

SAMPLE COSTS

TO PRODUCE

SUDANGRASS SEED

IN THE LOWER

SACRAMENTO VALLEY

1974

Prepared by:

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SU-SV-74
 SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUDANGRASS SEED
 Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of sudangrass on a 1,000 acre farm. Yield: 2,500 lbs. per acre.
 Labor rates including fringe benefits, \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

| Operation | Hours per acre | Cash and labor cost per acre | | | | Total |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| | | Labor | Fuel & repairs | Materials Kind and Quantity | Cost | |
| dollars | | | | | | |
| <u>Cultural Costs</u> | | | | | | |
| Disc 2X | .8 | 2.80 | 5.60 | | | 8.40 |
| Ridge | .2 | .70 | .55 | | | 1.25 |
| Fertilize | .2 | .70 | .65 | N 100# @ \$.20 | 20.00 | 21.35 |
| | | | | 60# P2O5 @ \$.25 | 15.00 | 15.00 |
| Drag-shape levees | .3 | 1.05 | 1.60 | | | 2.65 |
| Pre-irrigate | .2 | .70 | | 3" water @ \$4/ac.ft. | 1.00 | 1.70 |
| Springtooth | .2 | .70 | 1.10 | | | 1.80 |
| Harrow & roll | .2 | .70 | 1.65 | | | 2.35 |
| Plant | .2 | .70 | 1.45 | 20# seed @ \$.20 | 20.20 | 22.35 |
| Irrigate 7X | 1.2 | 3.15 | | 2 ac.ft. water @ \$4 | 8.00 | 11.15 |
| Weed control | | | | 12 oz. 2,4-D amine applied | 3.50 | 3.50 |
| Crop loan interest | | | | | 2.75 | 2.75 |
| TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS | | 11.20 | 12.60 | | 70.45 | 94.25 |
| <u>Harvest Costs</u> | | | | | | |
| Swath | | | | Contract | 5.00 | 5.00 |
| Combine | 1.0 | 3.50 | 6.70 | | | 10.20 |
| Haul | | | | 1.5 tons @ \$3.50/ton | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| Cleaning, | | | | 1.25 tons @ \$2/cwt. | 2.50 | 2.50 |
| Post-harvest chopping | | | | Contract | 4.00 | 4.00 |
| TOTAL HARVEST COSTS | | 3.50 | 6.70 | | 16.75 | 26.95 |
| <u>Cash Overhead</u> | | | | | | |
| Misc., office, etc. | | | | | 7.45 | |
| Taxes | | | | | 1.90 | |
| Rent | | | | 25% of 2500# @ \$.10 | 62.50 | |
| TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD | | | | | | 71.60 |
| TOTAL CASH COST | | 14.70 | 19.30 | | 159.05 | 193.05 |
| Management 5% of 2,500 lbs. @ \$.10 | | | | | | 12.50 |
| <u>Annual Cost</u> | | | | | | |
| <u>Investment</u> | <u>Per Acre</u> | | | <u>Depreciation</u> | <u>Interest 8%</u> | |
| Equipment | \$189 | | | \$18.90 | \$7.55 | |
| Total | | | | | | 26.45 |
| TOTAL COST PER ACRE | | | | | | 232.00 |
| Cost per pound @ 2,500 lb. yield | | | | | | .09 |

SUDANGRASS CULTURAL BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: Sudangrass does best on deep, fertile, soils but good crops are often obtained under less favorable conditions. Sudan is frequently used as a soil conditioner on tight clay pan soils and newly leveled land. Small amounts of alkali will reduce yields.

Planting Dates: Mid April to July. Plantings after June 10 may encounter harvest problems or incur shattering losses because of adverse fall weather conditions.

Harvesting: 110-130 days after planting. Begin swathing when 85-95 percent of the tiller heads have matured through the early dough stage.

Varieties: Check with your marketing outlet for varieties in demand.

Seeding Rate: 15-20 pounds under irrigation, 12-15 pounds dry land.

Fertilizer: Up to 100 pounds of nitrogen, up to 60 pounds of phosphate where needed.

Irrigation: 5-6 inches every three to four weeks. More often on sandy or shallow soils.

Weed Control: Use 2,4-D as necessary for broadleaf weeds. Weedy grasses are usually crowded out.

Insect Control: Usually not a problem.

Diseases: Usually not a problem.

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