

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CORN IN THE LOWER SACRAMENTO VALLEY 1974

Prepared by:

Robert T. Petersen, Farm Advisor, Colusa County
Jack P. Orr, Farm Advisor, Sacramento County
John F. Williams, Farm Advisor, Sutter County
Thomas E. Kearney, Farm Advisor, Yolo County
A. D. Reed, Extension Economist, Davis
L. A. Horel, Research Associate, Davis

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE CORN
Lower Sacramento Valley - 1974

Based on 200 acres of corn on a 1,000 acre ranch. Yield: 9,550 lbs. @ 18% moisture; 8,000 lbs. @ 12.5% moisture. Labor rates including fringe benefits \$3.50 and \$2.60 per hour.

Operation	Hours per acre	Cash and labor cost per acre				
		Labor	Fuel & repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity	Cost	Total
dollars						
<u>Cultural Costs</u>						
Stubble disc	.3	1.15	2.70			3.85
Landplane	.3	1.05	2.05			3.10
Disk 2x	.3	1.15	2.30			3.45
Springtooth	.2	.50	.80			1.30
List & fertilize	.2	.90	1.70	150# N @ 20¢/#	30.00	32.60
Plant	.4	1.40	1.50	Seed	20.00	22.90
Fertilize				Starter 20 gal/acre	18.60	18.60
Irrigate 8x (1 pre-plant & 7 crop)	4.0	10.40	1.15	Water	8.00	19.55
Cultivate	.4	1.40	1.40			2.80
Weed control				Herbicide contract	6.50	6.50
Insect or mite control				Material contract	5.00	5.00
Misc. (move, set up & service equipment)	.7	2.35	1.00			3.35
Crop loan interest					3.10	3.10
TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS	6.8	20.30	14.60		91.20	126.10
<u>Harvest Costs</u>						
Combine				4.77 tons @ 5.00	23.85	
Hauling				4.77 tons @ 2.50	11.95	
Drying (renter's share)				3.0 tons @ 2.00	6.00	
Storage				2.62 tons @ 4.00	10.50	
Chop stubble	.2	.70	.60			1.30
TOTAL HARVEST COSTS		.70	.60		52.30	53.60
<u>Cash Overhead</u>						
Misc., office, etc.					13.40	
Taxes on equipment					1.90	
Rent				25% of 8,000# @ \$5.35 cwt	107.00	
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						122.30
TOTAL CASH COST		21.00	15.20		265.80	302.00
Management 5% of 8,000 lbs. at \$5.35 cwt						21.40
<u>Annual Cost</u>						
<u>Investment</u>	<u>Per Acre</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>		<u>Interest 8%</u>		
Equipment	\$190	\$19.00		\$7.60		
Total						26.60
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						350.00
Cost per cwt @ 8,000 lbs. yield after shrinkage to 12.5% moisture						4.37

Cost of Production at Varying Yields

Yield per acre-cwt:	40	60	80	100	120	140
Total production cost per cwt	\$7.85	\$5.54	\$4.37	\$3.67	\$3.21	\$2.88

CORN CULTURAL BRIEFS

Soil Requirements: For maximum production fertile, deep, well drained soil is required.

Planting Dates: As soon as soil warms up, usually around April 15 in our area.

Harvest Dates: September

Varieties: Many commercial varieties available. Days to maturity is important. Many of the varieties have been grouped by days to maturity. List is available from your Farm Advisors Office.

Seeding Rate: Depends on size of seed and plant population desired, usually about 15 lbs/A.

Fertilizer: Soil tests for phosphorus and potassium are helpful. At planting 10-20 lbs. N and 13-26 lbs. P (30-60 lbs. P₂O₅) under or two inches to the side of seed plus around 200 lbs. N preplant or sidedressed. Depends on soil type, previous crop, etc.

Irrigation: 2-1/2 - 3-1/2 acre feet of water - 5-8 irrigations.

Weed Control: Timely cultivation for grass and broadleaf weed control. Herbicides -- 2,4-D amine for broadleaved weed control. Atrazine - preplant, pre-emergence or early post-emergence. See U.C. recommendations. Atrazine and Oil -- post-emergence. When atrazine is used no other crop except corn or sorghum can be planted for 18 months. Other herbicides are being tested.

Insect Control: Mites - 1 lb. Kelthane when plants are 3-4 feet tall. Other - cutworms, armyworms, darkling ground beetles, flea beetles, wireworms, etc. See U.C. Pest Control Recommendations for control.

Diseases: Sugar cane mosaic - carried by aphids. Root and stalk rot, fusarium ear rot, head smut, boil smut.

The University of California's Cooperative Extension programs are available to all, without regard to race, color, or national origin.