

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE PROCESSING POTATOES IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1975

By J.W. Huffman and E.A. Yeary

Yield: 16.5 tons per acre harvested, 15 tons sold
 Harvest: September through April (Depending on contract) 10/75
 Plant: April, May & June

Total Labor Costs/Hr*	Hourly Tractor Costs			
		Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
Cl. I Tractor Driver 4.61	80 h.p. Crawler Diesel	6.50	3.12	2.34
Cl. II Tractor Driver 4.48	80 h.p. Wheel Diesel	3.20	1.80	.90
Other Labor 3.65	50 h.p. Wheel Diesel	2.10	1.52	.76

OPERATION	Tractor Used	Hours/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total/Acre
CULTURAL						
Cover Crop					Share to Potatoes	15.00
Disc & Roll 3X	C-80	0.69	3.09	4.49		7.58
Chisel 2X	C-80	1.0	4.48	6.50		10.98
Landplane 2X	C-80	0.52	2.33	3.38		5.71
List & Preplant Fertilizer					Contract @ \$4.50/Ac 1000# 12-12-12 @ \$100.00	104.50
Plant					Contract @ \$20.00/Ac 2700# seed @ \$6.00/Cwt (include cutting)	182.00
Nematode Control					Contract @ \$7.50/Ac DD @ \$55.00	62.50
Weed Control					Preplant: Contract @ \$7.50/Ac Materials (Eptam) \$13.25 Pre-digging: Contract @ \$5.75/Ac Materials \$27.50	54.00
Irrigation 7X		7.0	25.55		2.5 Ac ft. @ \$6.00/Ft \$2.00 booster pump	42.55
Fertilizer 2X					Contract side dress @ \$3.75/Ac 90# N @ .29/lb. in irrig. water. Application 75 LBS N @ .29/lb	53.10
Insecticides 4X					Contract @ \$4.55/Ac Materials @ \$40.00	58.20
Cultivations 4X	WD 50	2.0	8.96	5.60		14.56
Hoe & Weed		3.0	10.95			10.95
Roll Tops - Hill & Pack	WD 50	1.0	4.48	2.10		6.58
Misellaneous		4.0	14.60	5.50		20.10

TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS 648.31

OVERHEAD		
Business Costs: Office & Business Expense, etc, @ 7% Cultural Costs		45.38
Taxes: Equipment, except Tractors		9.50
Repairs: Except Trucks & Tractors		12.00
Rent:		225.00

TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS 291.88

TOTAL CULTURAL AND OVERHEAD COSTS 940.19

HARVEST		
Harvest: .40/Cwt Harvest, .35/Cwt Grading. Total .75/Cwt		247.50

TOTAL HARVEST COSTS 247.50

TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVEST COSTS 1187.69

ANNUAL COSTS	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 8%	
	Buildings	50.00	2.50	2.00	
	Irrig. System	90.00	9.00	3.60	
	Tractors	150.00	11.46	7.45	
	Equipment	100.00	10.00	4.00	
	Portable Irrig. Sys.	25.00	2.50	1.00	
		415.00	35.46	18.05	53.51

TOTAL COST PER ACRE 1241.20

COST PER TON @ 15 TONS MARKETABLE POTATOES PER ACRE 82.75

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

<u>YIELD, MARKETABLE TONS/ACRE</u>	<u>12.5</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>17.5</u>	<u>20</u>
Costs to Grow	940.19	940.19	940.19	940.19
Harvest Costs at @ \$15.00/Ton	210.00	247.50	285.00	322.50
Annual Costs	53.51	53.51	53.51	53.51
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TOTAL COSTS PER ACRE	1203.70	1241.20	1278.70	1316.20
Costs Per Ton	96.30	82.75	73.07	65.81

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study. It may be as much as 5% of the farm value of the crop.

* Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. FDI, social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation and pension plan.