

SAMPLE COSTS FOR PRODUCING CANNING/TOMATOES

Santa Clara County 1963 - Yield 20 Tons per Acre

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Operation	Hours per Acre	COST PER ACRE			Approx. Cost Per Ton
		Labor	Machinery Operation	Total	
Land preparation	3.6	\$ 5.95	\$ 14.40	20.35	
List	.4	.65	1.00	1.65	
Plant:	.4	.65	1.00	1.65	
Cultivate 4 times	3.0	4.95	7.60	12.55	
Irrigate 4 times	10.0	12.50		12.50	
Thin	15.0	16.50		16.50	
Hoe	15.0	16.50		16.50	
Dust 2 times	.3	.50	.70	1.20	
Misc. cultural costs	3.0	4.95	3.55	8.50	
Total cultural labor and equipment		63.15	28.25	91.40	\$ 4.57
Picking 800 = 50 lb. boxes @ 17¢		136.00		136.00	
Supervision \$12 - Loading 2¢ box		28.00		28.00	
Box Rent \$8 - Inspection \$3 - Labor Assn \$6		9.00	8.00	17.00	
Total Harvest		173.00	8.00	181.00	9.05
Irrigation power to pump 20 inches				4.40	
Seed ½ lb. @ \$9				4.50	
Fertilize 3 times - 125 lbs. 16-20, 400 lb. 15-8-4, 65 lb. N				28.55	
Dust - 60 lb. DDT and Lindane, 40 lb. DDT and Sulfur				11.20	
Airplane application 1 time				2.00	
Total material				50.65	2.53
misc. overhead				16.00	
Property taxes				20.00	
Total misc. overhead				36.00	1.80
Total cash cost				359.00	17.95
Investment for 160 acre farm	Original	Cost	Annual Cost		
	Total	per Acre	Interest @ 6%	Depre- ciation	
Land	\$192,000	\$1200	72.00		
Irrigation System	20,000	125	3.75	6.25	
Buildings	5,000	30	.90	1.50	
Equipment	44,850	280	8.40	28.00	
Total		261,850	1635	85.05	35.75
Total interest and depreciation				120.80	6.04
Management 5% of of 20 tons @ \$23				18.40	0.92
Total cost per acre - owner basis				498.20	
Cost per ton				24.91	24.91
Costs On Rental Basis					
Cultural labor and equipment - same as above				91.40	
Harvest				181.00	
Material				50.65	
Misc. overhead				16.00	
Rent				90.00	
Interest and depreciation on equipment from above				36.40	
Management same as above				18.40	
Total cost per acre				483.85	
Cost per ton				24.19	24.19

Labor cost per hour including Social Security and Compensation Insurance.

Skilled 1.65

Per Hour Tractor Rates:

Irrigators 1.25

TD 60 or equivalent - \$3.50

Hoe and Thin 1.10

W 30 or equivalent 2.25

SAMPLE INPUTS and COSTS for CANNING TOMATOES - SANTA CLARA COUNTY
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About This Cost Study

The cost figures on the opposite side of this sheet do not necessarily represent an average cost for all Santa Clara County growers. Average costs may be increased or decreased from one year to another by weather conditions which can greatly influence disease, weed and pest problems. Thus, unfavorable weather conditions would not only reduce yields but would also increase costs as a result of added measures taken to lessen potential yield losses.

Some essential points to keep in mind when considering these cost figures are:

- All cost of production figures in this study are based on the culture and non-mechanized harvest of standard varieties such as A-1, VF6, VF11, VF36, VF14, CP2 and others. Mechanized harvest and the culture of compact varieties having concentrated fruit set (U.C. 145) will likely reflect production costs significantly different from those found here. Special studies will have to be made to determine production costs on mechanically harvested canning tomatoes.
- Cost per unit of product (tomato) is or should be much more significant to a grower than cost per acre. Cost per unit is a measure of efficiency; cost per acre is not.
- For the individual grower, some of the operations and materials used as listed in this study, may not be necessary. In other cases additional operations and materials will be needed. Such additions or deletions can only be logically determined on an individual basis. Obviously, such changes can materially effect total costs.
- Management costs, which are sometimes calculated at 10% of gross income are in this study listed at 5% of an assumed gross. However, a portion of "Misc. overhead" could also be considered as a reflection of management costs.

Local History and Adaptation

Production of canning tomatoes in Santa Clara County has a long history. Soil, water and climatic conditions are very favorable; fruit quality is generally very good and yields in excess of 40 tons per acre have been recorded. Yield averages, however, are frequently reduced by delayed harvests, early frosts or rain and plantings in marginal or diseased soils.

Plantings are made from February to early June. Harvesting generally begins in August and continues through October.

Tomato References

Information on cultural practices, weed, disease and pest control, harvesting, marketing, etc., can be obtained from the following references available at your local Agricultural Extension Service Office.

MACHINE HARVESTING TOMATOES (one sheet)

HOW TO PICK CANNING TOMATOES (one sheet)

TOMATO PEST CONTROL PROGRAM 1963 (Booklet)

WEED CONTROL IN TOMATOES (OSA #125 - one sheet)