

ESTIMATED COSTS
OF GROWING



DIRECT
SEEDED
ONIONS

IN

SAN JOAQUIN
COUNTY

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

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UC Cooperative Extension

SAMPLE COSTS OF GROWING DIRECT-SEEDED EARLY ONIONS, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
(placed in windrow, ready for harvest)

300 Acre Operation with 50 Acres in Onions

Yield-350 cwt. per acre. Hourly labor rates:

Tractor driver, \$1.50; Irrigator, \$1.25; Common, \$1.10

Tractors: 60 H.P. Crawler (\$2.75 per hour operating cost)

30 H.P. Wheel (\$1.10 per hour operating cost)

January, 1963

Operation	Hours per Acre	Labor	CASH AND LABOR COSTS PER ACRE			Total	Cost per cwt.	My Costs
			Equipmt. Repairs Fuel	Materials, Other Costs				
PRE-HARVEST (fall)								
Plow	1.5	2.25	4.36			6.61		
Disc 2X	0.5	0.75	1.53			2.28		
Landplane 2X	1.0	1.50	3.25			4.75		
Furrow out	0.75	1.13	0.98			2.11		
Plant & Fertilize (one man)	1.0	1.50	1.35	3# seed @\$3.25 = \$9.75 + 300# 16-20 -0 = \$11.70		24.30		
Irrigate 2X	2.0	2.50		3/4 Ac.Ft. @\$3.75= \$2.81		5.31		
Weed Spray	0.33	0.50	.40	2# Radox = \$8.10		9.00		
PRE-HARVEST (spring)								
Cultivate	1.0	1.50	1.30			2.80		
Hoe & Thin	8.0	8.80				8.80		
Fertilize (side- dress)	0.75	1.13	0.98	500# 16-20-0=19.50		21.61		
Weed Spray	0.33	0.50	0.40	4# CIPC = \$9.10		10.00		
Irrigate 4X	4.0	5.00		2 AC.FT. @\$3.75 = \$7.50		12.50		
Cultivate 2X	1.5	2.25	1.95			4.20		
Lift onions(knife under bed)	0.5	0.75	0.65			1.40		
Windrow	20.0	22.00		+ field foreman @\$16/day		30.00		
Comp. Insurance				\$2.11/\$100 earned (\$38.80)		0.82		
Miscellaneous*				5% of above		7.32		
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST COSTS						153.81	0.44	
Interest on Investment (equipt.) @ 6%						3.42		
Depreciation of Equipment						10.19		
TOTAL COST BEFORE RENT						167.42	0.48	
Rent						Cash @\$60/acre 60.00	0.17	
TOTAL ALL COSTS						227.42	0.65	

1. The costs of growing onions that appear in this pamphlet were prepared in cooperation with a group of San Joaquin County growers and represent an estimate of average cultural practices.

2. Labor rates shown include cash wages, Social Security, Comp. Ins. (non-harvest labor), and other non-cash benefits.

3. Harvest costs do not appear in this pamphlet because most onion growers sell their onions in the windrow and the buyer bears the cost of harvesting the crop. Growers who harvest and market their own onions will add approximately \$1.30/cwt. for topping, grading, sacking, cost of new sacks, hauling, etc.

4. *Miscellaneous includes such items as insurance, office expense, costs of opening & closing ditches for cultivation, preparing the field for harvest, replacement of small tools, and interest on operating capital.

DEPRECIATION SCHEDULE

Item	Original Cost		Years Life	Annual Use (years)	Non-Cash Overhead	
	Total	Per Acre			Depre- ciation	Interest at 6%
Crawler Tractor 60 H.P. -D	18,000	60.00	12	300	5.00	1.80
Wheel Tractor 30 H.P. -G	3,500	11.66	10	300	1.16	0.35
Cultivator & Tool Bar	1,200	6.00	12	200	0.50	0.18
Landplane (1/3 share)	1,200	5.33	12	225	0.44	0.16
4-Row Planter	700	3.50	10	200	0.35	0.21
Disc - 12 feet	1,400	6.22	10	225	0.62	0.19
Chisel	800	4.00	10	200	0.40	0.12
Harrow	150	0.50	12	225	0.04	0.02
Siphons	300	1.50	10	200	0.15	0.05
Ditcher (1/3 share)	200	1.00	10	200	0.10	0.03
Plow - 4 Bottom 16-inch	900	6.00	10	150	0.60	0.18
Pickup (1/2 share)	1,250	4.17	5	300	0.83	0.13
TOTAL	29,600	109.88			10.19	3.42