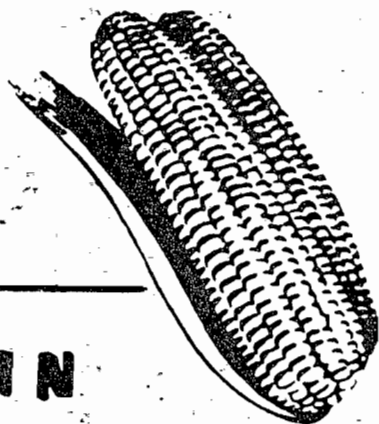


FIELD CORN

PRODUCTION COSTS



IN

GLENN COUNTY

Robert L. Sailsbery
Farm Advisor

Philip S. Parsons
Extension Economist

University of California
Agricultural Extension Service
Orland, California

EQUIPMENT AND BUILDING LIST

Item	Original Cost		Annual Use (acres)	Years Life	Non-Cash Overhead	
	Total	Per Acre			Depreciation	Interest at 7%
Tractor, 60 HP - Tr. Diesel	\$30,000	\$23.44	1,280	15	\$1.56	\$0.82
2 Tractors, 70 HP - Wh. Diesel	24,000	18.75	1,280	10	1.88	0.66
Tractor, 40 HP - Wh. Diesel	6,500	5.08	1,280	10	.51	0.18
Disk, Offset - 18 ft.	4,000	3.13	1,280	10	.31	0.11
Disk, Stubble - 12 ft.	6,000	4.69	1,280	10	.47	0.16
Chisel - 14 ft. (Cook)	1,700	1.33	1,280	10	.13	0.05
Springtooth - 30 ft.	3,000	2.34	1,280	10	.23	0.08
Spiketooth	2,000	1.56	1,280	10	.16	0.05
Ditcher - 4 ft.	1,000	3.13	320	10	.31	0.11
Checker	750	0.83	900	10	.08	0.03
Cultivator - 6 row	1,200	3.00	400	10	.30	0.11
Planter - 6 row	1,200	3.00	400	10	.30	0.11
Fertilizer Attachments	2,500	3.91	640	10	.39	0.14
Cultipacker or Roller	3,000	4.62	650	10	.46	0.16
Landplane 12' x 60'	5,000	3.91	1,280	15	.26	0.14
Tool Carrier	1,750	1.37	1,280	15	.09	0.05
Combine S.P. 16 ft.	22,000	22.92	960	10	2.29	0.80
Corn Header - 6 row	6,000	20.00	300	8	2.50	0.70
Truck, 2 ton	7,000	5.47	1,280	10	.55	0.19
Bankout	7,000	10.94	640	10	1.09	0.38
3 Pickups (2 1/2 shares)	7,500	5.86	1,280	15	1.17	0.21
Elevator	1,000	1.04	960	10	.10	0.04
Weed & Inspect Sprayer	2,500	2.60	960	12	.22	0.09
Shop Tools	5,000	3.91	1,280	15	.26	0.14
Storage w/driers (for 500 tons)	12,000	20.00	600	30	.67	0.70
Building	5,000	3.91	1,280	20	.20	0.14

BASIS OF FIELD CORN COST STUDY

1. The cost study is based on a 1,280 acre field crop operation with 300 acres of field corn. Other crops grown on the ranch may include one or more of the following crops: seed crops, other grain crops, alfalfa hay, sugar beets, etc. Most of the equipment listed will be used on the entire acreage sometime during the year.
2. In allocating the equipment cost per acre in the equipment list the following calculations were made: (a) "Original cost" of equipment is the estimated new cost. (b) "Original cost per acre" is the new cost divided by the number of acres the equipment will be used on. (c) "Depreciation" is based on the "per acre cost" divided by the expected life of the equipment. (d) "Interest" on investment is figured on one-half of the new cost per acre multiplied by 7%. Land is not considered a depreciable item and interest on it is figured at 7% of the full value.
3. Miscellaneous expenses have been found to be about 6% of the total cultural and harvest costs. They include such costs as preparing roadways, general weed control, office, bookkeeping, interest on operating money, etc.
4. Labor costs are based on a \$2.70 hourly rate for skilled labor and \$2.30 hourly rate for unskilled (irrigator). Included are cash wages, compensation insurance, Social Security and other benefits that the employer must pay.
5. Equipment operating costs are listed under fuel and repair. Included is the cost of fuel, maintenance, replacement parts, tires, etc. Tractor charges per hour are: 60 HP crawler diesel, \$2.70; 70 HP wheel diesel, \$2.05; 40 HP wheel diesel, \$1.25. (Horsepower is based on 75% of maximum).
6. Management (what the grower's decision making is worth) is figured at 5% of the market value of the crop.
7. Five Glenn County field corn growers furnished the basic information for this study. Appreciation is expressed to these growers.
8. Methods and techniques employed in growing field corn in Glenn County vary from grower to grower. The cultural practices, method of irrigation, etc. vary from ranch to ranch. These sample costs are meant to serve as a guide. Growers are encouraged to make use of the column designated "Your Costs/Acre" to compare their production costs with these sample costs.

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE FIELD CORN IN GLENN COUNTY

YIELD: 7,000 cwt. YEAR: 1971

Operation	Hours Per Acre	Labor	Tractor Used	Fuel & Repairs	Description of Materials	Total Mat'ls	Total	Yc Cc. Acre
Cultural Costs								
Stubble Disk 2x	.50	\$ 1.35	60 HP Tr. De.	\$ 2.85			\$ 4.20	
Landplane 2x (every other year)	.30	.81	" "	1.68			2.49	
Chisel	.40	1.08	" "	1.56			2.64	
Fertilize	.25	.68	" "	.68	160 lbs. N/A @ 7¢-\$11.20, Rig Rental @ 50¢/A. = \$11.70	\$11.70	13.06	
Prepare Borders	.10	.27	70 HP WD	.25			.52	
Pre-irrigate	.50	1.15			8 ac-in @ 2.25/AF	1.50	2.65	
Spiketooth	.10	.27	" "	.25			.52	
Springtooth	.30	.81	" "	1.16			1.97	
Plant & Apply Starter Fertilizer	.33	.89	" "	1.36	Starter N-P-Zn Seed	7.00 12.00	9.25 12.00	
Cultivate 1x	.25	.68	70 HP WD	.74			1.42	
Weed Control (2/3 of acreage)	.20	.54	40 HP WD	.78	Herbicide (2/3 of acreage)	5.50	6.82	
Insect (Mite) Control	.20	.54	" "	.78	Miticide	4.00	5.32	
Irrigate 9x	2.25	5.18			3 AF @ \$2.25/AF	6.75	11.93	
Misc. Labor (Down-time, move & service equipment)	1.00	2.70		.10			2.80	
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS	6.68	\$16.95		\$12.19		\$48.45	\$77.59	
Harvest Costs								
Combine	.40	\$ 1.08		\$ 3.00			\$ 4.08	
Hauling (1/2 of crop)	.40	1.08			Hauling 1/2 crop @ 5¢ cwt.	\$1.75	2.83	
Drying (1/2 of crop)					3 1/2¢/cwt. drying	1.23	1.23	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS	.80	\$ 2.16				\$2.98	\$ 8.14	
Cash Overhead								
Misc., office, etc.							\$ 5.14	
Taxes and Insurance							12.98	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD							\$ 18.12	
TOTAL CASH COSTS							\$103.85	1.48
Management	5% of 7,000 lbs. at \$2.60 cwt.						\$ 9.10	
INVESTMENT								
	Per Acre		Annual Cost					
Land	\$500.00		Depreciation	Interest				
Irrigation System	175.00		\$ 8.75	6.13				
Equipment & Bldgs.	181.00		16.49	6.35				
Total	\$856.00		\$25.24	\$47.48			\$ 72.72	
				Credit for Stubble			3.00	
TOTAL COST PER ACRE							\$182.67	
Cost Per cwt. @ 7,000 cwt. yield							\$ 2.61	

Sample Costs Per Cwt. at Varying Yields

Yield - lbs./Acre	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000	9,000
Cash & Management Cost/cwt.	\$2.21	\$1.86	\$1.61	\$1.43	\$1.28
Investment Cost/cwt.	1.45	1.21	1.04	.91	.81
Minus Credit for Stover/cwt.	-.06	-.05	-.04	-.04	-.03
Total Costs/cwt.	\$3.60	\$3.02	\$2.61	\$2.30	\$2.06

The sample costs to produce field corn in Glenn County as outlined in this pamphlet are basically sample costs as adapted from information furnished by growers. Specific operation and sequence of operations vary from grower to grower and year to year. A column is provided on the cost sheet for growers to calculate their costs and insert them for comparison.

Dynamic changes have taken place in field corn production. Closer row spacings, higher plant populations, improved varieties, higher rates of fertilizer, etc., may make this crop more attractive on some of the better field crop land in Glenn County. Consult your farm advisor if you have questions regarding field-corn production.

Farm Advisors' Office
Glenn County

January 1971
350 copies