

Farm & Home Advisors Office
1720 So. Maple Ave.
Fresno, Calif. (Phone 3-2284)

GROWING BLACKEYE BEANS IN FRESNO COUNTY

Soil Requirements: Blackeyes do best on sandy loam or loamy sand soils. Alkali soils are not suitable for blackeye beans.

Planting: Blackeyes may be planted from April 15 to July 1. They are often planted following barley. Blackeyes are planted about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep on 30 to 34 inch rows. Many growers use a 38 inch row so the equipment need not be changed when cotton or corn is grown on the same farm. This spacing may lead to lower yields. Seeds are spaced from 5 to 8 inches in the row, depending upon the row spacing. This will require 20 to 25 pounds of seed per acre.

Irrigation: The soil normally should be pre-irrigated. The crop should be irrigated as soon as the plants are large enough to permit furrowing out. Under no circumstance should the plants be allowed to wilt. After pod setting is well under way, irrigations in most cases may be stopped.

Fertilizers: Usually no fertilizers are required. On land where blackeyes have not been grown before inoculating the seed with the proper strain of nitrogen fixing bacteria may be beneficial.

Seed Treatment: On early plantings a seed treatment with a good fungicide may reduce the losses caused by damping-off. Early planted seed should also be treated with lindane to reduce the danger of damage by corn seed maggots and wireworms. These seed treatments are inexpensive and usually provide good insurance.

Cultivation: Only enough cultivation should be used to control the weeds.

Insect Control: Lygus bugs (cotton dauber) may seriously affect the yield and quality of beans. Early control is important. Contact the Farm Advisors Office for the latest control measures.

Double Cropping: Blackeyes may be double cropped with small grains. Pre-irrigation is always necessary in this practice. The crop should be planted before July 1. Later planted beans may be subject to rain damage.

Harvesting: Harvesting should begin when the major part of the pods have turned straw color. The vines are cut just below the surface of the soil with a vine cutter. The vines of two to four rows are then windrowed and allowed to dry. They are then threshed with a pickup harvester. Care should be taken to cut and rake vines during the early morning hours to reduce the danger of shatter.

Jan/55

WHAT WILL IT COST TO GROW BLACK EYE BEANS IN FRESNO COUNTY

Based on a yield of 1600 lbs. per acre
 (Double Cropped)
 Labor at \$.90 per hr; medium wheel tractor @ \$1.60

	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Cwt.	Per Acre	Per Cwt.
<u>PRE-HARVEST LABOR AND MATERIAL COSTS:</u>				
Land Preparation; man & tractor 2½ hrs.	\$ 6.25			
Planting; man & tractor .33 hr. (4 rows)	.80			
Cultipack; man & tractor .25 hr.	.62			
Seed; 20 lbs. @ 18¢	3.60			
Irrigate; 1 pre & 4 crop - 6 man hrs.	5.40			
Water; power for 2½ ac. ft. @ \$2.50	6.25			
Cultivation; 3 x - man & tractor 1½ hrs.	3.75			
Hoe & weed; 4 man hrs.	3.60			
Misc. labor & materials	2.00			
Total Pre-harvest Labor & Material Cost	32.27	2.02		
<u>HARVESTING COSTS:</u>				
Cut & windrow; man & tractor 1 hr.	2.50			
Combine - contract @ \$1.00/sack	16.00			
Hauling; roadsiding & to warehouse @ \$5.50/ton	4.40			
Reclean, fumigation & storage @ \$9.50/ton	7.60			
Sacks; 16 @ 25¢	4.00			
Total Harvesting Cost	34.50	2.15		
<u>CASH OVERHEAD COSTS:</u>				
General expense	3.40			
County taxes - 60% of \$6.00	3.60			
Misc. repairs, insurance, etc.	3.00			
Total Cash Overhead Cost	10.02	.63		
TOTAL CASH LABOR & FIELD POWER COST	76.79	4.80		
<u>DEPRECIATION:</u>				
Irrigation facilities (original cost \$110) 60%	4.20			
Equipment (except tractor & combine) cost \$17 + \$8	1.80			
Total Depreciation	6.00	.37		
<u>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 5%:</u>				
Irrigation facilities; on ½ cost \$55 @ 60%	1.65			
Equipment - av. value - \$9.10	.46			
Land @ \$500 @ 60%	15.00			
Total Interest on investment	17.10	1.07		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	99.89	6.24		

LYGUS CONTROL COST

If lygus bug (cotton dauber) control is necessary, add the cost to the above cash cost and total cost figures.