

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SPRING SPINACH IN MONTEREY COUNTY-1975

By J.W. Huffman and E.A. Yeary

SP-CC-75

Yield: 10 tons per acre (1 cutting)  
 Harvest: March - April  
 Plant: November 15 to January 10

Total Labor Costs/Hr*		Hourly Tractor Costs				
				Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
Cl. I Tractor Driver	4.61	80 h.p. Crawler Diesel		6.50	3.12	2.34
Cl. II Tractor Driver	4.48	80 h.p. Wheel Diesel		3.20	1.80	.90
Other Labor	3.65	50 h.p. Wheel Diesel		2.10	1.52	.76
OPERATION	Tractor Used	Hours/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Total/Acre
<b>CULTURAL</b>						
Disc & Roll	3x C-80	0.69	3.09	4.49		7.58
Chisel	2x C-80	1.0	4.48	6.50		10.98
Landplane	2x C-80	0.52	2.33	3.38		5.71
List & Preplant Fertilize					Contract @ \$4.50/ac 500# 12-12-12 @ \$50.00	54.50
Shape Beds & Roll	WD-50	0.25	1.12	0.53		1.65
Plant-4 Bed Planter	WD-50	0.50	2.24	1.65	15# hybrid seed @ \$1.05/lb	19.64
Herbicide					contract @ \$5.00/ac materials \$12.00	17.00
Irrigate	2x (1 preplant)	4.0	14.60		.75 ac.ft. @ \$6.00/ ac. ft. for power, \$2.00 for booster pump	21.10
Fertilize	2x				Contract @ \$3.75/ac 200# N @ .29/lb	65.50
Pest Control	3x				Contract @ \$4.55/ac Materials \$24.00	37.65
Cultivate	3x WD-50	1.5	6.72	3.15		9.87
Hoe & Weed		4.0	14.60			14.60
Miscellaneous		4.0	14.60	5.50		20.10
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>						<b>285.88</b>
<b>OVERHEAD</b>						
Business Costs:	Office & Business Expenses, etc, @ 7% Cultural Costs					20.00
Taxes:	Equipment, Except Tractors					7.50
Repairs:	Except Trucks & Tractors					10.00
Rent:	\$225.00/Ac, 6 Months to Spinach					112.50
<b>TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS</b>						<b>150.00</b>
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL AND OVERHEAD COSTS</b>						<b>435.88</b>
<b>HARVEST - HARVESTED BY PROCESSOR</b>						
ANNUAL COSTS	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest-8%		
50% charged to spinach, tractors are on an hourly basis	Buildings	50.00	2.50	2.00		
	Irrig. System	90.00	9.00	3.60		
	Tractors	150.00	10.32	6.88		
	Equipment	100.00	10.00	4.00		
	Portable Irrig. Sys.	25.00	2.50	1.00		
		415.00	34.32	17.48		
	6 Months (Except Tractors & Equipment) to Spinach					34.50
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>						<b>470.38</b>
<b>COST PER TON @ 10 TONS PER ACRE</b>						<b>47.04</b>

(see reverse side)

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: tons per acre	8	9	10	11	12
Growing Costs	469.78	469.78	469.78	469.78	469.78
Cost Per Ton	58.72	52.20	46.98	42.71	39.15

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study. It may be as much as 5% of the farm value of the crop.

\* Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. FDI, social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation and pension plan.