

BLACKKEYES

costs of production

suggestions on growing

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
FARM AND HOME ADVISORS' OFFICE
KERN COUNTY
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CAUTION

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READ BEFORE FOLLOWING PEST CONTROL RECOMMENDATIONS
IN THIS PUBLICATION.

The recommendations in this publication for the use of any of the following types of chemicals--insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, rodenticides, nematocides, plant growth regulators, dessiccants or defoliants--in crop production or protection may no longer be valid. Since this publication was originally issued, new information has been developed and new regulations have been put into effect in respect to the use of these chemicals. This information is now available in the current University of California pest control recommendations distributed by the farm advisors' offices in each county or the University Public Service Offices.

SUGGESTIONS ON GROWING BLACKKEYES

By

ROY M. BARNES - FARM ADVISOR

SOIL REQUIREMENTS:

BLACKKEYE BEANS PREFER SANDY SOILS. THE HEAVY SOILS OF THE WEST SIDE HAVE NOT BEEN FOUND SATISFACTORY FOR PROFITABLE PRODUCTION. BLACKKEYES PRODUCE AN ABUNDANT GROWTH OF VINES ON HEAVY SOILS, BUT THE SETTING OF FRUIT AND THE QUALITY OF SEED IS USUALLY INFERIOR.

VARIETY:

BLACKKEYE No. 5 IS THE MOST POPULAR VARIETY AND CAN BE RECOMMENDED FOR KERN COUNTY. ALWAYS PLANT CERTIFIED SEED.

SEED TREATMENT:

FOR SEED DECAY, TREAT SEED WITH ARASAN SFX 1 1/3 oz. (SLURRY) PER 100 LBS. OF SEED OR SPERGON 3 oz. (DUST) OR SPERGON SL 2 oz. (SLURRY). FOR WIREWORM AND SEED CORN MAGGOT, TREAT SEED WITH LINDANE 0.66 OZS. OF THE 75% SPRAY OR DUST PER 100 LBS. OF SEED. BOTH FUNGICIDE AND INSECTICIDE SHOULD BE APPLIED TOGETHER.

IN WELL ESTABLISHED AREAS WHERE BLACKKEYES HAVE BEEN GROWN, NODULE CULTURE NEED NOT BE APPLIED. BUT IN NEW AREAS WHERE THE BEANS HAVE NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY GROWN, NODULE BACTERIA MUST BE APPLIED TO THE SEED IMMEDIATELY BEFORE PLANTING.

COSTS TO PRODUCE BLACK EYE BEANS IN KERN COUNTY

BASED ON MAN LABOR AT \$1.00 AND \$1.30 PER HOUR; 30 H.P. WHEEL TRACTOR CASH COST PER HOUR \$1.00;
DEPRECIATION \$.41; INTEREST \$.19

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OPERATION	HOURS PER ACRE	CASH AND LABOR COST PER ACRE			SAMPLE COSTS	MY COSTS
		LABOR	FUEL AND REPAIRS-EQUIPMENT	MATERIAL AND OTHER COSTS		
CULTURAL:						
LAND PREPARATION	2.5	\$ 3.25	\$ 2.50		\$ 5.75	
PLANT	.5	.65	.50	SEED: 20 LBS. @ 10¢ \$ 2.00	3.15	
IRRIGATE: 1 PRE 3 CROP	6.0	6.00	2.50	WATER: 2 1/2 FT. @ \$6.00 15.00	23.50	
CULTIVATE: 3 TIMES	1.5	1.95	1.50		3.45	
TAXES					12.50	
MISCELLANEOUS OVERHEAD		2.80	2.50		8.80	
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS		\$14.65	\$ 9.50		\$ 57.15	
HARVEST:						
CUT AND WINDROW			CONTRACT	\$ 2.75		
COMBINE			CONTRACT: 20 SACKS @ 80¢	16.00		
HAUL			CONTRACT: \$5.50 TON	5.50		
RECLEAN, SACKS, FUMIGATE, STORAGE			CONTRACT	14.50		
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS					\$ 38.75	
TOTAL CASH AND LABOR COSTS					\$ 95.90	
COSTS AT VARYING YIELDS						
<u>POUNDS PER ACRE</u>	<u>COST PER CWT</u>	<u>INVESTMENT</u>	<u>PER ACRE</u>	<u>ANNUAL COST</u>		
		LAND	\$800.00	DEPRECIATION	INTEREST	
		IRRIGATION FACILITIES	200.00	\$15.00	6.00	
		TRACTOR: 5 1/2 HRS.		2.26	1.05	
		EQUIPMENT	20.00	2.00	.60	
1,500	\$10.79	TOTAL		\$19.26	\$55.65	\$ 74.91
2,000	8.54					
2,500	7.19					
3,000	6.29					
3,500	5.65					
				TOTAL COST PER ACRE		\$170.81
				COST PER CWT @ 2,000 LB. YIELD		\$ 8.54

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PREPARATION OF SOIL AND PLANTING:

A WELL PREPARED SEED BED, OF COURSE, IS ESSENTIAL FOR A GOOD STAND. PRE-IRRIGATION IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT MOISTURE TO GERMINATE THE SEED AND TO PROMOTE NORMAL GROWTH UNTIL THE PLANT REACHES THE THIRD OR FOURTH LEAF.

ROWS ARE USUALLY SPACED 30 INCHES APART. IN-THE-ROW SPACING SHOULD BE ABOUT 4 INCHES. A TWO OR FOUR ROWED PLATE TYPE PLANTER IS COMMONLY USED FOR PLANTING. IN THE SOUTHERN AND COASTAL AREAS THE VENTURA TYPE PLANTER IS USED. NO SEED INJURY OCCURS WITH USE OF THE VENTURA PLANTER.

PLANTING RATE:

EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY LBS. PER ACRE ARE SUFFICIENT WHEN PLANTED IN 30 INCH ROWS.

PLANTING TIME:

IN KERN COUNTY, APRIL 15 TO MAY 20 IS A GOOD TIME TO PLANT BLACKKEYES.

PLANTING DEPTH:

THE DEPTH OF PLANTING AVERAGES 2 1/2 INCHES BUT CAN BE DEEPER IF MOISTURE CONDITIONS DEMAND.

FERTILIZATION:

BLACKKEYES ARE A LEGUME AND NORMALLY THE APPLICATION OF NITROGEN IS NOT NECESSARY. IF PHOSPHATE IS NOW BEING USED ON COTTON OR OTHER CROPS IN YOUR AREA, THE APPLICATION OF FROM 80 TO 100 LBS. OF P₂O₅ MAY BE PROFITABLE. PHOSPHATE SHOULD BE APPLIED

ONLY IF IT HAS PROVEN DEFICIENT BY ACTUAL TESTS.

IRRIGATION:

FROM THE BEGINNING OF BLOOMING UNTIL THE FIRST CROP OF PODS ARE WELL SET, THE PLANT SHOULD BE FULLY SUPPLIED WITH WATER. IRRIGATION SHOULD NOT BE POSTPONED UNTIL THE PLANTS SUFFER. THIS POINT IS INDICATED WHEN THE LEAVES BECOME DARK GREEN.

CULTIVATION:

CULTIVATION IS TO DESTROY WEEDS ONLY, BUT IF NO WEEDS GROW CULTIVATION IS OF NO MEASURABLE BENEFIT. UNNECESSARY CULTIVATION MAY DESTROY FEEDER ROOTS GROWING CLOSE TO THE SURFACE, THUS REDUCING YOUR CROP.

HARVESTING:

HARVESTING BEGINS AS SOON AS THE MAJOR PART OF THE PODS HAVE TURNED STRAW COLOR. WINDROWING 6 TO 8 ROWS TOGETHER TO DRY FOR THE PICKUP COMBINE IS THE USUAL PRACTICE.

YIELDS:

ON GOOD SOIL AND WITH PROPER MANAGEMENT, YIELDS FROM 2,000 TO 3,000 POUNDS PER ACRE IN A NORMAL SEASON MAY BE EXPECTED.