

AVOCADOS

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE 1966

Based on 90 trees per acre with permanent irrigation system, non-tillage, wind machine for frost protection, owner-operated with labor charge at \$1.80 per hour.

Agricultural Extension Service
University of California
684 Buena Vista Street
Ventura, California

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE AVOCADOS
VENTURA COUNTY - 1966

CULTURAL OPERATION	SAMPLE COSTS PER ACRE			
	Labor Cost	Materials and Equipment Item	Cost	Total Cost/A
Nutrition				
Nitrogen, broadcast - 2 times	\$ 3.60	180 lbs actual N (\$10.54); pickup \$4.50	\$ 23.40	\$ 27
Zinc foliage spray - helicopter	7.00	6 lbs Zn oxide (27¢); 27 ozs spreader (6¢)	3.31	10
Irrigation - 12 times	21.60	2.5 acre feet @ \$18.00 per acre foot	45.00	67
Frost Protection - 5 hp per acre	3.60	Standby @ \$7.50 per hp	37.50	41
Weed Control				
Herbicide	3.60	1 lb herbicide @ \$2.85; spray rig \$4.00	6.85	11
Spot oil treatment - 2 times	7.20	50 gals oil (15¢); spray rig \$8.00	12.50	20
Pruning - skirt, hedge, deadwood	18.00	Brush disposal	7.00	25
Pest Control - snails, gophers	5.40	Baits, traps, insecticides	6.00	11
Miscellaneous	25.00	Supplies and tools	6.00	31
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS	\$95.00		\$147.56	\$243

INVESTMENT	Investment per Acre	Depreciation per Acre	OVERHEAD COSTS	
Trees (20 yrs)	\$3,000	\$150	Taxes	\$ 90
Irrigation system (10 yrs)	650	65	General Expense	25
Wind machine (10 yrs)	300	30	Maintenance and Repairs	20
Pickup (10 yrs)	200	40	Management Charge	24
Spraying (10 yrs)	160	16	TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COST	\$ 159
Building and miscellaneous	90	3	TOTAL CASH PREHARVEST COSTS	\$ 402
	\$4,400	\$304	Depreciation	\$ 304
<u>Interest on Investment</u> - A 6% charge for investment based on assumed land value of \$3,000 per acre plus half life value on trees and equipment.			TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION	\$ 706
<u>Depreciation</u> - Reasonable charge for wear and tear of depreciable property. Yearly rate determined by dividing cost (less salvage value) by years of useful life.			Interest on Investment	\$ 312
			TOTAL PREHARVEST COST	\$1,018

FACTS ABOUT THE INDUSTRY

Information about Ventura County avocado acreage, yield, production, and prices as reported by the Agricultural Commissioner:

	1964	1965	1966
Bearing acres	2,649	2,359	2,661
Non-bearing acres	263	348	587
Total acres	2,912	2,707	3,248
Production	14,592,000	7,664,000	18,840,000
Yield, lbs/acre	5,500	3,240	7,080
Price per pound	12.4¢	25.3¢	12.9¢

Significant variations occur in yield per acre due to different varieties, locations, cultural practices, and climatic conditions from season to season. Good commercial production should range from 4,000 to 12,000 pounds per acre.

Prepared by B. W. Lee, Farm Advisor, Ventura County, in cooperation with Dr. Robert C. Rock, Extension Economist, University of California, Riverside, and avocado growers of Ventura County.

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