

CROP CLIP SHEET

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE GRAIN SORGHUM

in
Merced and Madera Counties - 1977

By
Bill L. Weir, Farm Advisor, Merced County
Clarence Johnson, Farm Advisor, Madera County
Ed Yeary, Farm Advisor, Statewide

The first step in intelligent crop planning is an objective analysis of production costs and potential profits. The sample costs on the reverse side of this page are for growing sorghum in Merced and Madera Counties. The figures used are from the latest and most reliable sources available and are based on good management practices. It is assumed that sorghum will be grown in rotation with other field crops.

A suggested way to use the sample costs sheet is to insert your actual costs in the blank column and use the sample costs only when actual costs are not known. Overhead fixed costs may be omitted when comparing alternate crops.

The table below shows the effect of various yields on production costs using the sample costs shown on the reverse side of this page.

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE GRAIN SORGHUM AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: Tons per acre	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.0	3.5
Costs per ton	\$205.31	\$155.68	\$125.90	\$106.05	\$ 91.87

Bill L. Weir

Bill L. Weir
Farm Advisor

240 West 17th Street, Merced, California 95340; Telephone 726-7404
Cooperative Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics, U.S.
Department of Agriculture, University of California and Merced County
cooperating.

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE GRAIN SORGHUM IN MERCED AND MADERA COUNTIES, 1977

Equipment operator \$4.60 per hour total cost
Other labor \$3.80 per hour

Medium wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$3.20,
depreciation \$1.86 and interest 9¢

Yield: 2½ tons per acre - single cropped

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and Labor Costs Per Acre				Sample costs per acre	My Costs
		Labor	Fuel and repairs	Materials	Costs		
Cultural:							
Land preparation	2.5	\$11.50	\$10.50			\$ 22.00	
Pre-plant fertilizer-custom				50 lbs. N. at 12¢ app. \$3.50	\$ 9.50	9.50	
Plant (4 row planter)	.3	1.38	1.40	Seed: 12 lbs. at 54¢	6.48	9.26	
Fertilize	.5	2.30	2.00	100 lbs. N. at 20¢	20.00	24.30	
Irrigate: 1 pre, 5 crop	6.0	22.80	3.00	3 ac. ft. water at \$6.00	18.00	43.80	
Cultivate 2X	.7	3.22	2.80			6.02	
Taxes					15.00	15.00	
Miscellaneous	1.0	4.20	2.00	Materials, etc.	3.00	9.20	
Pre-Harvest Cultural Costs		\$45.40	\$21.70		\$71.98	\$139.08	
Harvest costs:							
Combine				\$12 per acre plus \$4.00/ton	22.00	22.00	
Haul				\$2.80 ton (up to 10 miles)	7.00	7.00	
Total Harvest Costs					\$29.00	\$ 29.00	
Business and Office Costs				6% cultural and harvest costs		10.08	
Total Cash Costs						\$178.16	
Sample Costs at Varying Yields		Depreciation and Interest					
<u>Tons per acre</u>	<u>Costs per ton</u>	<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest 8%</u>		
1.5	\$205.31	Land	1100		88.00		
2.0	155.68	Irr. System	260	13.00	10.40		
2.5	125.90	Tractor 4.5 hrs.		8.37	4.23		
3.0	106.05	Equipment	90	9.00	3.60		
3.5	91.87			<u>30.37</u>	<u>106.23</u>		
		Total Cost per acre					\$136.60
							\$314.76
		Cost per ton at 2½ ton yield					\$125.90