

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE FRESH CAULIFLOWER

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Based on a yield of 525 cartons (22 lbs.) per acre

Total Labor Costs Per Hour:	Total Wage		Hourly Tractor Costs:			
	Base Wage	Inc. Fringes	Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest	
Equipment Operator Class I	\$6.38	\$8.61	100 hp - wheel diesel	\$11.66	\$2.50	\$1.72
Equipment Operator Class II	6.27	8.46	60 hp - wheel diesel	6.96	1.40	.96
Irrigator	5.72	7.72	40 hp - wheel diesel	4.68	1.05	.75
Other Labor	5.60	7.56				

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials & Other Costs	Costs	Costs/Acre	
						Sample	Yours
Fumigate				Contract, every other year	\$ 50.00	\$ 50.00	
Land Preparation	6.0	\$ 51.66	\$ 57.95			109.61	
Plant	1.0	8.61	10.80	Treated seed 3/4 lb @ \$41.25/lb.	30.94	50.35	
Weed Control				Materials & application	43.50	43.50	
Irrigate 8x	13.0	100.36	14.00	Water: 2 acre feet @ \$30.00	60.00	174.36	
Cultivate 8x	4.0	33.84	23.20			57.04	
Fertilize 4x				Materials & application	240.00	240.00	
Pest Control 2x				Materials & application	85.00	85.00	
Thin-contract		38.00				38.00	
Hoe	7.0	52.92				52.92	
Miscellaneous labor	4.0	33.84	14.00			47.84	
Interest on operating capital @ 17%					149.78	149.78	
Pre-harvest Cultural Costs		\$319.23	\$119.95		\$ 659.22	\$1,098.40	
Harvest: Cut, Haul, Shed, Carton, etc.				\$3.10 per carton	\$1,627.50	\$1,627.50	
Total Cultural Costs						\$2,725.90	
Miscellaneous overhead, office & business costs - 8% cultural & harvest costs						218.07	
Taxes						6.35	
Rent				6 months @ \$300/year		150.00	
Total Overhead Costs						\$ 374.42	
Total Cash Costs						\$3,100.32	
Supervision & Management 5% of 525 cartons @ \$8.00						\$ 210.00	
Annual Costs:							
Investment			Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 14%		
Irrigation system			\$250	\$16.67	\$17.50		
Buildings			60	3.00	4.20		
Equipment			325	32.50	22.75		
Totals			\$635	\$52.17	\$44.45		
Total Cost Per Acre						\$ 96.62	
Total Cost Per Acre						\$3,406.94	
Cost Per Carton @ 525 carton yield per acre						\$ 6.49	

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