

31.5
20
1575
630
7875

4.5 Green tons = 1 dry ton
7/31.5
28
35

-AF-CC-73

3

31.5
20
6300

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCING ALFALFA GREEN CHOP
(Sprinkler Irrigation)
San Benito County, 1973

H. Bill Collins, Farm Advisor Philip S. Parsons, Ext. Economist

150 acres of alfalfa on a 200 acre farm

Yield -- 31½ Green Tons Per Acre

Operation	Hrs. Per Acre	Cash and Labor Costs Per Acre				Total
		Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Materials	Cost	
Cultural Costs						
Irrigate, 6½x	5.2	\$13.52		36 acre inches applied	\$12.71	\$ 26.23
Insect control, (contract) 1x					4.44	4.44
Rodent control, 1x	.2	.59	\$.28	3# bait @ 60¢/lb. applied	1.80	2.67
Weed control, ½x (contract)					4.93	4.93
TOTAL CULTURAL COST		\$14.11	.28		\$23.88	\$ 38.27
Harvest Costs						
Swath, 5½x	1.4	\$ 4.90	\$ 4.38			\$ 9.28
Pickup, chop, 5½x	8.8	30.80	24.82			55.62
TOTAL HARVEST COST		\$35.70	\$29.20			\$ 64.90
Cash Overhead						
Misc., office; pickup; insurance, interest on operating capital, 12% of cultural costs						\$ 4.59
Taxes on equipment						5.40
Land rent, including well						80.00
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD						\$ 89.99
TOTAL CASH COST						\$193.16
TOTAL CASH COST PER GREEN TON					\$ 6.13	
MANAGEMENT						
5% of \$9.00/ton						\$ 14.18
Investment Costs						
		PER ACRE	(2) ANNUAL COST PER ACRE			
			Depreciation	Interest		
Shop and Equipment storage		45.00	1.13	1.80		
Pickup truck, ½-ton		17.00	2.13	.68		
Tractor, diesel wheel, 40 hp (1)		39.60	3.96	1.58		
Tractor, gas wheel, 30 hp (1)		31.17	3.12	1.25		
Gopher bait applicator		3.66	.24	.15		
Swather, self-propelled, 12 ft.		54.67	6.84	2.19		
Forage harvester, PTO, 6 ft.		24.67	2.47	.99		
Trailer wagons, two		33.33	2.22	1.33		
Sprinklers, risers, laterals, mainlines		32.61	3.26	1.31		
Booster pump, 50 hp		43.40	6.20	1.74		
Alfalfa stand		83.20	20.80	3.33		
TOTAL INVESTMENT OVERHEAD		408.31	52.37	16.35		\$ 68.72
TOTAL COST PER ACRE						\$276.06
TOTAL COST PER GREEN TON					\$ 8.76	

COST OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD, Green Tons Per Acre	22.5	27.0	31.5	36.0	40.5
COST PER GREEN TON	\$11.38	\$9.86	\$8.76	\$7.95	\$7.31

ALFALFA GREEN CHOP

San Benito County, 1973

APPENDIX --- COSTS USED

DETAILS OF FUEL AND REPAIR COSTS FOR MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT

Equipment	Size (1)	Hrs. Per	Hrs. Per	Fuel & Repairs	Cost Per
		Acre	Ton	Per Hour	Acre
Tractor, diesel wheel	40-hp			\$1.34	
Tractor, gas wheel	30 hp			1.20	
Gopher bait applicator		0.2		.21	\$ 1.04
Swather, self-propelled	12 ft	1.4		3.13	4.38
Forage Harvester, PTO	6 ft		28	1.10	9.68
Trailer wagons, two			28	.38	3.34

HOURLY LABOR RATES USED

	Base Rate	Fringes & Other	Total		Base Rate	Fringes & Other	Total
Harvesting	\$2.90	\$.60	\$3.50	Irrigators	\$2.15	\$.45	\$2.60
Tractor Driver	2.15	.45	2.60				

- (1) Horsepower at 75% of maximum
- (2) In this study investment costs charged to alfalfa, of certain machinery and equipment, have been pro-rated between alfalfa stand charges and alfalfa production charges proportionate to estimated use on each.

	Alfalfa Stand	Alfalfa Production
Tractor, diesel wheel, 40 hp	10%	90%
Tractor, gas wheel, 30 hp	3%	97%
Sprinkler irrigation equipment	3%	97%
Shop and Equipment Storage	10%	90%

ALFALFA HAY
San Benito County, 1973
APPENDIX --- COSTS USED

DETAILS OF FUEL & REPAIR COSTS FOR MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT

	Size (1)	Hrs. Per Acre	Hrs. Per Ton	Fuel & Repairs Per Hour	Cost Per Acre
Tractor, diesel wheel	40 hp			\$1.34	
Tractor, gas wheel	30 hp			1.20	
Gopher bait applicator		0.2		.21	\$.04
Swather, self-propelled	12 ft	1.4		3.13	4.38
Rake, side delivery	8 ft	1.4		.35	.49
Baler, 3-wire			0.12	2.77	2.33
Bale, loader-stacker, self-propelled			0.08	3.57	2.00

HOURLY LABOR RATES USED

	Base Rate	Fringes & Other	Total		Base Rate	Fringes & Other	Total
Harvesting	\$2.90	\$.60	\$3.50	Irrigators	\$2.15	\$.45	\$2.60
Tractor Driver	2.15	.45	2.60				

(1) Horsepower at 75% of maximum

(2) In this study investment costs charged to alfalfa, of certain machinery and equipment, have been pro-rated between alfalfa stand charges and alfalfa production charges proportionate to estimated use on each.

	Alfalfa Stand	Alfalfa Production
Tractor, diesel wheel, 40 hp	10%	90%
Tractor, gas wheel, 30 hp	3%	97%
Sprinkler irrigation equipment	3%	97%
Shop and Equipment Storage	10%	90%