

ESTIMATED COSTS OF ESTABLISHING
A
LEMON ORCHARD

IN
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

1954

Presents sample costs of developing a young lemon grove during the first 5 years after planting. Each grower will experience varying costs but this schedule will serve as a guide particularly for newcomers to lemon production. It has been developed on the basis of minimum necessary operations to produce a good orchard.

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Assume: Level valley land, furrow irrigated. Planting 16' x 22' = 124 trees/acre.
 Frost protection: 1st 2 years - wrap, 3rd-5th year - wind machine. Starting Capitalization: Land \$2000, Irrig. \$200. 1953 Costs & Income.

	Costs per Acre (Dollars)					Total
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
<u>LABOR AND FIELD POWER</u>						
<u>Land Preparation</u>						
Subsoil	\$ 7					
Disc	2					
Orchard Layout	15					
Total	24					\$ 24
<u>Tree Planting</u>						
Dig Holes	10					
Plant Trees	25	\$ - 1				
Tank Irrigate	5					
Fordeaux Trunk	3					
Total	43	1				44
<u>Cultural Care</u>						
Irrigate	20	15	\$ 15	\$ 20	\$ 20	
Cultivate and Furrow	15	15	20	22	25	
Fertilize		2	2	3	3	
Fordeaux Trunk	3	3				
Frost Protection	10	10	5	5	5	
Tree Care and Pruning	6	6	5	5	5	
Broadcast Cover Crop	1	1	1	1	1	
Total	55	52	48	56	59	270
<u>MATERIALS</u>						
<u>Tree Planting</u>						
Trees - 124 @ \$2.50	310	15				
Water	1					
Fordeaux	1					
Total	312	15				327
<u>Cultural Care</u>						
Water @ \$3/ac-in	9	12	18	27	36	
Fertilizer @ 15¢/lb N		4	4	8	15	
Pest Control (L & M)	10	15	30	40	50	
Fordeaux Spray (L & M)			3	5	5	
Cover Crop Seed 30# vetch & 20# oats	3	3	3	3	3	
Frost Protection	7	5	20	20	20	
Total	29	39	78	103	129	378
<u>SUBTOTAL</u>	463	107	126	159	188	1043
<u>CASH OVERHEAD</u>						
Taxes	25	25	25	25	25	
Insurance	4	4	4	4	4	
Repairs	5	5	5	5	5	
General & Misc. Expenses (5%)	23	5	6	8	9	
Total	57	39	40	42	43	221
<u>TOTAL CASH COSTS</u>	520	146	166	201	231	1264
<u>DEPRECIATION</u>	15	15	15	15	15	
<u>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT 5%</u>	123	140	147	157	167	
<u>TOTAL ALL COSTS</u>	658	301	328	373	413	2073
<u>FRUIT CREDITS @ \$1.30 net/fld.bx.</u>			35	130	260	425
<u>NET TOTAL COSTS</u>	658	301	293	243	153	
<u>ACCUMULATED NET TOTAL COSTS</u>		959	1252	1495	1648	1648
<u>Average Capital Investment</u>	2460	2793	2949	3132	3349	3464

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON NEW LEMON PLANTING

- Q. Does replant soil fumigation pay?
- A. To date, responses in trees planted on old citrus soils are not sufficient to recommend this as a commercial treatment in Santa Barbara County. However, research work is continuing on this problem. In the case of Oak Root Fungus, spot fumigation with Carbon Disulfide is recommended.
- Q. What land preparation is necessary before planting?
- A. In addition to leveling and other operations performed for preparation for irrigation, subsoiling is desirable to break up the cultivation pan developed by previous cropping. Cover cropping each winter is desirable to build up the organic matter in the soil.
- Q. What is the proper tree spacing?
- A. This will vary depending on the many location factors and varieties. The minimum is about 12' between trees in the rows and rows 18' apart when replanting with Eurekas or on shallow soils. The maximum spacing on the best of conditions is about 25' between trees either way.
- Q. What about intercropping?
- A. Generally, growing beans, tomatoes, and other crops between the young trees has not been profitable and has interfered with the proper care of the trees.
- Q. Can an old orchard be successfully interplanted?
- A. Yes, if the proper care is given to the young trees.

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