

Grapes

**WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION COSTS
IN THE NORTH COAST COUNTIES**

**IRRIGATED CANE-PRUNED
PREMIUM VARIETIES**

1966

Sample costs presented in this sheet are chiefly for the production of varieties such as Cabernet Sauvignon, Sauvignon blanc, Chardonnay, Gerwurztraminer, White Riesling, and Pinot noir. The data were developed in Mendocino, Napa, and Sonoma Counties.

Cost Analysis Worksheet
Showing Sample Costs

COST ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

IRRIGATED, CANE-PRUNED, PREMIUM WINE VARIETIES — Sample Costs of Production, 1966 — Planted 8 by 12 Feet, 413 Vines per Acre

	Cost per acre	Cost per ton	Your cost		Cost per acre	Cost per ton	Your cost
PREHARVEST CASH & LABOR COST				DEPRECIATION			
Pruning — 413 vines, 20 M-hr, incl. sup.	\$ 31.20			Vines — cost basis \$858, 30-yr life	\$ 28.60		
Brush disposal (chopper) — .5 M-hr & .5 TR-hr	1.50			Irrig. facilities — cost \$240, 16-yr life	15.00		
Tying canes — 4 M-hr	6.20			Building for equipment — cost \$30, 30-yr life	1.00		
Sulfuring 4 times (power duster) — 1.2 M-hr & 1.2 TR-hr	3.60			Tractor, tillage eqmt., chopper — cost \$165, 15-yr life	11.00		
Sulfur — 40 lb @ 5.5¢	2.20			Truck or pickup (used) — cost \$40, 10-yr life	4.00		
Spraying for mites once (contract) — @ 2¢/gal	6.00			Duster, gondolas, & misc. eqmt. — cost \$50, 10-yr life	5.00		
Spray material (miticide)	6.50			Total Depreciation Cost	\$ 64.60	\$ 16.15	
Apply commercial fertilizer — .5 M-hr & .1 TK-hr, & 4 TR-hr	1.58			Total Cash & Depreciation Cost	\$334.04	\$ 83.51	
Fertilizer — To supply 50 lb actual N @ 11¢	5.50			INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 6%			
Apply weed spray vine row (contract)	6.00			Vines — on ½ cost (\$429)	\$ 25.74		
Weed spray material	5.60			Irrig. facilities — on ½ cost (\$120)	7.20		
Cultivation, 4 times over — 3 M-hr & 3 TR-hr	9.00			Building for equipment — on ½ cost (\$15)	.90		
Irrigation labor 2 times — 2 M-hr	3.10			Tractor, tillage eqmt., chopper — on ½ cost (\$82.50)	4.95		
Water — power	7.00			Truck or pickup (used) — on ½ cost (\$20)	1.20		
Misc. labor, trellising, etc. — 7 M-hr, 1 TR-hr, & 1 TK-hr	14.50			Duster, gondolas, & misc. eqmt. — on ½ cost (\$25)	1.50		
Misc. material	5.00			Land @ \$1,000	60.00		
County taxes	22.00			Total Interest on Investment	\$ 101.49	\$ 25.37	
Office, car, etc. (5% of cash cost)	12.78			TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION — 4-ton yield¹	\$ 435.53	\$108.88	
Repairs, except field power	6.00			TOTAL COST AT VARYING YIELDS			
Total Preharvest Cash & Labor Cost	\$155.31	\$ 38.83		2 ton	\$378.46	\$189.23	
HARVESTING COST				3 ton (with same cultural & overhead cost/acre & harvesting cost/ton)	406.99	135.66	
Picking — @ \$22.50/ton	\$ 90.00	\$ 22.50		5 ton	464.05	92.81	
Supervision — 4 M-hr	7.00	1.75		6 ton	492.58	82.10	
Move gondolas & misc. — 2 M-hr, .5 TR-hr, & .5 TK-hr	5.13	1.28					
Haul to winery — @ \$3/ton	12.00	3.00					
Total Harvesting Cash Cost	\$114.13	\$ 28.53					
Total Cash & Labor Cost	\$269.44	\$ 67.36					

Based on a 40-acre vineyard with a yield of 4 tons/acre. Man labor @ \$1.55 and \$1.75/hour (includes compensation insurance and Social Security, but no allowance for housing or other benefits). Tractor cash cost/hour @ \$1.25, truck @ \$2.

¹Does not include any cost for management. This is sometimes calculated at 5% of the gross income.

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This is a companion sheet to AXT-156, Vineyard Establishment Costs in the North Coast Counties for Irrigated, Cane-Pruned Premium Wine Varieties. Other cost data sheets cover establishment and production costs for nonirrigated, head-pruned wine varieties. The input and cost data are to be used only as guides in determining production costs for a specific vineyard and to help growers analyze costs and practices that might increase production efficiency. The figures shown are based on good management practices and do not represent industry averages.

YIELD – The yield of 4 tons per acre is above average for the area, but is below that attained in some vineyards. This figure is typical of an attainable annual average for the better vineyards planted with certified stock and cared for in accordance with the recommended cultural practices included in the costs shown.

DEER FENCING – In some vineyards, permanent fencing may be an added cost. Overhead and maintenance costs may be from \$5 to \$7 an acre annually.

FROST PROTECTION – Frost protection facilities would be an added cost.

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