

GR-SJ-70-2

1970

**GRAPE PRODUCTION COSTS
IN THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY**

**THOMPSON SEEDLESS
FOR TABLE USE**

Cost Analysis Worksheet
Showing Sample Costs

University of California

Agricultural Extension

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UC Cooperative Extension

	COST PER ACRE	
	Sample Cost	Your Cost
PREHARVEST CASH AND LABOR COST		
Pruning — contract	\$ 64.00	\$
Brush disposal — every middle	3.50	
Tying — contract	13.00	
Fertilizer — 50 pounds N @ 14¢ applied	7.00	
Girdling — contract	28.00	
Thinning — twice, 50 man-hours	95.00	
Gibberellin spray — twice @ \$26 + \$10 applied	36.00	
Pest and disease control application — 2 man-hours + 2 tractor-hours + \$2.50*	9.40	
Pest and disease control material	22.00	
Nematode treatment — once in 3 years	17.00	
Tillage, irrigation preparation and weed control — 3½ man-hours + 3½ tractor-hours	12.08	
Irrigate — 8 man-hours @ \$2.15	17.20	
Water — irrigation tax and/or power, 4 acre-feet	22.50	
Misc. labor — 8 man-hours + 2 tractor-hours	18.30	
Misc. material — stakes, twine, etc.	15.00	
County taxes	32.00	
Office, car, interest on operating capital, etc.	41.00	
Repairs — irrigation system and equipment, except tractor	8.50	
Total Preharvest Cash and Labor Cost	\$461.48	
DEPRECIATION		
Vines, stakes, and trellis — cost \$1,370, 30-year life	\$ 45.67	
Irrigation system — cost \$260, 20-year life	13.00	
Buildings and equipment, except tractor — cost \$100	7.50	
Tractor — 7½ hours @ \$1.25	9.38	
Total Depreciation Cost	\$ 75.55	
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%		
Vines, stakes, and trellis — on ½ cost (\$685)	\$ 47.95	
Irrigation system — on ½ cost (\$130)	9.10	
Buildings and equipment, except tractor — on ½ cost (\$50)	3.50	
Tractor — 7½ hours @ 60¢	4.50	
Land without improvements — \$800	56.00	
Total Interest on Investment	\$121.05	
TOTAL PREHARVEST COST	\$658.08	

* Black measles spray every third year.

COSTS PER LUG OF PACKED FRUIT																			
	HOUSE PACKED		FIELD PACKED																
	Sample Cost	Your Cost	Sample Cost	Your Cost															
Preharvest cost	\$1.42	\$	Preharvest cost	\$1.42															
Pick and haul	.35		Pick, pack, and supervision	.70															
Packinghouse cost	1.30		Boxes, etc.	.55															
Cold storage, if any	---		Spread boxes, swamp, and haul	.10															
			Handling and load	.10															
			Cold storage, if any	---															
TOTAL	\$3.07		TOTAL	\$2.87															
Credit — stripping and culls @ \$20/ton	-.11		Net credit — stripping	---															
Net f.o.b. cost ¹	\$2.96		Net f.o.b. cost ¹	\$2.87															
<p>Based on 80-acre block; yield of 462 26-pound lugs (77/ton); 6.0 tons shipped + 2.5 tons culls. Man labor @ \$1.90 and \$2.15 per hour (includes Workmen's Compensation, Social Security, and other benefits); medium-wheel tractor per hour cash cost \$1.30; depreciation \$1.25; interest \$0.60.</p> <p>TOTAL F.O.B. COST PER LUG AT VARYING YIELDS — excluding selling commission and inspection:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Yield — packed boxes</th> <th>300</th> <th>400</th> <th>500</th> <th>600</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>House packed</td> <td>\$3.73</td> <td>\$3.19</td> <td>\$2.86</td> <td>\$2.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Field packed</td> <td>3.64</td> <td>3.10</td> <td>2.77</td> <td>2.55</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Yield — packed boxes	300	400	500	600	House packed	\$3.73	\$3.19	\$2.86	\$2.64	Field packed	3.64	3.10	2.77	2.55
Yield — packed boxes	300	400	500	600															
House packed	\$3.73	\$3.19	\$2.86	\$2.64															
Field packed	3.64	3.10	2.77	2.55															

¹ Selling commission, Table Grape Commission Assessment (3½¢), and any inspection charges are not included.

80) 8000 *100 Tractor +*

ABOUT THIS SHEET

This sheet is one of a series on sample costs of producing grapes in the San Joaquin Valley. The series includes information on Thompson Seedless for Raisins and Wine, Golden Bleached Raisins, and Table Use, Zante Currants, Muscats, Emperors, and Wine Varieties. The input and cost data are to be used only as guides in determining the production costs for a specific vineyard and to help growers analyze costs and practices that would increase production efficiency. The figures shown are based on what are considered good management practices in many vineyards. They do not represent industry averages.

YIELD – Yield is the most important factor affecting costs per ton and profit per acre. The yield per acre used in this sample is average over a period of years for a typical, well-managed vineyard. Although this figure is higher than the industry average, some vineyards do better.

IRRIGATION – Sample costs for irrigation labor and water costs are based on a pumping system with pipeline. Labor cost per acre is affected by the number of irrigations, quantity applied, and size of head. Large heads of water may lower the labor costs. When all the water is from an irrigation district, the investment overhead costs of depreciation and interest on irrigation facilities are normally lower.

PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL – Dusting and spraying costs may vary considerably from year to year. Control measures required also vary between vineyards. The sample costs shown on this sheet are based on average conditions.

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George B. Alcorn, Director, California Agricultural Extension Service.