

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE LETTUCE IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1971

By J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

Based on a yield of 525 cartons per acre (24 heads per carton) approx. weight of 47 lbs/carton	Hours per Acre				Cost per Acre	Cost per Ctn.
	Man Labor	80 hp. Tract.	45 hp. Tract.	Truck Pickup		
Cover Crop:					5.00	
Land preparation: Disc, chisel, etc.	3.0	3.0			17.70	
Pre-plant fertilizer and list: contract					3.75	
Shape beds and roll	0.5		0.5		2.00	
Plant: 2 men and 4 bed planter	1.0		0.5		3.10	
Irrigations: 1 pre, 2 sprinkler, 4 furrow	10.5			0.3	23.58	
Thin	20.0				44.00	
Side dress fertilizer: 2x - contract @ \$3.00/Ac					6.00	
Insecticide applications: 4x - contract @ \$3.00/Ac					12.00	
Cultivations: 5x	2.5		2.5		10.00	
Hoe and weed:	6.0				13.20	
Misc., other work	3.0		0.5	1.0	8.85	
Total Cultural Labor and Field Power					149.18	.28
Irrigation water:					13.50	
Seed: 1/2 lb. at \$12.00 per pound					6.00	
Fertilizer materials					52.00	
Insecticide and fungicide materials					42.00	
Total Material Cost					113.50	.22
Total Labor, Field Power and Materials				Tenants	262.68	.50
Business costs, office, car, operation capital, etc., 8% of above				21.04	21.04	
Taxes: real estate and improvement 60% of \$51.00					30.60	
Taxes: equipment, except tractors				2.00	2.00	
Repairs; except trucks and tractors				8.00	8.00	
Rent: 60% of \$150.00 to lettuce				90.00		
Total Cash Overhead Costs				121.04	61.64	.12
Total Cash Costs				383.72	324.32	.62
Investment overhead	Dollars per Acre					
Costs based on 2000 crop acres	Orig. Cost	Avg. Value	7% Int.	Depre- ciation		
Buildings for equipment	18.00	9.00	.63	.60		
Irrigation wells, pipeline	150.00	75.00	5.25	7.50		
Land: 60% of \$2400.00 value	1440.00	1440.00	100.80	----		
Subtotal Real Estate	1608.00	1524.00	106.68	8.10		
Tractors, trucks, etc.	110.00	55.00	3.85	11.00		
Tillage equip., planter, etc.	32.00	16.00	1.12	3.20		
Portable irrig. pipe, sprinklers	28.00	14.00	.98	2.80		
Misc. small equipment	14.00	7.00	.49	1.40		
Total Operator's Equipment	184.00	92.00	6.44	18.40		
Total invest. and depreciation			113.12	26.50	18.40	26.50
Total Cash and Depreciation Costs					402.12	350.82
Interest on Investment					6.44	113.12
Total Costs to Harvest					408.56	463.94
Invest, pack and haul \$1.15 per ctn.; includes the carton					603.75	603.75
Total Cost of Production \$1.93 per carton for tenant					1012.31	1067.69

Labor costs per hour include social security and workman's comp insurance. Equipment operator \$2.75 per hour, all other labor \$2.20 per hr. 80 hp tracklayer \$3.20 per hr cash costs, depreciation \$1.80 and interest 72¢. 45 hp wheel tractor \$1.30, 68¢, and 28¢. Light truck \$2.00 per hr. cash costs and pickup \$1.60 for light work. Sprinkler booster pump costs \$2.00 per acre ft of water.

UC Cooperative Extension

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

For Tenants

Yield: 24 Head Cartons Per Acre	400	450	500	550	600	650
Total Growing Costs Per Acre	408.56	408.56	408.56	408.56	408.56	408.56
Harvesting Costs Per Acre \$1.15 per carton	460.00	517.50	575.00	632.50	690.00	747.50
Total Costs Per Acre	868.56	926.06	983.56	1041.06	1098.56	1156.06
Total Costs Per Carton	2.17	2.06	1.97	1.98	1.83	1.78

For Owners

Yield: 24 Head Cartons Per Acre	400	450	500	550	600	650
Total Growing Costs Per Acre	463.94	463.94	463.94	463.94	463.94	463.94
Harvesting Costs Per Acre \$1.15 per carton	460.00	517.50	575.00	632.50	690.00	747.50
Total Costs Per Acre	923.94	981.44	1038.94	1096.44	1153.94	1211.44
Total Costs Per Carton	2.31	2.18	2.08	1.99	1.92	1.86