

# **GREENHOUSE CUCUMBERS**

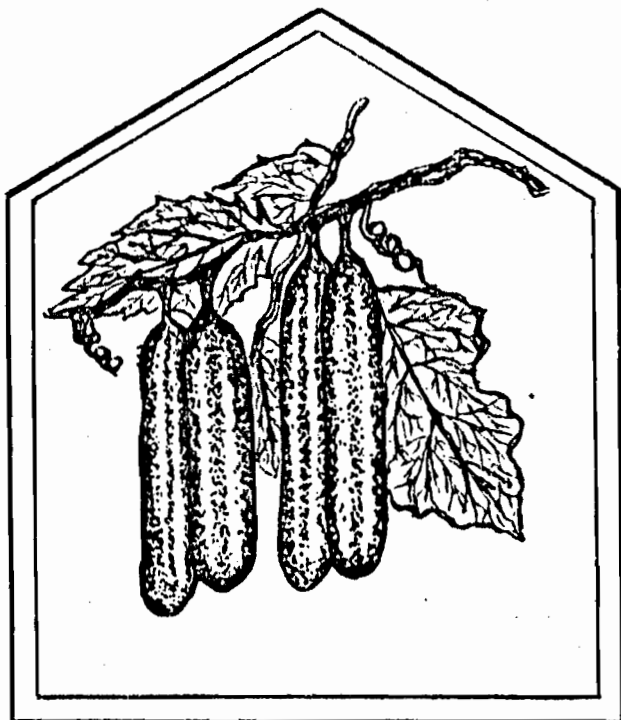
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## **BAG CULTURE**

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**COST OF PRODUCTION AND EQUIPMENT  
IN  
SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY**

**1986**



GREENHOUSE CUCUMBERS - BAG CULTURE

Cost of Production and Equipment  
in  
San Joaquin Valley

1986

Prepared by Gary W. Hickman, Farm Advisor San Joaquin County, and Karen Klonsky, Specialist, U.C. Davis.

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As with any cost study, certain assumptions must be made to complete the analysis. Listed below are those assumptions for this study:

- 20,000 square-foot greenhouse, metal with double-layer polyethylene covering.
- Natural gas heating.
- One-acre land requirement at \$5,000/acre.
- Production of 185 boxes (approx. 16 lb fruit) per 1000 square feet, one 4-month winter crop.
- Plant density, 8 square feet per plant.
- Reuse of bag and media two times (one year of production).
- Figures presented are not average costs, but costs based on good cultural practices to produce a quality product.

This computerized cost study is designed to allow most factors to be easily changed and recalculated. If you would like a customized calculation, send a copy of this cost study with your own cost figures and a self-addressed-stamped envelope to the address above.

Cucumbers: Cultural Costs for Greenhouse Production-1986 San Joaquin Valley, Calif.

Based on Bag Culture, one 4-month Winter Crop, 120 plants/1000 sq ft

Prepared by: Gary W. Hickman and Karen Klonsky, Univ. of California Coop. Ext.

Labor rates: \$ 7.50 per hour skilled labor  
 \$ 4.09 per hour field labor  
 Yield: 185 boxes per 1000 sq ft (15-one pound fruit/box)

Operation	Labor hours per 1000 sq ft	Cash and labor Costs per 1000 sq ft			total Cost
		Labor	Materials	Cost	
<b>Cultural Costs:</b>					
Plastic roof cover (replace every 2 1/2 years)	2	11.59	\$119 per 1000 sq ft over 2 1/2 years	23.00	35.39
setuo germination house	2	15.00	Pots, soil, seed, water, etc.	60.00	75.00
Grow transplants	2	15.00			15.00
bag preparation, filling	2	8.18	bags and media	61.20	69.38
planting and support	2	8.18			8.18
prune and train	20	81.75	String & clips-\$10.32 over 2 years	2.50	84.33
fertilize & irrigate	2	15.00	fertilizer	51.00	66.00
pest control	4	30.00	pesticides	17.00	47.00
utilities			gas	225.00	225.00
			Electricity	44.64	44.64
plant removal	1	4.09			4.09
maintenance and roofing	6	36.81			36.81
supervision	7	52.50			52.50
interest on operating capital			10% annual rate for 4 months		25.44
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COST</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>278.08</b>		<b>485.22</b>	<b>788.74</b>
<b>harvest costs:</b>					
Picking	20	81.75			81.75
Wrapping & boxing (see 'service')	(15)		Custom-\$1.75 per box Shrink wrap- \$.29/box Box- \$.55 each Service- \$.91 per box	53.65 101.75 168.35	323.75
Marketing	2	15.00			15.00
hauling	5	20.44	Truck mileage \$.18 per box	33.30	53.74
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>117.19</b>			<b>474.24</b>
<b>Cash overhead</b>					
office and business costs					50.00
county taxes					120.00
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS</b>					<b>170.00</b>
<b>Total Cash Costs</b>					<b>1432.98</b>
<b>Total cash cost per box</b>		<b>185 boxes</b>			<b>7.75</b>
<b>Investment</b>					
		Original Cost 1,000 sq ft	Cost per crop Depreciation	Interest @ 10%	
Equipment & buildings		4793.00	170.00	80.00	258.00
land		250.00		25.00	25.00
<b>Total Investment Cost/Crop</b>					<b>283.00</b>
<b>TOTAL COSTS PER 1,000 Square feet of Greenhouse</b>					<b>1715.98</b>
<b>Cost per box</b>		<b>(if yeild=185 boxes/1000 sq ft)</b>			<b>9.28</b>

Equipment costs for greenhouse cucumbers  
greenhouse cucumbers-- San Joaquin Valley ,Calif.--1986  
Equipment and Building List--20,000 sq ft Greenhouse

Item	Original Cost	Cost Per 1,000 sq. ft.	Life (years)	Depreciation	Interest 12%	Total \$
Greenhouse structure	47600	2380	10	238	143	381
Greenhouse Contract labor	10000	500	10	50	30	80
Heaters, fans and cooling	7500	375	10	38	23	60
Irrigation system	5950	298	10	30	18	48
Pump, well, Pressure Storage	5000	250	20	13	15	28
Electrical material & contract labor	6000	300	10	30	18	48
Tools, hoses, etc.	600	30	2	15	2	17
Pickup truck	10000	500	5	100	30	130
Pesticide sprayer	1200	60	5	12	4	16
Packing structure	2000	100	10	10	6	16
<b>total</b>	<b>95850</b>	<b>4793</b>		<b>535</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>822</b>
<b>Cost per crop--3 per year</b>				<b>178</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>274</b>