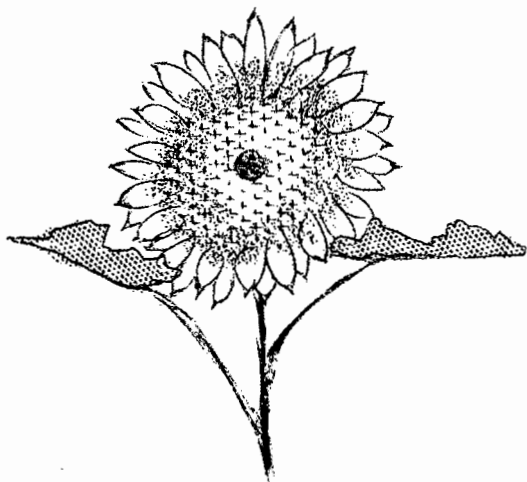


SF-VN-71
Sample Costs to Produce

SUNFLOWERS



Grown on Peat Soils
of the
San Joaquin Delta
1971

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

UC Cooperative Extension

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUNFLOWERS
GROWN ON PEAT SOILS OF THE SAN JOAQUIN DELTA
FEBRUARY 1971

These sample costs were worked up using information from several growers making certain assumptions. A hypothetical 2,000-acre operation includes 800 acres of large seeded sunflowers grown for the confectionery trade. We assume that the land is rented on shares and produces 2,000 pounds of seed.

Recent new costs for equipment are used in calculating depreciation. Labor costs of \$2.30 per hour include such grower costs as compensation insurance. Interest on capital investment (i.e., equipment) is calculated at 7%. Miscellaneous cash overhead, calculated 6% of cash cost, includes such items as office, phone, interest on operating money, roadside weed control, etc.

These costs are a working example of what it might cost to grow sunflowers in the peat soils of the San Joaquin Delta. The costs of each operation will vary depending on the skill and situation of each grower.

All sunflowers presently grown in this area are large seeded and produced under contract with four seed companies in the business. All sunflowers presently grown in the area are used for human consumption if size is large enough. Smaller seed is used for bird feed.

California's 7,000 or so acres must compete with several hundred thousand acres of large seeded sunflowers grown in North Dakota where the contract price is reported to be considerably below ours. Tests of varieties for oil are being conducted in California and elsewhere.

**SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE SUNFLOWERS (LARGE SEED VARIETY) ON PEAT SOILS
SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - FEBRUARY 1971**

Operation	Hours per Acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Kind & Quantity	Cost	
Cultural Costs:						
Disc (stubble)	.25	\$.58	\$1.14			\$ 1.72
Disc, plow	.50	1.15	2.55			3.70
Disc, 2x	.50	1.15	2.25			3.40
Float	.10	.23	.30			.53
Disc & spike	.20	.46	1.15			1.61
Plant & fertilize	.30	.69	.30	Liq. Fert. Appl. (\$14.72 + \$4.00)	\$18.72	19.71
Seed				4 lbs @ 50¢	2.00	2.00
Spike, harrow	.10	.23	.16			.39
Cultivate (rolling)1x	.30	.69	.60			1.29
Cultivate (rolling)2x	.40	.92	.80			1.72
Moth control (contract)				Air Appl. & Materials	9.00	9.00
Clean ditches every 2 years (contract)				(at 4¢ per foot = \$3.50/acre)	1.75	1.75
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$6.10	\$9.25		\$31.47	\$46.82
Harvest Costs:						
Combine & roadside (contract)				\$19/ton		\$19.00
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						\$19.00
Cash Overhead:						
Misc., office, etc. 6% of above						\$ 3.95
Taxes on equipment		\$85.43 x 65% = \$55.53 x 25% = \$13.88 x \$10 rate				1.39
Rent		1/3 x 2,000 lbs x 7.5¢/lb				50.00
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						\$55.34
TOTAL CASH COST						\$121.16
Management		5% of 2,000 lbs @ 7.5¢/lb				\$7.50
INVESTMENT	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Annual Cost</u>				
Equipment	\$85.43	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest</u>			\$9.75
		\$6.77	\$2.98			
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						\$138.41
Cost per pound @ 2,000 lbs yield						.069

INVESTMENT FOR SUNFLOWERS (LARGE SEEDED VARIETY) ON PEAT SOILS
 SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY - FEBRUARY 1971

Based on 800 Acres of Sunflowers on a 2,000-Acre Farm

Item	Cost	Annual use (acres)	Cost per Acre	Life (yrs.)	Depreciation	Interest (%)	Cash costs per hour		
							Fuel	Repairs	Total
4 tractors C.D. 75 H.P.	\$116,000	2000	\$58.00	15	\$3.87	\$2.03	\$.85	\$2.00	\$2.85
3 tractors W.D. 50 H.P. Farmall	25,200	2000	12.60	10	1.26	.44	.42	.83	1.25
3 disc harrows 15'	7,500	2000	3.75	10	.38	.13	-	1.65	1.65
1 disc harrow 21'	4,000	2000	2.00	10	.20	.07	-	2.60	2.60
1 disc plow, 4 bottom, 2-way	5,000	2000	2.50	10	.25	.09	-	2.25	2.25
1 float, 20'	800	2000	.40	10	.04	.01	-	.10	.10
2 spike tooth, 24'	1,600	2000	.80	10	.08	.03	-	.30	.30
2 planters, 4-row	2,800	2000	1.40	10	.14	.05	-	1.00	1.00
2 rolling cultivators	2,450	2000	1.23	10	.12	.04	-	.75	.75
1 tool carrier, 25'	2,500	2000	1.25	10	.13	.04	-	.35	.35
1 pickup truck	3,000	2000	1.50	5	.30	.05	-	-	2.00
TOTAL	\$170,850		\$85.43		\$6.77	\$2.98			

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Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics
U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California
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