VARIETIES

Only early maturing varieties for the fresh market are planted. Varietal strains of Copenhagen Market, Banner and Headstart predominate. Red Acre and Round Red Dutch are sometimes grown on a very limited acreage.

SOIL

A medium textured soil with good drainage and water holding capacity is desirable. Lighter soils are easier to manage during the colder months than heavy ones. Cabbage is moderately salt tolerant.

IRRIGATION

The "germination irrigation"—the irrigation following planting—should thoroughly soak the beds. At no time after thinning should plants be stressed for water. Normally, 6 to 8 irrigations are adequate. Sprinkler irrigation may be used. Normal costs are $45.00-$70.00 per acre. The irrigation labor costs listed also include shovel work, pipe setting and grader expense.

FERTILIZERS

All the phosphate should be broadcast before listing. Apply the additional nitrogen in two sidedressings.

WEED CONTROL

Several herbicides are registered for use on cabbage. These are applied pre-emergence to the cabbage.

PESTS AND DISEASES

Cabbage diseases cause relatively little damage in Imperial County. Intumescences can occur as wart-like projections on leaves as the result of sand blasting.

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HARVESTING

Fields are harvested from one to several times December through March. Heads are cut, trimmed and packed in the field, or cut, loaded into wagons, and hauled to field packing sheds.

Prepared by
Imperial County
Agricultural Extension Staff
Revised August 1974

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Co-operative Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics Division of Agricultural Sciences, University of California and United States Department of Agriculture co-operating. Distributed in furtherance of the Acts of Congress of May 8, and June 30, 1914. George B. Alcorn, Director, California Agricultural Extension.
CABBAGE--SAMPLE PRODUCTION COSTS

Mechanical operations at custom rates. Hand labor at $3.00 per hour ($2.53 plus Social Security, unemployment insurance, transportation, supervision and fringe benefits).

Yield - 500 50# cartons per acre. (12.5 tons) 60-100 days to maturity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATION</th>
<th>Custom Rate</th>
<th>MATERIALS Type</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>HAND LABOR Hours</th>
<th>Dollars</th>
<th>SAMPLE COSTS Per Acre</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAND PREPARATION</td>
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<td>Flow or subsoil</td>
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<td>7.00</td>
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<td>Flood</td>
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<td>TOTAL LAND PREPARATION</td>
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<td>$95.00</td>
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</table>

GROWING PERIOD

Herbicide 1x           | 2.50  | Seed 2# @ 6.00 | 15.50 | 18.00           |         |                       |
Plant (Precision)      | 7.00  | Seed 2# @ 6.00 | 12.00 | 19.00*          |         |                       |
Thin                   |       |                | 15    | 45.00           | 45.00   |                       |
Cultivate 3x           | 4.00  |                | 12.00 |                  |         |                       |
Fertilize - side-dress 3x | 4.00  | 200# N @ 20# | 40.00 | 52.00           |         |                       |
Weed                   |       |                | 7     | 21.00           | 21.00   |                       |
Sprinkler Irrigate     | Rent   |                | 30.00 | 10               | 30.00   |                       |
Irrigate 8x            | 4 ac ft |                | 10.80 | 20               | 60.00   |                       |
Pest Control 10x       | 3.00  | Insecticides   | 65.00 | 78.80           |         |                       |

GROWING PERIOD & LAND PREP COSTS

|                      | $495.80 |

Land Rent

| Cash Overhead - 10% of preharvest costs and land rent | 62.08 |

TOTAL PREHARVEST COSTS

| $682.88 |

HARVEST

Custom harvest, pack, haul to cooler 500 50# ctin @ $1.75

| $875.00 |

TOTAL ALL COSTS

| $1557.88 |

Cost per carton = $3.11

* For possible additional costs see cabbage cultivar, page 11.

YIELDS

1973 average 14.04 tons/acre. (550 cartons) Yields of 700 cartons per acre are occasionally produced. Total yields are influenced by market conditions at harvest time. Several cuttings are not unusual. The Agricultural Commissioner's reports show seasonal average price per ton during the past five years varied from a low of $50.54 in 1971 to a high of $94.70 in 1970. There were 470 acres of cabbage grown in 1973.

PLANTING

Most acreage is planted from September 10-25 on beds with 42 inch centers and two rows per bed. Seed is planted 1/4 to 1/2 inch deep at 2 pounds per acre. Plants thinned 12 to 14 inches apart. Cabbage seed will germinate between 40-95 F. (Optimum 85 F).
VARIETIES

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University of California Agricultural Extension Service
Imperial County
Court House, El Centro
Cost Data Sheet No. 12
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