
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

2013

SAMPLE COSTS TO PRODUCE
ORGANIC
WALNUTS

TERMINAL BEARING VARIETY



NORTH COAST – Lake County

Sprinkler Irrigation

Rachel B. Elkins
Karen M. Klonsky

Richard L. De Moura

UC Cooperative Extension Farm Advisor, Lake and Mendocino Counties
UC Cooperative Extension Specialist, Department of Agricultural and Resource
Economics, UC Davis
Research Associate, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics,
UC Davis

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

SAMPLE COST TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS

North Coast - Lake County 2013

Pull Hose Sprinkler Irrigation

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| INTRODUCTION | 2 |
| ASSUMPTIONS..... | 3 |
| Production Cultural Practices and Material Inputs | 3 |
| Labor, Equipment and Interest..... | 5 |
| Cash Overhead..... | 6 |
| Non-Cash Overhead..... | 7 |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS..... | 8 |
| REFERENCES | 9 |
| Table 1. COSTS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS | 10 |
| Table 2. COSTS AND RETURNS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS | 11 |
| Table 3. MONTHLY CASH COSTS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS | 12 |
| Table 4. RANGING ANALYSIS | 13 |
| Table 5. WHOLE FARM ANNUAL EQUIPMENT, INVESTMENT & BUSINESS OVERHEAD | 14 |
| Table 6. HOURLY EQUIPMENT COSTS | 14 |
| Table 7. OPERATIONS WITH EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS | 15 |

INTRODUCTION

Sample costs to produce organic walnuts under pull hose sprinkler irrigation in the North Coast – Lake County are presented in this study. This study is intended as a guide only, and can be used to make production decisions, determine potential returns, prepare budgets and evaluate production loans. Practices described are based on production practices considered typical for the crop and area, but will not apply to every situation. Sample costs for labor, materials, equipment and custom services are based on current figures. A blank column, “Your Costs”, in Tables 1 and 2 is provided to enter your costs.

The hypothetical farm operation, production practices, overhead, and calculations are described under the assumptions. For additional information or an explanation of the calculations used in the study call the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis, (530) 752-3589 or your local UC Cooperative Extension office.

Sample Cost of Production Studies are available for many commodities. Current and archived studies can be downloaded from the Agricultural and Resource Economics website at UC Davis <http://coststudies.ucdavis.edu>, or requested through the department by calling (530) 752-6887.

The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer

ASSUMPTIONS

The assumptions refer to Tables 1 to 7 and pertain to sample costs to produce organic walnuts in the North Coast – Lake County. The cultural practices described represent production operations and materials considered typical of a well-managed farm in the region. The costs, materials, and practices shown in this study will not apply to all situations. **For small farms such as 10 acres, custom operators may have a minimum charge and it may be considerably higher than the costs used in this study.** Establishment and production cultural practices vary by grower and the differences can be significant. **The use of trade names and cultural practices in this report does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by the University of California nor is any criticism implied by omission of other similar products or cultural practices.**

Land. The farm consists of 10 contiguous acres – 9 acres of walnuts and 1 acre of roads, irrigation system and homestead – purchased as a mature orchard and farmed by the owner. The land is assumed to be well drained and either a class I or II soil on level land. In this area many orchards are planted on hillsides of various slopes. The walnuts have been converted to organic production.

Trees. In this study, terminal bearing trees are planted on a 45-foot x 45-foot spacing, 20 to 21 trees per acre. The varieties used in this study are Franquette with a late October to mid-November harvest date and Hartley with a mid to late October harvest date. Another common variety unique to Lake County is Poe, which harvest slightly before Hartley. The life of the orchard at the time of planting was estimated to be 70 years.

Orchard Preparation for Organic Production. The orchard is assumed to have been established as a conventional walnut orchard. Changing a farming system from conventional to organic practices requires a 36 month transition period from the date of the final conventional material application. Crops grown in transition years can be sold or labeled transition, providing the organic rules and regulations are adhered to. Rules and regulations specific to organic commodities are established under the Organic Food Act of 1990 in the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Organic Program (NOP). The orchard in this report began the transition as an older mature orchard. It has completed the transition period and has been certified as organic. Refer to the USDA rules for organic production for further information (www.ams.usda.gov/AMSV1.0/nop).

Production Cultural Practices and Material Inputs

Prune/Sucker. Pruning is done in early February by a custom operator. The pruning is done using a tower with one person on the tower and one on the ground stacking the brush in the row middles. It takes about four man-hours per acre to prune and stack. The orchard is pruned once every five years and one-fifth of the cost is allocated to the orchard each year. The prunings are pushed to the edge of the field using a tractor with forks to push the prunings into a stack, after which they are burned. It takes a tractor driver and one man to push and burn the prunings and to clean up the miscellaneous trash from the pruning operation. Lake County requires a Burn Permit for which there is a \$25 fee. The base of the trees are hand pruned (suckered) in July.

Irrigation. Irrigation costs include pumping (water) and labor costs. The water is pumped from a well, and fed into the pull-hose type sprinkler system. In this study water costs \$5.27 per acre inch based on current PG&E agricultural rates and reported grower costs. Local orchards may receive from 16 to 24 acre inches of water per season. In this study, a total of 24 acre-inches of water is applied to the orchard – six inches per application, one application per month in late June, July, August and September. Water rate is based on 80% application efficiency and no assumption is made about effective rainfall, evaporation, and runoff.

Fertilization. Pelletized chicken manure at 1,000 pounds (one-half ton) per acre is applied in January to provide nitrogen (N). A 50-50 mixture of compost (grape pumice) and gypsum is applied at 6,000 pounds (three tons) per acre. Both applications are done by the grower with his tractor and a fertilizer spreader loaned by the fertilizer company. Both materials are delivered to the grower in 2,000 pound bags; a forklift is rented for a day to lift and dump the bags into the spreader. Zinc deficiency may need correcting in some locations but is not included in this study. Some organic walnut growers also plant legume cover crops in the fall, early to mid-October, to supplement nitrogen, add organic matter to the soil, and reduce erosion potential. Erosion may be especially problematic on hillside orchards; however fall cover crop applications can be difficult due to interference with harvest operations and the difficulty in establishing in dryland orchards. Fertilizer rates in this study are typical nutrient requirements, but do not take into account soil and water nitrogen. Refer to *Guide to Efficient Nitrogen Fertilizer Use in Walnut Orchards* (UCANR Publ. # 21623) and *Cover Crops for Walnut Orchards* (UCANR Publ. #21627) for detailed information on N and cover crops.

Leaf Sampling. Leaf samples at two per nine acres are collected in July once every three years. One third of the cost is included each year. The collector takes an estimated one hour to collect the two samples using the tractor to move around the field and another hour to package, mail the samples to the lab for analysis and to interpret the results once the analysis is returned.

Pest Management. The approved pesticides and rates mentioned in this cost study are federally defined and are listed in California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) handbook, and the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI). For more information on other pesticides available, pest identification, monitoring, and management visit the UC IPM website at www.ipm.ucdavis.edu. Cultural practices are discussed in the publications *Integrated Pest Management for Walnuts* and *Walnut Production Manual*. For information and pesticide use permits, contact the local county agricultural commissioner's office. Also consult your third party organic certification agency. Pesticide costs in this study are taken from a single dealer with volume discounts taken when applicable.

Pest Control Adviser (PCA). Written recommendations are required for many pesticides and are made by licensed pest control advisers. In addition the PCA will monitor the field for agronomic problems including pests and nutrition. Growers may hire private PCAs or receive the service as part of a service agreement with an agricultural chemical and fertilizer company. No pest control adviser is hired in this study.

Weeds. Weeds are controlled by mechanical or physical means. The middles are mowed five times (less for non-irrigated orchards) during the season – May, June, July, August, September. The tree rows are weeded by hand two times - once in June and once in August - using a gas powered weed-eater.

Insects. Walnut husk fly (WHF) is a problem in most orchards and an infestation can lead to shriveled and darkened kernels. The WHF is monitored by the grower using yellow sticky traps with ammonium carbonate superchargers. Two traps are hung July 1 on the nine acres by the grower and checked in July, August and September. No grower cost is shown for the traps and monitoring. The fly is controlled with applications of GF-120, diluted 1:4 with water, once in July, twice in August, and once in September. The grower uses a tractor with an attached pressurized 50 gallon sprayer and a hand gun to apply the material. The material is applied to a portion of every tree in every row. Full coverage sprays using Entrust combined with an organically acceptable bait may be required for very high WHF populations.

Disease. There are no disease treatments in this study, however walnut blight is a spring disease that infects the nutlets and may affect late-leaving varieties during springs with prolonged rains.

Vertebrate Pest. Trapping is used to control gophers and ground squirrels (not effective for gray squirrels). Owl boxes may also help reduce squirrels, moles, and gophers.

Harvest. In October, a custom operator mechanically harvests the walnut crop. The custom harvest may be slowed by excessive dead wood in the trees. In this study, the charge is \$160 per acre (minimum charge) and may be more with higher yields. The grower furnishes labor for hand raking to move nuts missed by the sweeper into the windrows. For the harvest operation, the shaker head attaches to the tree trunk to shake the nuts from the tree. The nuts fall to the ground and in a separate operation are blown from around the trees and swept into windrows to dry. A pickup machine gathers the nuts from the windrow and loads them into a cart or bankout wagon. In this study the nuts are elevated or dumped into bottom dump trailers for delivery to the dryer.

Yields. Typical annual yields for walnuts are measured in clean, dry, inshell pounds per acre. Yields in organic orchards when compared to conventional orchards are subject to potential decreases in yield and quality from diseases and insects that are not controlled. In this study, the average yield based on grower information is 1,000 pounds (one-half ton) per acre.

Returns. Actual price depends on a number of factors such as demand, size of the state crop, variety, nut size, and quality. This study uses an estimated market price of \$1.10 per pound plus an average annual premium for organic at 10% per pound, resulting in an average price of \$1.20 per pound ($\$1.10 + \0.10). Prices will vary each year.

Assessment. Under a state marketing order, the California Walnut Commission (CWC) collects mandatory assessment fees. These assessments are charged to the grower to pay for health research and export market development activities. The CWC has a current fee of \$0.01 per pound of dry in-shell nuts. The Walnut Marketing Board, governed by a Federal Marketing Order, represents the walnut growers and handlers of California. The Board is funded by mandatory assessments of the handlers. The Board promotes usage of walnuts in the United States through publicity and educational programs and provides funding for walnut production and post-harvest research.

Pickup. The study assumes business use mileage of 2,500 miles per year for the pickup. The pickup and/or tractor is used for baiting squirrels and gophers, as well as husk fly control. For this study the tractor is included in the mentioned operations. Additional pickup use for checking the orchard, diseases and the irrigation system is shown as an operation.

Labor, Equipment, and Interest

Labor. Hourly wages for workers are \$15.00 for machine operators and \$10.00 per hour non-machine labor. Adding 36% for the employer's share of federal and state payroll taxes, workers compensation insurance, for nut crops (code 0045) and other possible benefits gives the labor rates shown of \$20.40 and \$13.60 per hour for machine labor and non-machine labor, respectively. Workers' compensation costs will vary among growers, but for this study the cost is based upon the average industry final rate as of January 1, 2013 (California Department of Insurance). Labor for operations involving machinery are 20% higher than the operation time given in Table 1 to account for the extra labor involved in equipment set up, moving, maintenance, work breaks, and field repair.

Equipment Operating Costs. Repair costs are based on purchase price, annual hours of use, total hours of life, and repair coefficients formulated by American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE). Fuel and lubrication costs are also determined by ASABE equations based on maximum power

takeoff (PTO) horsepower, and fuel type. Prices for on-farm delivery of diesel and gasoline are \$3.84 and \$4.07 per gallon, respectively. The cost includes a 7.5% local sales tax on diesel fuel and gasoline. Gasoline also includes federal and state excise tax, which are refundable for on-farm use when filing your income tax. The fuel, lube, and repair cost per acre for each operation in Table 1 is determined by multiplying the total hourly operating cost in Table 6 for each piece of equipment used for the selected operation by the hours per acre. Tractor time is 10% higher than implement time for a given operation to account for setup, travel and down time.

Interest on Operating Capital. Interest on operating capital is based on cash operating costs and is calculated monthly until harvest at a nominal rate of 5.75% per year. A nominal interest rate is the typical market cost of borrowed funds. The interest cost of post harvest operations is discounted back to the last harvest month using a negative interest charge. The rate will vary depending upon various factors, but the rate in this study is considered a typical lending rate by a farm lending agency as of January 2013.

Risk. The risks associated with crop production should not be minimized. While this study makes every effort to model a production system based on typical, real world practices, it cannot fully represent financial, agronomic and market risks, which affect profitability and economic viability.

Cash Overhead Costs

Cash overhead consists of various cash expenses paid out during the year that are assigned to the whole farm and not to a particular operation.

Property Taxes. Counties charge a base property tax rate of 1% on the assessed value of the property. In some counties special assessment districts exist and charge additional taxes on property including equipment, buildings, and improvements. For this study, county taxes are calculated as 1% of the average value of the property. Average value equals new cost plus salvage value divided by 2 on a per acre basis.

Insurance. Insurance for farm investments varies depending on the assets included and the amount of coverage. Property insurance provides coverage for property loss and is charged at 0.817% of the average value of the assets over their useful life. Liability insurance covers accidents on the farm and costs \$502 for the entire farm.

Office Expense. Office and business expenses are estimated at \$125 per producing acre. These expenses include office supplies, telephones, bookkeeping, accounting, legal fees, shop and office utilities, and miscellaneous administrative charges.

Sanitation Services. Sanitation services provide one portable toilet and cost the farm \$334 annually. The cost includes one single toilet unit with washbasin, delivery and two months of weekly service. Sanitation services are needed mostly during harvest.

Organic Production Fees. Organic growers must meet certain criteria as defined by the National Organic Act requiring state registration and certification by a USDA accredited certifying agent. For this study, it is assumed the grower pays approximately \$700 per farm for application, inspection and certification fees in the first year and approximately \$300 to \$1,000 thereafter for annual inspections and certifications. An assumed annual cost of \$700 is used in this study. Costs vary among agencies. See the list of certifying agents at www.ams.USDA.gov/AMSV1.0/nop in the USDA's National Organic Program.

Management/Supervisor Salaries. The grower farms the orchard; therefore no salaries are included for management. Returns above costs are considered a return to management.

Investment Repairs. Annual maintenance is calculated as two percent of the purchase price. It is assumed orchard maintenance will be minimal; therefore no costs are shown for tree replacement.

Non-Cash Overhead Costs

Non-cash overhead is calculated as the capital recovery cost for equipment and other farm investments.

Capital Recovery Costs. Capital recovery cost is the annual depreciation and interest costs for a capital investment. It is the amount of money required each year to recover the difference between the purchase price and salvage value (unrecovered capital). It is equivalent to the annual payment on a loan for the investment with the down payment equal to the discounted salvage value. This is a more complex method of calculating ownership costs than straight-line depreciation and opportunity costs, but more accurately represents the annual costs of ownership because it takes the time value of money into account (Boehlje and Eidman). The formula for the calculation of the annual capital recovery costs is $((\text{Purchase Price} - \text{Salvage Value}) \times \text{Capital Recovery Factor}) + (\text{Salvage Value} \times \text{Interest Rate})$.

Salvage Value. Salvage value is an estimate of the remaining value of an investment at the end of its useful life. For farm machinery (tractors and implements) the remaining value is a percentage of the new cost of the investment (Boehlje and Eidman). The percent remaining value is calculated from equations developed by the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) based on equipment type and years of life. The life in years is estimated by dividing the wear out life, as given by ASABE by the annual hours of use in this operation. For other investments including irrigation systems, buildings, and miscellaneous equipment, the value at the end of its useful life is zero. The salvage value for land is the purchase price because land does not depreciate. The purchase price and salvage value for equipment and investments are shown in the tables.

Capital Recovery Factor. Capital recovery factor is the amortization factor or annual payment whose present value at compound interest is 1. The amortization factor is a table value that corresponds to the interest rate used and the life of the machine.

Interest Rate. The interest rate of 4.75% is used to calculate capital recovery. The rate will vary depending upon size of loan and other lending agency conditions, but is a suggested rate by a farm lending agency in January 2013.

Establishment Cost. This study does not take into account establishment cost. It is assumed the orchard is at least 50 years old when purchased.

Building. The metal building(s) are on a cement slab and total approximately 1,200 square feet. The buildings are used for shops and equipment storage.

Sprinkler Irrigation System (pull hose). The sprinkler system consists of 1.14 pull hose sprinklers per acre or 10 hoses for the field. A three inch buried mainline runs through the center of the field to which the pull hoses are attached. Each hose is 150 feet long and includes sprinklers that spray 45 feet and sprinkle four gallons per minute. The sprinkler system is not the typical system installed in new orchards, therefore; lacking data, the system costs are estimated based on previous data.

Irrigation Pumping System. Electric pumps range from 7.5 horsepower (HP) to 50 HP depending on well depth and water requirements. For this study, it is assumed that the grower has a 10 horsepower pump.

Land with trees. Agricultural land in this study is valued at \$10,000 per acre. The value is in the land. The trees are at least 50 years old and have declined in production. The orchard was purchased (based on the land value) for organic production.

Shop/FieldTools. This includes shop tools and equipment, hand tools, and miscellaneous field tools including the pruning equipment. The cost is assumed and not based on any collected data.

Fuel Tanks. Fuel tanks are furnished by the petroleum dealer; therefore, a cost is not shown.

Equipment. Farm equipment is purchased new or used, but the study shows the current purchase price for new equipment. The new purchase price is adjusted to 40% to indicate a mix of new and used equipment. Annual ownership costs for equipment and other investments are shown in Tables 5 and 6. Equipment costs are composed of three parts: non-cash overhead, cash overhead, and operating costs. Both of the overhead factors have been discussed in previous sections. The operating costs consist of repairs, fuel, and lubrication and are discussed under operating costs.

Table Values. Due to rounding, the totals may be slightly different from the sum of the components.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors acknowledge and appreciate the comments and suggestions provided by growers: Steve Winant, Lakeport and Paul Lauenroth, Kelseyville and UC Cooperative Extension Specialist, Bob Van Steenwyk, UC Berkeley.

REFERENCES

- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers. March 2011. *American Society of Agricultural Engineers Standards. Agricultural Machinery Management Data*. ASAE D497.7. St. Joseph, Michigan. <http://elibrary.asabe.org>. Internet accessed February 2013.
- Boehlje, Michael D., and Vernon R. Eidman. 1984. *Farm Management*. John Wiley and Sons. New York, New York
- California Certified Organic Farmers. *A Guide to CCOF Certification*. 2013. California Certified Organic Farmers. Santa Cruz, CA.
- California Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. 2013. *Trends in Agricultural Land and Lease Values*. California Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, Inc. Woodbridge, CA.
- California State Board of equalization. *Fuel Tax Division Tax Rates*. Internet accessed January 2013. <http://www.boe.ca.gov/sptaxprog/spftdrates.htm>
- Doanes Editors. *Facts and Figures for Farmers*. 1977. Doane Publishing, St. Louis, MO. P 292.
- Elkins, Rachel B., Karen A. Klonsky and Richard L. De Moura. 2007. *Sample Costs to Establish a Walnut Orchard and Produce Walnuts, North Coast – Lake County*. University of California Cooperative Extension, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Davis, CA.
- Energy Information Administration. 2012. *Weekly Retail on Highway Diesel Prices*. Internet accessed January 2013. <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/wohdp>
- Grant, Joseph. 2006. *Cover Crops for Walnut Orchards*. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. Davis, CA (UCANR Publ. #21627)
- Kelly-Anderson, Kathy. 2006. *Guide to Efficient Nitrogen Fertilizer Use in Walnut Orchards*. University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources. Davis, CA. (UCANR Publ. # 21623)
- University of California Statewide Integrated Pest Management Program. *UC Pest Management Guidelines, Walnuts*. University of California, Davis, CA. <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu>
- University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. 1998. *Walnut Production Manual*. University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Oakland, California. Publication 3373.

For information concerning the above mentioned University of California publications contact UC DANR Communications Services (1-800-994-8849) or your local county Cooperative Extension office.

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013

Table 1. COSTS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS

| Operation | Operation Time (Hrs/A) | Cash and Labor Costs per Acre | | | | | Total Cost | Your Cost |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| | | Labor Cost | Fuel | Lube & Repairs | Material Cost | Custom/ Rent | | |
| Cultural: | | | | | | | | |
| Fertilize: Chicken Manure | 0.10 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 160 | 10 | 174 | |
| Fertilize: Compost/Gypsum | 0.10 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 120 | 10 | 134 | |
| Prune: Custom 1X/5yr | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 44 | 44 | |
| Prune-Brush Disposal 1X/5yr | 0.25 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 15 | |
| Rodent: Squirrel (Tractor, Traps) | 0.53 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 21 | |
| Weed-Mow Middles 5X | 0.86 | 21 | 11 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 37 | |
| Weed: Hand (Weed Eater) Tree Row | 1.05 | 26 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 27 | |
| Irrigate 1X/month 4X | 0.12 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 126 | 0 | 128 | |
| Prune: Hand (Sucker) | 1.00 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | |
| Insect: Husk Fly (GF120) | 0.75 | 18 | 9 | 3 | 111 | 0 | 142 | |
| Leaf Analysis 1X/3yr | 0.11 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 8 | |
| Pickup | 3.25 | 80 | 55 | 11 | 0 | 0 | 145 | |
| TOTAL Cultural COSTS | 8.12 | 189 | 90 | 23 | 518 | 66 | 886 | |
| Harvest: | | | | | | | | |
| Harvest-Shake, Pickup, Rake | 2.00 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 160 | 187 | |
| Haul | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8 | 8 | |
| Harvest-Hull, Dry | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 100 | |
| CWC Assessment Fee | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 9 | |
| TOTAL Harvest COSTS | 2.00 | 27 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 268 | 304 | |
| Interest on Operating Capital @ 5.75% | | | | | | | 26 | |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS/ACRE | 9.77 | 207 | 86 | 22 | 444 | 333 | 1,118 | |
| CASH OVERHEAD: | | | | | | | | |
| Organic Certification (annual) | | | | | | | 78 | |
| Liability Insurance | | | | | | | 56 | |
| Office Expense | | | | | | | 125 | |
| Sanitation Fee | | | | | | | 37 | |
| Property Taxes | | | | | | | 158 | |
| Property Insurance | | | | | | | 38 | |
| Investment Repairs | | | | | | | 143 | |
| TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS/ACRE | | | | | | | 635 | |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS/ACRE | | | | | | | 1,853 | |
| NON-CASH OVERHEAD: | | | | | | | | |
| | | Per producing Acre | | Annual Cost Capital Recovery | | | | |
| Buildings 1,200 sqft | | 4,444 | | 281 | | | 281 | |
| Land with trees | | 11,111 | | 528 | | | 528 | |
| Pull hose irrigation | | 1,000 | | 59 | | | 59 | |
| Pump 10HP & Well | | 1,333 | | 79 | | | 79 | |
| Shop/Field Tools | | 667 | | 85 | | | 85 | |
| Equipment | | 1,547 | | 158 | | | 158 | |
| TOTAL NON-CASH OVERHEAD COSTS | | 20,103 | | 1,190 | | | 1,190 | |
| TOTAL COSTS/ACRE | | | | | | | 3,043 | |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013

Table 2. COSTS and RETURNS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS

| | Quantity/ Acre | Unit | Price or Cost/Unit | Value or Cost/Acre | Your Costs |
|---|-------------------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| GROSS RETURNS | | | | | |
| Organic Walnuts (price includes premium) | 1,000.00 | lb | 1.20 | 1,200 | |
| OPERATING COSTS | | | | | |
| Insecticide: | | | | | 111 |
| GF-120 Fruit Fly Bait | 80.00 | floz | 1.39 | 111 | |
| Custom: | | | | | 314 |
| Prune & Stack | 0.80 | hour | 55.00 | 44 | |
| Leaf Analysis | 0.07 | each | 35.00 | 2 | |
| Shake, Sweep, Pickup | 1.00 | acre | 160.00 | 160 | |
| Haul Nuts | 0.50 | ton | 15.00 | 8 | |
| Hull/Dry Walnuts | 1,000.00 | lb | 0.10 | 100 | |
| Irrigation: | | | | | 126 |
| Water - Pump | 24.00 | AcIn | 5.27 | 126 | |
| Fertilizer: | | | | | 280 |
| Chicken Manure (Pelleted) | 1,000.00 | lb | 0.16 | 160 | |
| Spreader (loaned) | 2.00 | acre | 0.00 | 0 | |
| Compost/Gypsum 50/50 | 3.00 | ton | 40.00 | 120 | |
| Rent: | | | | | 19 |
| Forklift Rental | 0.12 | day | 160.00 | 19 | |
| Assessment: | | | | | 10 |
| Burn Permit | 0.02 | each | 25.00 | 1 | |
| CA Walnut Commission | 1,000.00 | lb | 0.01 | 9 | |
| Labor: | | | | | 216 |
| Equipment Operator Labor | 8.40 | hrs | 20.40 | 171 | |
| Non-Machine Labor | 3.48 | hrs | 13.60 | 44 | |
| Machinery: | | | | | 113 |
| Fuel-Gas | 13.92 | gal | 4.07 | 57 | |
| Fuel-Diesel | 8.75 | gal | 3.84 | 34 | |
| Lube | | | | 14 | |
| Machinery Repair | | | | 10 | |
| Interest on Operating Capital (5.75%) | | | | 28 | |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS/ACRE | | | | | 1,217 |
| NET RETURNS ABOVE OPERATING COSTS | | | | | -17 |
| CASH OVERHEAD COSTS | | | | | |
| Organic Certification (annual) | | | | 78 | |
| Liability Insurance | | | | 56 | |
| Office Expense | | | | 125 | |
| Sanitation Fee | | | | 37 | |
| Property Taxes | | | | 158 | |
| Property Insurance | | | | 38 | |
| Investment Repairs | | | | 143 | |
| TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS/ACRE | | | | | 635 |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS/ACRE | | | | | 1,853 |
| NON-CASH OVERHEAD COSTS (Capital Recovery) | | | | | |
| Buildings 1,200sqft | | | | 281 | |
| Land with trees | | | | 528 | |
| Pull Hose Irrigation | | | | 59 | |
| Pump 10HP & Well | | | | 79 | |
| Shop/Field Tools | | | | 85 | |
| Equipment | | | | 158 | |
| TOTAL NON-CASH OVERHEAD COSTS | | | | | 1,190 |
| TOTAL COST/ACRE | | | | | 3,043 |
| NET RETURNS ABOVE TOTAL COST | | | | | -1,843 |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013

Table 3. MONTHLY CASH COSTS PER ACRE TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS

| Beginning 01-13 | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL |
|--|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Ending 12-13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | |
| Cultural: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fertilize: Chicken Manure | 174 | | | | | | | | | | | | 174 |
| Fertilize: Compost/Gypsum | 134 | | | | | | | | | | | | 134 |
| Prune: Custom 1X/5yr | | 44 | | | | | | | | | | | 44 |
| Prune-Brush Disposal 1X/5yr | | 15 | | | | | | | | | | | 15 |
| Rodent: Squirrel(Tractor, Traps) | | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 21 |
| Weed-Mow Middles 5X | | | | | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | | | | 37 |
| Weed: Hand (Weed Eater) Tree Row | | | | | | 14 | | 14 | | | | | 27 |
| Irrigate 1X/month 4X | | | | | | 32 | 32 | 32 | 32 | | | | 128 |
| Prune: Hand (Sucker) | | | | | | | 11 | | | | | | 11 |
| Insect: Husk Fly (GF120) | | | | | | | 35 | 71 | 35 | | | | 142 |
| Leaf Analysis 1X/3yr | | | | | | | 8 | | | | | | 8 |
| Pickup | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 145 |
| TOTAL Cultural COSTS | 319 | 71 | 14 | 14 | 22 | 67 | 108 | 138 | 89 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 886 |
| Harvest: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Harvest-Shake, Pickup, Rake | | | | | | | | | | 187 | | | 187 |
| Haul | | | | | | | | | | 8 | | | 8 |
| Harvest-Hull, Dry | | | | | | | | | | 100 | | | 100 |
| CWC Assessment Fee | | | | | | | | | | 9 | | | 9 |
| TOTAL Harvest COSTS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 304 | 0 | 0 | 304 |
| Interest on Operating Capital (5.75%) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 28 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS/ACRE | 321 | 73 | 16 | 16 | 24 | 70 | 111 | 142 | 93 | 323 | 14 | 14 | 1,217 |
| CASH OVERHEAD | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Organic Certification (annual) | 78 | | | | | | | | | | | | 78 |
| Liability Insurance | | | 56 | | | | | | | | | | 56 |
| Office Expense | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 125 |
| Sanitation Fee | | | | | | | | | | 37 | | | 37 |
| Property Taxes | | | | 79 | | | | | | | | 79 | 158 |
| Property Insurance | 19 | | | | | 19 | | | | | | | 38 |
| Investment Repairs | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 143 |
| TOTAL CASH OVERHEAD COSTS | 119 | 22 | 78 | 101 | 22 | 42 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 59 | 22 | 101 | 635 |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS/ACRE | 440 | 95 | 94 | 118 | 46 | 111 | 133 | 164 | 115 | 383 | 36 | 116 | 1,853 |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013
Table 4. RANGING ANALYSIS

COST PER ACRE AT VARYING YIELDS TO PRODUCE ORGANIC WALNUTS

| | YIELD (Lbs/acre) | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 500 | 750 | 1,000 | 1,250 | 1,500 | 1,750 | 2,000 |
| OPERATING COSTS: | | | | | | | |
| Cultural | 886 | 886 | 886 | 886 | 886 | 886 | 886 |
| Harvest | 152 | 228 | 304 | 380 | 456 | 532 | 607 |
| Interest on operating capital @ 5.75% | 27 | 27 | 28 | 28 | 29 | 29 | 29 |
| TOTAL OPERATING COSTS/ACRE | 1,065 | 1,141 | 1,217 | 1,294 | 1,370 | 1,446 | 1,522 |
| Total Operating Costs/lb | 2.13 | 1.52 | 1.22 | 1.03 | 0.91 | 0.83 | 0.76 |
| CASH OVERHEAD COSTS/ACRE | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL CASH COSTS/ACRE | 1,700 | 1,776 | 1,853 | 1,929 | 2,005 | 2,082 | 2,158 |
| Total Cash Costs/lb | 3.40 | 2.37 | 1.85 | 1.54 | 1.34 | 1.19 | 1.08 |
| NON-CASH OVERHEAD COSTS/ACRE | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL COSTS/ACRE | 2,890 | 2,966 | 3,043 | 3,119 | 3,195 | 3,272 | 3,348 |
| Total Costs/lb | 5.78 | 3.96 | 3.04 | 2.50 | 2.13 | 1.87 | 1.67 |

NET RETURNS PER ACRE ABOVE OPERATING COSTS

| PRICE(\$/lb) Walnuts | YIELD(lb/acre) | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 500 | 750 | 1,000 | 1,250 | 1,500 | 1,750 | 2,000 |
| 0.80 | -665 | -541 | -417 | -294 | -170 | -46 | 78 |
| 1.00 | -565 | -391 | -217 | -44 | 130 | 304 | 478 |
| 1.20 | -465 | -241 | -17 | 206 | 430 | 654 | 878 |
| 1.40 | -365 | -91 | 183 | 456 | 730 | 1,004 | 1,278 |
| 1.60 | -265 | 59 | 383 | 706 | 1,030 | 1,354 | 1,678 |
| 1.80 | -165 | 209 | 583 | 956 | 1,330 | 1,704 | 2,078 |
| 2.00 | -65 | 359 | 783 | 1,206 | 1,630 | 2,054 | 2,478 |

NET RETURNS PER ACRE ABOVE CASH COSTS

| PRICE(\$/lb) Walnuts | YIELD(lb/acre) | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 500 | 750 | 1,000 | 1,250 | 1,500 | 1,750 | 2,000 |
| 0.80 | -1,300 | -1,176 | -1,053 | -929 | -805 | -682 | -558 |
| 1.00 | -1,200 | -1,026 | -853 | -679 | -505 | -332 | -158 |
| 1.20 | -1,100 | -876 | -653 | -429 | -205 | 18 | 242 |
| 1.40 | -1,000 | -726 | -453 | -179 | 95 | 368 | 642 |
| 1.60 | -900 | -576 | -253 | 71 | 395 | 718 | 1,042 |
| 1.80 | -800 | -426 | -53 | 321 | 695 | 1,068 | 1,442 |
| 2.00 | -700 | -276 | 147 | 571 | 995 | 1,418 | 1,842 |

NET RETURNS PER ACRE ABOVE TOTAL COSTS

| PRICE(\$/lb) Walnuts | YIELD(lb/acre) | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | 500 | 750 | 1,000 | 1,250 | 1,500 | 1,750 | 2,000 |
| 0.80 | -2,490 | -2,366 | -2,243 | -2,119 | -1,995 | -1,872 | -1,748 |
| 1.00 | -2,390 | -2,216 | -2,043 | -1,869 | -1,695 | -1,522 | -1,348 |
| 1.20 | -2,290 | -2,066 | -1,843 | -1,619 | -1,395 | -1,172 | -948 |
| 1.40 | -2,190 | -1,916 | -1,643 | -1,369 | -1,095 | -822 | -548 |
| 1.60 | -2,090 | -1,766 | -1,443 | -1,119 | -795 | -472 | -148 |
| 1.80 | -1,990 | -1,616 | -1,243 | -869 | -495 | -122 | 252 |
| 2.00 | -1,890 | -1,466 | -1,043 | -619 | -195 | 228 | 652 |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013

Table 5. WHOLE FARM ANNUAL EQUIPMENT, INVESTMENT, AND BUSINESS OVERHEAD COSTS

ANNUAL EQUIPMENT COSTS

| Yr | Description | Price | Yrs Life | Salvage Value | Capital Recovery | Cash Overhead | | |
|------------------|--------------------|---------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------|--------|
| | | | | | | Insur- ance | Taxes | Total |
| 13 | 60HP MFWD Tractor | 45,000 | 20 | 6,151 | 3,344 | 209 | 256 | 3,808 |
| 13 | Brush Rake | 20,000 | 25 | 317 | 1,377 | 83 | 102 | 1,561 |
| 13 | Loader Forks | 810 | 30 | 162 | 49 | 4 | 5 | 57 |
| 13 | Mower/Flail 10 ft | 10,000 | 20 | 521 | 769 | 43 | 53 | 865 |
| 13 | Pickup Truck 1/2 T | 31,730 | 10 | 9,373 | 3,306 | 168 | 206 | 3,679 |
| 13 | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | 1,600 | 10 | 283 | 182 | 8 | 9 | 199 |
| 13 | Weed Eater | 450 | 5 | 147 | 77 | 2 | 3 | 82 |
| TOTAL | | 109,590 | | 16,953 | 9,103 | 517 | 633 | 10,252 |
| 40% of new cost* | | 43,836 | | 6,781 | 3,641 | 207 | 253 | 4,101 |

*Used to reflect a mix of new and used equipment

ANNUAL INVESTMENT COSTS

| Description | Price | Yrs Life | Salvage Value | Capital Recovery | Cash Overhead | | | Total |
|----------------------------|---------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------|---------|--------|
| | | | | | Insur- ance | Taxes | Repairs | |
| INVESTMENT | | | | | | | | |
| Buildings 1,200 sqft | 40,000 | 30 | 0 | 2,528 | 163 | 200 | 800 | 3,692 |
| Land with trees (10 acres) | 100,000 | 30 | 100,000 | 4,750 | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 5,750 |
| Pull Hose Irrigation | 9,000 | 35 | 0 | 532 | 37 | 45 | 126 | 740 |
| Pump 10HP & Well | 12,000 | 35 | 0 | 710 | 49 | 60 | 240 | 1,059 |
| Shop/Field Tools | 6,000 | 10 | 0 | 768 | 25 | 30 | 120 | 942 |
| TOTAL INVESTMENT | 167,000 | | 100,000 | 9,288 | 274 | 1,335 | 1,286 | 12,183 |

ANNUAL BUSINESS OVERHEAD COSTS

| Description | Units/ Farm | Unit | Price/ Unit | Total Cost |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------|----------------|---------------|
| Organic Certification (annual) | 9.00 | acre | 77.78 | 700 |
| Liability Insurance | 9.00 | acre | 55.78 | 502 |
| Office Expense | 9.00 | acre | 125.00 | 1,125 |
| Sanitation Fee | 9.00 | acre | 37.11 | 334 |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013

Table 6. HOURLY EQUIPMENT COSTS

| Yr | Description | Walnuts Hours Used | Total Hours Used | COSTS PER HOUR | | | | | | Total Costs/Hr. |
|----|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------|-------------------|-------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | | | Capital Recovery | Cash Overhead | | Operating | | Total Oper. | |
| | | | | | Insur- ance | Taxes | Lube & Repairs | Fuel | | |
| 13 | 60HP MFWD Tractor | 27 | 605 | 2.21 | 0.14 | 0.17 | 2.97 | 11.31 | 14.28 | 16.80 |
| 13 | Brush Rake | 2 | 79 | 7.02 | 0.42 | 0.52 | 2.51 | 0.00 | 2.51 | 10.47 |
| 13 | Loader Forks | 2 | 65 | 0.30 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 0.00 | 0.10 | 0.45 |
| 13 | Mower/Flail 10 ft | 8 | 102 | 3.03 | 0.17 | 0.21 | 2.94 | 0.00 | 2.94 | 6.35 |
| 13 | Pickup Truck 1/2 T | 29 | 30 | 44.07 | 2.24 | 2.74 | 3.27 | 16.96 | 20.23 | 69.28 |
| 13 | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | 7 | 154 | 0.47 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.28 | 0.00 | 0.28 | 0.80 |
| 13 | Weed Eater | 10 | 10 | 2.95 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.20 | 1.33 | 1.53 | 4.69 |

UC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
NORTH COAST - 2013
Table 7. OPERATIONS WITH EQUIPMENT

| Operation | Operation Month | Tractor | Implement | Labor Type/ Material | Rate/ acre | Unit | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------|------|
| Fertilize: Chicken Manure | Jan | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.12 | hour | |
| | | | | ChickManurePellet | 1,000.00 | lb | |
| | | | | Spreader (loaned) | 1.00 | acre | |
| Fertilize: Compost/Gyp | Jan | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Forklift Rental | 0.06 | day | |
| | | | | Equipment Operator | 0.12 | hour | |
| | | | | Compost/Gyp 50/50 | 3.00 | ton | |
| Prune: Custom 1X/5yr | Feb | | | Spreader (loaned) | 1.00 | acre | |
| | | | | Forklift Rental | 0.06 | day | |
| Prune-Brush Disposal 1X/5yr | Feb | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Loader Forks Brush Rake | Non-Machine Labor | 1.33 | hour | |
| | | | | Prune&Stack | 2hr/ac 1x/5yr x 2men | 0.41 | hour |
| Rodent: Squirrel (Tractor, Trap) | Mar | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Non-Machine Labor | 0.11 | each | |
| | Apr | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Burn Permit | 0.06 | hour | |
| | May | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | June | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | July | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Aug | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Sept | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Oct | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Nov | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Dec | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.06 | hour | |
| | Weed-Mow Middles 5X | May | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Mower/Flail 10 ft | Equipment Operator | 0.21 | hour |
| | | June | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Mower/Flail 10 ft | Equipment Operator | 0.21 | hour |
| July | | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Mower/Flail 10 ft | Equipment Operator | 0.21 | hour | |
| Aug | | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Mower/Flail 10 ft | Equipment Operator | 0.21 | hour | |
| Sept | | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Mower/Flail 10 ft | Equipment Operator | 0.21 | hour | |
| Weed: Hand (Weed Eater) Tree Row | June | | Weed Eater | Equipment Operator | 0.63 | hour | |
| | Aug | | Weed Eater | Equipment Operator | 0.63 | hour | |
| Irrigate 1X/month 4X | June | | | Non-Machine Labor | 0.03 | hour | |
| | July | | | Water - Pump Lake | 6.00 | AcIn | |
| | Aug | | | Non-Machine Labor | 0.03 | hour | |
| | Sept | | | Water - Pump Lake | 6.00 | AcIn | |
| | | | | Non-Machine Labor | 0.03 | hour | |
| Prune: Hand Sucker | July | | | Water - Pump Lake | 6.00 | AcIn | |
| Insect: Husk Fly (GF120) | July | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | Non-Machine Labor | 1.00 | hour | |
| | Aug | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | Equipment Operator | 0.23 | hour | |
| | Aug | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | GF-120 FruitFlyBai | 20.00 | floz | |
| | Sept | 60HP MFWD Tractor | Sprayer 3pt 50 gal | Equipment Operator | 0.23 | hour | |
| | | | | GF-120 FruitFlyBai | 20.00 | floz | |
| Leaf Analysis 1X/3yr | July | 60HP MFWD Tractor | | Equipment Operator | 0.23 | hour | |
| | | | | GF-120 FruitFlyBai | 20.00 | floz | |
| Pickup | Oct | Pickup Truck | | Non-Machine Labor | 0.11 | hour | |
| Harvest-Shake Pickup Rate | Oct | | | Leaf Analy \$/Sample | 0.07 | each | |
| | | | | Equipment Operator | 3.90 | hours | |
| Haul | Oct | | | Non-Machine Labor | 2.00 | hours | |
| | | | | Shake Sweep Pickup | 1.00 | acre | |
| Harvest-Hull, Dry | Oct | | | Haul Nuts | 0.50 | ton | |
| CWC Assessment Fee | Oct | | | Hull/Dry | 1,000.00 | lb | |
| | | | | CA Walnut Commission | 1,000.00 | lb | |