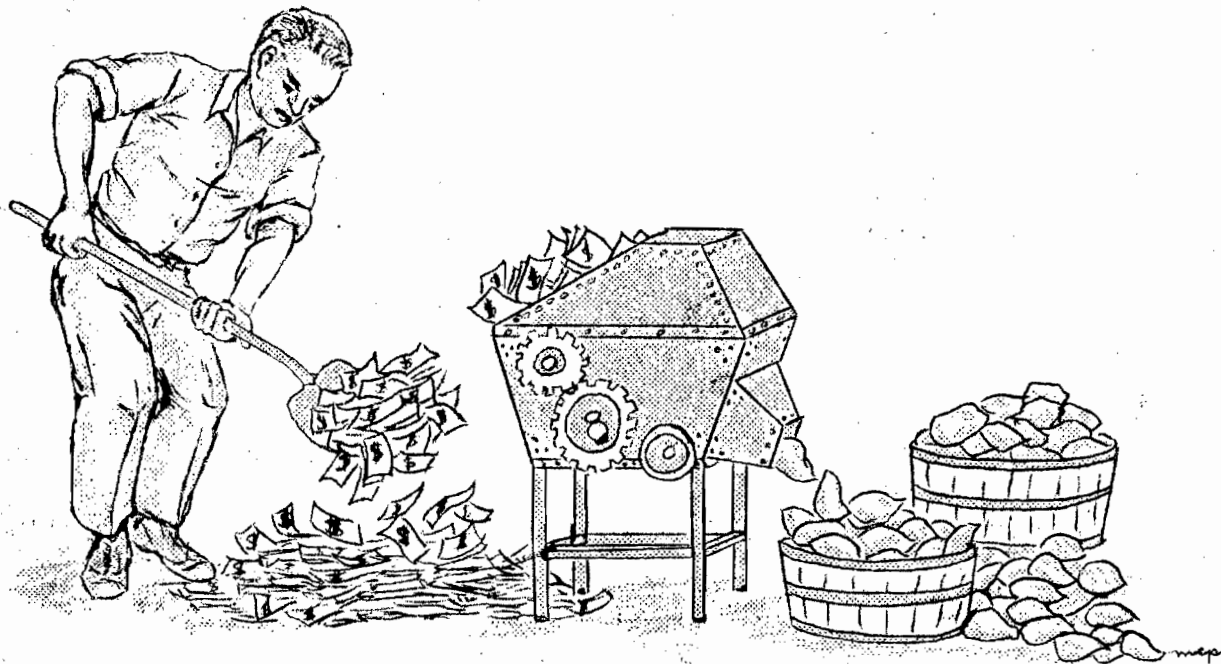

SAMPLE COSTS OF GROWING SWEET POTATOES



University of California, Agricultural Extension Service, Merced County

SWEET POTATOES ON RENTAL LAND
COST ANALYSIS WORK SHEET - 1968

Sample Costs to produce sweet potatoes in Merced County in 1968 on rental land. Based on a yield of 9000 lbs. marketable. Man labor \$1.85 per hour total and equipment operator \$2.10, including Social Security and Workman's Compensation Insurance. Medium tractor per hour cash costs, \$1.30, depreciation 70¢ and Interest 30¢. Light truck per hour cash costs \$2.00, depreciation 70¢ and interest 35¢.

	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
	Per Acre	Per Lb.	Per Acre	Per Lb.
PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS:				
Hot bed culture: 12 man and 1/2 tractor hr.	\$ 22.98			
Hot bed materials: Fum. \$1.00, cover 2.00, gin cleanings 5.00		8.00		
Seed: 400 lbs. at 8¢		32.00		
Land preparation: 3 hrs. man and tractor		10.20		
Fumigate for nematodes and wireworms		35.00		
Pull & plant: 20 man hrs., 2 tractor hrs., & 1 truck hr.		42.35		
Cultivate & sidedress: 3 hrs. man and tractor		10.20		
Fertilizer: 800 lbs. 8-10-12		31.00		
Hoeing: 10 man hrs.		18.50		
Irrigate: 10X: 20 man hrs.		37.00		
Misc. labor: 3 man hrs. 1 tractor hr. & 1 truck hr.		9.35		
Misc. materials		2.50		
Repairs except truck and tractor		6.00		
Office, car, tenants property taxes, business expenses, etc.		21.90		
Rent: (Cash) includes water district tax		100.00		
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	\$386.98	4.30¢		
HARVESTING COSTS:				
Cut vines: 1 hr. man and tractor		3.40		
Dig: 4 hrs. man and tractor		13.60		
Stack, break & sort: contract		65.00		
Haul: 13 man hrs. and 4 truck hrs.		33.05		
Shed pack: 225 cartons @ 35¢		78.75		
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS	\$193.80	2.15¢		
TOTAL CASH COSTS	\$580.78	6.45¢		
DEPRECIATION COSTS:				
Bldgs. & equip. except truck & tractor \$100.00 12 years		8.33		
Tractor: 14-1/2 hrs. @ 70¢		10.15		
Truck: 6 hrs. @ 70¢		4.20		
TOTAL DEPRECIATION	\$ 22.68	.25¢		
TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION	\$603.46	6.70¢		
INTEREST ON INVESTMENT @ 7%:				
Bldgs. & equip. ex. truck & tractor: 1/2 cost \$50.00		3.50		
Tractor: 14-1/2 hrs. @ 30¢		4.35		
Truck: 6 hrs. @ 35¢		2.10		
TOTAL INTEREST ON INVESTMENT	\$ 9.95	.11¢		
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION BEFORE CREDITS	\$613.41	6.81¢		
CREDIT FOR SEED VALUE: 500 Lbs. @ 6¢	30.00			
NET COST OF PRODUCTION, Marketable	\$583.41	6.48¢		

Above costs do not include any allowance for management, containers or storage. These sample costs are based upon a limited survey of growers operations. These sample costs are provided only as a guide.

Robert W. Scheuerman
Farm Advisor
Merced County

Edward A. Yeary
Farm Advisor - Statewide
(Farm Management)

SWEET POTATOES