

1 9 7 6

E N G L I S H   W A L N U T   O R C H A R D

P R O D U C T I O N   C O S T S

I N

T E H A M A   C O U N T Y

Cost Analysis Worksheet  
Showing Sample Costs

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

**SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE WALNUTS**

Tehama County, January 1976

Production data: 10-year old orchard, 70 trees per acre will yield 3000#.					
Labor @ \$3.00 and \$3.50 per hour including social security, etc.					
Operation	Hours Per Acre	Cash and labor cost per acre			Total
		Labor	Fuel and Repairs	Materials Kind and Quantity Cost	
<b>Cultural Costs</b>					
Pruning	6.0	18.00	16.00		34.00
Brush Removal	4.0	12.50	1.40		13.90
Fertilizer		2.00 (application) + 150# nitrogen @ 28¢		42.00	44.00
Spray Application 1x		Contract	300 gal @ 3¢	9.00	9.00
Spray Material				12.00	12.00
Tillage, harvest prep	7.0	24.50	9.80		34.30
Irrigation 7x	6.0	18.00			18.00
Water				Power 3½ ac.ft. @ \$3.50/ac.ft.	12.25
Misc Labor	6.0	18.50	1.40		19.90
Misc Material				21.10	21.10
Repairs, except tractor			12.00		12.00
<b>TOTAL CULTURAL COSTS</b>		<b>91.50</b>	<b>40.60</b>	<b>98.35</b>	<b>230.45</b>
<b>Harvest Costs</b>					
Shake, pickup, hull dehydrate, haul		Contract at \$120 per ton		180.00	
<b>TOTAL HARVEST COSTS</b>					<b>180.00</b>
<b>Cash Overhead</b>					
Misc., office, etc.				22.30	22.30
Taxes				88.00	88.00
<b>TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD</b>				<b>110.30</b>	<b>110.30</b>
<b>TOTAL CASH COST</b>		<b>91.50</b>	<b>40.60</b>	<b>388.65</b>	<b>520.75</b>
Management 5% of 3000# @ 20¢					30.00
<b>INVESTMENT</b>	<b>Per Acre</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>			
		<b>Depreciation</b>	<b>Interest 8%</b>		
Land	\$1500	--	\$120.00		
Trees	2400	\$60.00	96.00		
Irrigation System	240	20.00	10.10		
Buildings	30	1.50	1.20		
Equipment	421	53.60	16.85		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4591</b>	<b>\$135.10</b>	<b>\$244.15</b>		<b>379.25</b>
<b>TOTAL COST PER ACRE</b>					<b>930.00</b>
Cost per pound @ 3000# yield - 31¢					

**SAMPLE COSTS PER CWT. AT VARYING YIELDS**

Yield (pounds/acre)	1,000	1,500	2,000	2,500	3,000	3,500	4,000
Cash costs/cwt.	40.00	28.75	23.00	19.65	17.35	15.75	14.50
Total costs/cwt.	79.00	55.00	43.00	39.75	31.00	27.50	25.00

ABOUT THIS SHEET ---

The costs to produce walnuts are not the same in all walnut-growing areas of Tehama County. Some of the variables include water, insect control, and type of soil management. However, there are certain basic practices common to all walnut operations. These practices should be followed if a grower is to maintain a healthy, productive orchard and a profitable crop. The costs given in this sheet are averages only.

Irrigation and Fertilization - Mature walnut trees require 36 to 40 acre-inches of water during the year. This is usually applied in 4 to 6 irrigations.

It is necessary to fertilize the trees every year to maintain production. In general, 100 to 150 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre are adequate for maintaining tree vigor and crop size.

Pest Control - It may be necessary to apply pesticide sprays to control husk fly, codling moths, midsummer mites, and aphids. Sanitation practices at all levels are the best controls for the navel orange worm.

Harvesting - Early harvest, shaking, pick-up, and drying are essential for good walnut quality. Any delay in the harvest operation tends to lower nut quality and increase the possibility of insect infestation.

-----  
Information prepared by Joseph W. Osgood, Farm Advisor,  
Tehama County and A. D. Reed, Extension Economist,  
University of California, Davis.  
-----

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

TEHAMA COUNTY FARM ADVISORS OFFICE  
1135 Lincoln Street--P. O. Box 370  
Red Bluff, Ca 96080 916-527-3101 2/76-100c