

Apricot Production Costs

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Western Merced County



This cost study was designed to give an idea of the costs involved in a typical apricot orchard operation in Western Merced County. These costs of apricot production should not be construed as being average for the county. These costs represent those that a good grower will incur in producing a crop of 7.5 tons per acre.

This yield of 7.5 tons per acre is somewhat more than the county average, but it is well within reach of most of our good commercial orchards.

Your costs will likely not be the same as these. You may find this study most useful if you evaluate your costs by entering them opposite the listed costs.

Lonnie C. Hendricks, Jr.
Farm Advisor
E. A. Yeary, Farm Advisor

Spring 1962

COST ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

SAMPLE COST OF APRICOT PRODUCTION IN
WESTERN MERCED COUNTY - 1962

Lonnie C. Hendricks Jr. - Farm Advisor
Fruit and Nut Crops

Ed Yeary - Farm Advisor
Farm Management

Assumed yield is 7.5 tons per acre. Labor \$1.25 per hour. Medium track-type tractor

\$1.25 per hour cash cost, depreciation \$.60, interest \$.25. Furrow irrigated Blenheim's

(Royal) 24' x 24' = 75 trees/acre.

<u>Pre-harvest Cash Costs</u>	<u>Sample Cost</u>		<u>Your Cost</u>	
	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>
Pruning: \$1.00 per tree @ 75 trees per acre	\$ 75.00			
Brush Disposal: 2 man + 1 tractor hrs.	3.75			
Spray application: contract-2¢ gal. 2 sprays @ 450 gal.	18.00			
Spray Material	40.00			
Discing and Irrigation Furrowing: 6 man and 6 tractor hours	15.00			
Irrigate: 6 times - 6 man hours	7.50			
Well Water: 4 acre feet \$4.00 pump cost/acre foot	16.00			
Thinning @ \$0.50 per tree	37.50			
Misc. Labor: 4 man + 1 tractor hours	6.25			
Misc. Material	5.00			
Office, car, interest on operating capital, etc. (5% cash costs)	12.01			
Repairs except tractor	5.00			
County Taxes @ 5.30/100	11.12			
Total Preharvest Cash and Labor Costs	\$252.13	\$ 33.60		
<u>Harvesting Cost</u>				
Picking: 7.5 tons @ \$20.00/ton	\$150.00	\$ 20.00		
Hauling: 7.5 tons @ \$ 2.50/ton	18.75	2.50		
Total Harvesting Cost	\$168.75	\$ 22.50		
Total Cash and Labor Costs	\$420.88	\$ 56.10		

	Sample Cost		Your Cost
	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Per Ton</u>	<u>Per Acre</u> <u>Per Ton</u>

Depreciation Costs

Trees: 30 year life \$800 per acre \$26.67

Irrigation System: \$100 - 25 yr. life 4.00

Buildings + equipment except tractor
\$90.00 - 15 yr. life 6.00

Tractor: 8 hours @ \$.60 4.80

Total Depreciation 41.47 5.53

Total Cash Costs and Depreciation 462.35 61.63

Interest on Investment @ 6%

Trees: 1/2 x \$800 (\$400.00) 24.00

Irrigation System: 1/2 x \$100 (\$50.00) 3.00

Buildings and Equipment except tractor:
1/2 x \$90 (\$45.00) 2.70

Tractor: 8 hours @ \$.25 2.00

Land @ \$800/acre 48.00

Total Interest on Investment 79.70 10.63

TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION 542.05 72.26

COST PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield-Tons Per Acre	4	6	8	10	12
Total Cost Per Ton	115.83	84.72	69.16	59.83	53.61
Total Cost Per Acre	463.30	508.30	553.30	598.30	643.30

Gross Income per Acre @

\$110/ton	440.00	660.00	880.00	1100.00	1320.00
100	400.00	600.00	800.00	1000.00	1200.00
90	360.00	540.00	720.00	900.00	1080.00
80	320.00	480.00	640.00	800.00	960.00
70	280.00	420.00	560.00	700.00	840.00
60	240.00	360.00	480.00	600.00	720.00
50	200.00	300.00	400.00	500.00	600.00

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