

Typical Costs of Growing Baby/Lima Beans Ready  
For Harvest in Santa Clara County  
Yield 3000 lbs. per acre

	Hours per acre			Costs Per Acre	Cost Per CWT
	Man Labor	40 H.P. Tr. Tr.	30 H.P. W. Tr.		
Plow or chisel 2x	2	2		7.20	
Disc 4x	2	2		7.20	
Land Plane 3x	1.5	1.5		5.40	
Furrow and pre-irrigate	5.7		.7	6.82	
Harrow beds 2x	1		1	2.60	
Plant	1		1	2.60	
Roll	.2		.2	.52	
Cultivate 6x	3		3	7.80	
Hand hoe and weed	20			20.00	
Fertilizer side dressing	.5		.5	1.30	
Irrigate 4x	10			10.00	
Dust and spray	.3		.3	.78	
Disc Crop residue	.5	.5		1.80	
Misc. other work	2	2		7.20	
<b>Total cultural labor and field power</b>	<b>49.7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>81.22</b>	<b>2.71</b>
Seed - 110 lbs @ .16				17.60	
Fertilizer - 500 lbs 16-20-0				22.50	
Insecticide				7.00	
Irrigation water-power to pump 1.4 acres ft/ @ \$8.00				11.20	
<b>Total cost of materials</b>				<b>58.30</b>	<b>1.94</b>
<b>Total cost of labor and materials</b>				<b>139.52</b>	<b>4.65</b>
General Expense 5% of above costs				6.98	
Land rent per year				80.00	
County taxes on tillage equipment				2.00	
Repairs				1.50	
Compensation and Social Security				2.30	
Insurance Fire and Liability				1.00	
<b>Cash Overhead Costs</b>				<b>93.78</b>	<b>3.13</b>
<b>Total Cash Costs</b>				<b>233.30</b>	<b>7.78</b>

Dollars Per Acre

Investment overhead based on 100 acre farm with 30 acres of lima beans	New Cost	Average Value	5% Int.	Deprecia- tion	
Equipment shed	15	7.50	.38	.75	
Duster	3	1.50	.08	.30	
Tillage and planting equipment	57	28.50	1.43	4.81	
<b>Total Investment per acre</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>37.50</b>			
<b>Total interest on investment</b>			<b>1.89x2/3</b>		<b>1.26</b>
<b>Total Depreciation</b>				<b>5.86x2/3</b>	<b>3.91</b>
<b>Total all costs except management</b>					<b>238.47</b>
Drivers	1.35				
Labor	1.00				
40 H.P.	2.25				
30 H.P.	1.25				

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LIMA BEAN PRODUCTION - SANTA CLARA COUNTY

Local History and Value

Production of lima beans in the county has over the past several years been restricted to the baby lima varieties. The physiological disorder known as "blister" bean has entirely eliminated the production of the large seeded Concentrated Fordhook variety in this area.

Average annual acreage of the baby Limas has been about 1000 acres with a gross value of approximately \$200,000.

Adaptation and Cultural Practices

The main plantings are made from early to late May on raised beds, 40 to 42 inches center to center and 2 rows per bed.

Irrigation is by the furrow method. Depending on whether or not pre-irrigation is used and on soil type the number of applications will vary from three to five. Total water usage by the crop over the season amounts to approximately 24 acre inches per acre. Pre-irrigation is advisable

Fertilizer practices vary but pre-plant applications of 40 to 80 pounds of actual nitrogen plus equivalent amounts of  $P_2O_5$  produce satisfactory results.

Pest and Disease Control

Seed treatment generally provides adequate control of seed decay (Pithium) and seed corn maggot. Rhizoctonia solani may cause a root and stem rot at the seedling stage. Control through the use of P.C.N.B. is possible, but yields in most cases have not been increased as a result of treatment.

Weeds can be a serious problem, but since the crop is planted fairly late pre-plant cultivation practices can be effective in reducing this hazard. Follow the University of California annual "Vegetable Weed Control Guide" for current recommendations.

Insect problems include such pests as spider mites, lima bean pod borer, lygus and others. Current treatment methods are best obtained through following the annual University of California "Vegetable Pest Control Guide". This guide also covers current recommendations for control of root rot nematode which can be a serious problem in lima bean production.

Harvest

Harvest operations are handled by the freezer concern with whom the grower has contracted his crop.