

Agricultural Extension Service, University of California

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE ZINFANDEL GRAPES FOR WINE PRODUCTION  
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY - 1973

by

John H. Foott, Farm Advisor  
E. A. Yeary, Farm Advisor Statewide

YIELD: 5 TONS	Sample Costs		My Costs	
	Per Acre	Per Ton	Per Acre	Per Ton
<b>PRE-HARVEST CASH COST</b>				
Prune & tie: 10¢/vine 454 vines	\$ 45.40			
Brush disposal: 1/4 hr man & tractor	1.35			
Rodent control: \$2.50/acre	2.50			
Irrigate: 7 times 2 hours labor	5.96			
Water: 2 ft @ \$8/ac ft	16.00			
Disc or cultivate 5X: 3 1/2 hrs man & tractor	18.87			
Pest and disease control: materials	12.25			
Application: \$7 + 1/2 hr man & tractor	9.70			
Miscellaneous labor, materials & tractor	12.00			
County taxes	25.00			
Repairs, except tractor	12.00			
Office, car, operating capital, etc.	20.01			
Total Pre-Harvest Cash Costs	\$181.04	\$ 36.21		
<b>HARVESTING COSTS</b>				
Pick and haul: \$32 per ton total pick \$25, haul \$7	\$160.00			
Supervision \$2.50/ton	12.50			
Total Harvesting Costs	\$172.50	\$ 34.50		
Total Cash Costs	\$353.54	\$ 70.71		
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>				
Vines: cost basis \$1,007-30 years	\$ 33.57			
Irrigation system & frost protection \$890-16 yrs.	55.63			
Bldgs., vineyard equip exc. tractor \$120-15 yrs	8.00			
Tractor: 5 hrs @ \$1.05	5.25			
Total Depreciation	\$102.45	\$ 20.49		
<b>INTEREST ON INVESTMENT AT 7%</b>				
Vines: 1/2 cost \$503.50	\$ 35.24			
Irrigation system: 1/2 cost \$445	31.15			
Blds. & vineyard equip, exc tractor: 1/2 cost \$60	4.20			
Tractor @ 53¢, 5 hrs	2.65			
Land: \$1,000	70.00			
Total Interest on Investment	\$143.24	\$ 28.65		
<b>TOTAL COST OF PRODUCTION</b>	<b>\$599.23</b>	<b>\$119.85</b>		

TOTAL COST AT VARYING YIELDS PER ACRE				
Yield: Tons per acre	3	4	5	6
Total Costs of production per ton	\$176.74	\$141.18	\$119.85	\$105.62

Costs are based on a yield of 5 tons per acre; man labor at \$2.98 per hour total (including Social Security, workmen's compensation insurance); and equipment operator at \$3.79. Medium wheel tractor per hour cash costs \$1.60, depreciation \$1.05, interest 53¢.