

CO-SV-55-4  
FIELD CORN  
Sample Costs And Production Hints  
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Basis of Costs:

The sample costs given in this publication are intended for use as a guide to help farmers figure their costs of production. Actual costs will vary from farm to farm. The staff of the Farm and Home Advisor's Office is happy to help farmers figure costs on their farms.

Equipment Input: (for 250 acres of corn)

	<u>Approximate New Cost</u>
Crawler Tractor, 60-70 H.P.	\$10,500
Wheel Tractor, 40 H.P.	3,200
Truck, 1½ ton	3,000
Plow, 10-14"	1,500
Disc, 18'	1,560
Landplane, 10'x40'	2,200
Spiketooth Harrow, 30'	400
Roller, 30'	900
Harrow cart	500
Planter, 8 row	900
Cultivator Tools, 4 row	600
Fertilizer Attachment, 4 row	175
Picker-Sheller, 2 row pull type	2,200
Total equipment. . . . .	<u>\$27,635</u>

University of California  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Colusa County

1955

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE FIELD CORN  
OWNER OPERATED FARM

Based on producing 250 acres  
Yield - 4500# corn per acre

Labor \$1.00 - \$1.20/hour

Operation, Crew and Equipment	Hours per Acre	Cash Cost per Acre					Total Cash Cost	Int & Deprec. on Equip.	Total Cost Per Acre
		Labor	Tractor and Equip.	Contract	Materials				
					Kind & Amount	Value			
<b>Cultural Costs:</b>									
Plow: 60 H.P. Tract., man	.30	.40	.69				1.09	1.44	2.53
Disc: 60 H.P. Tract., man	.20	.25	.47				.72	1.00	1.72
Landplane: 60 H.P. Tract., man	.30	.40	.67				1.07	1.55	2.62
Disc: 2 times, 60 H.P. Tract., man	.40	.50	.94				1.44	2.00	3.44
Harrow & Roll: 60 H.P., Tract., man	.10	.15	.30				.45	.80	1.25
Plant: 40 H.P. Tract., planter, 2 men	.30	.75	.42			12# Seed @ 25¢ 3.00	4.17	.53	4.70
Cultivate: 40 H.P. Tract., man	.40	.50	.53				1.03	.43	1.46
Fertilize: 40 H.P. Tract., 2 men	.50	1.10	.64			150# Nitrogen 21.00	22.74	.40	23.14
Furrow: 40 H.P. Tract., man	.30	.40	.39				.79	.32	1.11
Irrigate: 6 times	6.	6.00				Water 4.00	10.00		10.00
<b>Total cultural cost</b>		<b>10.45</b>	<b>5.05</b>				<b>28.00</b>	<b>43.50</b>	<b>51.97</b>
<b>Harvest Cost:</b>									
Pick & Shell: 40 H.P., Pick & Shell, man	1.	1.20	3.70				4.90	2.80	7.70
Haul: 1½ ton Truck, man	1.	1.20	1.45				2.65	1.50	4.15
Drying: at 4.50 per ton						10.10	10.10		10.10
Storage: @ 2.88 per ton						6.48	6.48		6.48
<b>Total harvest cost</b>		<b>2.40</b>	<b>5.15</b>	<b>16.58</b>			<b>24.13</b>	<b>4.30</b>	<b>28.43</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>12.85</b>	<b>10.20</b>	<b>16.58</b>			<b>28.00</b>	<b>67.63</b>	<b>80.40</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Costs:</b>									
							3.00		
							2.00		
								15.00	
							<b>5.00</b>	<b>15.00</b>	<b>20.00</b>
							<b>72.63</b>	<b>27.77</b>	<b>100.40</b>
							1.61		
									2.23

## Cultural Hints:

- Varieties:** Should have a maturity date which will use as much of the growing season as possible.
- Seed Bed:** A good seed bed with moisture near the surface is essential. Pre-irrigation is often necessary.
- Fertilizer:** Approximately 150# of actual Nitrogen per acre is needed to produce a profitable crop. No profitable responses have been obtained from other types of fertilizer.
- Irrigation:** Crop should not be allowed to suffer from lack of moisture. At least 2 for rice lands, 6 plus for lighter soils.
- Planting:** As soon as possible after frost. At least 17,000 plants per acre needed to produce maximum yields. With 40 inch rows, you will need plants 9 inches apart. Plant into moisture.
- Cultivation:** Two cultivations are usually needed for weed control.
- Disease Control:** Early planting seems to be a fairly effective measure to control smut. Plant Fusarium resistant varieties.
- Insect Control:** Corn earworm is the major pest. No economical control is recommended at this time.