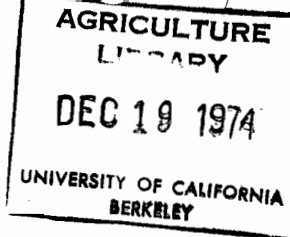


1973



SANTA ROSA PLUMS FOR FRESH SHIPMENT

Orchard Production Costs
in the
Southern San Joaquin Valley

Cost Analysis Worksheet Showing Sample Costs

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SANTA ROSA PLUMS FOR FRESH SHIPMENT
COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET - 1973

Sample costs to produce Santa Rosa plums for fresh shipment in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Costs are for a mature orchard containing 108 trees per planted acre, producing 400 cartons of fruit with approximately 25% of the total crop discarded as culls. Common labor \$2.70 per hour total and equipment operator \$2.95. Wages include Social Security, Workman's Compensation and insurance. Medium wheel tractor per hour cash cost \$1.80, depreciation \$2.00 and interest \$1.00.

Prepared by Edward A. Yeary, Farm Advisor-Statewide

	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
	Per Acre	Per Carton	Per Acre	Per Carton
Pre-Harvest Cash Costs:				
Pruning: 108 trees at \$1.50	\$ 162.00			
Brush shredding: contract \$6.50 per acre	6.50			
3 hrs. labor raking brush	8.10			
Fertilize: 100 lbs. N at 15¢	15.00			
½ hr. labor and tractor	2.38			
Spray 2 times: materials	35.47			
application 2¢/gallon, 900 gallons	18.00			
Furrow 3 times: 1½ hrs. labor and tractor	7.13			
Irrigate 7 times: labor 8 hrs.	21.60			
3½ ft. water: power + tax \$8/ac. ft.	28.00			
Disc 5 times: 7½ hrs. labor and tractor	35.63			
Thin: 108 trees at \$1.00	108.00			
Taxes	32.00			
Misc. labor, materials, field power, includes 4 hrs. labor and 1 tractor hr.	15.85			
Repairs to equipment except tractor	12.00			
Office, insurance, capital, business expenses	56.83			
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	\$ 564.49	\$1.41		
Harvesting Costs:				
Pick: 400 cartons (27 lbs.) at \$1.00	\$ 400.00			
Haul: 8¢ per packed carton	32.00			
Misc. 2 hrs. labor and 1 tractor hr.	7.45			
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS	\$ 439.45	\$1.10		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$1003.94	\$2.51		
Depreciation:				
Irrigation system and well \$300, 20 yrs.	\$ 15.00			
Bldgs. and equip. except tractor \$120, 12 yr. life	10.00			
Tractor: 11½ hrs. at \$2.00	23.00			
Trees: cost \$1918, 30 yrs. life	63.93			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 111.93	\$.28		
Interest on Investment at 8%:				
Irrigation system and well: ½ cost \$150	\$ 12.00			
Bldgs. and equip. except tractor, ½ cost \$60	4.80			
Tractor: 11½ hrs. at \$1.00	11.50			
Trees: ½ cost \$959	76.72			
Land: \$1200	96.00			
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	\$ 201.02	\$.50		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$1316.89	\$3.29		

SAMPLE COSTS AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: Tons per acre	Average				Exceptional	
	4	6	7	8	9	10
Total Cost of Production/Ton	\$281.12	\$207.42	\$186.43	\$170.55	\$158.32	\$148.54
Cash Costs Only/27 lb. Carton	3.66	2.80	2.55	2.37	2.22	2.11
Total Cost/27 lb. Carton	5.07	3.74	3.35	3.07	2.85	2.67
Packed Cartons per acre	222	333	389	444	500	556

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This work sheet was developed to show sample costs for a good yielding, mature orchard under southern San Joaquin Valley conditions. Specific years, areas and orchards may have different costs because of the following considerations:

1. Seasonal variations influence fruit set and quality. Consequently, differences in thinning, pest control and cullage will occur.

2. No account is made for partial or complete crop loss.

3. Interest and depreciation costs are based on present costs of establishing an orchard. Present bearing orchards were probably established at lower costs.

4. Costs per 2-layer carton are based on an average net weight of 27 lbs. Net weights vary depending on fruit size and maturity.

5. No allowance is made for cost of management, packing costs or commission charges.

6. Water costs vary in the southern San Joaquin Valley and an average cost is used in this study.

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