

1960

Lemons

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION

A typical lemon orchard in Ventura County for which these costs have been developed consists of:

Forty acres, planted 20 x 20 or 109 trees per acre, 20 years of age, and is owner-operated. Wage rate \$1.35 per hour. Five per cent yearly replant program and furrow irrigated. Frost protection by wind machines and 15 heaters per acre.

Land value \$4,000 per acre.

University of California
Agricultural Extension Service
52 North California Street
Ventura, California

Ventura County

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE LEMONS

Ventura County - 1960

Operation	Labor and Equipment	Materials		Total Cost*	Costs per Field Box
		Kind	Cost		
Fertilize	\$2.00	2½#N/tree (Includes ½# in pest control spray)	\$24.63	\$27.00	
Irrigate - 6x	18.00	3 ac.ft. @ \$12/acre foot	36.00	54.00	
Disease Control	7.90	Bordeaux spray plus inspection for brown rot	3.00	11.00	
Pest Control - 2x	--	Contract	--	68.00	
Rodent Control	2.70		.50	3.00	
Frost Protection	10.00	Standby \$35.00/A; power \$1.50/A; oil \$10.00/A	46.50	56.00	
Soil Management (cult. & furrow)**	28.50		--	29.00	
Pruning and Brush Disposal	13.00	Contract - Mechanical Topping @ \$12.00/A	--	25.00	
Remove and Plant Trees	12.25	5 trees @ \$2.75	13.75	26.00	
Miscellaneous	10.00			10.00	
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS				\$309.00	\$.46
Pick - 670 boxes @ \$.37 =	\$247.90			\$248.00	
Haul - 670 boxes @ \$.07 =	46.90			47.00	
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS				\$295.00	\$.44
	<u>Investment per acre</u>	<u>Depreciation per acre</u>	<u>Interest per acre</u>		
Land	\$4,000.00	--	\$240.00	Taxes	\$60.00
Wind Machines and Heaters	340.00	\$34.00	8.50	Insurance	4.00
Irrigation System	184.00	6.80	4.60	Maintenance and Repair	12.00
Equipment	209.00	20.90	5.22	General Expense	25.00
Buildings	25.00	.83	.62	CASH OVERHEAD	\$101.00
Trees	<u>1,200.00</u>	<u>40.00</u>	<u>30.00</u>	TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$705.00
	\$5,958.00	\$102.53	\$288.94	Depreciation	\$103.00
				Interest on Investment	289.00
				NON-CASH OVERHEAD	\$392.00
				TOTAL ALL COSTS	\$1,097.00
					\$1.63

* Rounded off to nearest \$1.00.

** If weeds are controlled by telvar, the cost would be \$16.00 per acre.

ADDITIONAL REMARKS ON CULTURAL COSTS

- Pest Control - - - Includes two sprays for insects (spring and fall) and micronutrients. Also, Protective League @ 7.9¢ per tree and Insectary @ 4¢ per tree.
- Soil Management - Disced twice, spring toothed and furrowed six times.
- Pruning - - - - - Five per cent of trees pruned heavily by hand to invigorate. Brush disposed of by discing.

IN SUMMARY

	Per	Per	Your Cost	
	Per	Field	Per	Per
	Acre	Box	Acre	Field Box
Cultural Costs	\$309	\$.46		
Harvesting Costs	295	.44		
Cash Overhead	101	.15		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$705	\$1.05		
Depreciation	\$103	\$.15		
Interest	289	.43		
TOTAL NON-CASH COSTS	\$392	\$.58		
TOTAL ALL COSTS	\$1,097	\$1.63		

Ventura County Lemon Situation - 1960*

Bearing Acreage	22,009
Non-Bearing Acreage	4,884
Production -- Packed Cartons	9,588,526
Juice, Tons	157,212
Value (F.O.B.) Packed Cartons	\$25,109,814
Juice	2,513,630

*Data from 1960 Agricultural Commissioner's Report
B. W. Lee, Farm Advisor 500c 5/61

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