

COTTON PROJECTED PRODUCTION COSTS 1987-1988 Full Season

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Labor at \$5.50 per hour (\$4.30 plus Social Security, unemployment and fringe benefits).

Yield--2.5 bales or 1250 pounds lint per acre 170-200+ days to harvest

OPERATION	CUSTOM RATE	MATERIALS		HAND LABOR		COSTS Per Acre
		Type	Cost	Hours	Dollars	
LAND PREPARATION						
Chisel	18.00					18.00
Disc 2x	9.00					18.00
Fertilize (broadcast)	6.00	300# 11-52-0	35.25			41.25
Float	7.75					7.75
Border-cross check	15.00					15.00
Irrigate		1/2 ac. ft.	4.50	2	11.00	15.50
List-injected	10.00	80# NH3 @	12.00			22.00
Lilliston	9.00					9.00
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION COSTS						146.50
GROWING PERIOD						
Plant - Shape	10.00	Seed 20# @ .53	10.60			20.60
Weed Control	6.50	Herbicide	15.00			21.50
Cultivate 2x	9.50					19.00
Fertilize 2x	10.00	200# N	40.00			60.00
Hand thin - Weed				8	44.00	44.00
Lilliston 2x	9.00	Herbicide	17.00			35.00
Irrigate 10x		Water 5.5 ac/ft	49.50	8	44.00	93.50
Insect control 15x	4.90	Insecticide	190.00			258.60
Defoliate 2x	6.00		24.00			36.00
Chop stalks	12.00					12.00
TOTAL GROWING PERIOD COSTS						600.20
GROWING PERIOD & LAND PREPARATION COSTS						746.70
Land Rent (net acres)						150.00
Cash Overhead--	12% preharvest cost and land rent					107.60
TOTAL PREHARVEST COSTS						1004.30
HARVEST COSTS						
Machine picking	48.00/bale @ 2.5 bales/acre					120.00
Hauling	10.00/bale @ 2.5 bales/acre					25.00
Ginning	2.75/cwt of seed cotton					
TOTAL ALL COSTS						1149.30

PROJECTED INCOME ABOVE COSTS (PER ACRE)
price/lb lint

		.60	.65	.70	.75	.80	Breakeven \$/lb.
Pounds	1000	-520	-470	-420	-370	-320	1.12
lint	1250	-399	-337	-274	-212	-149	.92
per	1500	-278	-203	-128	-53	22	.79
acre	1750	-157	-70	18	105	193	.69
	2000	-36	64	164	264	364	.62

COTTON CULTURE

1987-1988

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ACRES</u>	<u>YIELD/ACRE (IN LBS)</u>	<u>VALUE/LB</u>
1986	17,169	1,260	\$1.02 ^{1/}
1985	23,276	1,355	.75
1984	32,816	1,245	.87
1983	27,000	1,400	.85
1982	51,000	1,200	.72

LAND PREPARATION: Most cotton continues to be grown on raised beds 38 to 40 inches wide. A small acreage is grown on beds at 30 inch beds. The crop is generally planted in a semi-mulch and irrigated up. Cotton can be grown on all types of soil in Imperial County.

PLANTING DATES AND RATES: Cotton yields are normally higher if planted in March to early April. Yields decrease when cotton is planted later in the season. A soil temperature of at least 60° F at a depth of 8 inches is desirable. Spacings within the row of 3 to 12 inches result in approximately the same yields.

VARIETIES: Delta Pine 61, Delta Pine 77 and Stoneville 825 have been successfully grown. Other varieties grown are Delta Pine 90, Delta Pine 80 and Delta Pine 20.

FERTILIZATION: Two hundred fifty to 300 pounds of nitrogen per acre will produce a good crop on solid planted cotton. The applications should be made before planting, at thinning, and in June to July. Phosphate application is a common practice, although tests have failed to show a yield response. The total nitrogen and phosphate applied depends upon the previous crop.

IRRIGATION: Do not allow the plants to remain wilted for extended periods of time. The number of irrigations depend upon the season and the desired result--a top crop (maximum number of irrigations) or a short season crop (fewer irrigations).

PEST CONTROL: Several herbicides are now in common use both as preemergence and layby treatments. Consult your farm advisors' office for registered, adapted chemicals.

The pink bollworm, the cotton leaf perforator, tobacco budworm, and cotton bollworm are widespread and pose a serious threat to cotton production. Cotton boll weevil may become a serious problem. Other insects such as spider mites, cutworms, lygus bugs, and whitefly may occasionally require treatment. The presence of these insect pests results in increased costs for pest control since multiple applications are necessary to keep them in check. The insecticide costs included in this circular could be higher, depending upon the presence of these and other pests. Consult the farm advisors' office for latest information.

Seedling diseases can reduce cotton stands to the point where replanting may be necessary. The seedling disease problem frequently is more severe where cotton follows sugar beets or alfalfa, and/or cool soil temperatures. Fungicide seed treatments can be used for seedling disease control.

MISCELLANEOUS: If PIX and/or Prep are applied, add \$50 per acre, plus application.

^{1/} Price includes government payment

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