

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Agriculture

• Notes from the Sacramento County Farm Advisor •

WHEAT AND BARLEY ON DELTA PEAT LAND

- Planting Dates: Wheat -- January 1 to March 1
Barley -- January 15 to March 15, plant wet areas after February 15.
- Harvest Dates: Wheat -- June 20 to August 1 Barley -- June 10 to July 20
- Varieties: Wheat -- Ramona or stripe rust tollerant Rockerfeller-Mexican types, Nianari has the best record over a number of years, but will probably be replaced by newer Mexican varieties.
Barley -- California Mariout, Blanco, and Arivat. Rojo and Grande occasionally. Use only California Mariout or Blanco for late planting
- Seeding Rates: Wheat -- 150 pounds per acre Barley -- 120 pounds per acre
- Fertilizer: 0 to 15 pounds N and 9 to 18 pounds P (20-40 lbs. P₂O₅) Drilled with seed.
- Irrigation: Usually none, may be subbed in dry years.
- Rotation: Useful for drying out sub-irrigated soil. This helps in restoring row crop productivity and in weed control.
- Normal Yield: 4000 to 5000 pounds per acre - In recent years wheat yield has declined due to stripe rust and possibly other problems.
- Insect Pests: Usually none, occasionally wireworms and aphids.
- Disease Problems: Wheat -- stripe rust can be devastating on Ramona. Yellow dwarf, powdery mildew and foot rot are occasional problems.
Barley is least resistant of cereals to saturated soil conditions. Yellow dwarf is most serious. Scald, powdery mildew, net blotch and foot rot are occasional problems.
- Misc. Problems: Wheat -- shattering of varieties other than Ramona, which is resistant.
Barley -- lodging, particularly if planted early.
Wheat and Barley - (1) soil salinity, especially when surface soil is wet late in the season after salt has accumulated, (2) frost during bloom.
- Weed Control: 12 oz. 2,4-D amine per acre for broadleaf weed control when crop is well established and tillered but before boot stage. 4 to 6 oz. Bromoxynil for broadleaf weed control when crop has reached two-leaf stage and before boot stage and weeds are in early seedling stage.

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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE WHEAT AND BARLEY ON DELTA PEAT LAND

4500 Lbs. per Acre

Labor Costs* per Hour:

Wheat @ 3.40 per cwt (2.50 market + .90 ave. certificate) \$153.00 gross
 Wheat @ 2.50 per cwt (market price) \$112.50 gross
 Barley @ 2.30 per cwt (market price) \$103.50 gross

Harvester Operator \$ 2.25
 Tractor Driver \$ 1.75
 Truck Driver \$ 1.50

Operation	Date	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Costs per Acre						
			Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Kind and Quantity	Cost	Total		Barley
							+Support	no support	
Cultural									
Disk 2X	Oct.-Dec.	.5	\$.88	\$ 1.30			\$ 2.18	same	\$ 2.18
Plow	Nov.-Dec.	.3	.53	.81			1.34	"	1.34
Land Plane 2X	Dec.-Feb.	.6	1.05	1.50			2.55	"	2.55
Plant & Fertilize	Jan.-Mar.	.25	.44	.33	Wheat seed 150# @ 4.50	6.75	7.52	"	--
					Barley seed 125#@ 4.00	5.00	--	--	5.77
Weed Control	Mar.-Apr.	Contract	--	--	21-53-0, 75# @ \$140/ton	5.24	5.24	"	5.24
Drainage Maintenance	All year	Contract			1½ pints applied by air	2.25	2.25	"	2.25
		.1	.15	.15	New ditches & cleaning	2.00		"	
					weed control		2.30	"	2.30
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		1.75	\$3.05	\$4.09	Wheat \$16.24 Barley \$14.49		\$23.38	"	\$21.63
Harvest									
Combine	Jun.-Aug.	.40	\$.90	\$1.73			\$ 2.63	"	\$ 2.63
Haul	Jun.-Aug.	Contract			\$2.00 per ton	\$4.50	4.50	"	4.50
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		.40	\$.90	\$1.73		\$4.50	\$ 7.13	"	\$ 7.13
Cash overhead									
Misc., office, etc. - 5% of above costs							\$ 1.53	"	\$ 1.44
Taxes, on equipment							1.00	"	1.00
Rent 70-30 Share Rent							45.90	33.75	31.05
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD							\$48.43	\$36.28	\$33.49
TOTAL CASH COST							\$78.94	\$66.79	\$62.25
Management 5% of gross							7.65	5.63	5.18
Equipment Deprec. \$12.40, Int. \$3.72							16.12	16.12	16.12
TOTAL COST PER ACRE							102.71	88.54	83.55
COST PER CWT at 4500 LB. YIELD							2.28	1.97	1.86

*includes social security, workmen's compensation, etc.