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FARMERS' REPORT NO. 53.

FINANCIAL RESULTS ON 12 MARKET GARDEN HOLDINGS IN
DEVON AND CORNWALL FOR THE YEARS 1945/46 AND 1946/47.

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FINANCIAL RESULTS ON 12 MARKET GARDEN HOLDINGS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL FOR THE YEARS 1945/46 and 1946/47.

The results set out in this report relate to 12 holdings from which financial accounts have been obtained for the two years 1945/46 and 1946/47. Seven of these holdings are situated in the Tamar Valley district, three of which are on the Cornish side of the river and four on the Devon side. One of the holdings is in West Cornwall and the remaining four in South Devon. Three of the latter occur in the Market Garden area near Dawlish.

The figures which follow are intended primarily for the use of the growers who have submitted their accounts for inspection and analysis over the past two years. These results must be interpreted with a certain amount of caution because of the small number of holdings in the sample and it is not claimed that these average figures are representative of Market Gardening as a whole in the South West.

The total area and cropping for the 12 holdings for 1945/46 and 1946/47 are set out below.

	1945/46	1946/47
	Acres	Acres
Market Garden Crops	62 $\frac{1}{4}$	68 $\frac{1}{4}$
Potatoes	30 $\frac{1}{4}$	23
Other Crops	20 $\frac{3}{4}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
Grass	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 $\frac{3}{4}$
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total area	144 $\frac{3}{4}$	132 $\frac{1}{2}$
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Some land was given up and there was an increase in the area of market garden crops and a decrease in the acreage of potatoes.

The range in size of the holdings is very considerable, the smallest being 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres and the largest 42 acres. The holdings have been arranged into groups of 5 acres and the number of holdings in each group is as follows:-

<u>Size Group.</u>	1945/46	1946/47
	<u>No. of Holdings.</u>	<u>No. of Holdings</u>
Under 5 acres	5	6
Over 5 and under 10 acres	3	3
Over 10 and under 15 acres	2	1
Over 15 acres	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>12</u>	<u>12</u>

In 1946/47 50% of the Holdings were under 5 acres, a further 25% between 5 and 10 acres and the remainder over 10 acres.

There are eight Holdings for which figures are available for four successive years. The Output, Expenses and Net Margin per acre are set out below for these holdings, showing the general trend for the four years.

	1943/44 £	1944/45 £	1945/46 £	1946/47 £
Output	170	238	198	211
Expenses	112	132	138	169
Net Margin	58	106	60	42

There is a general and fairly uniform rise in expenses, with considerable fluctuation in output, which necessarily causes the net margin to vary widely. Considering the nature of the crops, freak weather conditions and restriction of marketing in the form of transport ban on flowers in the Spring of 1944, these variations are to be expected and are inevitable.

Comparison of Financial Results for 1945/46 and 1946/47.

In both years 3 holdings showed a loss, while the remaining 9 holdings made varying net margins. The net margins varied from a loss of £90 per acre to a profit of £182 per acre in 1945/46 and from a loss of £91 per acre to a profit of £147 per acre in 1946/47. The holdings have been arranged into groups according to the Net margins in the table below.

Net Margin per acre £	1945/46 <u>No. of Holdings</u>	1946/47 <u>No. of Holdings.</u>
-50 to 0	3	3
0 to 49	5	2
50 to 99	2	5
100 to 149	1	2
150 to 199	1	0

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In Tables 1 and 11 the following information for the two years is set out:-

- I. Total Output and Expenses.
- II. Output and Expenses per acre.
- III. Percentage of the total output of the various types of crops and livestock.
- IV. The total margin or profit, the margin per acre, and the margin expressed as a percentage of the output.

In the accounts all unpaid family labour has been charged at the standard minimum wage rate to arrive at the Net Margin.

The output for any given item is obtained by subtracting the sum of the Opening Valuation and Purchases from the sum of the Closing Valuation and Receipts, with an adjustment for any produce consumed by the grower's household, thus giving a measure of the value of each item produced on the holding during the year.

The individual results for your holding are attached to this report for your own information.

TABLE 1

OUTPUT & EXPENSES ON 12 MARKET GARDEN

HOLDINGS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL 1945/46

No. of Holdings		12	
Total Acres		144 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Acres under Market Garden Crops (including Potatoes)		92 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Total	Per Acre	Percentage of output
	£	£	%
<u>Output</u>			
Flowers	9168	63.3	49.3
Potatoes	1107	7.6	5.9
Vegetable crops	4324	29.9	23.2
Fruit	2845	19.7	15.3
Miscellaneous crops	90	.6	.5
Livestock & Produce	1026	7.1	5.5
Sundries	55	.4	.3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18,615	128.6	100.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<u>Expenses</u>	£	£	%
Rent & Rates	651	4.5	3.5
Wages paid	5129	35.4	27.6
Wages unpaid farmer	1813	12.5	9.7
" " other	874	6.1	4.7
Feeding stuffs	880	6.1	4.7
Seeds	951	6.6	5.1
Manures	1032	7.1	5.6
Repairs	1212	8.3	6.5
Contract operations	158	1.1	.9
Carriage	505	3.5	2.7
Other expenses	1415	9.8	7.6
Machinery Depreciation	359	2.5	1.9
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	14,979	103.5	80.5
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£	£	%
Net Margin	3636	25.1	19.5

TABLE 11

OUTPUT AND EXPENSES ON 12 MARKET GARDEN
HOLDINGS IN DEVON AND CORNWALL 1946/47.

No. of Holdings	12
Total Acres	132½
Acres under Market Garden Crops (including Potatoes)	91¼

	Total	Per Acre	Percentage of output
	£	£	%
<u>Output</u>			
Flowers	8778	66.2	43.3
Potatoes	2009	15.2	9.9
Vegetable crops	4228	31.9	20.9
Fruit	4220	31.8	20.8
Miscellaneous crops	- 29	- .2	- .1
Livestock & Produce	963	7.3	4.7
Sundries	93	.7	.5
	<u>20262</u>	<u>152.9</u>	<u>100.0</u>

<u>Expenses</u>	£	£	£
Rent and rates	606	4.6	3.0
Wages paid	6020	45.4	29.7
Wages unpaid farmer	1993	15.0	9.8
" " other	920	7.0	4.5
Feeding stuffs	887	6.7	4.4
Seeds	1415	10.7	7.0
Manures	857	6.5	4.2
Repairs	1320	10.0	6.5
Contract operations	73	.5	.4
Carriage	763	5.8	3.8
Other expenses	1449	10.9	7.2
Machinery Depreciation	<u>387</u>	<u>2.9</u>	<u>1.9</u>
TOTAL	<u>16,690</u>	<u>126.0</u>	<u>82.4</u>

	£	£	%
Net Margin	3,572	26.9	17.6

YOUR HOLDING

YEAR

Code No.

	Expns £	Recls £	Open Valn £	Clos Valn £	Output £	% of Output %	Output per acre £
<u>Crops</u>							
Flowers							
Potatoes							
Vegetable crops							
Fruit							
Miscellaneous crops							
Livestock & Produce							
Sundries							
Total							

Output Expns	Expns per acre
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Rent & Rates
Wages paid Cash
" Non cash
" unpaid Grower
" " other
Feeding stuffs
Seeds
Manures
Repairs
Contract operations
Carriage
Other expenses
Machinery & Plant

Total

TOTAL

£	<u>Per acre</u> £	<u>% of output</u> %
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Expenses & Receipts margin
Valuation difference

Profit