

PRUNE
ORCHARD

COSTS

FROM

PLANTING TO PICKING

1966

CAPITAL INVENTORY AND FIXED COSTS PER ACRE

Inventory	Capital Investment	Investment Per Acre	Expected Life	Annual Fixed Costs Per Acre	
				Interest	Depreciation
Land 40 Acres	\$40,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$60.00	
Irrigation System	5,000.00	125.00	30 years	3.75	\$ 4.17
1-40 hp. diesel wheel tractor	5,400.00	135.00	10 years	4.05	13.50
Disc 10-1/2 feet	1,500.00	37.50	10 years	1.12	3.75
Sprayer 400 gals.	2,800.00	70.00	10 years	2.10	7.00
Pickup Truck	2,300.00	57.50	5 years	17.25	11.50
Ridger	400.00	10.00	10 years	.30	1.00
Pruning Equipment	250.00	6.25	10 years	.19	.63
Buildings	<u>5,200.00</u>	<u>130.00</u>	30 years	<u>3.90</u>	<u>4.33</u>
TOTAL	\$62,850.00	\$1,571.25		\$92.66	\$45.88

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH PRUNE ORCHARD
Fourth Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COSTS			Total	Your Cost Per Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials		
Prune & Train	Nov.-March	10.0	17.50	.50		18.00	
Remove Brush	Nov.-March	1.0	1.75	.85		2.60	
Replant 5%	Jan.-Feb.	1.0	1.75		4 trees 3.20	4.95	
Straighten & Stake 10%	Oct.-March	3.0	5.25		7 stakes 2.80	8.05	
Spray Twice	March-May	1.5	2.63	5.03	Insecticide 3.00	10.66	
Disc Twice	March-May	.8	1.40	1.02		2.42	
Hoe	May	5.0	8.75			8.75	
Ridge Twice	May-July	.8	1.40	.58		1.98	
Irrigate 4 Times	May-Sept.	2.0	3.50		Water 12.00	15.50	
Disc 3 Times	May-Sept.	1.2	2.10	1.53		3.63	
Spray	June-Aug.	.7	1.23	1.83	Miticider 3.00	6.06	
Taxes					8.00	8.00	
Misc.			2.74	1.66	1.00	5.40	
Total Cash Costs			50.00	13.00	33.00	106.00	
Annual Fixed Cost							
	Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest			
	Land	\$1,000.00		\$60.00			
	Bldgs.	130.00	\$ 4.33	3.90			
	Irrigation	125.00	4.17	3.75			
	Equipment	316.25	37.38	25.01			
	Trees	773.63		23.21			
	Total	\$2,344.88	\$45.88	\$115.87	Total Fixed Costs	\$161.75	
						Total All Costs	\$267.75

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH PRUNE ORCHARD
Third Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COSTS			Total	Your Cost Per Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials		
Prune & Train	Nov.-March	6.0	10.50	.25		10.75	
Remove Brush	Nov.-Dec.	.5	.88	.42		1.30	
Replant 5%	Jan.-Feb.	1.0	1.75		4 trees 3.20	4.95	
Straighten & Stake 10%	Oct.-March	3.0	5.25		7 stakes 2.80	8.05	
Spray Twice	March-May	1.5	2.63	5.03	Insecticide 2.00	9.66	
Disc Twice	April	.8	1.40	1.02		2.42	
Hoe	May	5.0	8.75			8.75	
Ridge Twice	May-July	.8	1.40	.58		1.98	
Irrigate 5 Times	May-Sept.	2.5	4.38		Water 12.00	16.38	
Disc Ridges 3 Times	June-Sept.	1.2	2.10	1.53		3.63	
Spray	June-Aug.	.7	1.23	2.34	Miticide 2.00	5.57	
Taxes						8.00	
Misc.			3.73	1.83		1.00	6.56
Total Cash Costs			44.00	13.00	31.00	88.00	
Annual Fixed Cost							
Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest				
Land	\$1,000.00		\$60.00				
Bldgs.	130.00	\$4.33	3.90				
Irrigation	125.00	4.17	3.75				
Equipment	316.25	37.38	25.01				
Trees	531.16		15.93				
Total	\$2,102.41	\$45.88	\$108.59	Total Fixed Cost			\$154.47
						Total All Costs	\$242.47

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH PRUNE ORCHARD
Second Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COSTS			Total	Your Cost Per Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials		
Prune & Train	Nov.-March	4.0	7.00	.25		7.25	
Replant 5%	Jan.-Feb.	1.0	1.75		4 trees 3.20	4.95	
Straighten & Stake 10%	Oct.-March	3.0	5.25		7 stakes 2.80	8.05	
Spray Twice	March-May	1.5	2.63	5.03	Insecticide .50	8.16	
Disc Twice	April	.8	1.40	1.02		2.42	
Hoe	May	5.0	8.75			8.75	
Ridge 3 Times	April-Sept.	.6	1.05	.86		1.91	
Irrigate 6 Times	April-Sept.	3.0	5.25		Water 12.00	17.25	
Disc Ridges 3 Times	May-Sept.	1.0	1.75	1.28		3.03	
Spray	June-Sept.	.7	1.23	2.34	Miticide .50	4.07	
Taxes					8.00	8.00	
Misc.			2.94	1.22	3.00	7.16	
Total Cash Costs			39.00	12.00	30.00	81.00	
			Annual Fixed Cost				
Investment	Per Acre		Depreciation	Interest			
Land	\$1,000.00			\$,60.00			
Bldgs.	130.00		\$,4.33	3.90			
Irrigation	125.00		4.17	3.75			
Equipment	316.25		37.38	25.01			
Trees	302.54			9.08			
Total	\$1,873.79		\$45.88	\$101.74	Total Fixed-Costs	\$147.62	
Total All Costs						\$228.62	

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH PRUNE ORCHARD
First Year

Operation	Dates	Hours Per Acre	CASH AND LABOR COSTS			Total	Your Cost Per Acre
			Labor	Equipment	Materials		
Disc Twice	Nov.-Dec.	.8	1.40	1.00		2.40	
Mark & Stake	Jan.-Feb.	2.0	3.50		75 stakes 3.75	7.25	
Dig Holes	Jan.-Feb.	2.0	3.50	2.55		6.05	
Plant & Prune	Jan.-Feb.	5.0	8.75		75 trees 60.00	68.75	
Watering	Jan.-Feb.	3.0	5.25	2.55		7.80	
Whitewash	Jan.-Feb.	2.0	3.50		Whitewash .50	4.00	
Spray Twice	March-May	1.5	2.63	5.03	Insecticide .25	7.91	
Disc Twice	April-May	.8	1.40	1.02		2.42	
Ridge 4 Times	April-Sept.	.8	1.40	1.15		2.55	
Irrigate 8 Times	April-Oct.	4.0	7.00		Water 12.00	19.00	
Hoe	May-June	5.0	8.75			8.75	
Disc Ridges 4 Times	May-Sept.	1.5	2.63	1.92		4.55	
Spray	June-Sept.	.7	1.23	2.34	Miticide .50	4.07	
Taxes					8.00	8.00	
Misc.			4.06	1.44	5.00	10.50	
Total Cash Costs			55.00	19.00	90.00	164.00	
Annual Fixed Cost							
Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest				
Land	\$1,000.00		\$ 60.00				
Bldgs.	130.00	\$ 4.33	3.90				
Irrigation	125.00	4.17	3.75				
Equipment	316.25	37.38	25.01				
Total	\$1,571.25	\$ 45.88	\$ 92.66	Total Fixed Costs	\$138.54		
Total All Costs						\$302.54	

ESTABLISHING A PRUNE ORCHARD IN TEHAMA COUNTY - 1966

This cost study was designed to give an idea of expected costs per acre involved in establishing a prune orchard. The figures represent typical costs under assumed conditions. These conditions are as follows: 40 acres of level land, planted to trees on 24 foot centers with 75 trees per acre. An irrigation system and buildings (other than dwellings) are included as well as equipment. (See the last page for capital inventory and analysis.)

All labor is figured at \$1.75 an hour including compensation insurance and social security.

Irrigation water is supplied by well at a cost of \$6 per acre-foot.

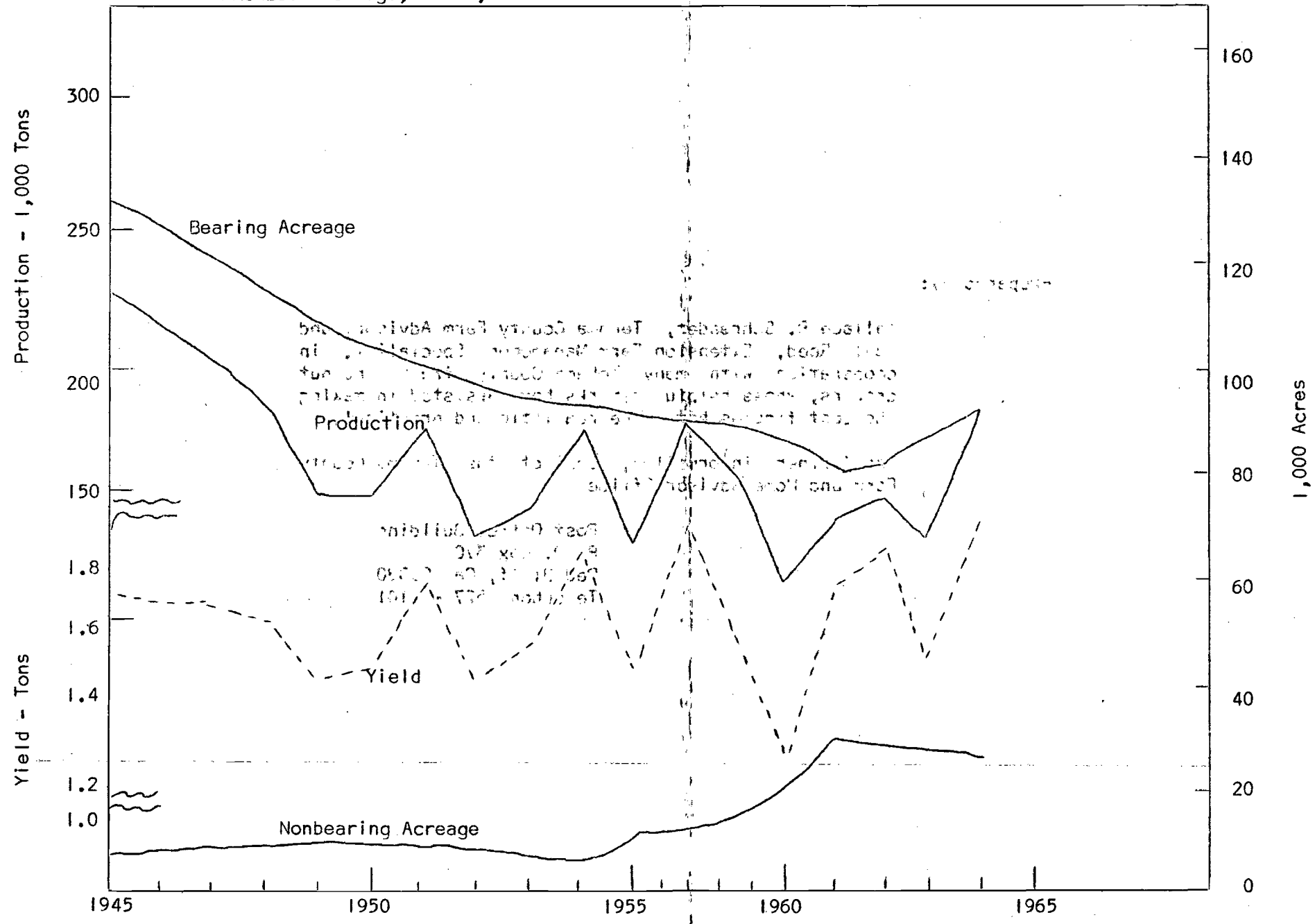
Major deviations from these per acre costs will occur with variation of size of planting, number of trees per acre, use of machinery already on hand, incidence of disease and insect pest infestation, land value, and number of trees planted per acre.

The total cost per acre will remain about constant from the fourth year until self-sustaining, expected between the fifth and seventh year, depending on vigor, cultural practices, and other factors.

SUMMARY OF COSTS

YEAR	LABOR	EQUIPMENT	MATERIALS	TOTAL CASH COSTS	INTEREST	DEPRECIATION	TOTAL FIXED COSTS	TOTAL ALL COSTS	TOTAL INVEST.
1st	55.00	19.00	90.00	164.00	92.66	45.88	138.54	302.54	302.54
2nd	39.00	12.00	30.00	81.00	101.74	45.88	147.62	228.62	531.16
3rd	44.00	13.00	31.00	88.00	108.59	45.88	154.47	242.47	773.63
4th	50.00	13.00	33.00	106.00	115.87	45.88	161.75	267.75	1041.38

PRUNES: Acreage, Yield, and Production - California



Prepared by: -

Wallace R. Schreader, Tehama County Farm Advisor, and Doyle Reed, Extension Farm Management Specialist, in cooperation with many Tehama County fruit and nut growers, whose helpful remarks have assisted in making the cost figures both more realistic and practical.

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