

SAMPLE INPUTS AND COSTS FOR BARLEY - Antioch-Lone Tree Area
On Fallow With a Yield of 1800 lbs. Per AcrePaul Lamborn, Farm Advisor
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JUN 23 1959

June 1959

	Hours per acre			Cost per acre	Cost per cwt.	Est. your costs
	Man labor	40 hp tractor	truck			
Plow once	1.0	1.0		3.10		
Harrow once	.2	.2		.62		
Disk twice	.8	.8		2.48		
Harrow	.2	.2		.62		
Drill	.4	.4		1.24		
Misc. other, haul seed, service, etc.	.6	.1	0.2	1.46		
Subtotal cultural labor, field power	3.2	2.7	0.2	9.52	.53	
Combining, contract				6.00	.33	
Hauling grain to farm storage	.4		.4	1.40	.08	
Total labor and field power	3.6	2.7	0.6	16.92	.94	
Seed 100 lbs. at \$300 cwt.				3.00		
Weed spray, contract, material and application				2.75		
Total materials			Renter	5.75	.32	
Total labor, materials, and field power			22.67	22.67	1.26	
General expense, office, car, etc. est. at 5% of above			1.13	1.13		
County taxes on land, \$3.00 an acre, 2 years				6.00		
Taxes on equipment			.60	.60		
Repairs to equipment other than tractor or truck			1.25	1.25		
Insurance, comp., 25; Soc. Sec., 10; grain, 25			.60	.60		
Rent at \$6.00 per acre for 2 years			12.00			
Total cash overhead costs			15.58	9.58	.53	
Total cash costs			38.25	32.25	1.79	
Investment Overhead based on 300 A grain and 600 A eqt. use*	Original cost 300 A	Av. value	5% int.	Depreciation		
		Dollars per acre				
Implement shed	1,800	3.00	.15	.20		
Land \$100 A, 2 years	60,000	200.00	10.00			
Tractor & truck	13,000	10.80	.54	1.44		
Tillage equipment	2,550	2.12	.11	.28		
Grain drill	750	1.25	.06	.17		
Stor. bins & elev.	3,750	6.25	.31	.63		
Total invest. & deprec.	81,850	223.42		2.72	2.52	.15
Total cash and depreciation costs				40.77	34.97	1.94
Total interest on investment			11.17	1.02	11.17	.62
Total all costs				41.79	46.14	2.56
Less value of stubble if grazed				2.00	2.00	.11
Net cost of barley, owner basis					44.14	2.45
Net cost of barley, renter basis				39.79		2.21

Labor costs above are figured at the following hourly rates: Man labor \$1.50, 40 hp tractor \$1.60, 2-ton truck for grain \$2.00. Tractor and truck rates are cash costs including repairs, taxes, insurance. Average value per acre for items that depreciate is half of the original cost. Original costs are at current new prices. Older or used equipment might have lower overhead costs.

Renters costs are shown in the fourth column from the right, with the rent at \$6.00 an acre taking the place of taxes and interest on land in the owners column. A renter would have equipment and storage tanks the same as an owner.

*Tractor, truck and tillage equipment are presumed used on 600 A, the other facilities are just for 300 A of barley, which includes the fallow year.

BARLEY PRODUCTION IN CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

BARLEY is the most important grain crop in Contra Costa County. Approximately 16,000 acres are devoted to this crop. Most of this land is in the hill sections of the county in non-irrigated areas. The use, operation and management of these lands are variable depending on the operator, the rainfall and the timing of cultural practices.

The cost data information in this sheet is based on a typical operation for the area described with certain assumptions as to size of farm. Individual growers can use these figures to evaluate their own operation. This should help you determine the value of changing practices and the advisability of shifting to some other crop. The figures can also be used to make comparisons with returns from land in the conservation reserve program and land used for pasturing beef and sheep.

The renter vs. operator column is included to point out the possible advantage of renting lands rather than owning lands with high fixed costs.

Interest on investment is another thing to take into consideration, if you have a chance to decide whether to own or rent land.

FERTILIZING BARLEY

Nitrogen fertilizers have been tried by some growers on barley in this area with conflicting results. The response from fertilizer with resulting benefit is tied very closely to the amount of timely rainfall. To properly evaluate a fertilizer program the practice should be extended over a period of at least five years. The Agricultural Extension Service is attempting to gather some information on the use of fertilizer on barley and other crops produced on the hill lands of Contra Costa County.

WEED SPRAYING

This cost schedule includes \$2.75 for this practice during the crop year. An application of 2,4-D will pay off in higher yields and less trouble with foreign material during harvest time. Some years this expense can be eliminated depending on weed population and the moisture supply. Amine forms 2,4-D are recommended. Applied when the barley is about 6" high and well tillered--before the boot stage. 1/2 to 3/4 qts. per acre in 10 gals. of water for airplane application, 25 to 50 gals. of water for ground rig.

One half to 1 pint of 2,4-D low volatile ester in same amounts of water as above can be used where hard-to-kill fiddleneck is the principal weed.