

Sample Inputs and Costs for Large Lima Beans
for the Salinas Valley With a Yield of 2500 Pounds Per Acre
Monterey County, 1961

	Man	60 hp	30 hp	Truck or	Cost per Acre	Cost per cwt
	Labor	Tractor	Tractor	Pickup		
	Hours per Acre					
Land preparation, 8 operations	2.4	2.0	0.3	0.1	9.28	
Pre plant irrigation	3.0				3.75	
Pre plant fertilization	0.4		0.3	0.1	1.13	
Planting, 2 men and planter	1.0		.4	0.1	1.89	
Cultivate 3 times	1.5		1.5		3.90	
Irrigation 4 times	12.0			0.1	15.15	
Hoe and weed 2 times	15.0			0.1	15.15	
Misc. other cultural work	2.0		0.5	1.0	3.55	
Post harvest spray for morning glory	0.2		0.2		.52	
Total cultural labor	37.5	2.0	3.2	1.5	54.32	2.17
Cutting and raking vines	1.0		.5	0.1	2.07	
Hand work, touching up windrows	3.0				3.00	
Combining contract @ .45¢ cwt					11.25	
Pulling thresher with grower tractor	.8	0.8		0.1	3.43	
Hauling beans to warehouse contract at .05¢ per cwt					1.25	
Cleaning, hand picking and sacking 37.5¢ per cwt sacks .25¢ ea.					15.63	
Total harvest cost	1.8	0.8	.5	0.2	36.63	1.46
Total labor and field power	39.3	2.8	3.7	1.7	90.95	3.63
Seed 120 lbs. @ .15¢					18.00	
Irrigation water, power to pump 2.5A feet @ \$4.00					10.00	
Fertilizer, 400 lbs. Am. Sulf. or equivalent					12.00	
Insecticide, applied contract					8.00	
Weed spray material					2.00	
Total material cost				Renter	50.00	2.00
Total labor and material cost					140.45	5.61
General expense, office, etc.				7.02	7.02	
County taxes, Eqt. 1.50 land \$10				1.50	11.50	
Repairs, not included in rates for tractors, etc.				2.75	2.75	
Insurance, compensation, s.s. and fire, Promotion				2.35	2.40	
Rent (reduce if land produces another crop)				60.00	--	
Total cash overhead costs				73.62	23.67	.94
Total cash costs				214.07	164.12	6.56
Investment overhead based on 400 crop acres	Av. Value	6% Int.	Depreciation			
	Dollars per acre					
Building for equipment	5.25	.32	.35			
Irrigation system	67.50	4.05	5.75			
Land	700.00	42.00				
Sub total, real estate	772.75	46.37	6.10			
Tillage equipment	11.25	.68	2.25			
Bean planter, cutter, rake	5.50	.33	.60			
Portable irrigation pipe	9.40	.56	1.88			
Tractors, truck and pickup	43.50	2.61	8.70			
Misc. shop and other eqt.	1.50	.09	.30			
Sub total, operating eqt.	71.15	4.27	13.73			
Total invest. and deprec.	843.90	50.64	19.83	13.73	19.83	.78
Total cash and deprec. costs				227.80	183.95	7.35
Interest on investment				4.27	50.64	2.03
Total all costs				232.07	234.59	9.38

Labor costs above are figured at the following rates per hour: tractor driver \$1.50, Irrigator \$1.25, hand labor \$1.00, 60 hp crawler tractor \$2.60, 30 hp wheel tractor \$1.10, 2 ton truck \$2.00 and pickup \$1.50. Tractor and truck rates are cash costs only for fuel and repairs. Depreciation and interest on investment are shown on an acre basis.

Summary of Costs and Profit for Dry Limas
Renter Operator with \$60 Acre Rent

	1500	2000	2500	3000
Growing and other fixed costs per acre	202.32	202.32	202.32	202.32
Variable harvesting costs at \$1.19 cwt	17.85	23.80	29.75	35.70
Total cost per acre	220.17	226.12	232.07	238.02
Total cost per cwt				
Net income or profit per acre				
with beans at \$ 9.00 cwt	-85.17	-46.12	- 7.07	31.98
\$ 10.00 cwt	-70.17	-26.12	17.93	61.98
\$ 11.00 cwt	-55.17	- 6.12	42.93	91.98
\$ 12.00 cwt	-40.17	13.88	67.93	121.98

Dry Lima Bean Production

Dry lima beans are grown on approximately 2000 acres in the Salinas Valley. The major portion of the acreage is located in the King City area. Limited production extends southward to the San Ardo area and northward to Greenfield.

The lima bean plant favors a moderately warm climate for optimum pod set. The prevailing cool Salinas Valley winds restrict the crop acreage to protected regions, such as those provided with windbreaks, and isolated areas.

The Ventura and Lewis type varieties are commonly grown in this county. The principal outlet for this crop is dry bean consumption. A limited amount of this production is used for the seed industry.