

November 1967

A. E. Ext. 480

**ESTIMATED COST OF PRODUCTION  
FOR  
SOME NEW YORK ENTERPRISES**

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## ESTIMATED COSTS OF PRODUCTION

### FOR SOME

### NEW YORK ENTERPRISES

Over the years production methods for individual enterprises change. New equipment, new techniques, new insect, disease and weed control methods are developed and adopted. These usually change the cost of production. Although some of the changes are revolutionary, most are not and most year to year change in cost comes not from changes in technology but rather from changes in prices for labor, equipment, supplies and other items used in production.

The Department of Agricultural Economics at Cornell obtains cost of production information from its Farm Cost Accounting project for many of the enterprises on New York farms. However, there are some enterprises which are not found on many farms but are often important on the farms on which they are found. An effort is made by the Department to make studies of these enterprises as often as observation indicates that technology or the cost of production has changed enough to warrant such studies. These studies gradually become out of date as changes in methods of production take place and more particularly as prices of the inputs change. This report has as its purpose the up-dating of these cost studies to allow for changes in prices of inputs.

The United States Department of Agriculture obtains information on wages and prices of farm inputs. Changes in these are reflected in published indexes. These have been used in the preparation of this report of enterprise costs.

The cost as found when the enterprise study was made are shown herein together with the up-dated figures. No effort has been made to up-date figures to allow for changes in technology of production. All up-dating has been based on changes of prices of inputs.

Reports from the New York Cost Accounting project provide reasonably up-to-date information on many New York farm enterprises. This report includes costs for some of the less common crops of the State. Both of these sources provide "average" data and, as with most "averages", the information fits no individual situation precisely. The data provide indications of the general level of enterprise costs to help an individual as he may wish to estimate his enterprise costs and to give him bases of comparison.

## INDEXES OF PRICES PAID BY NEW YORK FARMERS

Item	Index									
	1950	1952	1954	1956	1958	1960	1962	1964	1966	
Farm wages	390	472	492	524	567	594	616	648	725	
Interest	86	86	86	88	90	101	101	101	101	
Motor supplies	150	157	162	167	172	176	174	174	178	
Motor Vehicle purchases	322	358	355	369	413	420	436	455	483	
New Equipment purchases	276	309	312	326	357	382	398	416	445	
Repairs and supplies	248	281	264	260	264	263	264	268	272	
Buildings and fences	316	349	348	372	386	392	390	388	398	
Real estate taxes	393	459	490	544	627	724	849	934	934	
Fire insurance	109	105	112	108	114	113	113	113	113	
Fertilizer	144	156	158	152	154	152	154	152	152	

Source: United States Department of Agriculture Reports, Washington, D. C.

Table 1

CARROTS  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1960		1966	
	Upland	Muck	Upland	Muck
Yield per acre - Study	19 tons	20 tons	--	--
State average	310 cwt		325 cwt	
Three year average	292 cwt		328 cwt	
State acreage	2600		2300	
Growing costs:	Study		Estimate	
Labor	\$ 52	\$ 47	\$ 63	\$ 57
Power	10	11	11	12
Equipment	9	12	10	14
Fertilizer	47	46	47	46
Seed	2	3	2	3
Spray material	23	32	23	32
Land	20	42	22	47
Interest	1	1	1	1
Other	8	16	8	16
Total	<u>\$172</u>	<u>\$210</u>	<u>\$187</u>	<u>\$228</u>
Harvest costs:				
Labor	\$ 71	\$ 64	\$ 87	\$ 78
Power	16	26	17	28
Equipment	22	19	25	22
Custom work	8	14	9	16
Other	5	2	5	2
Total	<u>\$122</u>	<u>\$125</u>	<u>\$143</u>	<u>\$146</u>
Total Production Cost	\$294	\$335	\$330	\$374

Table 2

SPINACH  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1960	1966
Yield, cwt/acre - Study	15 <sup>4</sup> proc.	--
State average	80 fresh	80
Three year average	80 fresh	73
State acreage	600	400
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Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 24	\$ 29
Power	10	11
Equipment	6	7
Fertilizer	37	37
Seed	7	7
Spray material	4	4
Land	30	34
Interest	1	1
Other	7	7
Total	<u>\$126</u>	<u>\$137</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 5	\$ 6
Power	1	1
Equipment (cartage)	25	27
Custom work	22	25
Other	1	1
Total	<u>\$ 54</u>	<u>\$ 60</u>
Total Production Cost	\$180	\$197

Table 3

CABBAGE FOR SAUERKRAUT  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1956	1966
Yield, tons/acre - Study	25.3	--
State average	18.0	20.0
Three year average	15.6	19.6
State acreage	5500	3400
<hr/>		
Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 43	\$ 59
Power	11	13
Equipment	10	13
Plants	18	18
Fertilizer, lime, manure	50	50
Spray material	6	6
Land	15	21
Other	10	10
Total	<u>\$163</u>	<u>\$190</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 42	\$ 58
Power	8	9
Other	1	1
Total	<u>\$ 51</u>	<u>\$ 68</u>
Total Production Cost	\$214	\$258

Table 4

TABLE BEETS  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1958	1966
Yield, tons/acre - Study	11.6	--
State average	10.8	15.0
Three year average	11.2	13.6
State acreage	4400	5000
<hr/>		
Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 15	\$ 19
Power	10	11
Equipment	6	7
Fertilizer	39	39
Seed	22	22
Spray material	1	1
Custom work	19	22
Land	19	23
Interest	2	2
Other	6	6
Total	<u>\$139</u>	<u>\$152</u>
 Harvesting costs:		
Labor	\$ 19	\$ 24
Power	13	14
Equipment	9	10
Custom work	12	14
Total	<u>\$ 53</u>	<u>\$ 62</u>
Total Production Cost	\$192	\$214

Table 5

RED KIDNEY BEANS  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
CAYUGA, SENECA CO, NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1958	1966
Yield, lb/a - Study	1203	--
State average	1150	1320
Three year average	1013	1090
State acreage	114,000	103,000
<hr/>		
Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 8	\$10
Power	6	7
Equipment	6	7
Fertilizer	14	14
Seed	11	11
Spray material	1	1
Land	10	12
Interest	1	1
Other	2	2
Total	<u>\$59</u>	<u>\$65</u>
Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 7	\$ 9
Power	3	3
Equipment	5	6
Custom work	4	5
Total	<u>\$19</u>	<u>\$23</u>
Total Production Cost	\$78	\$88



Table 6

SNAP BEANS  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1962	1966
Yield, tons/acre - Study	1.7	--
State average	1.9	1.7
Three year average	1.8	1.8
State acreage	43,000	55,000
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Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 6	\$ 7
Power	5	6
Equipment	6	7
Seed	31	31
Fertilizer	21	21
Spray material	4	4
Land	15	16
Interest	1	1
Other	4	4
Total	<u>\$93</u>	<u>\$97</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 7	\$ 8
Power	2	2
Equipment	12	13
Custom work	7	8
Other	1	1
Total	<u>\$29</u>	<u>\$32</u>
Total Production Cost	\$122	\$129

Table 7

ONIONS  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1961		1966	
	Orange Co.	Elba Area	Orange Co.	Elba Area
Yield per acre - Study	662 bu	744 bu	-----	-----
State average		310 cwt		240 cwt
Three year average		323 cwt		283 cwt
State acreage		14,100		14,700
Growing costs:	Study		Estimate	
Labor	\$ 86	\$ 85	\$103	\$102
Power	21	23	23	25
Equipment	23	21	25	23
Seed	30	30	30	30
Fertilizer	35	51	35	51
Spray material	64	65	64	65
Land	63	84	68	91
Interest	11	13	11	13
Other	12	26	12	27
Total	\$345	\$398	\$371	\$427
Harvest costs:				
Labor	\$ 85	\$ 52	\$102	\$ 62
Power	19	28	21	31
Equipment	15	28	16	30
Containers	46	41	47	42
Other	3	3	3	3
Total	\$168	\$152	\$189	\$168
Storing and selling costs:				
Labor	\$ 69	\$ 54	\$ 83	\$ 65
Power	16	18	17	20
Equipment	28	11	30	12
Storage	27	117	27	118
Interest	6	36	6	36
Other	20	7	21	7
Total	\$166	\$243	\$184	\$258
Total Production Cost	\$679	\$793	\$744	\$853

Table 8

UPLAND POTATOES  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1963	1966
Yield - cost/acre - Study	228	--
State average	230	220
Three year average	225	213
State acreage	44,000	41,000
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Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 23	\$ 27
Power	15	16
Equipment	17	19
Seed	57	57
Fertilizer	54	54
Spray material	18	18
Land	20	21
Other	17	17
Total	<u>\$221</u>	<u>\$229</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 66	\$ 77
Power	7	7
Equipment	9	10
Material	2	2
Other	2	2
Total	<u>\$ 86</u>	<u>\$ 98</u>
Total Production Cost	\$307	\$327

Table 9

LONG ISLAND POTATOES  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1959	1966
Yield, cwt/acre - Study	206	--
State average	215	255
Three year average	233	267
State acreage	31,500	19,700
<hr/>		
Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$ 35	\$ 44
Power	10	11
Equipment	25	29
Fertilizer	75	75
Seed	49	49
Spray material	27	27
Land	50	60
Interest	3	3
Other	14	14
Total	<u>\$288</u>	<u>\$312</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 34	\$ 43
Power	11	12
Equipment	21	25
Other	3	3
Total	<u>\$ 69</u>	<u>\$ 83</u>
Total Production Cost	\$357	\$395

Table 10

LONG ISLAND CAULIFLOWER  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1959	1966
Yield, cwt/acre - Study	181 cwt	--
State average	175 cwt	120 cwt
Three year average	178 cwt	117 cwt
State acreage	3300	1800
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Growing costs:	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
Labor	\$108	\$135
Power	18	20
Equipment	27	32
Fertilizer	87	87
Plants	33	33
Spray material	31	31
Land	41	49
Interest	7	7
Other	27	28
Total	<u>\$379</u>	<u>\$422</u>
 Harvest costs:		
Labor	\$ 84	\$105
Power	12	13
Crates	158	163
Fees	15	19
Other	8	8
Total	<u>\$277</u>	<u>\$308</u>
Total Production Cost	\$656	\$730

Table 11

STRAWBERRIES  
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION COSTS PER ACRE  
WESTERN NEW YORK, 1966

Item	1961	1966
Yield, lb/acre - Study	3023 qt.	--
State average	3600 #	2900 #
Three year average	3600 #	3300 #
State acreage	3000	2700
	<u>Study</u>	<u>Estimate</u>
New bed starting cost	\$278	\$306
Growing costs - first fruiting year:		
Labor	\$ 90	\$108
Power	10	11
Equipment	10	11
Materials	63	65
Land	29	31
Interest	23	23
Other	5	5
Total	<u>\$230</u>	<u>\$254</u>
Harvesting and selling costs:		
Buildings	\$ 6	\$ 6
Labor - piecework	169	203
Labor - regular	90	108
Truck	16	17
Materials	77	79
Other	11	11
Total	<u>\$369</u>	<u>\$424</u>
Total Production Cost	\$877	\$984