

# Agricultural Briefs

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

## SAFFLOWER FACT SHEET - 1975

Areas of Adaptation: Delta, Natomas--high water table soils

Planting Dates: February 15-April 15

Harvest Dates: August 1-September 1, when moisture content of seed is about 8%

Soil Requirements: Clays, clay loam, muck, non-hardpan soils

Varieties: US 10, Gila, Private varieties

Seeding Rates: 35-50 lbs. per acre, row planted, 20" rows. Increase seeding 10 lbs. per acre for drilled plantings on sub-irrigated land.

Fertilizer Requirement: 40-120 lbs. per acre nitrogen depending on previous crops and soil moisture conditions. Starter fertilizer 30 gal/Ac 4-10-10 under the seed at planting.

Irrigation: Usually none. If irrigation is planned, plant on beds. Do not allow plants to stress. Avoid prolonged irrigation, especially in warm weather. Provide adequate drainage.

Rotation: Delta area as soil-drying crop in rotation with row crops. Natomas area in rotation with rice. A pre-irrigation to replenish soil moisture may be needed for crops following safflower.

Normal Yield: 2000 - 3000 lbs/ac

Special Insect Problems: Cutworms, aphids, lygus, thrips. Early planting preferred to decrease possibility of damage from latter two.

Disease problems: Usually not serious. Rust, phytophthora root rot, botrytis blight, fusarium, and verticillium wilt. Rust not a problem except when crop is grown two years consecutively in the same field. Phytophthora may occur when safflower is grown under irrigated conditions.

Weed Control: Harrowing when 3-6" tall. Cultivation of row planted safflower. EPTC and Trifluralin pre-plant, soil-incorporated.

References: "Safflower", U.C. Circular 532

Prepared by Jack P. Orr and P. S. Parsons

9645 Kiefer Boulevard, Sacramento, California 95826 • Telephone 454-5461

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS, Division of Agricultural Sciences, University of California, U.S. Department of Agriculture and County of Sacramento cooperating

Jack P. Orr, Field &  
Vegetable Crops Farm  
Advisor

SAFFLOWER COST STUDY - 1975  
Sacramento County

Cooperative Agri-  
cultural Extension  
University of Calif.

Yield: 3000 lbs/ac  
Price: \$380/ton

Gross: \$570.00  
Net: \$229.38

Labor: Common \$2.50  
Skilled 3.00

CULTURAL		COST/ACRE
Disk		\$ 2.00
Plow		4.00
Rip		4.00
Disc & Pre-fertilizer	150# Nitrogen	39.50
Pre-herbicide - Disk 2x	Treflan 2 pts/ac \$7.35	
	Eptam 3 lbs/ac \$8.60	11.35
Planting Operation	Drill 50 lbs seed/ac @ \$12.50	
	Starter Fert. 30 gal/ac	
	4-10-10 \$23.55 +	
	tractor application	38.05
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 98.90</b>
<u>Harvest</u>		
Harvest (with own harvester)		5.50
Haul & Handle		1.00
	*Commercial harvest charges \$8/ton.	
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 6.50</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COSTS</b>		<b>\$105.40</b>
<u>Overhead</u>		
Rent @ 33.3%		\$189.81
Soc. Sec. & Workman's Comp.		2.25
Misc.		2.00
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>		<b>\$194.06</b>
<b>MANAGEMENT</b>	5% of Gross	28.50
Depreciation & Interest on equipment for 1000 acres \$150,000 investment; 10 yr. life. Interest 10% for 1 year. Tomato, Sugar beet, Wheat, Corn & Safflower operation. For one year interest/acre \$12.66		\$ 12.66
<b>TOTAL COST / ACRE</b>		<b>\$340.62</b>
<b>TOTAL COST / TON</b>		<b>\$227.08</b>