SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE DRYLAND ALFALFA HAY
SISKIYOU COUNTY
1974

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost per Acre: Labor $3/hr	Fuel & Repairs	Material: Kind and Quantity	Material: Cost	Total
Cultural Costs						
Spray weevils (contract)				Fly $2.50+Furadan	$1.25	4.15
Fertilizer (contract)				Spread	1.25	
				Sulfur	2.00	
				Single Super-phosphate	4.50	
				everyother year)	7.75	3.88
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS						8.03
Harvest Costs						
Swath 1 time	.25	.75	1.03			1.78
Bale 1 time	.25	.75	.56	Wire $3.35 x 1 ton @ $55 per roll		4.66
Haul (contract)				$4/ton x 1 ton		4.00
TOTAL HARVEST COST						10.44
Cash Overhead						
Misc., Office, etc.		x 6% of cash cost				1.10
Taxes $230 x 25%		x $7 rate + machinery tax 48¢				4.54
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						5.64
TOTAL CASH COST						24.11
Management 5% of 1 ton @ $50						2.50

Investment	Per Acre	Annual Cost: Depreciation	Annual Cost: Interest @ 10% Repayment	
Land	_____			
Equipment	_____	_____	_____	
Stand	_____	_____	_____	
Total	_____	_____	_____	_____
Cost per ton at 1 ton per acre yield				_____

Under investment - land costs may vary from $100 to $250 per acre. I would suggest that for your comparison that you put in your repayment cost per acre per year under interest.

Equipment investment would be a minimum of $25,000 to $30,000 for a swather, 2-wire baler, 35 hp tractor, and siderake. Divide this cost by number of acres to get investment per acre. Depreciation costs should be figured by dividing cost per acre of equipment by life. Interest cost of equipment can be your actual costs divided by acres of use for your annual cost.

The usual cost for depreciation is from $7 to $12 per acre and interest is from $5 to $10 per acre for interest on equipment

It is safe to figure $40 to $50 per acre to establish an alfalfa stand to point of production.

The usual cost of producing dryland hay will vary from $35 to $65 per acre depending on land costs and interest payments.