

SONOMA COUNTY SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE APPLES 1975 FOR FRESH SHIPPING & PROCESSING

80 Acre Orchard

Due to annual cost rises, growers should consider: (1) Rehabilitate a few acres a year with new close-planted apples; (2) "Fresh-market" best-colored apples through "shippers"; (3) Select high-colored apples for on-farm sales.

Example of income: 17 tons per acre: Processing: 10 tons @ \$100/T sauce & dried = \$1,000
 Processing: 5 tons @ \$ 70/T juice (ground)= 350
 Fresh ship: 2 tons @ \$150/T for packing = 300

PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS	Hours per acre	Labor*		Fuel and (see Table 2) repairs	Materials Kind & quantity	Per Acre Total
		\$2.88	\$4.00			
Pruning: 75 trees	10		\$40.00	\$11.50	Pruning tower	\$ 51.50
	50	\$144.		1.00	Hand work on ladders	145.00
Brush disposal	3		12.00	5.43		17.43
Fertilize	.5		2.00	.83	100#N+zinc foliar \$25	27.83
Spray, 8 times	3.5		14.00	22.79	Spray chemical \$70	106.79
Cultivate	3		12.00	7.98		19.98
Thin by hand & spray	65	172.80	20.00	32.55	Spray NAA, etc. \$ 5	230.95
Prop, 3 men & tractor	15	28.80	20.00	8.30		57.10
Misc. labor, inc. gopher cont., 3 men tractor, trk 2		5.76	8.00	2.33	6	22.00
Misc. materials			128.00		8	8.00
Office, car, interest (6% of cultural and harvest costs) (taxes not included)						71.12
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS						\$757.79
County Taxes						73.00
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS						830.79

HARVEST COSTS

Tree picking, 2 times 100	\$259.20	40.00				299.20
Ground pick, 5 tons @ \$10		50.00				50.00
Supervision		8	32.00			32.00
Move & load bins		7	28.00	17.92		45.92
Haul: man & truck		8	32.00	32.00		64.00
Bin rental			132.00		@.50¢/ton	8.50
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS						\$499.62
TOTAL CASH COSTS						\$1330.41

		Cash costs per ton @17 ton/ac.		\$78.26
DEPRECIATION and Interest on Investment		Annual Cost	Interest 8% if	
Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Cash Invested	
Land	\$2,000 market value	\$	\$160.00	
Trees (30 yr.life)	2,500 (15-20 yrs. old)	83.33	200.00	
Bldgs., equip.	75	3.00	3.00	
Bldgs., labor housing	188 (see Table 1)	6.27	7.52	
Equipment	528 (see Table 2)	49.87	21.54	
TOTAL DEPRECIATION		\$142.47	\$392.06	
CASH COSTS PLUS DEPRECIATION:				\$1,472.88

TABLE I

LABOR PER HOUR

	Hourly Cash Wage	Cash Fringe Costs			Total % Cash	*Total Wage
		Orchard work Comp.	Social Security	Other		
Skilled	\$3.00	5.28%	5.85%	3.87%	15%	\$3.45
Driver, etc.	3.50	5.28%	5.85%	3.87%	15%	4.03
Field Labor	2.50	5.28%	5.85%	3.87%	15%	2.88

* Cash costs paid by employer and included in "total wage" column include Workmen's Compensation insurance, Social Security, electricity, fuel, water and some food items. Housing costs for hired help are shown in "Depreciation" and "interest on investment" and total about \$60 to \$70 per month, equivalent to an allowance not paid in cash to the employee. Per acre figure would double on a 40 acre orchard. Employers may establish an "allowance" figure, add it to cash hourly wage, and give employees a record of the total wage.

TABLE II

80 Acre Orchard: 1974 Equipment Investment for Apples, Prunes, Pears, Sonoma County

	Cost	Annual Use (acres)	Value per acre	Life yrs.	Annual Deprec.	8% Int. on 1/2 Value	Costs Per Hour*		
							Cash Fuel	Repairs	Total
Tractor, Wheel D 45 HP	\$10,000	80	\$125.00	20	\$6.25	\$5.00	\$.64	\$1.02	\$1.66
Tractor, crawler, 40 HP, (used)	4,000	80	50.00	10	5.00	2.00	.90	2.25	3.15
Disc	1,800	80	22.50	12	1.88	.90	-	1.00	1.00
Rototiller, 5'	2,000	80	25.00	10	2.50	1.00	-	1.00	1.00
Pruning tower	4,500	80	56.25	10	5.63	2.25	.40	.75	1.15
Sprayer, 400 gal.	6,000	80	75.00	10	7.50	3.00	.80	4.05	4.85
Sprayer, weeds, PTO	800	80	10.00	10	1.00	.40	-	-	1.65
Forklift attach	2,000	80	25.00	12	2.08	1.00	-	.90	1.90
Truck (used)	5,000	80	62.50	7	8.93	2.50	-	-	4.00
Pickup truck	4,500	80	56.25	10	5.63	2.25	-	-	3.00
Ladders (20)	1,000	80	12.50	10	1.25	.50	-	-	-
Picking bags (30)	300	80	3.75	5	.75	.15	-	-	-
Buckrake (front end)	800	80	10.00	10	1.00	.40	-	.15	.15
Props (10 per tree)	375		4.68	10	.47	.19	-	-	-
TOTALS PER ACRE			\$528.43		\$49.87	\$21.54			
TOTALS FOR 80 ACRES	\$42,274.00		\$42,274.00						

* Fuel costs shown at 100% increase and repairs 50% over 1972 data in AXT-336 (1972) "Machinery Costs and Performance" available at Farm Advisors Office

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ESTABLISHMENT COST FOR HIGH DENSITY APPLE ORCHARD - FIRST YEAR 1970

Size of orchard: 22 acres. Planting design: 16' between rows with trees 8' apart in the row. Semi-dwarf and spur-type trees were used in the planting. This planting is on sloping sandy clay of Sebastopol area, and preparation included some tile for drainage, some leveling, chiseling and fumigation for a nematode population from a former berry operation. The permanent irrigation system has only the main lines in with faucets for 5/8" pull-hose small sprinklers. Additional cost will be necessary for one more well (2 on system now but limited gallonage) and more sprinklers or drip-type emitters.

PREPLANT COSTS (Does not include one season land use while preparing for planting.)

Bulldozing, grading, leveling stump removal & Chisel	\$ 2,933.00
Blasting and rock removal prior to drainage	159.00
Digging drainage trenches, hauling back fill & comp. drainage	2,324.00
Soil fumigation (475 lbs. Methylbromide per acre)	8,064.00
Irrigation well & pump plus connecting existing well	3,413.00
	<u>\$16,893.00</u>

PLANTING COSTS

1,000 trees, including Calif. sales tax	11,273.00
Trucking costs	700.00
Planting costs	3,887.00
	<u>\$15,860.00</u>

POST PLANTING COSTS THROUGH FIRST LEAF

Hoeing around trees	268.00
Latex paint & application (for sun & insect protection)	231.00
Tillage, rotovating 2 times	1,155.00
Irrigation system (Main lines & well improvement)	2,800.00
Labor for irrigation (4 times, pull-hose sprinklers)	100.00
Electrical power for irrigation	100.00
Cover crop seed and planting cost	196.00
Mowing cover crop 2 times	189.00
2 applications of fertilizer (Urea spray)	196.00
Insect & disease control	95.00
Rodent control (gophers)	35.00
Labor for insect & disease control plus fertilizing	160.00
Tax on land and buildings	371.00
	<u>\$38,649.00</u>
Total for 22 acres	\$38,649.00
Cost per acre	\$ 1,757.00

SECOND AND THIRD YEAR ADDITIONAL COSTS

Pull-hose, 5/8" plastic system with small 2-arm rotating sprinklers
 1 additional small well
 3' deer fence
 December strip weed spray along rows; mowed weed sod between rows:
 2 more mowings.
 Pruning trees annually.