

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California and Lake County cooperating

Kelseyville, California 95451

May, 1964

WALNUT COST AVERAGES - LAKE COUNTY, 1964 - NON-IRRIGATED

COSTS: This analysis has been prepared with the cooperation of a number of cooperating growers. The costs in this case are for non-irrigated orchards and are NOT intended to indicate specific costs of operating a valley walnut orchard or a hill orchard. These figures are intended to be averages. It is further pointed-out that an individual operators figures would vary in relation to the amount of labor that he contributes to the enterprise. Results would reflect lower cash costs where the grower on a small acreage would accomplish a greater portion of the labor.

CULTURAL: A great number of walnut orchards in Lake County continue to be operated without irrigation. Hill orchards, in many cases, are not irrigated because of a lack of irrigation waters. The economics of development also enter into this consideration, as does quality.

SPRAYING AND DUSTING for insects and disease control is carried out as needed. In most cases spraying or dusting is directed toward the control of oyster shell scale, frosted scale, aphid and mites. Rarely is a walnut orchard treated for control of blight. The control of insects is a subject of rapid change and those interested in use of a suitable material should contact the Farm and Home Advisors Office or their chemical field men.

OUTLOOK: The walnut producing area within the State of California is shifting Northward due to population pressure and industrial developments. Although major removals have occurred in the Southland new plantings North of the San Luis Obispo-Kern County line are continuing to maintain an increase in production capacity in the walnut industry. Coastal areas south of San Francisco and the greater central valley, with more favorable spring growing conditions, are making use of earlier blooming higher producing varieties than is possible in Lake County. New acreage developments are continuing to be made in Lake County many of which are on hill lands, and at this time are of the less productive later blooming strains.

The producing acreage of walnuts in Lake County in 1963 as taken from the Agricultural Commissioners report is 8,213. The non-producing acreage at this time is 1,916. Black walnut acreage is 3,166 acres.

RELATIVE COSTS: -- on this sheet are nearly double the comparable costs for non-irrigated walnut orchards made in July, 1955. The 1955 figure on a per/100# basis is \$17.13, whereas the cost on this study is \$33.77.

Russell H. Gripp
Farm Advisor

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE WALNUTS IN LAKE COUNTY - NON-IRRIGATED - Russell H. Gripp & A. Doyle Reed

5/18/64

Yield - 800 lbs. per A.

Income 800 lbs. @ 20¢ \$160.00

Operation	Hrs/Acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials and/or Service		
Cultural						
Prune & Brush Disposal	5.0	\$ 8.25	\$1.00			\$ 9.25
Cultivation 2 times	3.0	6.90	4.00			10.90
Fertilizing & Material	0.5	1.15	.75	Nitrogen (100 lbs. N)	\$12.50	14.40
Dust 2 times	.4	.90	.60	Dust material	9.00	10.50
Misc.	3.0	6.90	1.50		1.60	10.00
Total Cultural		\$24.10	\$7.85		\$23.10	\$55.05
Harvest						
Shake	2.0	4.60	3.50			8.10
Pick - Piece				800 lbs. @ 2.5¢	20.00	20.00
Haul to Huller	.4	.90	.60			1.50
Hull & Dehydrate				800 lbs. @ \$40 - T	16.00	16.00
Haul to Market				800 lbs. @ 5 - T	2.00	2.00
Supervision		10.00				10.00
Total Harvest		\$15.50	\$4.10		\$38.00	\$57.60
Total Cash & Labor Cost						\$112.65

Investment	60 A. Orchard		Annual Cost			Total
	Life	Per/Acre	Depreciation	Interest	Overhead	
Land		600.		\$36.00	Taxes \$28.00	
Buildings	25	40.	\$ 1.60	1.20	Misc. 6.25	
Trees	40	800.	20.00	24.00	Mgt. 8.00	
Equipment	10	250.	25.00	7.50	\$42.25	42.25
Total		1690.	\$46.60	\$68.70		\$115.30

Total Cost per/Acre \$270.20
 Cost per 100# @ 800 yield 33.77

Equipment for 60 A.

Tractors 30 HP 2 @ \$4,000	\$8000.00
Shaker	2400.00
Pickup	2400.00
Trailer	1500.00
Disc.	850.00
Fertilizer spreader	400.00
Duster	350.00
Misc. tool & equipment	1600.00
	<u>\$17500.00</u>
Buildings \$2400.00	