

Sample Costs to Produce Sugarbeets

Sacramento County 1989



University of California
Cooperative Extension

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1989 SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUGARBEETS

SOIL REQUIREMENTS - Deep, fertile, well-drained soil of organic or mineral type. Texture can range from sandy loam to clay. Avoid hardpan and claypan.

PLANTING DATES - February, March, April; during May in over-wintered areas.

VARIETIES - Plant disease-resistant hybrids furnished by contracting sugar company.

SEEDING RATES - For mechanical thinning, plant 2 inches apart. Thin mechanically. 100 to 150 plants per 100 feet of row, not more than 20% doubles of three or more plants. For synchronous thinner plant 2.75 inches apart. Final stand should equal 6 to 7 inches between plants.

WEED CONTROL - Roneet or Tillam are available for preplant weed control. Do not use prior to March 1. Poor control results under cool conditions. Betamix is available for control of broadleaf weed species. Nortron has given good control when used in combination with Betamix, post-emergence. Nortron can also be used pre-emergence. Good results have been obtained with the combination of Nortron and Pyramin pre-emergence under fall applications. Antor has given excellent results when applied pre-emergence in the spring. Poast can be used post-emergence for control of escaped grasses. Poast is not effective on annual bluegrass. Herbicide 273 applied post-emergence will give good control of smartweed.

FERTILIZER - 100 to 200 lbs/ac nitrogen preplant, 25 to 30 gallons 8-24-6 under the seed at planting. Plants should run out of nitrogen 30 days prior to harvest.

IRRIGATION - 2.5 to 3.5 acre feet needed. On peat, sprinkle or sub-irrigate. On mineral soils, sprinkle or furrow irrigation. Do not permit wilting.

ROTATION - Four years between beet crops for good soil management, and to control sugarbeet nematode, and sclerotium root rot. Five years has been suggested for control of cyst nematode.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS AND CONTROL MEASURES -

Mildew: 30 lbs/ac sulfur when mildew first appears.

Salts: Irrigate every other row or plant on slanted beds.

Yellows: Beet free periods plus elimination of carrier plants; control of green peach aphid and black bean aphid; plant in May in over-wintered areas.

Nematodes: Rotation first choice: fumigation second choice.

Poor Stands: Maintain seedbed moisture, avoid severe wire worm and damping-off areas, use only treated seed.

Late-emerging Weeds: Can reduce yield, cause harvest problems, and infest soil with weed seed. Hoe out or use Betamix.

SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE SUGARBEETS

CROP	SUGARBEETS, flatplanted	GROSS INCOME	\$ 924.00
YIELD/ACRE IN TONS	28	TOTAL CASH EXPENSE/ACRE .	1,027.80
MARKET VALUE/TON	\$33.00 @ 15% SUGAR	NET LOSS/ACRE	\$ -103.80

CULTURAL COSTS: FUEL & SEED

	<u>COST/A</u>	<u>LABOR COST/A</u>	<u>YOUR COST/A</u>
Chop Corn Stubble	\$ 0.28	\$ 1.50	
Disc 2x	1.08	1.76	
Plow	1.00	1.32	
Chisel 1x - flatroll	1.60	2.10	
Disc 2x	1.08	1.76	
Float/ringroll 3x	1.62	2.64	
Plant	0.90	2.10	
Preemerg. herb. (Nortron,Antor) applic.	0.75	1.32	
Postemerg. herb. Betamix split applic.	1.50	2.64	
Postemerg. herb. Poast applic.	0.75	1.32	
Cultivate 4x/side dress nitrogen	1.12	6.00	
Seed, Hybrid 1.5 #/A (\$12/#)	18.00		
Employee Pickups	3.14		
TOTAL:	\$ 32.82	\$ 24.46*	

IRRIGATION

Sprinkler 8x (diesel)(elect.)	\$ 45.00	\$ 38.00	
Drain Maintenance	1.00		
TOTAL:	\$ 46.00	\$ 38.00*	

CHEMICALS

		<u>APPLICATION</u>	
Preplant N (80#/a) Aqua or NH ₃	\$ 13.60		
Starter 8-24-6 + Zinc (25 gpa)	32.00		
Nortron 1.5 EC, preemergence, banded 10"	19.78		
Antor 4ES, preemergence, banded 10"	14.93		
Sevin bait for cutworms (40#/a)	26.80	\$ 6.00	
Betamix-split applic., broadleaves, banded	25.59		
Poast+oil for grasses, banded (1.5pt/a)	8.36		
MSR, Temik, or Lorsban for aphid (1-6X)	24.45	18.00	
Side dress Nitrogen (50 #/a) as aqua	9.00		
Dusting sulfur, 4x for mildew (30#/a)	20.40	24.00	
Lorsban 4E for worms/aphids (1.5pt/a)	8.15	6.00	
TOTAL:	\$203.06	\$ 54.00	

HARVEST

Top & Dig (\$2.50/ton x 22t/a)	\$ 55.00		
Hauling (\$5/ton x 22t/a)	110.00		
TOTAL:	\$165.00		

* Included in labor budget

LABOR

COST/A

YOUR COST/A

Cultural (\$5.25/hr)	\$ 24.46	
Irrigation (\$4.75/hr)	38.00	
Hand hoeing & thinning (2x)	88.19	
Overtime	<u>2.21</u>	

TOTAL: \$152.86

CASH OVERHEAD

Share rent (15% of gross income)	\$138.60	
Manager Salary + benefits	16.32	
Repairs & maintenance	70.00	
Employee benefits (36% of labor cost)	55.03	
Office expense	10.86	
Insurance	5.00	
Taxes on equipment	<u>2.57</u>	

TOTAL: \$298.38

DEBT SERVICE

Interest on operating loan	\$ 29.25	
Interest on equipment	<u>1.43</u>	

TOTAL: \$ 30.68

TOTAL GROSS INCOME	\$ 924.00
TOTAL CASH EXPENSE/ACRE ...	1,027.80
NET LOSS/ACRE	\$ -103.80

NON-CASH COSTS

Equipment Depreciation	\$ 20.00	
Interest on buildings	0.24	
Building Depreciation	<u>3.33</u>	

TOTAL: \$ 23.57