

SAMPLE INPUTS AND COSTS FOR BARLEY
Winter Sown with A Yield of 1500 lbs. Per Acre

Rolling Land Tassajara Area

	Hours Per Acre			Cost per acre	Cost per cwt.	Your costs
	Man labor	40 hp tractor	Truck			
Cut rake and burn stubble, variable	.4	.3		1.08		
Disk twice, 2.5 A. per hour each	.8	.8		2.48		
Harrow, 5 acres per hour	.2	.2		.62		
Broadcast, 2 men 6 A. per hour	.32	.16		.74		
Springtooth	.3	.3		.93		
Misc. other cultural work	.7		.4	1.85		
Total cultural labor and field power	2.72	1.76	.4	7.70	.51	
Combining, contract - hillside rate				7.00	.47	
Hauling grain to farm storage	.5		.5	1.75	.12	
Total labor and field power	3.22	1.76	.9	16.45	1.10	
Seed, 100 lbs. @ \$3.00 cwt.				3.00		
Weed spray contract, incl. material-2,4-D every other year				1.38		
Total material cost				4.38	.29	
Total labor and material cost			Renter	20.83	1.39	
General expense, office, car etc., at 5% of above			1.04	1.04		
County taxes on land				4.00		
County taxes on equipment			.60	.60		
Repairs to equipment other than tractor and truck			1.25	1.25		
Ins., comp., 15¢, Soc.Sec. 10¢, grain 20¢			.45	.45		
Rent			8.00			
Total cash overhead costs			11.34	7.34	.49	
Total cash costs			32.17	28.17	1.88	
Investment Overhead based on 300 A.grain and 600 A. eqt. use*	Original cost 300 A	Av. value	5% int.	Depreciation		
Implement shed	1,800	1.50	.07	.10		
Land	30,000	100.00	5.00			
Tractor and truck	13,000	10.80	.54	1.44		
Tillage equipment	1,950	1.62	.08	.32		
Broadcaster	350	.58	.03	.06		
Stor. bins & Elev.	3,750	6.25	.31	.63		
Total Inv. & deprec.	50,850	120.75		2.55	2.55	.17
Total cash & depreciation costs				34.72	30.72	2.05
Interest on investment			6.03	1.03	6.03	.40
Total all costs				35.75	36.75	2.45
Less value of stubble if grazed				2.00	2.00	.13
Net cost of barley, owner basis					34.75	2.32
Net cost of barley, renter basis				33.75		2.25

Labor costs above are figured at the following hourly rates: man labor \$1.50, 40 hp diesel crawler tractor \$1.60, 2-ton truck \$2.00. Tractor and truck rates are cash costs including repairs, taxes and insurance. Average value per acre for items that depreciate are half of the original cost which are at current prices.

*Investment and depreciation are for 300 A. except that the implement shed, tractor, truck, and tillage equipment are assumed to serve 600 total acres.

A renter's costs are shown in the fourth from the last column. Most costs are the same and it is presumed a renter would own the same equipment including an implement shed somewhere.

(over)

BARLEY PRODUCTION IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

BARLEY is the most important grain crop in Contra Costa County. Approximately 16,000 acres are devoted to this crop. Most of this land is in the hill sections of the county in non-irrigated areas. The use, operation and management of these lands are variable depending on the operator, the rainfall and the timing of cultural practices.

The cost data information in this sheet is based on a typical operation for the area described with certain assumptions as to size of farm. Individual growers can use these figures to evaluate their own operation. This should help you determine the value of changing practices and the advisability of shifting to some other crop. The figures can also be used to make comparisons with returns from land in the conservation reserve program and land used for pasturing beef and sheep.

The renter vs. operator column is included to point out the possible advantage of renting lands rather than owning lands with high fixed costs.

Interest on investment is another thing to take into consideration, if you have a chance to decide whether to own or rent land.

FERTILIZING BARLEY

Nitrogen fertilizers have been tried by some growers on barley in this area with conflicting results. The response from fertilizer with resulting benefit is tied very closely to the amount of timely rainfall. To properly evaluate a fertilizer program the practice should be extended over a period of at least five years. The Agricultural Extension Service is attempting to gather some information on the use of fertilizer on barley and other crops produced on the hill lands of Contra Costa County.

WEED SPRAYING

The schedule includes a cost for weed spraying on the basis of every other year application. Farmers in this area do not spray their entire acreage of barley every year. The decision to spray is based on weed population and the outlook for the crop at the time the spray material is to be applied. Amine forms of 2,4-D is recommended. Applied when the barley is about 6" high and well tillered--before the boot stage. 1/2 to 3/4 quarts per acre in 10 gallons of water for airplane application, 25 to 50 gallons of water for ground rig.

One half to 1 pint of 2,4-D low volatile ester in same amounts of water as above can be used where hard-to-kill fiddleneck is the principal weed.