BLACKEYE BEANS--1951

BE-SI-51

San Bernardino County
Agricultural Extension Service
University of California
G. A. Bowman, Farm Advisor

WHAT DOES IT COST YOU TO GROW BLACKEYES?
(Based on 1500-pound yield per acre)

ITEMS	SAMPLE COSTS		YOUR COSTS?	
	PER ACRE	PER CWT	PER ACRE	PER CWT
Land Preparation--Labor & Power				
Furrow out and pre-irrigate	$ 2.00			
Plow 1x	5.00			
Disk and drag 2x	8.00			
TOTAL LAND PREPARATION	15.00	$1.00		
Culture				
Plant (½ hour)	1.25			
Cultipack (½ hour)	1.25			
Cultivate 2x	4.00			
Furrow out 1x	2.00			
Hand hoeing 2x	4.00			
Irrigation labor (8 hours)	8.00			
TOTAL CULTURAL LABOR	20.50	1.37		
Materials				
11 acre inches of water	5.50			
Seed, pre-treated with fungicide; home treated with lindane.	4.25			
Sacks 15 @ 37¢	5.55			
TOTAL MATERIALS	15.30	1.02		
Harvest				
Cut and side delivery raked	4.00			
Threshing @ 65¢ sack	9.75			
Hauling to warehouse	1.50			
Cleaning @ $3.60 ton	2.70			
Fumigation @ $1.80 ton	1.35			
TOTAL HARVEST	19.30	1.29		
Cash Overhead Costs				
General expense	3.41			
Taxes, insurance	10.00			
TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD	13.41	.89		
Depreciation--included in equipment rates				
Land Rent or Interest	50.00	3.33		
TOTAL ALL COSTS	$133.51	$8.90		

BLACKEYE BEANS (OR "PEAS")

The most widely grown variety in San Bernardino county is the Number 3. Because growers cannot get certification on No. 3, those who wish to grow certified seed should use the No. 5 variety. Blackeyes are mostly grown in the Chino-Ontario area. Attempts to grow them in the desert parts of the county have usually produced only fair to poor yields.

Most Blackeyes are grown for dry beans, although a small quantity is harvested green as vegetables. Blackeyes generally produce more on the heavier soils, but still do well and have top quality on sandy loams.

Blackeyes are grown in rows 30-34 inches apart, using about 24 pounds of seed per acre. Planting is done in late May or early June. Seed should be treated with a fungicide and with lindane to control wireworms. If a spell of cold, foggy weather occurs about the time beans are coming through the soil, often a high percentage of the seedlings die. The same fields can be replanted in warmer weather and a good stand obtained. No known treatment will protect your young plants against the soil-borne disease that hits when the weather is unfavorable, although the seed treating prevents the seed itself from rotting.

The number of irrigations varies from three to seven. Heavy soil needs fewer irrigations than sandy soil. As Blackeyes root deeply, use two or three acre inches of water per acre at each irrigation, rather than use frequent light irrigations.

Seed treatment with bacteria seems unnecessary and profitless. The bacteria that live on the bean roots are well distributed in the county and get on the beans without being added artificially. It is possible that treatment might help if beans were being planted on new land in the desert.

It is very doubtful that it pays to fertilize Blackeyes. Tests run have been very inconclusive, even though it is generally seen that Blackeyes produce more on fertile soil.

Ordinarily, little or no pest control is required, except lindane treatment of the seed to prevent wireworm damage. A number of diseases attack Blackeyes, but none of them are such that sprays or dusts can be used to stop the disease.

Blackeyes are harvested when the greatest number of pods have turned straw color. The grower must estimate when he has the most mature beans, for the Blackeye keeps flowering and setting more beans, even after some pods ripen and shatter.

Vine roots are cut with a bean cutter, and windrowed with a side delivery rake. Six to eight rows can be windrowed together for the pickup combine. Much of the harvest work can be let out to contract operators.

Bean warehouses in the county will handle beans--fumigate, clean, store and sell for those who wish to use these services.