

SUTTER - YUBA

ALFALFA COST STUDY

1982

The Sample Cost Study is a guide, as your actual cost will vary depending upon soil type, source of water, ownership or leasing of land and equipment, size of operation and other factors. (Data taken from Yolo County Alfalfa Cost Study.)

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Alfalfa Hay (4 year life)

Lease Basis - 25% of Gross Sales to Landlord
Yield 7 Tons

	Hours/ Acre	Cash Costs Per Acre				TOTAL
		Labor	Tractor	Implt.	Material	
CASH GROWING COSTS:						
Irrigate 8X @ \$5.36/hr	5.0	26.80	--	--	--	26.80
Water (cash cost 4 ac. ft.)	--	--	--	--	55.32	55.32
(1/2 pump @ \$19.16						
(1/2 surface @ \$8.50)						
Ditch (open & close) 2X	.10	.58	1.68	.18	--	2.44
Insect control 2.5X						
Materials	--	--	--	--	16.75	16.75
Airplane apply	--	--	--	--	11.25	11.25
Winter weed control						
Materials	--	--	--	--	29.00	29.00
Ground application (custom)	--	--	--	--	6.00	6.00
Misc. equipment use	--	.24	.26	.32	--	.82
Pickup and truck use	--	--	--	2.83	--	2.83
Move equip., setup & service @ 10% of labor costs	--	.08	--	--	--	.08
TOTAL:		\$27.70	\$ 1.94	\$3.33	\$118.32	\$151.29
Supervisors salaries, accounting, office expense						15.89
Buildings (taxes, ins., repairs)						1.18
Production loan interest cost						14.42
Equipment loan interest cost						1.38
TOTAL PREHARVEST CASH COSTS:						\$184.16
Harvest costs (contract @ \$24/ton X 7 tons/acre)						168.00
Total cash expenses per acre						352.16
Landlord share - 25% of 7 tons @ \$80/ton						140.00
TOTAL CASH COSTS PER YEAR:						\$492.16

Hours/ Acre	Cash Costs Per Acre				TOTAL
	Labor	Tractor	Implt.	Material	
<u>INVESTMENT COSTS:</u>					
Buildings (interest & depreciation					6.68
Tractors & Implts. (interest & deprec.)					4.72
Stand establishment \$255.50 (depreciation \$63.88 - interest on investment \$21.08)					<u>84.96</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENT COSTS:					\$ 96.36
<u>TOTAL COSTS PER ACRE:</u>					<u>\$588.52</u>
<u>COSTS PER TON:</u>					\$ 84.07

Cost Per Ton at Various Yields

5 tons	\$100.10
6 tons	90.75
7 tons	84.07
8 tons	79.07
9 tons	75.17

Management fee @ 5% of gross income:
(usual charge for management not included in this study)

\$ 28.00