

Nov 66

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at \$1.90 per hour (\$1.50 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, and fringe benefits).

Based on custom rates and 2 tons per acre.

OPERATION	Custom Rate	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR		SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Disc 2x	2.00					4.00
Fertilize	1.00	100# N (NH ₃)	6.00			7.00
Border	1.00					1.00
Float 2 x or float 1x and float-corrugate 1x	3.50					3.50
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION						15.50
GROWING PERIOD						
Plant	3.00	seed 90#	4.00			7.00
Irrigate 6x		3 acre ft.	6.00	3.1	6.00	12.00
Weed Control	2.00	herbicide	1.00			3.00
Insecticide	1.50		2.50			4.00
TOTAL GROWING PERIOD						26.00
HARVEST COSTS						
Combine	(6.50 per acre and .12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt over 1 ton)					9.00
Haul	2.00 per ton					4.00
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						13.00
Land rent						25.00
Cash overhead 15% of above costs						11.93
TOTAL ALL COSTS						91.43
						25.7

Cost per Ton = \$45.71

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Item	Cost/Acre	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.
LAND PREPARATION													
Disc 2x	4.00		4.00										
Fertilize	7.00		7.00										
Border	1.00		1.00										
Float 2x and/or Float & Corrugate	3.50		3.50										
GROWING PERIOD													
Plant	7.00		7.00										
Irrigate 6x	12.00		2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00				
Weed Control	3.00				3.00								
Insect Control	4.00					4.00							
HARVEST COSTS													
Combine	9.00										9.00		
Haul	4.00										4.00		
Land Rent	25.00												
Cash overhead 15% of above costs	11.93												
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$ 91.43		24.50	2.00	5.00	6.00	2.00	2.00			13.00		

CEREAL CROPS CULTURE

GENERAL INFORMATION: The foregoing sample costs are based on average production practices where grain follows grain or a short season summer crop. If the cereal crop follows cotton or early lettuce, the costs should be considerably less. For example, subsoiling and mulching could be eliminated, and fewer irrigations and less fertilizer would be required.

LAND PREPARATION: Where grains are to be planted in the mulch, the practice is disc, fertilize, disc, and float. Next apply the pre-mulch irrigation and when dry enough, mulch and plant.

PLANTING DATES, RATES, AND DEPTH: Optimum planting date for yields of grain is between November 25th and December 15th. Rates of seeding average 90 pounds per acre.

Seed should not be planted deeper than 3 to 4 inches if planted in the mulch. If the crop is to be irrigated up, shallow planting of 1 to 1/2 inches is best.

VARIETIES: Recommended varieties of barley are California Mariout, Blanco Mariout.

Indio, Curt, Palestine, and Kanota oats are about equal in yield performance.

Ramona 50 is the only wheat variety which yields consistently well.

FERTILIZATION: Imperial Valley soils usually contain sufficient phosphorus for grain production, if phosphates have been applied to other crops in the rotation. In a barley - sorghum rotation, phosphates should be applied to the barley. Cereals generally need added nitrogen at rates of 100 to 150 pounds per acre, depending on the previous crop. All nitrogen should be applied by the time stem elongation takes place.

IRRIGATION: Pre-mulch irrigations should be heavy. Subsequent irrigations should be sufficient to maintain good growth and avoid stressing.

PESTS: Weed and insect pests occasionally reduce cereal crop yields. Costs for their control have not been included because they are not widespread practices. Chemical weed control costs \$3.50 per acre and one application of insecticides for aphid control costs from \$3.00. Weeds should be controlled in barley to reduce the weed population in following crops. This is the most economical time to reduce these populations.

HARVESTING: Harvesting is by direct combine, and grain is dumped bulk into trucks which haul to the elevators.

YIELDS: Seed yields for small grains average about 1 1/2-2 tons per acre.

COTTON--SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at \$1.90 per hour (\$1.50 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, and fringe benefits).

Based on 3.00 bales per acre.

OPERATION	Custom Rate	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR		SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Flow or subsoil	8.00					8.00
Disc 2x	2.00					4.00
Fertilize	1.00	100 lb N(NH ₃)	6.00			7.00
Float	1.00					1.00
List	3.00					3.00
Irrigate		water .5 acre ft	1.00	.5	1.00	2.00
Cultivate	3.00					3.00
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION						\$ 28.00
GROWING PERIOD						
Plant and Incorporate	10.00	seed 20# @ .15 herbicide fungicide	3.00 5.25 2.00			20.25
Cultivate 4x	3.00					12.00
Fertilize 3x	3.00	100# N(NH ₃)X3	18.00			27.00
Hoe & Weed				5.2	10.00	10.00
Insect Control 7x	1.50	insecticide	14.00			24.50
Lay by Herbicide	3.50	herbicide	5.00			8.50
Irrigate 14x		water .7 acre ft	14.00	7.4	14.00	28.00
Defoliate	2.00	10 gallon	7.50			9.50
TOTAL GROWING PERIOD						\$ 139.75
HARVEST COSTS						
Machine picking	20.00 per bale					60.00
Hauling	1.00/bale					3.00
Ginning	1.25/cwt of seed cotton					56.25
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						\$ 119.25
Rent						100.00
Cash overhead 15% of above						58.05
TOTAL COSTS						\$ 445.05

Cost per pound = 29.67¢

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