



*Sample Costs
to Produce*
ALMONDS
*in the Southern
San Joaquin Valley*

1976

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ALMOND PRODUCTION COSTS FOR A MATURE ORCHARD
Cost Analysis Worksheet, 1976

Practices are representative of flood irrigation on the valley floor. Costs are for a mature orchard with 75 trees per acre and a yield of 2750 pounds of in-shell nuts per year. Based on labor @ \$3.30 and \$4.00 per hour; medium-wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$2.60; depreciation \$1.65 and interest \$.82.

| | Sample Costs | | My Costs | |
|---|------------------|----------------|----------|-------------|
| | Per Acre | Per cwt. | Per Acre | Per cwt. |
| Pre-Harvest Cash Costs: | | | | (nut meats) |
| Pruning: 8 hrs. labor | \$ 26.40 | | | |
| Brush disposal: 2 hrs. labor + 1 tractor hr. | 9.90 | | | |
| Fertilizer: 175 pounds nitrogen @ 30¢/lb. applied | 52.50 | | | |
| Spray: materials + application 3 times (1300 gal. material) | 82.30 | | | |
| Water: 4 acre feet @ \$12/acre foot | 48.00 | | | |
| Irrigation: 2-hrs. labor | 6.60 | | | |
| Weed control: mow centers, spray borders - 3 hrs. labor + 3 tractor hrs. | 19.80 | | | |
| Bees: 2 hives @ \$12 | 24.00 | | | |
| Taxes | 60.00 | | | |
| Misc. labor and materials, including 2 tractor hrs. | 19.00 | | | |
| Repairs, except tractor | 12.00 | | | |
| Supervision | 20.00 | | | |
| Office and business costs | 32.95 | | | |
| TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS | \$ 413.45 | \$27.33 | | |
| Harvest Costs: | | | | |
| Knock, pick, haul, hull in-shell nuts: @ 6¢/lb. with a maximum rate of \$100/acre + 2 1/2¢/in-shell lb. for hulling | \$ 168.75 | | | |
| TOTAL HARVEST COSTS | \$ 168.75 | \$11.16 | | |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS | \$ 582.20 | \$38.49 | | |
| Depreciation: | | | | |
| Irrigation system: \$250 cost, 15 yr. life | \$ 16.67 | | | |
| Bldgs. & equip.: \$120 cost, 12 yr. life | 10.00 | | | |
| Tractor: 6 hrs. @ \$1.65/hr. | 9.90 | | | |
| Trees: \$1926 cost, 20 yr. life | 96.30 | | | |
| TOTAL DEPRECIATION | \$ 132.87 | \$ 8.78 | | |
| Interest on Investment @ 8%: | | | | |
| Irrigation system: 1/2 cost, \$125 | \$ 10.00 | | | |
| Bldgs. & equip.: 1/2 cost, \$60 | 4.80 | | | |
| Tractor: 6 hrs. @ \$.82/hr. | 4.92 | | | |
| Trees: 1/2 cost \$963 | 77.04 | | | |
| Land: @ \$1500/acre | 120.00 | | | |
| TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT | \$ 216.76 | \$14.33 | | |
| TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION | \$ 931.83 | \$61.60 | | |

SAMPLE COST PER POUND AT VARYING YIELDS

| Yield (pounds/acre) | 2000 | 2250 | 2500 | 2750 | 3000 | 3250 | 3500 | 4000 |
|---------------------|------|--------|------|--------|------|--------|------|------|
| in-shell | | | | | | | | |
| Yield (pounds/acre) | | | | | | | | |
| nut meats | 1100 | 1237.5 | 1375 | 1512.5 | 1650 | 1787.5 | 1925 | 2000 |
| Cash costs | | | | | | | | |
| per pound-meats | .51 | .46 | .42 | .38 | .36 | .33 | .31 | .28 |
| Total costs | | | | | | | | |
| per pound-meats | .83 | .74 | .67 | .61 | .57 | .53 | .49 | .44 |

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