

WINTER FORAGE SILAGE - DOUBLE CROPPED - TULARE COUNTY

Cost Analysis Worksheet - 1984

Sample costs to produce winter forage silage (oats, barley and wheat underseeded with legumes). Costs are based on a yield of 16 tons per acre. Field labor at \$4.50 per hour and equipment operator at \$5.00 per hour; these include benefits. Medium wheel, 80 hp tractor cash costs \$10.69, depreciation \$2.58, and interest \$1.94. Heavy tractor - 130 hp. Cash costs \$15.79, \$4.75, and interest \$3.56.

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	SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
	PER ACRE	PER TON	PER ACRE	PER TON
<u>Pre-harvest Cash Costs</u>				
Land preparation: 2 hrs. labor - 1 hr. heavy tractor, \$36.68 1 hr. med tractor				
Plant: 1/3 hr. medium tractor		5.25		
Seed: 100 lbs. @ 25¢		25.00		
Fertilizer: 80 lbs. N @ 16¢/lb., source NH ₃		12.80		
40 lbs. P ₂ O ₅ @ 40¢/lb. if needed		16.00		
Application: custom		7.00		
Irrigate: 2 X's - labor 2 hrs.		9.00		
Water: (combined canal, pumping district assessment) 1 acre ft. @ \$20/A ft.		20.00		
Miscellaneous: Labor, material, 1 hr. man + med. tractor		20.00		
Repairs, except tractors - 40%		8.00		
Office, car, business costs - 40%		8.00		
County taxes - 40%		4.00		
Land costs - 40%		50.00		
Interest on operating cost = (total pre-harvest cash cost) + 2 X 13%		14.41		
TOTAL PRE-HARVEST CASH COSTS		\$236.14	\$14.75	
<u>Harvesting Costs</u>				
Chop, haul, and pack: \$5.50/ton		88.00		
Cover, material and labor - 65¢/ton for 500 ton bunker silo		8.40		
TOTAL HARVESTING COSTS		\$96.40	\$ 6.03	
TOTAL CASH COSTS		\$332.54	\$20.78	
<u>Depreciation</u>				
Irrigation system - 40% original cost \$350, 16 yr. life		8.75		
Tractor 80 hp diesel wheel: 2.3 hr.		5.93		
130 hp, 1 hr.		4.75		
Other equipment - 40% of \$100 over 10 yrs.		4.00		
TOTAL DEPRECIATION		\$23.43	\$ 1.46	
TOTAL CASH AND DEPRECIATION COSTS		\$355.97	\$22.25	

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SAMPLE COSTS		MY COSTS	
PER	PER	PER	PER
ACRE	TON	ACRE	TON

Interest on Investment - (@ 13% interest)

Irrigation system: 1/5 of \$350	\$ 9.10	
Tractor: 80 hp diesel wheel, 2.3 hr.	4.46	
130 hp - 1 hr.	3.56	
Other equipment: 1/5 of \$100	2.60	
TOTAL INTEREST	\$19.72	\$ 1.23
TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION	\$375.69	\$23.48

COST PER TON AT VARYING YIELDS

Yield: tons per acre	12	14	16	18	20
Cash and Depreciation - Costs/ton	27.71	23.75	20.78	18.47	16.63
Total Costs per ton	31.31	26.84	23.48	20.87	18.78

This cost analysis worksheet should be used only as a guide to assist producers in determining their production costs and as an aid in helping analyze costs and procedures. The figures shown are based on what are considered good management practices and do not represent industry averages.

There is a great deal of variation in production costs between areas within a county. For example, tractor size, tillage operations, number of trips and materials may be different for neighboring farmers. Eliminate fertilizer costs if manure or lagoon water is used.

The land cost is a value related to rental costs rather than the interest on the market value. For the person renting land, the rental price should be substituted for land cost; also, interest and depreciation on the irrigation system and county taxes should be eliminated.