

# SAMPLE COST OF

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# PRUNE PRODUCTION

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Agricultural Extension  
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**SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE PRUNES (FRENCH), SOLANO COUNTY**

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Common Labor \$1.00                   | 30 HP track tractor, Gas \$1.45/hr. (Fuel - Repair)   |
| 10 Acres Prunes on 40 Acre Fruit Farm | 30 HP wheel tractor, Gas \$1.00/hr. (Fuel - Repair)   |
| 75 Trees Per Acre                     | Speed sprayer - - - - - \$2.15/hr. (Fuel - Repair)    |
| Yield: 2.0 dried Tons Per Acre        | 1/2 ton pickup truck - - - \$1.18/hr. (Fuel - Repair) |
|                                       | 1/2 ton truck - - - - - \$1.59/hr. (Fuel - Repair)    |

| Operation                            | Hrs. Per Acre | Labor | Fuel & Repairs | Materials         | Total    | My Costs |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| 1. Prune                             | 30            | 30.00 | ---            | ---               | 30.00    |          |
| 2. Brush                             | 2             | 2.00  | 1.45           | ---               | 3.45     |          |
| 3. Spray - 1 time                    | 1.2           | 1.20  | 4.32           | 9.60              | 15.12    |          |
| 4. Fertilizer                        | 0.5           | .50   | 0.73           | 6.94 N55# @ 0.125 | 8.17     |          |
| 5. Cultivation - 6 times one way     | 4.8           | 4.80  | 6.96           | ---               | 11.76    |          |
| 6. Drag - 2 times one way            | 1.6           | 1.60  | 2.32           | ---               | 3.92     |          |
| 7. Irrigation preparation            | 2.5           | 2.50  | 2.18           | ---               | 4.68     |          |
| 8. Irrigate - 2 times                | 4.0           | 4.00  | ---            | Power \$7.67      | 11.67    |          |
| 9. Taxes                             |               | ---   | ---            | ---               | 25.18    |          |
| 10. Prop                             | 7.0           | 7.00  | 4.77           | ---               | 11.77    |          |
| 11. Harvest @ 27 1/2¢ per 40 lb. box |               | ---   | ---            | ---               | 74.25    |          |
| 12. Haul                             | 7.4           | 7.40  | 8.36           | ---               | 15.76    |          |
| 13. Drying @ \$15 per fresh ton      |               | ---   | ---            | ---               | 90.00    |          |
| 14. Insurance                        |               | ---   | ---            | ---               | 13.38    |          |
| 15. Misc.                            | 10            | 10.00 | 8.00           | 22.89             | 40.89    |          |
|                                      | Per Acre      |       |                |                   | \$360.00 | 375      |
| Cash Cost                            | Per Pound     |       |                |                   | 0.09     |          |

| 16.   | INVESTMENT Per Acre | YEARS LIFE | DEPRECIATION (ANNUAL COST) | INTEREST @ 6% |        |
|---|---------------------|------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Land  | 500.00              | ---        | None                       | 30.00         |        |
| Trees   | 600.00              | 33         | 18.27                      | 18.00         |        |
| Irrigation Equip.                             | 48.50               | 10         | 4.85                       | 1.46          |        |
| Equipment                                     | 431.25              | 15         | 28.75                      | 12.93         | 90     |
| Buildings                                     | 112.50              | 20         | 5.63                       | 3.38          |        |
| Total   | 1692.25             |            | 57.50                      | 65.77         | 370    |
| Overhead Cost                                 | Per Acre            |            |                            |               | 123.27 |
|   | Per Pound           |            |                            |               | 0.031  |
| Management Charge                             |                     |            |                            | Per Acre      | 48.33  |
| (10 percent of total cash and overhead costs) |                     |            |                            | Per Pound     | 0.012  |
| Total Cost                                    | Per Acre            |            |                            |               | 531.60 |
|   | Per Pound           |            |                            |               | 0.133  |

1. Prune - Hourly. 2. Brush - Man 2 hrs. Tractor and brush rake 1 hr. 3. Spray - 1X in dormant with 1 qt. Elgetol plus 2½ gal. emulsive oil 500 gallons/acre.
4. Fertilize - ammonium sulfate. 5. Both ways in spring and after each of 2 irrigations. Rate of 0.8 hrs./acre. 7. Preparing to irrigate - furrow 1½, lay pipe 1 hr. 8. Irrigate - furrows. 11. Harvest - Assume 2 dried tons or 270 boxes fresh prunes/acre. Contract shake and pick for 27½¢ per box and 3:1 drying ratio.
9. Taxes - county and Social Security. 14. Insurance, General fire, liability, workman's comp., etc. 12. Haul - Forklift 2 hrs. and 1½ ton truck 4 hrs.
10. Prop - Includes truck 3 hrs. Also includes bringing in props. 15. Misc - Interest, pickup truck operation, replanting, covercrops, equip. repair, etc.
16. Overhead - Assuming the following equipment and buildings:

EQUIPMENT

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| 30HP Gas track tractor--                       | \$4,000         |
| 30HP Gas wheel tractor<br>(used) with forklift | 2,000           |
| Sprayer  | 4,000           |
| Truck (used)                                   | 1,000           |
| Pickup (used)                                  | 1,500           |
| Disc   | 800             |
| Furrower                                       | 300             |
| Ridger   | 200             |
| Roller   | 200             |
| Ladders  | 150             |
| Bags and buckets                               | 50              |
| Fertilizer spreader                            | 200             |
| Brush rake                                     | 600             |
| Props, 9000                                    | 2250            |
|  | <u>\$17,250</u> |

BUILDINGS

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Bunkhouse for 10 men (old) | \$1500         |
| Employee home (old)        | 1500           |
| Machine shed               | 1500           |
|                            | <u>\$1,500</u> |

IRRIGATION

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 10HP Turbine<br>(used)          | \$1500        |
| Pipe 880' -6"<br>surface (used) | <u>440</u>    |
|                                 | <u>\$1940</u> |

Interest figured on half the original cost. Depreciation on straight line with no salvage value.