

Table 47. A Standard of Labor, Material, and Other Costs for the Production of Sweet Potatoes in Stanislaus and Merced counties with a total yield of 11,000 pounds per acre. (8,000 lbs. marketable, 3,000 lbs. culls and seed)

	Man	Horse	Truck	Cost	Cost
	labor	labor		per acre	per cwt.
			Hours per acre	Dollars	
Planting covercrop or fertilizer	3.0	4.0		1.30	
Hot bed preparation and care	10.0	4.0		3.40	
Land preparation	6.0	12.0		3.00	
Planting and ridging	18.0	12.0		6.60	
Crop cultivation	3.0	6.0		1.50	
Hoeing	3.0			.90	
Irrigate	7.0			2.10	
Miscellaneous	2.0	2.0		.80	
Subtotal, cultural labor	52.0	40.0		19.60	.18
Cut vines and plow out	6.0	6.0		2.40	.02
Sort and pack	75.0			22.50	.20
Hauling	5.0		5.0	5.25	.05
Total labor	138.0	46.0	5.0	49.75	.45
Irrigation water - taxes				3.00	.03
Covercrop seed or fertilizer				2.50	.02
Fertilizer and straw for hot bed				2.10	.02
Seed for hot bed, 500 pounds at 1-1/4¢				6.25	.06
Miscellaneous				1.00	.01
Total material cost				14.85	.14
General expense				3.23	.03
Taxes				3.00	.03
Machinery repairs				1.00	.01
Insurance and other cash costs				.75	
Total cash-overhead				7.98	.07
Total cash costs				72.58	.66
Investment and investment overhead, based on a 20-acre unit	Original cost	Average investment	5% interest	Depreciation	
	Dollars per acre				
General improvements	10.00	5.00	.25	.50	
Tillage equipment	4.00	2.00	.10	.40	
Planting equipment	5.00	2.50	.13	.50	
Harvesting equipment	1.00	.50	.02	.10	
Miscellaneous equipment	1.00	.50	.02	.10	
Land	225.00	225.00	11.25		
Total investment	246.00	235.50			
Total depreciation				1.60	.01
Subtotal, cash and depreciation costs				74.18	.67
Total interest on investment			11.77	11.77	.11
Total, all costs				85.95	.78

The above costs are computed on the basis of a 20-acre field or larger with labor rates per hour as follows: man, \$0.30; horse, \$0.10; truck, \$0.75. Costs per hundredweight are figured on the total yield of 11,000 pounds per acre. To obtain cost of marketable potatoes, subtract income expected from 3,000 pounds of culls and seed from the total costs per acre and divide the result by 8,000.