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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CAULIFLOWER FOR FRESH MARKET IN MONTEREY COUNTY -1980
By J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

Yield: 425 cartons per acre (wt. 25 pounds)
Harvest: Mid-March through December
Plant: January through December

Total Labor Costs/Hour ¹		Hourly Tractor Costs				
		Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest		
Cl. I Equip. Operator	8.58	80 h.p. Crawler Diesel	13.00	4.89	2.67	
Cl. II Equip. Operator	8.44					
Irrigator	7.39					
Other Labor	7.28	60 h.p. Wheel Diesel	4.85	1.84	1.10	
Operation	Tractor Used	Hours/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract and Materials	Acres
<u>CULTURAL</u>						
Cover crop - manure					Proportion of cost to cauliflower	50.00
Subsoil (1/2 to cauliflower)	C-80	0.62	5.24	9.44		14.81
Disc & roll 3x	C-80	0.69	5.82	10.83		16.65
Chisel 2x	C-80	1.0	8.44	14.38		22.82
Level 2x	C-80	0.52	4.39	8.48		12.87
List & preplant fert.					Contract @ \$7.00/ac. #500 12-12-12 \$55.00	62.00
Shape beds	WD-60	0.25	2.11	1.28		3.39
Plant-4 bed planter	WD-60	0.5	4.22	3.40	Seed 1/2 lb. \$16.00	23.62
Herbicide ²					Contract @ \$9.00/ac. Materials @ \$11.00	20.00
Irrigation 8x (3 sprinkler, 5 furrow)		15.0	110.85	11.00	2.5 ac. ft. @ \$24.00 per ac. ft., \$4.00 booster pump	185.85
Thin		9.5	69.16			69.16
Side dress fert. 2x					Contract @ \$6.25/ac. 175# N @ \$.38 per lb.	79.00
Pest control 2.5x					Contract @ \$8.00/ac. Materials \$40.63/ac.	60.63
Cultivate 5x	WD-60	2.5	21.45	12.13		33.58
Tie Tops ³		10.5	76.44		Rubber bands @ \$12.50	88.94
Hoe and Weed		8.0	58.24			58.24
Miscellaneous (incl. setup & moving)		4.0	31.38	8.27		39.65
<u>CULTURAL COSTS</u>						841.21
<u>OVERHEAD</u>						
Business Costs:	Office and business expense, etc. @ 12% of Cultural Costs					100.95
Taxes:	Equipment					5.00
Rent:	\$550.00 per acre, 6 mos. to cauliflower					275.00
<u>OVERHEAD COSTS</u>						380.95
<u>HARVEST</u>						
Harvest:	Contract @ \$3.95 per carton (cost includes harvesting, hauling, packing, carton and sales charge)					1,678.75
<u>TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVESTING COSTS</u>						2,900.91
<u>ANNUAL COSTS</u>						
	<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest - 12%</u>		
1/2 charged to cauliflower.	Buildings	60.00	3.00	3.60		
Tractors are on an hourly basis	Irrig. System	300.00	30.00	18.00		
	Tractors	190.00	19.82	11.14		
	Equipment	150.00	15.00	9.00		
		700.00	67.82	41.74		
	6 Months (Except Tractors and Equipment) to Cauliflower					70.26
<u>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</u>						2,971.17
<u>TOTAL COST PER CARTON (BASED ON 425 CARTONS/ACRE YIELD)</u>						6.99

(see reverse side)

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD CARTONS PER ACRE	375	400	425	450	475
COST TO GROW PER ACRE	1,222.16	1,222.16	1,222.16	1,222.16	1,222.16
COST TO HARVEST	1,481.25	1,580.00	1,678.75	1,777.50	1,876.27
ANNUAL COSTS	70.26	70.26	70.26	70.26	70.26
TOTAL COST PER ACRE	2,773.67	2,872.42	2,971.17	3,069.92	3,168.69
COST PER CARTON	7.40	7.18	6.99	6.82	6.67

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study.

- /1 Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. FDI, social security, workman's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, holidays, and pension plan.
- /2 For materials, rates and application, contact a Pest Control Advisor or your local Agricultural Extension office.
- /3 Cauliflower tops are tied to produce maximum quality. It costs about \$152.88 for labor and \$25.00 for rubber bands per acre. Assuming about one half of the acreage is tied during the year, one half of the labor, 10.5 hours or \$76.44, and the \$12.50 cost of rubber bands was assigned to production costs.