$500.		\$25.				
	Bldgs	130.		6.				
	Irrigation System	50.		3.				
	Equipment	120.		16.				
	Total	<u>800.</u>					50.00	
Total Cost Per Acre							135.00	

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALMOND OR HARD
Second Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost For Acres
			Labor	Equipment	Materials	Total	PerAcre	
Prune & train	Nov.--Dec.	2.0	2.00			2.00		
Fertilize	Dec.--Jan.	1.0	1.00		Nitrogen 10# @ 15¢	1.50	2.50	
Replant (2%)	January	.2	.20		Tree 1 @ 75¢	.75	.95	
Hoe twice	Feb.--July	4.0	4.00				4.00	
Spray 2 times	Feb.--March	1.2	1.25		DDT	.75	2.00	
Disc twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow 3 times	April-Aug.	.6	.60	.60			1.20	
Disc furrows twice	May-July	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Irrigate 5 times	April-Sept.	2.5	2.50	.50	Water	5.00	8.00	
Spray 1 time	June-Aug.	.7	.75	.75	Miticide	.25	1.75	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12½¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			3.20	1.80			5.00	
Total			18.00	6.00		20.00	44.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation					
	Land	\$500.		\$ 25.				
	Bldgs.	130.		6.				
	Irrigation	50.		3.				
	Equipment	120.		16.				
	Trees	135.		6.				
Total		935.					56.00	

Total Cost Per Acre 100.00

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALMOND ORCHARD
Third Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST				YOUR COST		Cost For Ac.
			Labor	Equipment	Material		Total	Per Acre	
Prune & train	Nov-Dec	7.0	7.00					7.00	
Remove brush	Nov-Dec	.5	.50	.50				1.00	
Fertilize	Dec-Jan	.3	.25	.25	Nitrogen 20# @ 15¢	3.00		3.50	
Replant (2%)	January	.2	.20		1 Tree	.75		.95	
Hoe	June	3.0	3.00					3.00	
Spray twice	Feb-March	1.4	1.40	3.60	D.D.T.	2.00		7.00	
Disc covercrop twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00				2.00	
Furrow twice	April-Aug.	1.0	1.00	1.00				2.00	
Irrigate 5 times	April-Sept.	5.0	5.00	.50	Water	5.00		10.50	
Disc furrows twice	May-July	1.0	1.00	1.00				2.00	
Spray	June-Aug	.7	.75	1.80	Miticide	1.00		3.55	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50				1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30 lb. @ 12½¢	3.75		4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20				.50	
Taxes						8.00		8.00	
Misc.			1.90	2.50		1.50		5.90	
Total			24.00	13.00		25.00		62.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation						
	Land	\$ 500.	\$ 25.						
	Bldgs.	130.	6.						
	Irrigation	50.	3.						
	Equipment	220.	27.						
	Trees	235.	12.						
	Trees	<u>1,135.</u>							
								73.00	
Total Cost Per Acre								135.00	

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALMOND ORCHARD
Fourth Year

Operation	Date	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost For Acres
			Labor	Equipment	Materials	Total	Per Acre	
Prune & train	Nov-Dec	10.0	10.00				10.00	
Remove brush	Nov-Dec	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Fertilize	Dec-Jan	.3	.25	.25	Nitrogen 21# @ 15¢	3.15	3.65	
Replant (2%)	January	.2	.20		Tree 1 @	.75	.95	
Hoe	June	3.0	3.00				3.00	
Spray twice	Feb-March	1.4	1.40	3.60	D.D.T.	2.00	7.00	
Disc covercrop twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow twice	May-July	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Irrigate 4 times	April-Sept.	4.0	4.00	.50	Water	5.00	9.50	
Disc	May-July	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Spray	June-Aug	.7	.70	1.80	Miticide	2.00	4.50	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12½¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			1.95	1.50		1.35	4.80	
Total			26.00	12.00		26.00	64.00	
Investmant	Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation						
Land	\$ 500.	\$ 25.						
Bldgs.	130.	6.						
Irrigation	50.	3.						
Equipment	220.	27.						
Trees	370.	20.						
Total		1,270.					81.00	

Total Cost Per Acre

145.00

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALMOND ORCHARD
Fifth Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COST			YOUR COST		Cost For ____ Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials	Total	Per Acre	
Prune & train	Nov-Dec	12.0	12.00				12.00	
Remove brush	Nov-Dec	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Fertilize	Dec-Jan	.3	.25	.25	Nitrogen 40# @ 15¢	6.00	6.50	
Hoe	June	3.0	3.00				3.00	
Spray 2 times	Feb-March	1.4	1.40	3.60	D.D.T.	2.00	7.00	
Disc covercrop twice	April	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Furrow twice	May-July	1.0	1.00	1.00			2.00	
Irrigate 4 times	April-Sept	4.0	4.00	.50	Water	5.00	9.50	
Spray	June-August	.7	.70	1.80	Miticide	3.00	5.50	
Disc	October	.5	.50	.50			1.00	
Plant cover crop	October	.2	.20	.15	Seed 30# @ 12½¢	3.75	4.10	
Harrow	October	.3	.30	.20			.50	
Taxes						8.00	8.00	
Misc.			2.65	1.00		1.25	4.90	
Total			28.00	11.00		29.00	68.00	
Investment		Per Acre	Interest & Depreciation					
	Land	\$ 500.		\$ 25.				
	Bldgs.	130.		6.				
	Irrigation	50.		3.				
	Equipment	220.		27.				
	Trees	515.		26.				
	Total	<u>1,415.</u>					87.00	

Total Cost Per Acre

155.00