



Sample Costs

to Produce

EARLY POTATOES

in the

Southern San Joaquin Valley
1975

Division of Agricultural Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

REVISED OCTOBER 1975

SPECIAL PUBLICATION
3035

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE EARLY POTATOES IN THE SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY - 1975

Yield of 325 sacks gross and 270 marketable. Man labor @ \$2.80 per hour total, irrigator \$3.20, equipment operator \$3.60, including Social Security and Workman's Compensation Insurance. 90 h.p. crawler per hour cash costs \$7.00, depreciation \$5.00, interest \$2.50. 120 h.p. 4-wheel drive diesel \$4.80, \$2.00 and \$1.00. 70 h.p. wheel diesel \$2.95, \$1.04 and 52¢. 50 h.p. wheel diesel \$2.10, \$1.24 and 62¢.

	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Sack	Per Acre	Per Sack
Pre-Harvest Cash Costs:				
Land preparation: 3 hrs. man & 90 h.p. crawler	\$ 31.80			
Cut and dip seed: 19 sacks plant and fertilizer:				
contract \$18 per acre		18.00 ✓		
Seed: \$7/cwt. Fertilizer \$87		220.00 ✓		
Shape beds and cultivate: ½ hr. 70 h.p. wheel tractor		3.28 ✓		
Weeding: 3 hrs. labor		8.40 ✓		
Irrigation preparation: 2 man & 70 h.p. wheel tractor				
½ hr.		4.68		
Pre-irrigation & crop irrigations: 16 hrs. labor		51.20		
Water: 2 ½ ac. ft. @ \$17		42.50		
Pest and disease control: air application				
Sprinkler rental		85.00 ✓		
Application		15.00 ✓		
Material		24.00		
County taxes, paid by tenant - ½ yr.		12.00		
Rent: ½ year		50.00		
Soil treatment and misc. costs: application				
& materials		31.10		
Office & business costs		73.98		
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	\$ 670.94	\$2.48		
Harvesting Costs:				
Vine removal & rolling: contract \$7.50	\$ 7.50			
Digging and loading: 28¢/cwt. field weight		91.00		
Hauling: 20¢/cwt. field weight		65.00		
Shed costs incl. sales & brokerage: \$1.75/cwt.				
packed weight		472.50		
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS	\$ 636.00	\$2.36		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$1306.94	\$4.84		
Depreciation:				
Irrigation equipment, ½ yr. basis - \$22.50				
15 yrs.	\$ 1.50			
Other equipment, ½ yr. basis - \$22.50				
10 yrs.		2.25		
Tractors: 90 h.p. crawler: 3 hrs. @ \$5		15.00		
70 h.p. wheel diesel: 1 hr. @ \$1.04		1.04		
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 19.79	\$.07		
Interest on Investment at 8%:				
Irrigation equipment: ½ yr. basis - \$22.50				
½ orig. cost	\$.90			
Other equipment, ½ yr. basis - \$22.50				
½ orig. cost		.90		
Tractors: 90 h.p. crawler: 3 hrs. @ \$2.50		7.50		
70 h.p. wheel diesel: 1 hr. @ 52¢		.52		
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	\$ 9.82	\$.04		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$1336.55	\$4.95		
Less credit for 5500 lbs. culls @ \$4/ton	\$ 11.00	\$.04		
Net cost per acre for 270 sacks marketable	\$1325.55			
Net cost per sack for 270 sacks marketable	\$ 4.91			

SAMPLE COST PER SACK AT THE INDICATED YIELDS
WITH VARYING WATER COSTS

Yield: Marketable sacks per acre	Total cost per marketable sack at indicated water cost per acre foot				
	\$5	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25
220	\$5.41	\$5.46	\$5.52	\$5.58	\$5.64
270	4.84	4.89	4.93	4.98	5.02
320	4.44	4.48	4.52	4.56	4.60
370	4.16	4.19	4.23	4.26	4.29
420	3.94	3.97	4.00	4.03	4.06

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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture. James B. Kendrick, Jr., Director, Cooperative Extension, University of California.