

# Oranges

sample production costs  
for  
los angeles county  
1960

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ORANGES - 1960

SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS FOR LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
Production - 350 field boxes per acre

| Operation   | Cost<br>Per Ac.    | Cost<br>Per F.B. |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>CULTURAL COSTS</b>                                   |                    |                  |
| Fertilizer - Chemical 2#N(26¢)/tree + \$2/A to spread   | \$ 28.00           |                  |
| Irrigation - permanent furrows                          |                    |                  |
| Water - 3 ac. ft. @ \$21 per ac. ft.                    | 63.00              |                  |
| Labor - 9 irrigations                                   | 24.00              |                  |
| Pest Control - 2x - (contract)                          | 75.00              |                  |
| Weed Control - Monuron and oil - labor & material       | 30.00              |                  |
| Frost Protection  |                    |                  |
| Windmachine - standby and electric 40 hp                | 35.00              |                  |
| Pruning, hedging 2 sides and brush disposal (contract)  | 30.00              |                  |
| Miscellaneous labor                                     | 10.00              |                  |
| <b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>                             | <b>\$ 295.00</b>   | <b>\$ .84</b>    |
| <b>CASH OVERHEAD</b>                                    |                    |                  |
| Taxes   | 80.00              |                  |
| Insurance   | 6.00               |                  |
| Maintenance, repairs, nuisance damage                   | 20.00              |                  |
| General expense and supervision                         | 40.00              |                  |
| <b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>                              | <b>\$ 146.00</b>   | <b>\$ .42</b>    |
| <b>TOTAL ON-TREE CASH COSTS</b>                         | <b>\$ 441.00</b>   | <b>\$ 1.26</b>   |
| <b>HARVESTING</b>                                       |                    |                  |
| Picking 350 boxes @ 28¢ per field box                   | 98.00              |                  |
| Hauling 350 boxes @ 5¢ per field box                    | 17.50              |                  |
| <b>TOTAL HARVESTING</b>                                 | <b>\$ 115.50</b>   | <b>\$ .33</b>    |
| <b>DEPRECIATION</b>                                     |                    |                  |
| Trees \$9,000 on 10 acres - 40 years                    | \$ 22.50           |                  |
| Cement pipeline and stands \$2,000, 10 acres - 30 yrs.  | 6.67               |                  |
| Windmachine 40 hp electric, \$3,500 - 10 ac. - 10 yrs.  | 35.00              |                  |
| Orchard heaters and oil tank, \$2,250, 10 ac. - 15 yrs. | 15.00              |                  |
| Weed sprayer & misc. equip. \$550, 10 ac. - 10 yrs.     | 5.50               |                  |
| Pickup truck \$2,000, 1/2 used on 10 ac. - 8 yrs.       | 12.50              |                  |
| <b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION</b>                               | <b>\$ 97.17</b>    | <b>\$ .28</b>    |
| <b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT</b>                           |                    |                  |
| Land with water, without trees - \$6,000 @ 6%           | \$ 360.00          |                  |
| 1/2 value equip. & trees listed above - 10 ac. @ 6%     | \$ 54.90           |                  |
| <b>TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT</b>                     | <b>\$ 414.90</b>   | <b>\$ 1.18</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL NON-CASH OVERHEAD</b>                          | <b>\$ 512.07</b>   | <b>\$ 1.46</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL ALL COSTS</b>                                  | <b>\$ 1,068.57</b> | <b>\$ 3.05</b>   |

## ORANGES - Additional Remarks

The following is a description of a typical orange orchard in Los Angeles County for which these costs have been developed. Ten acres of Navels and/or Valencias were planted 20' x 20'. Trees are 35 years old with no replacements being made. The owner operates the orchard and additional labor is hired at \$1.50 to \$1.75 per hour, or work is done by contract.

Irrigation is in permanent furrows. Weeds are controlled by monuron and weed oil. Frost protection is by windmachine and orchard heaters. Pruning consists of hedging two sides of trees. Pest control is parathion, malathion, or oil in the fall, plus a spring or summer mite treatment. No tree replacements are made.

The on-tree cash costs for producing 350 field boxes of oranges were \$441.00 per acre or \$1.26 per field box. If your costs are similar to those reported here your on-tree costs per field box for varying yields are indicated in the table below.

| Field Boxes Per Acre | On-Tree Cash Costs<br>Per Field Box |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 200                  | \$ 2.20                             |
| 300                  | 1.47                                |
| 400                  | 1.10                                |
| 500                  | .88                                 |
| 600                  | .74                                 |