

CORN SILAGE - DOUBLE CROPPED - TULARE COUNTY

Cost Analysis Worksheet - 1985

Sample costs to produce corn silage in Tulare County, based in a yield of 25 Tons/A. Field labor at \$4.50/hr. and equipment operator at \$5.00; these include benefits. Medium wheel, 80 hp tractor cash costs \$8.50, depreciation \$2.58, and interest \$1.68. Heavy wheel tractor - 130 hp. Cash costs \$16.01, depreciation \$9.17, and interest \$5.96.

Steven D. Wright, Tom Shultz, Tulare County Farm Advisors and Kent Olson, Economist, Cooperative Extension, U.C. Davis.

	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
	PER ACRE	PER TON	PER ACRE	PER TON
<u>Pre-harvest Cash Costs</u>				
Land Preparation: 2 hrs. labor 1 hr. heavy tractor; \$33.57 1 hr. med. tractor				
Pre-plant herbicide, if needed \$18 Application \$6.00				
1/2 hr. labor and tractor for discing		28.25		
Post-emergence weed control (if needed) with applicator & materials		10.20		
Plant: 1/3 hr. man and med. tractor		4.46		
Seed: 19 lbs. @ \$1.21		22.99		
Cultivate: 3 X's: 1½ hrs. man & med. tractor		20.25		
Fertilizer: 225 lbs. N @ 18¢ - source NH <sub>3</sub>		40.50		
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> if needed: 40 lbs. @ \$.33/lb.		13.20		
Application: 1 custom, 2 X's in water		7.00		
* mite control if needed, materials and application \$17.50		00.00		
Irrigate: 1 pre and 6 crop - labor 7 hrs.		31.50		
Water: (combined canal, pumping, district assessment) 3.5 acre ft. @ \$20/A ft.		70.00		
Misc: labor, material, 1 hr. man + med. tractor		20.00		
Repairs, except tractors (50%)		10.00		
Office, car, business costs (50%)		10.00		
County taxes (50%)		5.00		
Land Cost (50%)		62.50		
Operating cost = (total pre-harvest cash cost) ÷ 2 X 13%		24.71		
<b>TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS</b>		<b>\$404.87</b>		<b>\$16.19</b>

Harvesting Costs:

Chop, haul, and pack: \$4.40/ton	\$137.50	
Cover, material, and labor - 65¢/ton - 5000 ton bunker silo	16.25	
<b>TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS</b>	<b>\$153.75</b>	<b>\$ 6.15</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COSTS</b>	<b>\$558.62</b>	<b>\$22.34</b>

Depreciation

Irrigation system @ \$350 for 16 yrs.	21.88	
Med. tractor, 80 hp - 3.83 hrs.	9.88	
Heavy tractor, 130 hp - 1 hr.	9.17	
Other equipment - \$100 for 10 yrs. (50%)	5.00	
<b>TOTAL DEPRECIATION</b>	<b>\$459.93</b>	<b>\$ 1.84</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION COSTS</b>	<b>\$604.35</b>	<b>\$24.18</b>

	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
	PER ACRE	PER TON	PER ACRE	PER TON
<u>Interest on Investment: @13%</u>				
Irrigation system: 1/4 of \$350		\$11.38		
Med. tractor - 80 hp - 3.83 hrs.		6.43		
Heavy tractor - 130 hp. - 1 hr.		5.96		
Other equipment: 1/4 of \$100		3.25		
TOTAL INTEREST		\$27.02	\$ 1.08	
TOTAL COST OR PRODUCTION		\$631.57	\$25.26	

COST PER CWT. AT VARYING YIELD LEVELS

Yield - tons/acre	15	20	25	30	35
Cash Cost per ton	\$37.24	\$27.93	\$22.34	\$18.62	\$15.96
Total Cost per ton	42.10	31.58	25.26	21.05	18.04

This cost analysis worksheet should be used only as a guide to assist producers in determining their production costs and as an aid in helping analyze costs and procedures. The figures shown are based on what are considered good management practices and do not represent industry averages.

There is a great deal of variation in production costs between areas within a county. For example, tractor size, tillage operations, water costs and materials may be different for neighboring farmers. Eliminate fertilizer costs if manure of lagoon water is used.

The land cost is a value related to rental costs rather than the interest on the market value. For the person renting land, the rental price should be substituted for land cost; also, interest and depreciation on the irrigation system and county taxes should be eliminated.

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AGRICULTURAL BUILDING, COUNTY CIVIC CENTER, WOODLAND AND WEST MAIN STREETS, VISALIA, CALIFORNIA 93291 - TELEPHONE (209) 733-6363  
Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics, U.S. Department of Agriculture, University of California, Tulare County Cooperating