

FRENCH PRUNE ORCHARD PRODUCTION COSTS

Cost Analysis Worksheet, 1976

So. San Joaquin Valley

Costs are for 108 trees per acre and a yield of 4.0 dry tons per acre with a drying ratio of 3 tons fresh to 1 ton dry. Based on labor @ \$3.30 and \$4.00 per hour. Medium wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$2.60; depreciation \$1.65 and interest \$.82.

	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Dry Ton	Per Acre	Per Dry Ton
Pre-Harvest Cash Costs:				
Prune: 108 trees @ 75¢	\$ 81.00			
Brush disposal: 2 hrs. labor + 1/2 hr. tractor	8.25			
Fertilizer: 85 lbs. nitrogen @ 30¢/lb. applied	25.50			
Spray: contract two times @ 2 1/2¢/gallon	25.00			
Spray materials	30.00			
Irrigation: 8 times, 4 hrs. labor	13.20			
Water: power 4 ac. ft. @ \$5.50/ac. ft. + district tax @ \$6	28.00			
Cultivate and check: 4 hrs. labor + 4 hrs. tractor	26.40			
Misc. labor, materials and field power, includes propping and tying	26.00			
County taxes	60.00			
Repairs, except tractor	17.00			
Office and business costs	55.02			
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	\$ 395.37	\$ 98.84		
Harvest Costs:				
Land preparation for harvest: 1 hr. labor + 1 hr. tractor	\$ 6.60			
Shake, pick, load: contract @ \$22/fresh ton	264.00			
Haul to dehydrator and return bins: @ \$2.50/fresh ton	30.00			
Dehydrate: @ \$23/fresh ton	276.00			
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS	\$ 576.60	\$144.15		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$ 971.97	\$242.99		
Depreciation:				
Irrigation system: \$250 cost, 15 yr. life	\$ 16.67			
Buildings and equipment: \$140, 12 yr. life	11.67			
Tractor: 6½ hrs. @ \$1.65/hr.	10.73			
Trees: \$2518 cost, 25 yr. life	100.72			
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 139.79	\$ 34.95		
Interest on Investment @ 8%:				
Irrigation system: 1/2 cost, \$125	\$ 10.00			
Buildings and equipment: 1/2 cost, \$70	5.60			
Tractor: 6 1/2 hr. @ \$.82/hr.	5.33			
Trees: 1/2 cost, \$1259	100.72			
Land: \$1700/acre	136.00			
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	\$ 257.65	\$ 64.41		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$1369.41	\$342.35		

SAMPLE COSTS PER DRY TON AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield (dry tons/acre)	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.5	5.0
Cash Costs	\$343.48	\$276.49	\$257.34	\$242.99	\$231.82	\$222.89
Total Costs	\$542.20	\$408.97	\$370.90	\$342.35	\$320.14	\$302.38