

SAMPLE COSTS TO ESTABLISH ALFALFA
Merced County -- 1977

Man labor @ \$3.60 per hour total and equipment operator @ \$4.00. Tractors: 80 hp Crawler cash costs \$7.45; 75 hp Wheel Tractor \$3.85; 50 hp Wheel Tractor \$2.60.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and Labor Cost Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	
dollars						
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Subsoil 1X	2.0	\$ 8.00	\$14.90			\$ 22.90
Disc 2X	.5	2.00	3.73			5.73
Landplane 2X	.75	3.00	5.60			8.60
Border preparation	.25	1.00	.96			1.96
Float checks	.10	.40	.26			.66
Reshape borders	.10	.40	.26			.66
Fertilize				Materials & application	\$22.00	22.00
Disc or springtooth for seed bed preparation	.25	1.00	.65			1.65
Weed Control				Custom applied	15.00	15.00
Plant				20# seed @ \$1.75/lb.	35.00	37.00
				Plant by airplane	2.00	.86
Cover seed	.13	.52	.34			1.65
Ditches and boxes	.25	1.00	.65			7.00
Repairs, except tractor			7.00			
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$17.32	\$34.35		\$74.00	\$125.67
<u>Cash Overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					\$ 7.68	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						\$ 7.68
TOTAL CASH COST		\$17.32	\$34.35		\$81.68	\$133.35
<u>Investment</u>				<u>Annual Cost</u>		
		<u>Per acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>Interest 8%</u>		
Equipment		\$60	\$4.30	\$ 2.40		
Tractors: 80 Crawler 3-1/6 hr.			10.95	8.20		
75 WD - 1/4 hr.			.55	.25		
50 WD - 33/40 hr.			1.35	.65		
Total			\$17.15	\$11.50		\$ 28.65
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						\$162.00

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Cooperative Extension work in Agriculture and Home Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California and Merced County cooperating.

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