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Average Enterprise  
Costs and Returns  
— *from* —  
FARM COST ACCOUNTS  
50 Farms -- 1947

Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station  
New York State College of Agriculture  
Department of Agricultural Economics  
Ithaca, New York  
December, 1948

## FOREWORD

The costs and returns for the Cost Account Farms for 1947 mirror to a considerable extent the situation for farming in general for New York state. The average farm receipts were about the same as a year ago but the costs were higher. In spite of the higher costs farming was still a profitable business. The average labor income for the Cost Account farmers in 1946 was \$9,254. In 1947 it declined to \$5,867.

The returns for most farm products were the same or somewhat higher than in 1946. Livestock products brought about the same prices. Most cash crops were about the same but cabbage and potato prices were considerably higher. Grain prices were higher. Fruit prices, as a rule, were under those of 1946.

The costs for labor, equipment, feed, seed, fertilizer and nearly all other costs of farming were higher than a year ago. The average labor cost per farm was \$642 more than in 1946. Equipment cost was \$1,045 more.

Production rates for livestock and poultry were higher than in 1946. In general crop and fruit yields were lower.

The enterprise costs, returns and profits as shown in this report are not representative of farming as a whole in the state. They do, however, indicate what is happening to the costs and returns and explain the relative profitableness of the various enterprises and of farming as a business.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by the Cost Accounts staff consisting of: Helen Smith, Marjorie Evans, Evalyn Skirpan, Onolee Stapley and Norma Foster. Additional assistance was received from Grace Bush, Oneta Shipe, Ruth Weaver, and Malfisa Paolangeli.

The work was done under the supervision of A. J. Ashe and C. DelMar Kearl.

## CONTENTS

	Page
Labor	
Labor force on cost account farms	1
Cost of Labor	2
Farm power	
Horses	3
Tractors	4
Trucks	4
Livestock	
Dairy cows	5
Dairy heifers	6
Dairy bulls	7
Hens	8
Chicks	9
Incubation	10
Sheep	11
Cash crops	
Potatoes	12
Cabbage	13
Canning-factory peas	14
Canning-factory tomatoes	15
Canning-factory corn	16
Dry beans	17
Apples	18
Cherries	19
Peaches	20
Pears	21
Hay and Grain	
Alfalfa	22
Hay other than alfalfa	23
Corn silage	24
Corn for grain	25
Mixed spring grains	26
Oats	27
Spring barley	28
Wheat	29
Rye	30
Summary of cost account enterprises	31
Farm operating statement, 1947	32
Returns per hour of labor in other years	33

Labor force on Cost Account Farms  
-1947-

	Large farms	Middle- sized	Small farms	All farms
Farms	17	17	16	50
Man equivalent				
Range	4.2 to 13.7	2.5 to 4.1	1.2 to 2.4	1.2 to 13.7
Average	7.1	3.2	1.9	4.1
Months of work performed by:				
Men hired by month or year:				
With privileges	16	8	4	9
With board	0	1	2	1
With wage only	11	3	1	5
Men hired by day or hour	37	9	2	16
Operator	12	12	12	12
Other Unpaid	10	5	2	6
Total months	86	38	23	49

Cost of Labor, 1947  
50 farms

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Dollars per month

Hired by month or year	
Men with privileges:	
Wage.....	145
Value milk, wood, house, etc. ....	37
Total .....	182
(High third, \$215; low third, \$142) .....	
Men boarding with farmer:	
Wage .....	87
Value of board .....	42
Total .....	129
(High third, \$172; low third, \$106) .....	
Men living off farm:	
Cash wage .....	157
(High third, \$187; low third, \$108) .....	
Hired by day or hour:	
Average of 84 cents per hour or \$197 per month, (high third, 92 cents or \$215; low third, 57 cents or \$133)	
Farm operator:	
His estimate of what he could get as superintendent of a similar farm, \$168 per month in cash and \$59 in privileges, or \$227 (high third, \$278; low third, \$172)	
Members of family other than operator:	
Average value \$183 (high third, \$297; low third, \$100)	
Average cost of all types of farm labor:	
Average of 85 cents per hour or \$194 per month (high third, \$217; low third, \$154)	

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## Horses, 1947

55 horses on 19 farms\*

Average per horse:	Dollars
<b>Costs</b>	
887 pounds of grain, at \$3.45 per hundredweight .....	30.64
2.7 tons of hay, at \$14.29 per ton .....	38.59
Pastures and fences .....	11.19
Other feed and bedding .....	4.12
Total feed and bedding .....	84.54
67 hours of man labor, at 73 cents per hour .....	48.61
Depreciation .....	25.26
Buildings .....	12.99
Interest on average value of \$118 per horse .....	5.62
Shoeing .....	2.78
Veterinarian and medicine .....	0.71
All other .....	3.61
Total other than feed, bedding and labor .....	50.97
Total cost to keep a horse .....	184.12
<b>Credits</b>	
6.6 tons of manure, at \$1.66 per ton .....	10.97
Colts, fair premiums, and the like .....	2.47
Total credits .....	13.44
Net cost of horse work .....	170.68
Harness cost .....	10.51
Cost for the year, horse and harness .....	181.19
Hours of work per horse .....	407
Cost per hour, cents .....	45

\* Farms with rates in excess of \$1.25 per hour of horse work were not included. In reviewing the situation on these farms it was concluded that the operator kept horses for reasons other than for power.

## Tractors, 1947

94 tractors on 46 farms\*

Average per tractor:	Dollars
747 gallons of fuel, at 16 cents per gallon .....	116.29
14 gallons of oil, at 81 cents per gallon .....	11.39
Grease and greasing .....	2.60
Farm labor .....	20.53
Insurance .....	2.38
Depreciation .....	34.37
Repairs .....	76.38
Interest on average value of \$690 .....	33.07
Buildings .....	8.38
All other .....	26.07
Cost for the year .....	331.46

Hours of work per tractor .....	553
Cost per hour, dollars .....	0.60

\* Twelve farms had 1 tractor, 23 farms had 2 tractors, and 9 farms had 3 tractors, one farm had 4 tractors, and one had 5 tractors.

## Trucks, 1947

57 trucks on 46 farms

Average per truck:	Dollars
467 gallons of fuel, 19 cents per gallon .....	86.77
9 gallons of oil, at 86 cents per gallon .....	7.70
Grease and greasing .....	2.68
Farm labor .....	17.51
License .....	26.72
Insurance .....	33.61
Depreciation .....	41.18
Repairs .....	91.60
Tires .....	17.68
Interest on average value of \$4,950 .....	25.58
Buildings .....	10.51
All other .....	4.81
Cost for year .....	366.35

* Distance driven per truck, miles .....	4527
* Cost per mile, cents .....	8.9

\* Based on 45 trucks with known mileage.



## Dairy Cows, 1947

685 cows on 26 farms

Average per cow:	Dollars
<b>Costs:</b>	
3139 pounds of grain, at \$76.40 per ton .....	119.97
2.6 tons of hay, at \$15.88 per ton .....	41.29
Other dry feed .....	0.12
4.7 tons of silage, at \$7.30 per ton .....	34.33
Other succulent feed .....	0.47
Bedding .....	3.54
Pasture and fences .....	22.04
Total feed and bedding .....	221.76
115 hours of labor, at 73 cents per hour .....	83.86
Horse work, automobile, truck, tractor .....	4.71
Dairy equipment .....	6.52
Interest on \$174 value of cow.....	8.79
Buildings .....	7.21
Breeding costs .....	7.54
Veterinarian, medicine, disinfectants .....	4.46
Hired milk-hauling .....	10.77
Cow-testing association dues .....	2.60
Insurance .....	0.85
Registration and transfer fees .....	0.27
Light, water, power .....	3.88
Strainer cloths and other supplies .....	1.59
All other .....	4.67
Total other than feed, bedding, and labor .....	63.86
Total cost .....	369.48
<b>Returns:</b>	
8912 pounds of milk sold .....	416.08
440 pounds of milk used on farm .....	20.81
Calves .....	22.27
10.1 tons of manure .....	13.48
Appreciation .....	3.41
Total returns .....	476.05
Gain .....	106.57
Cost of producing 100 pounds of milk, dollars .....	3.53
Value of 100 pounds of milk, dollars .....	4.67
Return per hour of labor, dollars .....	1.66

## Heifers, 1947

## 182 mature-heifers equivalents on 25 farms\*

Average per heifer raised to 27.5 months:	Dollars
Costs:	
Value of calf at birth .....	44.77
603 pounds of whole milk, at \$4.71 per hundredweight .....	28.44
1975 pounds of grain, at \$4.17 per hundredweight .....	82.43
2.8 tons of hay, at \$17.21 per ton .....	48.19
2.1 tons of silage, at \$6.32 per ton .....	13.27
Other feed .....	1.12
Pasture and fences .....	24.45
Bedding .....	4.20
Total feed and bedding .....	202.10
55 hours of labor, at 73 cents per hour .....	40.06
Horse hours and equipment .....	2.17
Buildings .....	11.95
Breeding fees .....	7.65
Veterinarian and medicine .....	0.17
Insurance .....	0.82
Registration and transfer fees .....	0.57
Lights, water .....	2.14
Interest .....	11.40
All other .....	2.03
Total other than calf, feed, bedding and labor .....	38.90
Total cost .....	325.83
By-products:	
9.6 tons of manure .....	13.03
Net cost of raising a heifer to 27.5 months of age .....	312.80

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\* There were a total of 624 heifers of all ages on these farms for a part or all of the year. They were fed a total of 5006 heifer-months, which divided by 27.5 equals 182 mature-heifer equivalents.

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## Cost of Keeping Dairy Bulls, 1947

20 bulls on 17 farms

Average per bull:	Dollars	Per cent of total
Costs:		
1079 pounds of grain, at \$81.40 per ton .....	43.98	19.0
3.0 tons of hay, at \$15.25 per ton .....	45.76	19.8
0.8 tons of silage, at \$6.06 per ton .....	4.85	2.1
Other feed and bedding .....	17.73	7.7
Pasture and fences .....	2.73	1.2
Total feed and bedding .....	115.05	49.8
108 hours of labor, at 72 cents per hour.....	78.08	33.8
Interest on \$277 value of bull .....	13.84	6.0
Buildings .....	17.88	7.7
All other .....	6.21	2.7
Total other than feed, bedding, and labor ....	37.93	16.4
Total cost .....	231.06	100.0
Credits:		
8.7 tons of manure, at \$1.38 per ton .....	11.97	5.2
Appreciation .....	2.73	1.2
Total credits other than service fees .....	14.70	6.4
Service fees from neighbors .....	1.01	0.4
Services charged to cows, 22.8 at \$6.86 .....	156.46	67.7
Services charged to heifers, 7.4 at \$7.96 .....	58.89	25.5
Total service credits .....	216.36	93.6
Total credits .....	231.06	100.0

## Hens, 1947

24,877 birds on 23 farms

Average per bird:	Dollars
Costs:	
53 pounds of grain, at \$4.22 per hundredweight .....	2.24
57 pounds of mash, at \$4.80 per hundredweight .....	2.74
Grit and shell .....	0.04
Total feed .....	5.02
1.5 hours of labor, at 77 cents per hour .....	1.15
Depreciation .....	1.05
Interest .....	0.09
Power and equipment .....	0.13
Buildings .....	0.20
Litter .....	0.05
Electricity .....	0.04
Containers .....	0.04
All other .....	0.11
Total other than feed and labor .....	1.71
Total cost .....	7.88
Returns:	
191 eggs per hen .....	8.89
80 pounds of manure .....	0.08
Total returns .....	8.97
Gain .....	1.09
Cost of producing a dozen eggs .....	0.50
Value per dozen eggs .....	0.57
Return per hour of labor .....	1.52
Labor return per bird .....	2.24

## Raising Chicks, 1947

39,124 chicks started on 21 farms

Average per 100 chicks started:	Dollars
Costs:	
100 chicks started at 30 cents per chick .....	30.20
1351 pounds of mash, at \$4.43 per hundredweight .....	59.87
1129 pounds of grain, at \$3.94 per hundredweight .....	44.51
Other feed .....	0.21
Total feed .....	104.59
27 hours of labor, at 74 cents per hour .....	20.04
Horse, automobile, truck .....	2.85
Poultry equipment .....	5.07
Litter .....	1.09
Interest .....	3.10
Fuel or heat .....	4.60
Medicine and disinfectants .....	0.81
Range and fences .....	1.25
Buildings .....	2.47
All other .....	1.12
Cost other than chicks, feed, and labor .....	22.36
Total cost .....	177.19
Returns:	
15.7 meat birds sold or eaten, at \$1.19 per bird .....	18.67
67.8 pullets for laying flock, at \$2.05 per bird .....	138.95
1.3 breeding cockerels, at \$5.04 per bird .....	6.55
15.2 birds died .....	
Total value of birds .....	164.17
547 pounds of manure .....	0.58
Eggs laid on range .....	1.90
Other returns .....	0.02
Returns other than birds .....	2.50
Total returns .....	166.67
Loss .....	10.52
Cost of raising a bird to maturity .....	2.26
Value of mature bird .....	2.11
Return per hour of labor .....	0.36
Labor return per 100 chicks started .....	9.52

Incubation, 1947

135,439 chicks hatched on 3 farms

Average per 100 chicks hatched:	Dollars
<b>Costs:</b>	
154 eggs, at 6.6 cents per egg .....	10.26
1.0 hours of labor, at 74 cents per hour .....	0.74
Fuel for incubator .....	0.33
Other cost of incubator .....	0.40
Chick boxes .....	0.08
Buildings .....	0.06
Automobile and truck .....	0.18
All other .....	0.67
Sexing .....	0.18
Total other than eggs and labor .....	1.90
Total cost* .....	12.90
<b>Returns:</b>	
85.7 chicks sold, at 17.0 cents per bird .....	14.57
6.3 chicks for own brooders, at 29.4 cents per birds .....	1.85
Custom hatching .....	0.01
Total returns** .....	16.43
Gain .....	3.53
<hr/>	
Per cent hatch .....	65
Return per hour of labor, dollars .....	4.14
Labor return per 100 chicks hatched .....	4.26

\* Net cost per 100 chicks hatched (custom hatching deducted) is \$12.89

\*\* Net returns per 100 chicks hatched (custom hatching deducted) is \$16.42

## Sheep, 1947

282 sheep on 4 farms

Average per head:	Dollars
Costs:	
102 pounds of grain, at 2.83 per hundredweight .....	2.89
532 pounds of dry roughage, at \$17.66 per ton .....	4.70
184 pounds of silage, at \$5.69 per ton .....	0.52
Pasture and fences .....	3.16
Other feed and bedding .....	0.07
Total feed and bedding .....	11.34
5.0 hours of labor, at 89 cents per hour .....	4.44
Depreciation .....	2.92
Buildings .....	0.89
Equipment .....	0.18
Shearing .....	0.16
Interest .....	0.71
All other .....	0.83
Total other than feed, bedding, and labor .....	5.69
Total cost .....	21.47
Returns:	
Animals sold and used .....	17.11
Wool .....	2.87
1730 pounds of manure .....	1.51
Other returns .....	----
Total returns .....	21.49
Gain .....	0.02
<hr/>	
Wool per sheep clipped, pounds .....	8.3
Lamb crop, per cent .....	117
Return per hour of labor, dollars .....	0.89
Labor return per sheep, dollars .....	4.46

## Potatoes, 1947

328 acres on 10 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	6.01
1.6 tons of manure, at \$2.62 per ton .....	4.19
1598 pounds of fertilizer at \$43.80 per ton .....	35.07
Cover crop .....	3.50
26.7 bushels of seed, at \$1.57 per bushel .....	41.83
Spray and dust materials .....	14.90
24.3 hours of labor, at 88 cents per hour .....	21.33
0.7 hours of horse work, at 56 cents per hour .....	0.39
9.9 hours of tractor work, at 58 cents per hour .....	5.70
Other equipment .....	3.10
Interest .....	1.56
All other .....	4.13
Total growing .....	141.71
Harvesting:	
41.3 hours of labor .....	38.11
Horse, tractor, and truck cost .....	4.63
Other equipment .....	14.15
All other .....	1.17
Total harvesting .....	58.06
Storing and selling:	
18.0 hours of labor .....	16.07
Horse, auto, and truck cost .....	2.92
Equipment .....	0.12
Building .....	7.55
Interest .....	3.26
All other .....	9.86
Total storing and selling .....	39.78
Total cost per acre .....	239.55
Returns 231 bu. potatoes .....	346.20
Net gain per acre .....	106.65
Cost per bu. to grow .....	
Cost per bu. to harvest .....	0.61
Cost per bu. to store and sell .....	0.25
Total cost per bu. .....	0.18
Return per bu. .....	1.04
Gain per bu. .....	1.50
Gain per bu. .....	0.46
Labor returns per acre .....	182 17
Return per hour of labor .....	2.18



## Cabbage, 1947

93 acres on 8 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	6.26
2.0 tons of manure, at \$3.13 per ton .....	6.98
1826 pounds of fertilizer \$37.00 per ton .....	33.82
Seeds and plants .....	15.85
Spray and dust materials .....	2.37
56.8 hours of labor, at 91 cents per hour .....	51.49
11.6 hours of horse work, at 42 cents per hour .....	4.85
12.4 hours of tractor work, at 71 cents per hour .....	8.80
Other equipment .....	3.85
Interest .....	1.41
All other .....	6.54
Total growing .....	142.22
Harvesting:	
37.0 hours of labor .....	32.93
Horse, tractor, and truck cost .....	2.46
Other equipment cost .....	2.19
All other .....	1.52
Total harvesting costs .....	39.10
Storing and selling costs .....	19.16
Total cost per acre .....	200.48
Returns 9.4 tons cabbage .....	412.07
Other .....	0.16
Total returns .....	412.23
Net gain per acre .....	211.75
Cost to grow a ton .....	15.06
Cost to harvest a ton .....	4.13
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	2.03
Total cost per ton .....	21.22
Return per ton .....	43.65
Gain per ton .....	22.43
Labor returns per acre .....	298.82
Returns per hour of labor .....	3.07

## Canning-Factory Peas, 1947

42 acres on 4 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	5.03
4.5 bushels of seed, at \$6.48 per bushel .....	29.14
405 pounds of fertilizer, at \$34.80 per ton .....	7.07
1.4 tons of manure, at \$2.57 per ton .....	3.60
5.8 hours of labor, at 90 cents per hour .....	5.24
4.9 hours of tractor work, at 52 cents per hour .....	2.57
Other equipment .....	0.95
All other .....	2.45
Total growing .....	56.05
Harvesting:	
12.5 hours of labor .....	11.52
Horse, tractor, truck cost .....	2.93
Other equipment cost .....	0.83
All other costs .....	0.17
Total harvesting .....	15.45
Storing and selling costs .....	1.45
Total cost per acre .....	72.95
Returns:	
1.4 tons peas .....	118.83
Net gain per acre .....	45.88
Cost to grow a ton .....	38.65
Cost to harvest a ton .....	10.66
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	1.00
Total cost per ton .....	50.31
Return per ton .....	81.95
Gain per ton .....	31.64
Labor returns per acre .....	62.64
Returns per hour of labor .....	3.43

## Canning-Factory Tomatoes, 1947

122 acres on 8 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	5.23
2.8 tons of manure, at \$3.71 per ton .....	10.38
1502 pounds of fertilizer, at \$34.60 per ton .....	26.13
Spray and dust .....	6.84
2872 plants, at \$8.54 per thousand .....	24.52
41.8 hours of labor, at 89 cents per hour .....	37.26
12.0 hours of horse work, at 36 cents per hour .....	4.33
8.1 hours of tractor work, at 65 cents per hour .....	5.24
Other equipment .....	8.39
Interest .....	2.08
All other .....	8.82
Total growing .....	139.22
Harvesting:	
69.7 hours of labor .....	69.70
Horse, tractor, and truck costs .....	6.80
Other equipment cost .....	1.63
All other .....	2.83
Total harvesting .....	80.96
Storing and selling cost .....	9.37
Total cost per acre .....	229.55
Returns:	
9.0 tons tomatoes .....	266.71
Net gain per acre .....	37.16
Cost to grow a ton .....	15.54
Cost to harvest a ton .....	9.03
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	1.05
Total cost per ton .....	25.62
Returns per ton .....	29.76
Gain per ton .....	4.14
Labor returns per acre .....	146.80
Returns per hour of labor .....	1.27

Canning-Factory Corn, 1947

47 acres on 4 farms

	Dollars
Average per acre:	
Growing:	
Land .....	6.00
3.7 qts. of seed, at \$16.73 per bushel .....	1.96
523 pounds of fertilizer, at \$39.14 per ton .....	10.23
0.3 tons of manure, at \$2.92 per ton .....	0.74
8.1 hours of labor, at 80 cents per hour .....	6.47
0.5 hours of horse work, at \$1.28 per hour .....	0.64
6.5 hours of tractor work, at 48 cents per hour .....	3.11
Other equipment .....	3.77
All other .....	2.91
 Total growing .....	 35.83
Harvesting:	
7.6 hours of labor .....	6.85
Horse, tractor, and truck costs .....	0.04
Other equipment cost .....	0.04
All other .....	2.64
 Total harvesting costs .....	 9.57
Storing and selling cost .....	5.07
Total cost per acre .....	50.47
Returns:	
1.7 tons sweet corn .....	43.85
0.1 tons corn fodder .....	0.32
Total returns per acre .....	44.17
Net loss per acre .....	6.30
Cost to grow a ton .....	21.54
Cost to harvest a ton .....	5.75
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	3.04
Total cost per ton .....	30.33
Net cost per ton .....	30.14
(corn fodder deducted)	
Returns per ton .....	26.36
Loss per ton .....	3.78
Labor returns per acre .....	7.19
Returns per hour of labor .....	0.45

## Dry Beans, 1947

130 acres on 7 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	7.24
2.5 tons of manure, at \$2.54 per ton .....	6.36
277 pounds of fertilizer, at \$36.39 per ton .....	5.03
1.1 bushels of seed, at \$10.36 per bushel .....	11.40
10.5 hours of labor, at 80 cents per hour .....	8.38
2.8 hours of horse work, at 44 cents per hour .....	1.24
6.8 hours of tractor work, at 54 cents per hour .....	3.67
Other equipment .....	2.06
Interest .....	0.44
All other .....	1.84
Total growing .....	47.66
Harvesting:	
13.4 hours of labor .....	10.51
Horse, tractor, truck .....	2.90
Other equipment .....	1.35
Threshing .....	3.33
All other .....	0.20
Total harvesting costs .....	18.29
Storing and selling .....	1.82
Total costs .....	67.77
Returns:	
15.3 bushels of beans .....	88.46
0.26 tons of bean straw .....	1.52
Total returns .....	89.98
Net gain per acre .....	22.21
Cost to grow a bushel .....	3.12
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	1.20
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.12
Total cost per bushel .....	4.44
Net cost per bushel (straw deducted) .....	4.34
Value per bushel .....	5.79
Gain per bushel .....	1.45
Labor returns per acre .....	41.10
Returns per hour of labor .....	1.72

Apples, 1947

841 acres on 18 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
<b>Growing:</b>	
Orchard overhead .....	27.63
0.2 tons of manure, at \$2.30 per ton .....	0.46
83 pounds of nitrogenous fertilizer, at \$53.40 per ton .....	2.22
Other fertilizer .....	0.25
Spray and dust materials .....	39.40
39.7 hours of labor, at 93 cents per hour .....	37.08
2.1 hours of horse work, at 61 cents per hour .....	1.29
6.5 hours of tractor work, at 52 cents per hour .....	3.37
Other equipment .....	12.20
Interest .....	2.55
All other .....	10.23
<b>Total growing .....</b>	<b>136.68</b>
<b>Harvesting:</b>	
62 hours of labor .....	64.18
Auto and truck .....	1.86
Other equipment .....	2.03
All other .....	3.02
<b>Total harvesting .....</b>	<b>71.09</b>
<b>Storing and selling:</b>	
Packages .....	56.23
Commission, hired packing, storage, transportation .....	37.92
Labor .....	12.14
Equipment .....	1.65
Building .....	1.27
All other .....	13.89
<b>Total storing and selling .....</b>	<b>123.10</b>
<b>Total cost per acre .....</b>	<b>330.87</b>
<b>Returns:</b>	
220 bu. packable fruit .....	380.35
Ciders .....	8.25
Other returns .....	0.92
<b>Total returns .....</b>	<b>389.52</b>
<b>Net gain per acre .....</b>	<b>58.65</b>
Cost to grow a bushel .....	0.62
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.32
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.56
<b>Total cost per bushel .....</b>	<b>1.50</b>
<b>Net cost per bushel* .....</b>	<b>1.03</b>
<b>Total returns per bushel .....</b>	<b>1.77</b>
<b>Net returns per bushel* .....</b>	<b>1.30</b>
<b>Gain per bushel .....</b>	<b>0.27</b>
<b>Labor returns per acre .....</b>	<b>172.06</b>
<b>Returns per hour of labor .....</b>	<b>1.49</b>

\*Net cost is the cost per bushel minus the cost of packages, commissions, hired packing, storage, and transportation; net returns are the total returns minus these same items.

## Cherries, 1947

57 acres on 5 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Orchard overhead .....	11.91
0.1 tons of manure, at \$4.00 per ton .....	0.49
149 pounds of fertilizer, at \$64.76 per ton .....	4.77
Spray and dust materials .....	8.63
19.6 hours of labor, at \$1.06 per hour .....	20.75
0.8 hours of horse work, at 31 cents per hour .....	0.25
4.1 hours of tractor work, at 64 cents .....	2.63
Other equipment .....	10.98
Interest .....	1.19
All other .....	5.93
Total growing .....	67.53
Harvesting:	
111.2 hours labor .....	99.38
Auto and truck .....	4.40
Other equipment .....	1.98
All other .....	3.05
Total harvesting .....	108.81
Storing and selling:	
Labor .....	0.70
Horse, auto, truck .....	0.12
Other .....	3.02
Total storing and selling .....	3.84
Total cost per acre .....	180.18
Returns:	
2897 pounds cherries .....	299.12
Net gain per acre .....	118.94
Cost per pound to grow .....	2.3
Cost per pound to harvest .....	3.8
Cost per pound to store and sell .....	0.1
Total cost per pound .....	6.2
Total returns per pound .....	10.3
Gain per pound .....	4.1
Labor returns per acre .....	239.75
Returns per hour of labor .....	1.82

Peaches, 1947

58 acres on 9 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
<b>Growing:</b>	
Orchard overhead .....	14.91
0.5 tons of manure, at \$3.36 per ton .....	1.68
131 pounds of fertilizer, at \$58.50 per ton .....	3.82
Spray and dust materials .....	19.05
61.6 hours of labor, at 95 cents per hour .....	58.23
1.6 hours of horse work, at 37 cents per hour .....	0.59
7.8 hours of tractor work, at 67 cents per hour .....	5.23
Other equipment .....	16.04
Interest .....	3.06
All other .....	4.58
<b>Total growing .....</b>	<b>127.19</b>
<b>Harvesting:</b>	
68.4 hours labor .....	63.86
Auto and truck .....	6.15
Other equipment .....	3.85
Other .....	4.13
<b>Total harvesting .....</b>	<b>77.99</b>
<b>Storing and selling:</b>	
Packages .....	43.33
Commission, hired packing, storage, transportation .....	0.82
Labor .....	20.89
Equipment .....	1.68
All other .....	10.48
<b>Total storing and selling .....</b>	<b>77.20</b>
<b>Total cost per acre .....</b>	<b>282.38</b>
<b>Returns:</b>	
146 bushels peaches .....	297.54
Other returns .....	0.26
<b>Total returns .....</b>	<b>297.80</b>
<b>Net gain per acre .....</b>	<b>15.42</b>
<b>Cost to grow a bushel .....</b>	<b>.87</b>
<b>Cost to harvest a bushel .....</b>	<b>.53</b>
<b>Cost to store and sell a bushel .....</b>	<b>.53</b>
<b>Total cost per bushel .....</b>	<b>1.93</b>
<b>Net cost per bushel* .....</b>	<b>1.63</b>
<b>Total returns per bushel .....</b>	<b>2.03</b>
<b>Net returns per bushel .....</b>	<b>1.73</b>
<b>Gain per bushel .....</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Labor returns per acre .....</b>	<b>158.39</b>
<b>Returns per hour of labor .....</b>	<b>1.04</b>

\* Net cost is the total cost per bushel minus the cost of packages, commissions, hired packing, storage, and transportation; net returns are the total returns minus these same items.



## Pears, 1947

27 acres on 4 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Orchard overhead .....	14.53
178 pounds of fertilizer, at \$70.20 per ton .....	6.25
Spray and dust materials .....	26.70
24.6 hours of labor, at 91 cents per hour .....	22.36
3.3 hours of horse work, at 34 cents per hour .....	1.12
3.7 hours of tractor work, at 80 cents per hour .....	2.96
Other equipment .....	14.01
Interest .....	1.98
All other .....	5.59
Total growing .....	95.50
Harvesting:	
39.1 hours labor .....	36.15
Auto and truck .....	0.37
Other equipment .....	1.76
Other .....	2.81
Total harvesting .....	41.09
Storing and selling:	
Packages .....	26.96
Commission, hired packing, storage, transportation .....	22.62
Labor .....	5.36
Equipment .....	2.32
All other .....	3.75
Total storing and selling .....	61.01
Total cost per acre .....	197.60
Returns:	
80 bushels pears .....	230.83
Other returns .....	0.37
Total returns .....	231.20
Net gain per acre .....	33.60
Cost to grow a bushel .....	1.19
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.52
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.76
Total cost per bushel .....	2.47
Net cost per bushel* .....	1.85
Total returns per bushel .....	2.89
Net returns per bushel .....	2.27
Gain per bushel .....	0.42
Labor returns per acre .....	97.45
Returns per hour of labor .....	1.40

\* Net cost is the cost per bushel minus the cost of packages, commissions, hired packing, storage and transportation; net returns are the total returns minus these same items.

## Alfalfa, 1947

330 acres on 12 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
<b>Growing:</b>	
Land .....	4.13
0.8 tons of manure, at \$2.62 per ton .....	2.10
Share of seeding cost .....	4.62
Interest .....	0.45
All other .....	0.12
<b>Total growing .....</b>	<b>11.42</b>
<b>Harvesting:</b>	
9.6 hours labor, at 85 cents per hour .....	8.15
0.7 hours horse work, at 31 cents per hour .....	0.22
4.0 hours tractor use, at 52 cents per hour .....	2.06
Equipment .....	4.02
All other .....	2.73
<b>Total harvesting .....</b>	<b>17.18</b>
Storing and selling .....	8.34
<b>Total cost per acre .....</b>	<b>36.94</b>
<b>Returns:</b>	
2.0 tons hay .....	37.67
Value of aftermath pasture .....	1.90
<b>Total returns .....</b>	<b>39.57</b>
<b>Gain per acre .....</b>	<b>2.63</b>
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Cost to grow a ton .....	5.58
Cost to harvest a ton .....	8.39
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	4.08
<b>Total cost per ton .....</b>	<b>18.05</b>
<b>Net cost per ton (value of pasture deducted) .....</b>	<b>17.12</b>
<b>Value per ton .....</b>	<b>18.41</b>
<b>Gain per ton .....</b>	<b>1.29</b>
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<b>Labor returns per acre .....</b>	<b>11.41</b>
<b>Returns per hour of labor .....</b>	<b>1.12</b>

## Hay Other Than Alfalfa, 1947

1,172 acres on 32 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing	
Land .....	4.90
3.0 tons of manure, at \$2.69 per ton .....	8.08
Share of seeding cost .....	3.32
Interest .....	0.70
All other .....	0.98
Total growing .....	17.98
Harvesting:	
7.8 hours labor, at 79 cents per hour .....	6.18
1.4 hours horse, at 53 cents per hour .....	0.74
2.6 hours tractor, at 60 cents per hour .....	1.55
Equipment .....	3.29
All other .....	3.47
Total harvesting .....	15.23
Storing and selling .....	4.28
Total cost per acre .....	37.49
Returns:	
2.2 tons hay .....	36.45
Value of aftermath pastured .....	3.09
Total returns .....	39.54
Net gain per acre .....	2.05
Cost to grow a ton .....	
Cost to harvest a ton .....	8.14
Cost to store and sell a ton .....	6.90
Total cost per ton .....	1.94
Net cost per ton (value of pasture deducted) .....	16.98
Value per ton .....	15.58
Gain per ton .....	16.51
	.93
Labor returns per acre .....	
Returns per hour of labor .....	8.28
	1.05

## Corn Silage, 1947

336 acres on 24 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land.....	5.02
4.6 tons of manure, at \$2.68 per ton .....	12.31
481 pounds of fertilizer, at \$23.20 per ton .....	5.59
8.0 quarts of seed, at \$8.00 per bushel .....	2.00
8.2 hours of labor, at 73 cents per hour .....	5.99
3.6 hours of horse work, at 43 cents per hour .....	1.56
5.9 hours of tractor work, at 63 cents per hour .....	3.71
Other equipment .....	3.32
Interest .....	0.35
All other .....	0.96
Total growing .....	40.81
Harvesting:	
14.1 hours of labor .....	10.68
2.7 hours of horse labor .....	1.07
6.1 hours of tractor labor .....	3.36
Other equipment .....	6.14
All other .....	3.32
Total harvesting .....	24.57
Storing costs .....	5.43
Total cost per acre .....	70.81
Returns:	
8.9 tons of silage .....	69.79
0.6 bushels shelled corn .....	1.02
Total returns .....	70.81
Cost to grow a ton .....	4.57
Cost to harvest a ton .....	2.75
Cost to store a ton .....	0.61
Total cost per ton .....	7.93
Net cost per ton (corn deducted) .....	7.82
Net returns per ton .....	7.82

Corn for Grain, 1947

283 acres on 20 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	3.71
2.6 tons of manure, at \$2.84 per ton .....	7.39
338 pounds of fertilizer, at \$31.82 .....	5.37
6 quarts of seed, at \$5.46 per bushel .....	1.81
8.8 hours of labor, at 84 cents per hour .....	7.36
1.7 hours of horse work, at 82 cents per hour .....	1.39
7.0 hours of tractor work, at 59 cents per hour .....	4.11
Other equipment .....	2.42
Interest .....	0.31
All other .....	1.22
Total growing .....	35.09
Harvesting:	
3.8 hours of labor .....	3.17
1.9 hours of tractor work .....	1.18
Other equipment .....	3.84
Hired harvesting .....	3.04
Other costs .....	.84
Total harvesting .....	12.07
Storing and selling .....	1.99
Total cost per acre .....	49.15
Returns:	
31 bushels shelled corn .....	71.29
Value of stalks .....	.37
Total returns .....	71.66
Net gain per acre .....	22.51
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Cost to grow a bushel .....	1.11
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.38
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.06
Total cost per bushel .....	1.55
Net cost per bushel (value stalks deducted) .....	1.55
Value per bushel .....	2.26
Gain per bushel .....	.71
<hr/>	
Labor returns per acre .....	33.05
Returns per hour of labor .....	2.63

## Mixed Spring Grain, 1947

101 acres on 7 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	4.15
3.6 tons of manure, at \$2.74 per ton .....	9.85
179 pounds of fertilizer, at \$29.00 per ton .....	2.61
2.3 bushels of seed, at \$1.80 per bushel .....	4.15
5.1 hours of labor at 79 cents per hour .....	4.04
0.8 hours of horse work, at 66 cents per hour .....	0.53
4.1 hours of tractor work, at 66 cents per hour .....	2.71
Other equipment .....	1.45
Interest .....	0.36
All other .....	0.31
Total growing .....	30.16
Harvesting:	
6.0 hours of labor .....	4.53
1.6 hours of tractor work .....	0.99
Other equipment .....	2.92
Threshing and combining .....	1.23
2.0 pounds of twine .....	0.41
All other .....	0.61
Total harvesting .....	10.69
Storing and selling .....	2.39
Total cost per acre .....	43.24
Returns:	
28 bushels mixed spring grain .....	37.84
0.30 tons straw .....	2.29
Total returns .....	40.13
Net loss per acre .....	3.11
Cost to grow a bushel .....	1.08
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.38
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.09
Total cost per bushel .....	1.55
Net cost per bushel (value straw deducted) .....	1.46
Loss per bushel .....	0.11
Value per bushel .....	1.35
Labor returns per acre .....	5.45
Labor returns per hour .....	0.49

## Oats, 1947

242 acres on 15 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	5.74
2.4 tons of manure, at \$2.73 per ton .....	6.56
261 pounds of fertilizer, at \$36.80 per ton .....	4.82
2.2 bushels of seed, at \$1.45 per bushel .....	3.20
4.3 hours of labor at 84 cents per hour .....	3.62
0.5 hours of horse work, at 56 cents per hour .....	0.28
3.5 hours of tractor work, at 64 cents per hour .....	2.24
Other equipment .....	1.92
Interest .....	0.42
All other .....	1.06
Total growing .....	29.86
Harvesting:	
4.2 hours labor .....	3.58
0.5 hours horse work .....	0.31
1.5 hours tractor work .....	0.93
Other equipment .....	4.25
Threshing and combining .....	2.34
Other costs .....	0.63
Total harvesting .....	12.04
Storing and selling costs .....	3.63
Total costs .....	45.53
Returns:	
33 bushels oats .....	15.01
0.5 tons oat straw .....	5.79
Total returns .....	50.80
Net gain per acre .....	5.27
Cost to grow a bushel .....	
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.90
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.36
Total cost per bushel .....	0.11
Net cost per bushel (value straw deducted) .....	1.37
Value per bushel .....	1.19
Gain per bushel .....	1.35
	.16
Labor returns per acre .....	12.67
Returns per hour of labor .....	1.46

## Barley, 1947

77 acres on 5 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	4.12
0.5 tons of manure, at \$2.50 per ton .....	1.25
157 pounds of fertilizer, at \$38.80 per ton.....	3.05
2.0 bushels of seed, at \$2.24 per bushel .....	4.49
4.3 hours of labor, at 81 cents per hour .....	3.47
4.1 hours of tractor work, at 59 cents per hour .....	2.40
Other equipment .....	2.27
Interest .....	0.43
All other .....	1.09
Total growing .....	22.57
Harvesting:	
1.7 hours labor .....	1.53
1.1 hours tractor work .....	0.65
Other equipment .....	0.96
Threshing and combining .....	2.37
Other costs .....	0.22
Total harvesting .....	5.73
Storing and selling .....	0.91
Total cost per acre .....	29.21
Returns:	
16 bushels barley .....	27.86
0.1 tons straw .....	1.43
Total returns .....	29.29
Net gain per acre .....	0.08
Cost to grow a bushel .....	
Cost to harvest a bushel.....	0.36
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.05
Total cost per bushel .....	1.82
Net cost per bushel (value straw deducted) .....	1.73
Value per bushel .....	1.74
Gain per bushel .....	0.01
Labor returns per acre .....	
Labor returns per acre .....	5.12
Returns per hour of labor .....	0.84



## Wheat, 1947

729 acres on 26 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land .....	4.70
1.1 tons of manure at \$2.62 per ton .....	2.88
252 pounds of fertilizer at \$41.03 per ton .....	5.18
1.8 bushels of seed, at \$2.21 per bushel .....	3.98
4.8 hours of labor, at 79 cents per hour .....	3.80
0.6 hours of horse work, at 38 cents per hour .....	0.23
4.0 hours of tractor work, at 51 cents per hour .....	2.03
Other equipment .....	1.03
Interest .....	0.80
All other .....	0.81
Total growing .....	25.52
Harvesting:	
4.6 hours of labor .....	3.88
0.2 hours of horse work .....	0.08
1.5 hours of tractor work .....	0.89
Threshing and combining .....	1.11
Other equipment .....	1.85
1.1 pounds of twine .....	0.10
All other .....	1.77
Total harvesting .....	9.68
Storing and selling .....	2.38
Total cost per acre .....	37.58
Returns:	
28 bushels wheat .....	67.54
0.5 tons straw .....	4.40
Total returns .....	71.94
Net gain per acre .....	34.36
Cost to grow a bushel .....	
Cost to harvest a bushel .....	0.92
Cost to store and sell a bushel .....	0.35
Total cost per bushel .....	0.09
Net cost per bushel (value straw deducted) .....	1.36
Value per bushel .....	1.20
Gain per bushel .....	2.45
Gain per bushel .....	1.25
Labor returns per acre .....	42.18
Labor returns per hour .....	4.35

Rye, 1947

58 acres on 5 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
<b>Growing:</b>	
Land .....	6.79
1.1 tons of manure, at \$3.62 per ton .....	3.98
177 pounds of fertilizer, at \$23.30 per ton .....	2.06
5.3 bushels of seed, at \$2.08 per bushel .....	11.01
5.8 hours of labor, at \$1.03 per hour .....	6.00
4.8 hours of tractor work, at 36 cents per hour .....	1.75
Other equipment .....	2.06
Interest .....	1.05
All other .....	0.29
<b>Total growing .....</b>	<b>34.99</b>
<b>Harvesting:</b>	
5.2 hours of labor .....	5.13
1.4 hours of tractor work .....	0.82
Threshing and combining .....	2.68
Other equipment .....	1.44
.5 pounds of twine .....	0.10
All other .....	0.81
<b>Total harvesting .....</b>	<b>10.98</b>
Storing and selling .....	1.51
<b>Total cost per acre .....</b>	<b>47.48</b>
<b>Returns:</b>	
22 bushels grain .....	50.59
0.3 tons straw .....	5.04
<b>Total returns .....</b>	<b>55.63</b>
<b>Gain per acre .....</b>	<b>8.15</b>
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<b>Average per bushel:</b>	
Growing .....	1.61
Harvesting .....	0.50
Storing and selling .....	0.07
<b>Total cost per bushel .....</b>	<b>2.18</b>
<b>Cost per bushel (straw deducted) .....</b>	<b>1.95</b>
<b>Value per bushel .....</b>	<b>2.32</b>
<b>Gain per bushel .....</b>	<b>0.37</b>
<b>Labor returns per acre .....</b>	<b>19.28</b>
<b>Returns per hour of labor, dollars .....</b>	<b>1.74</b>

Summary, 1947  
Crop Enterprises

Crop	Number of accounts	Average acres per farm	Average yield per acre	Returns per hour of labor	Hours of labor per acre	Profit on enterprise	Profit per acre
<u>Cash crops</u>							
Potatoes	10	32.8	231 bu.	\$2.18	84	\$3,499	\$107
Cabbage	8	11.6	9.4 tons	3.07	97	2,467	212
Tomatoes, C.F.	8	15.2	9.0 tons	1.27	116	566	37
Peas, C.F.	4	10.5	2,899 lbs.	3.43	18	482	46
Beans, dry	7	18.6	15 bu.	1.72	24	413	22
Corn, C.F.	4	11.8	1.7 tons	0.45	16	-74	-6
<u>Fruit</u>							
Apples	18	46.7	220 bu.	1.49	116	2,741	59
Cherries	5	11.4	2,897 lbs.	1.82	131	1,356	119
Peaches	9	6.4	146 bu.	1.04	152	99	15
Pears	4	6.7	80 bu.	1.40	69	224	34
<u>Grain</u>							
Wheat	26	28.0	28 bu.	4.35	10	963	34
Corn for Grain	20	14.1	31 bu.	2.63	13	318	23
Mixed spring grain	7	14.5	28 bu.	0.49	11	-45	-3
Oats	15	16.2	33 bu.	1.46	9	85	5
Barley, spring	5	15.4	16 bu.	0.84	6	1	-
Rye	5	11.7	22 bu.	1.74	11	95	8
<u>Hay</u>							
Alfalfa	12	27.5	2.0 tons	1.12	10	72	3
Other hay	32	36.6	2.2 tons	1.05	8	75	2

Livestock Enterprises

Enterprise	Number of accounts	Average number of head per farm	Production per head	Returns per hour of labor	Hours of labor per head	Profit on enterprise
Dairy cows	26	26	9,352 lbs.	\$1.66	115	\$2,810
Hens	23	1,082	191 eggs	1.52	1.47	1,173
Raising chicks	21	1,863*	-----	0.36	0.27	-196
Incubation	3	**	**	4.14	1	1,593
Sheep	4	71	1.17 lambs	0.89	5.0	1

\* Number of chicks started.

\*\* The average number of eggs set per farm was 69,724 and the per cent hatch 65.

## Farm Operating Statement, 1947

Items	Average	Proportion of
	per farm Dollars	total receipts Per cent
Cash receipts:		
Crops .....	14,375	45.6
Milk .....	5,295	16.8
Sale of livestock .....	2,224	7.0
Eggs .....	4,279	13.6
Poultry .....	1,856	5.9
Sale of purchased goods, miscellaneous .....	3,514	11.1
Total receipts .....	31,543	100.0
Cash expenses:		
Labor .....	5,362	17.0
Equipment (gasoline, oil, equipment bought) ..	3,651	11.6
Real estate (insurance, repairs) .....	2,258	7.2
Taxes .....	432	1.4
Crops (seed, fertilizer, threshing) .....	2,910	9.2
Livestock (feed, bedding, supplies, cows bg't)	7,313	23.2
Marketing (containers, commission, storage)..	1,928	6.1
Goods bought for resale, miscellaneous .....	2,431	7.7
Total expenses .....	26,285	83.4
Difference (cash available for living, saving, and payment of interest) .....	5,258	16.6
Adjustments for non-cash receipts and expenses:		
Increase in farm capital .....	4,024	12.8
Value of unpaid family labor .....	-837	-2.6
Value of board furnished hired labor .....	-99	-0.3
Farm income (income for operator's labor and use of capital) .....	8,346	26.5
Interest on farm capital of \$35,730 at 5% ...	2,479	7.9
Labor income (income for operator's year's work, comparable to wage of farm superintendent) .....	5,867	18.6
Value of house rent and privileges of operator .....	1,596	5.1
Labor earnings (income for operator's year's work, comparable to wage of city worker) .....	7,463	23.7
Value of operator's time (what he would work for as farm superin- tendent).....	1,941	6.2
Return on capital .....	6,405	20.3
Per cent return on capital .....	12.9	

## Summary of Returns per Hour of Labor

Farm Enterprises	1914	1919	1924	1929	1934	1939	1944	1946	1947
	to 1918	to 1923	to 1928	to 1933	to 1938	to 1943			
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>Livestock:</u>									
Dairy cows	0.30	0.25	0.40	0.14	0.25	0.55	1.17	1.55	1.66
Hens	0.28*	0.84	0.47	0.31	0.29	0.77	0.89	1.27	1.52
Raising chicks	-	-	-	0.46	0.33	0.48	0.32	0.63	0.36
Incubation	-	-	-	-	1.91	2.96	5.37	6.18	4.14
Sheep	-	-	-	-0.73	0.06	0.42	-1.19	1.09	0.89
<u>Fruit:</u>									
Apples	-	0.79	0.79	0.45	0.45	0.85	1.90	2.66	1.49
Cherries	-	-	-	-	0.64	0.88	1.89	3.86	1.82
Peaches	-	-	-	-	0.54	0.56	1.91	1.13	1.04
Pears	-	-	-	-	0.36	1.24	1.32	1.54	1.40
<u>Grain:</u>									
Barley	0.03	-0.28	0.07	-0.34	0.07	-0.03	0.41	4.85	0.84
Corn	0.13	-0.01	-0.13	0.03	0.22	0.58	0.83	2.35	2.63
Oats	0.11	-0.31	0.03	-0.34	-0.02	0.14	0.56	1.03	1.46
Mixed spring grains	-	-	-	-0.30	-0.03	0.36	0.96	1.53	0.49
Wheat	0.53	-0.03	0.20	-0.03	0.47	1.17	1.88	4.33	4.35
Rye	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.74
<u>Hay:</u>									
Alfalfa	0.82	0.94	0.78	0.31	0.53	1.04	2.19	1.19	1.12
All other hay	0.73	0.66	0.08	-0.01	0.18	0.51	1.33	0.97	1.05
<u>Vegetables:</u>									
Beans, dry	0.12	0.23	-0.06	0.05	0.30	0.59	0.38	3.04	1.72
Cabbage	0.46	0.45	0.49	0.34	0.48	1.08	1.32	0.14	3.07
Corn, sweet	-	-	-	-	0.42	0.49/	0.98/	2.20/	0.45/
Peas, canning-factory	-	-	-	0.21	0.16	0.92	2.68	4.04	3.43
Potatoes	0.49	0.51	0.89	0.52	0.50	1.08	2.46	2.00	2.18
Tomatoes, canning-factory	-	-	-	0.24*	0.41	0.67	0.84	3.02	1.27

\* Less than five years.

/ Canning-factory sweet corn only.