

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ARTICHOKE IN MONTEREY COUNTY - 1981

AR-CC-81

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YIELD: 7,185 pounds, 250 - 25 pound cartons and 935 pounds processing

HARVEST: September through May

LABOR COSTS/HR ¹

HOURLY TRACTOR COSTS

				Cash Costs	Depreciation	Interest
CL I	Equipment Operator	9.32	80 H.P. Crawler Diesel	14.51	6.33	4.75
CL II	Equipment Operator	9.11	60 H.P. Crawler Diesel	12.91	2.50	2.81
	Head Irrigator	8.63	150 H.P. Wheel Diesel	20.07	2.92	2.19
	Irrigator	8.15	60 H.P. Wheel Diesel	6.35	2.25	1.69
	Other Labor	8.02				

Operation	Tractor Used	Hours/Acre	Labor	Fuel & Repairs	Contracts and Materials	Total/Acre
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CULTURAL

Cut Tops	WD 60 I	0.4	3.73	2.74		6.47
Top Cutter	CD 80 I	0.33	3.08	5.11		8.19
Rototill	WD-60 I	1.0	9.32	9.43		18.75
Subsoil	WD-135 I	0.5	4.66	10.77		15.43
Float - 2x	CD-60 I	0.5	4.66	6.61		11.28

Irrigate 5x (sprinkler) 12.0 97.80 1.75 Ac. Ft. @ 36.00 per acre ft. for power. 4.00 for booster pump

Fertilize 3x 3 sidedress and 1 sprinkler appli. Contract @ 7.25/ac. 500# 12-12-12 @ 54.00 and 266# N @ .44/lb. 192.79

Insect Control 14x ² - 6x ground @ 8.00 & 8x air @ 7.44 per appli. Materials 150.00/Ac. 257.52

Stumping ³ 5.5 44.11 44.11

Rodent Control 4x 10.0 80.20 Materials @ 30.00/Ac. 110.20

Cultivate 9x WD-60 II 4.0 36.44 25.40 61.84

Hoe & Weed 16.0 128.32 128.32

Miscellaneous (includes moving & setup) 5.0 43.23 12.70 55.93

TOTAL CULTURAL AND MATERIAL COSTS 1,075.63

OVERHEAD

Business Costs: Office and Business Expense @ 15% of Cultural Costs 161.34

Taxes: Equipment, except tractors 5.00

Rent: 350.00/Acre - includes taxes 350.00

TOTAL OVERHEAD COSTS 516.34

HARVEST

Pick and Hall: 55 hours (21.00 for fuel and repairs added) 465.31

TOTAL HARVEST COSTS 465.31

TOTAL CULTURAL, OVERHEAD AND HARVEST COSTS 2,057.28

ANNUAL COSTS

Investment	Per Acre	Depreciation	Interest - 15%	
Buildings	60.00	6.00	4.50	
Irrigation System	300.00	30.00	22.50	
Plants	600.00	60.00	45.00	
Tractors	205.00	20.33	15.73	
Equipment	200.00	20.00	15.00	
	<u>1,365.00</u>	<u>136.33</u>	<u>102.73</u>	239.06

TOTAL COST PER ACRE 2,296.34

COST PER POUND @ 6,250 POUNDS PER ACRE, FRESH MARKET ⁴ .37

PACKING COSTS

Artichokes: 25 lbs. @ 0.37/lb. UC Cooperative Extension 9.25

Pack, carton & sales charge 2.25

COST PER CARTON 11.50

Management has not been included as a cost of production in this study. It may be as much as 5% of the farm value of the crop.

1/ Labor costs per hour include fringe benefits paid by the farmer. Social security, workmen's compensation, unemployment, health plan, and paid holidays.

2/ Pesticides include methyl parathion, parathion, Supracide®, and Thiodan®. Zolone® and Guthion® are occasionally used.

3/ Stumping is the removal of old productive shoots, and is undertaken to vary the productive cycle.

SAMPLE COSTS OF PRODUCTION AT VARYING YIELDS

YIELD	Total Pounds	6,470	7,185	7,905	8,625
	Pounds Fresh Market	5,625	6,250	6,875	7,500
	Cartons Per Acre	225	250	275	300
	Pounds Processing ^{4/}	845	835	1,030	1,125
	PRODUCTION COSTS	1,591.97	1,591.97	1,591.97	1,591.97
	HARVEST COSTS	417.19	465.31	531.43	561.55
	ANNUAL COSTS	239.06	239.06	239.06	239.06
	TOTAL COST PER ACRE	2,248.22	2,296.34	2,344.46	2,392.58
	COST PER POUND ARTICHOKES	.40	.37	.34	.32
	PACKING AND SALES COST	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25
	COST PER CARTON (25 lbs.)	12.25	11.50	10.75	10.25

4/ Cost study considers the economics of fresh market artichokes only. Approximately 15% of total production will be sold as processing artichokes. Returns on artichokes from the processor should be considered on a per carton basis for final cost per carton.
