

Sample Costs to Produce Celery in Monterey County in 1971

J. W. Huffman and E. A. Yeary

Based on a yield of 1000 - 60 lb crates per acre	Hours per Acre				Cost per Acre	Cost per Crate
	Man Labor	80 hp Tract.	60 hp Tract.	Truck Pickup		
Manure 5 tons @ \$7.00 spread					35.00	
Land preparation: disc 3x, chisel 2x, land plane 2x	3.0	3.0			22.50	
Preplant fertilizer and list: contract @ \$3.75/A					3.75	
Shape beds and roll	0.25		0.25		1.25	
Plant: 4 bed - 2 men	0.84		0.42		3.30	
Weed control					5.50	
Irrigations: 15x @ 2 3/4 hrs labor/irrigation	41.25			1.0	92.35	
Thin	30.0				66.00	
Side dress fertilizer: 3x contract @ \$3.25					9.75	
Insecticide applications: 5x contract @ \$3.50					17.50	
Cultivations: 7x	2.0		2.0		10.40	
Hoe and weed	14.0				30.80	
Misc other work	4.0		0.5	1.0	11.15	
TOTAL CULTURAL LABOR AND FIELD POWER					309.25	.31
Irrigation water: 4.5 ac ft @ \$5.00/ac ft + \$1.75 for booster pump					24.25	
Seed: 6 oz @ \$20.00/lb					7.50	
Herbicides: (TOK) and oil					20.00	
Fertilizer materials: 352# N side dress and 66# N irrigation water and 600# 14-14-14					83.70	
Insecticide and fungicide materials					55.00	
TOTAL MATERIAL COST					190.45	.19
TOTAL LABOR, FIELD POWER & MATERIALS					499.70	.50
Business costs, office, car operation capital, etc., 7% of above					34.65	
Taxes: Equipment, except tractors					2.00	
Repairs: except trucks and tractors					8.00	
Rent: \$225 2/3 to celery					150.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS					196.45	.20
TOTAL CASH COSTS					696.15	.70
Investment, interest & depreciation	Dollars per Acre					
	Orig. Cost	Avg. Value	8% Int.	Depre- ciation		
Tractors, trucks, etc.	110.00	55.00	4.00	12.00		
Tillage equip., planter, etc.	62.00	31.00	2.48	3.10		
Portable irrig. pipe, sprinklers	150.00	75.00	6.00	15.00		
Misc. small equipment	14.00	7.00	.56	1.40		
TOTAL OPERATOR'S EQUIPMENT			13.06	31.50		
Depreciation costs					31.50	.03
Interest on investment					13.04	.01
TOTAL COSTS TO HARVEST					740.69	.74
Harvest - contract @ \$1.90 includes cutting, packing, crate, and hauling + 15¢ selling					1900.00	1.90
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION					2640.69	2.64

Labor costs per hour total include Social Security, Workmen's Comp. insurance and other fringe benefits. Equipment Operator (skilled) \$3.10, other labor \$2.20. 80 hp crawler tractor per hour cash costs \$2.70, depreciation \$2.48 and interest 79¢. 60 hp wheel diesel \$1.55, 85¢ and 51¢. Light truck \$2.00 per hour and pickup \$1.60. Sprinkler booster pump costs \$2.00 per acre foot of water.

SAMPLE COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: Crates Per Acre	800	1000	1200
Total Growing Cost Per Acre	740.69	740.69	740.69
Harvesting Cost at \$1.90 Per Crate	1520.00	1900.00	2280.00
Total Cost Per Acre	2260.69	2640.69	3020.69
Total Cost Per Crate	2.83	2.64	2.52