

SAMPLE COSTS
TO PRODUCE
GRAIN SORGHUM
IN THE LOWER
SACRAMENTO VALLEY
1974

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE GRAIN SORGHUM--DOUBLE CROPPED
Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of grain sorghum on a 1,000 acre ranch. Yield: 45 cwt. Labor rates including fringe benefits \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
dollars						
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Burn		.10				.10
Disc 2X	.3	1.15	2.30			3.45
Harrow 1X	.1	.35	.55			.90
Ridge	.1	.20	.15			.35
Pre-irrigate	.5	1.30		Water 4"	1.30	2.60
Fertilize	.2	.60	.55	120# N @ \$.20	24.00	25.15
Disc 1X	.2	.70	1.40			2.10
Drill seed	.2	.70	.70	20# @ \$.34	6.80	8.20
Insecticide				Materials	1.50	
				Plane	2.50	4.00
Irrigate 2X	1.0	2.60		Water	2.55	5.15
Misc.	1.0	3.50	2.15			5.65
Crop loan interest					1.00	1.00
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		11.20	7.80		39.65	58.65
<u>Harvest Costs</u>						
Combine				Contract 2.25 ton @ \$5.00	11.25	
Haul				Contract 2.25 ton @ \$2.50	5.65	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						16.90
<u>Cash Overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					5.95	
Taxes					.95	
Rent				20% of 45 cwt. @ \$5	45.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						51.90
TOTAL CASH COST		11.20	7.80		108.45	127.45
Management 5% of 45 cwt. @ \$5/cwt.						11.25
<u>Annual Cost</u>						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>		<u>Interest 8%</u>		
Equipment	\$95	\$9.50		\$3.80		
Total						13.30
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						152.00
Cost per cwt. @ 45 cwt. yield						3.38

COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield per acre-cwt.	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
Production cost per cwt.	\$4.75	\$4.16	\$3.72	\$3.38	\$3.10	\$2.88	\$2.69

GRAIN SORGHUM BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: Grain sorghum can be grown on a wide variety of soils but does best on the deeper, fertile soils free of alkali or other injurious salts.

Planting Date: Do not plant before the soil temperature is 60-65° F, usually late April or early May. Early maturing varieties can be planted as late as early July.

Harvest Date: Depends on variety and planting date. Harvest before fall rains start if possible.

Varieties: Consult your Farm Advisor

Seeding Rates: Hybrid varieties 8-15 pounds, early maturing varieties 20-25 pounds.

Fertilizer: Use 150-200 lbs. nitrogen per acre.

Irrigation: Requires 2-1/2-3 acre feet of water. Ample water during the early growth and particularly at the boot stage is important.

Weed Control: Irrigate and cultivate to kill weeds prior to planting. Use high seeding rates in close rows to reduce water grass competition. Atrazine can be used to reduce water grass competition.

Insect Control: Green bug can be a severe problem. Check with your Farm Advisor for control measures.

Diseases: Root rots can be a problem in some areas with some varieties.

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