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SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE PICKLING CUCUMBERS IN MONTEREY COUNTY

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YIELD: 25 Ton/Acre
HARVEST: July 1 through July 15
PLANT: April 20 through May 10

LABOR COSTS/HR¹

			HOURLY TRACTOR COSTS		
			Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
Cl. I Tractor Driver	9.32	80 h.p. Crawler Diesel	14.51	6.33	4.75
Cl. II Tractor Driver	9.11	60 h.p. Wheel Diesel	6.35	2.25	1.69
Irrigator	8.15				
Other Labor	8.02				

Operation	Tractor Used	Hour/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contract & Materials	Total/Acre
Cover Crop & Manure Prop. to Pickles						40.00
Subsoil 2x (1/4 to pickles)	C-80	1.24	11.30	21.63		16.48
Disc & Roll 3x	C-80	0.69	6.29	12.24		18.53
Chisel 2x	C-80	0.66	6.01	10.67		16.68
Level 2x	C-80	0.52	4.74	9.61		14.35
List & Preplant fertilizer					Contract @ \$8.00/Ac. 500# 12-12-12 @ \$46.00	54.00
Shape Beds & Roll	WD-60	0.25	2.28	1.84		4.12
Plant - 4 bed planter	WD-60	0.42	3.83	3.74	3# seed @ \$8.75/#	33.82
Herbicide ²					Contract @ \$8.25/Ac. materials \$12.00/Ac.	20.25
Irrigate 13x (1 pre, 3 sprinkler, 9 furrow)		14.00	114.10		2.5 Ac.Ft. @ \$36.00/Ac. Ft. for power & \$4.00 for booster	244.10
Thin		8.5	68.17			68.17
Fertilizer sidedress 1x & irrig. water 1x					Contract \$7.25/Ac. 130# N @ \$0.44/lb.	64.45
Pest Control 1x (with fungicide) ³					Contract @ \$8.25/Ac. materials \$16.00	24.25
Cultivate 4x	WD-60	1.5	13.67	9.53		23.20
Weed		8.5	68.17			68.17
Bees for pollination					\$20.00/Hive - 1-1/2 Hives per acre	30.00
Miscellaneous (incl. setup & moving)		4.0	34.68			34.68
Interest on operating capital @ 17%						65.90
CULTURAL COSTS						841.15

OVERHEAD:

Business Costs: Office & Business Expense, etc. @ 8% Cultural	67.29
Taxes: Equipment Except tractors	5.00
Rent: \$400 - 6 months to pickles	200.00
OVERHEAD COSTS	272.29

HARVEST: Harvest costs are variable and are not shown on this study. Pickles are hand harvested usually about 10 to 12 times per acre and harvest costs are about 52% of the gross returns received per ton of pickles.

TOTAL CULTURAL AND OVERHEAD COSTS	1,113.44
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ANNUAL COSTS:

	<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest - 15%</u>
50% charged to cucumbers.	Buildings	60.00	3.00	4.50
Tractors are on an hourly basis.	Irrig. System	300.00	30.00	22.50
	Tractors	205.00	18.68	14.03
	Equipment	<u>200.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>	<u>15.00</u>
		765.00	71.68	56.03
	6 Months (Except Tractor & Equipment) to Cucumbers			97.71
<u>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</u>				<u>1,211.15</u>
<u>COST PER TON</u>				<u>48.45</u>

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study.

- 1 Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. Social Security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, vacation, pension plan, and paid holidays.
- 2 For herbicide materials, rates and application techniques, contact a pest control advisor or your local Agricultural Extension Office.
- 3 For insecticide materials, rates and application, contact a pest control advisor or your local Agricultural Extension Office.