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Average Enterprise
Costs and Returns
— *from* —
FARM COST ACCOUNTS
45 Farms -- 1953

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AVERAGE ENTERPRISE COSTS AND RETURNS
FOR FARM COST ACCOUNTS, 1953

For the Cost Account year 1953, there were 45 New York State farmers who kept detailed records on their businesses in cooperation with the Department of Agricultural Economics, Cornell University.

The Cost Accounts were kept on an enterprise basis and provide information as to the quantities of seed, labor, fertilizer, etc. that are used. They also show the amount and relative importance of the items of cost which make up the total. This report includes information on costs, returns, and profits for principal enterprises on the farms studied.

The project was under the supervision of C. DelMar Kearl and I.R. Starbird. The field work on these accounts was done by Frank Nearing and C. DelMar Kearl. The closing of the books and the preparation of this report on results of the operation of the farms was done by the Cost Account staff consisting of: Marjorie Evans, Oneta Shipe, Edith Slights, Eleanor Troy, Wanda Triplehorn and Christina Morrison. Assistance was also given by Grace Bush and Lee Gerstein.

THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN 1953*

Farm prices during 1953 turned sharply downward from the relatively high level maintained throughout 1952. Accompanying the decline in farm prices was a stable cost situation, which tended to reduce the profitableness of many farm enterprises.

Year	New York farm prices	Prices of articles farmers buy	Earnings of factory workers
1935-39	106	125	210
1949	244	251	496
1950	231	256	513
1951	261	282	559
1952	274	287	584
1953			
Jan.	260	284	610
Feb.	246	281	612
Mar.	244	282	614
Apr.	236	280	608
May	232	280	608
June	231	277	614
July	229	279	614
Aug.	234	279	615
Sept.	241	277	607
Oct.	235	276	616
Nov.	234	277	616
Dec.	227	278	619
1954			
Jan.	234	282	610
Feb.	229	282	614
Mar.	226	283	617
Apr.	221	283	599

While the farm price level in 1953 could not be termed disastrous by any means, it exhibited a substantial disparity in relation to other industries. Earnings of factory workers were high during 1953 after having increased each year from 1946. Farmers did not experience the record-breaking net income position of many non-farm industries such as steel, petroleum, automobile, and construction.

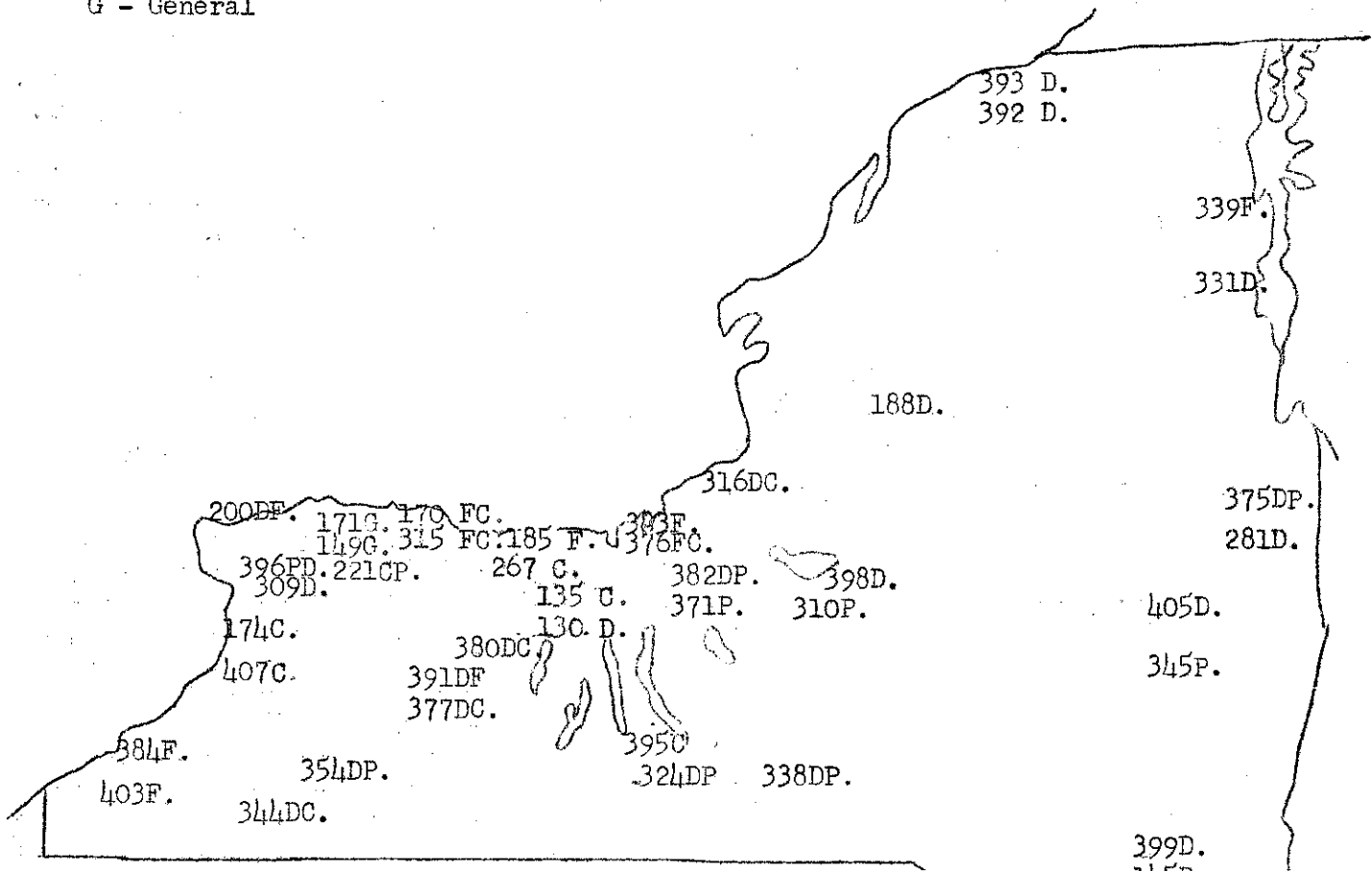
* The indexes for New York farm prices, prices of articles farmers buy, and the earnings of factory workers are on a pre-World War I base.

Source: Farm Economics, No. 194, March, 1954; and No. 198, January, 1955.

LOCATION OF FARMS

Legend

- D - Dairy
- P - Poultry
- C - Cash crops
- F - Fruit
- G - General



Cost Account farms are located in most of the farming areas of the State. They tend to be larger than average farms and are generally better managed and more productive.

Although space on the map does not allow the numbers to be put exactly in the location of the farm, they do indicate the general area in which the farm is situated.

The type of farm is indicated by the letters which follow the farm number. The combinations of letters indicate that there were two major types of enterprises on the farm. General type farms include those with a number of different types of enterprises, none of which is important enough to warrant classifying the farm by a type of enterprise.

YIELDS FOR CROPS AND LIVESTOCK

Better farming methods, more fertilizer, better feeding and breeding, new varieties, and more intensive operation have caused crop yields and livestock production to be high in recent years. Cost Account farm yields were slightly

Item	New York State*			Cost Accounts
	1936-40	1946-50	1953	1953
Hay	1.3	1.5	1.7	2.1
Corn silage	8.9	9.6	10.0	10.5
Corn grain	34	41	48	53
Wheat	24	27	30	36
Oats	30	36	39	47
Barley	25	30	30	**
Dry beans	14.0	18.8	19.2	**
C.F. peas	1345	2114	1780	**
C.F. tomatoes	7.6	7.6	10.6	11.7
Potatoes	130	257	260	**
Cabbage	9.7	12.0	16.5	15.6
Cows	5628	6242	7045	10493
Hens	154	183	192	185

above the average for New York State in 1953. The grain crops yielded about the same as 1952 except for oats, which increased 5 bushels per acre.

Milk production per cow on Cost Account farms remained considerably above the State average. Production rates for hens were about the same as the State average.

* AMS Reports
** Not averaged

WEATHER CONDITIONS AT FIVE NEW YORK STATIONS, 1953*

Station	Length of growing season** days	May 1 - Sept. 30		Annual total	
		Temperature degrees	Precipitation inches	Precipitation inches	Departure from normal inches
Batavia	162	64.2	17.1	30.2	-1.6
Ithaca	142	64.4	14.3	30.0	-5.2
Canton	170	64.6	18.9	33.8	-1.1
Rifton	171	66.9	16.5	51.5	+6.1
Schenectady	201	67.6	14.4	36.6	+1.4
New York State		64.4	16.7	37.8	-1.3
Normal		63.6	18.2	39.1	

* Weather Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce, Annual Summary, 1953
** Number of days between first and last frost

The total annual precipitation was 1.3 inches below normal for the State. The month of May, however, was unfavorable for spring work, there being an average state-wide precipitation of 6.3 inches. A considerable percentage of the oat crop was not in the ground by June 1, and only a small percentage of the corn crop was in. Hay and pastures, however, made excellent growth. Drought conditions existed in June and July, there being only 1.9 inches of precipitation in June.

Summary, 1953
Crop Enterprises

Crop	Number of accounts	Average acres per enterprise	Average yield per acre	Returns per hour of labor	Hours of labor per acre	Profit on enterprise	Profit per acre
<u>Vegetables</u>							
Cabbage	7	13.4	15.6 tons	\$0.70	107	\$ -872	\$-65
Tomatoes, C.F.	8	25.2	11.7 tons	1.07	140	-532	-21
<u>Fruit</u>							
Apples	14	43.9	304 bu.	3.23	121	10,172	232
Cherries	11	9.5	2,983 lbs.	1.92	123	918	97
Peaches	11	5.1	151 bu.	1.42	123	89	17
Grapes	5	15.2	4.2 tons	3.61	120	4,355	287
<u>Hay and Grain</u>							
Hay	40	41.4	2.1 tons	1.54	6	121	3
Wheat	25	34.3	36 bu.	3.55	8	689	20
Corn for grain	19	23.3	53 bu.	1.84	10	171	7
Oats	19	19.8	47 bu.	- 0.13	7	-180	-9

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	27	34	10,493 lbs.	\$1.00	104	\$ -37
Hens	17	2,041	185 eggs	1.61	1.1	1,020
Raising chicks	15	2,744*	--	0.67	14**	-177

* Number of chicks started

** Per 100

Summary of Returns per Hour of Labor										
	1914	1919	1924	1929	1934	1939	1944	1949		
Farm enterprise	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	to	1952	1953
	1918	1923	1928	1933	1938	1943	1948	1953	1952	1953
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<u>Livestock</u>										
Dairy cows	0.30	0.25	0.40	0.34	0.25	0.55	1.49	1.41	1.39	1.00
Hens	0.28*	0.84	0.47	0.31	0.29	0.77	1.34	1.38	0.73	1.61
Raising chicks	--	--	--	0.46	0.33	0.48	0.48	0.83	1.33	0.67
<u>Fruit</u>										
Apples	--	0.70*	0.79	0.45	0.45	0.85	1.60	2.01	2.87	3.23
Cherries	--	--	--	0.69*	0.64	0.88	2.30	1.55	1.54	1.92
Peaches	--	--	--	0.42*	0.54	0.56	1.57	1.11	1.31	1.42
Grapes	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2.40*	1.51	3.61
<u>Grain and hay</u>										
Corn	0.13	-0.01	-0.13	0.03	0.22	0.58	1.79	2.25	2.45	1.84
Oats	0.11	-0.31	0.03	-0.34	-0.02	0.34	0.76	0.37	-0.22	-0.13
Wheat	0.58	-0.03	0.20	-0.03	0.47	1.17	3.15	3.47	3.89	3.55
Hay other than alfalfa	0.73	0.66	0.08	-0.01	0.18	0.51	1.09	--	--	--
All hay	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.37	1.43	1.54
<u>Vegetables</u>										
Beans, dry	0.12	0.23	-0.06	0.05	0.30	0.59	1.51	1.73*	2.72	**
Cabbage	0.46	0.45	0.49	0.34	0.48	1.08	1.15	1.24	2.02	0.70
Peas, C.F.	--	--	--	0.21	0.16	0.92	2.95	0.82*	1.08	**
Potatoes	0.49	0.51	0.89	0.52	0.50	1.08	2.11	2.53*	3.06	**
Tomatoes, C.F.	--	--	--	0.24*	0.41	0.67	1.56	1.39	1.66	1.07

* Less than five years

** Not averaged

Labor Force on Cost Account Farms, 1953

	Large farms	Middle-sized farms	Small farms	All farms
Farms	15	15	15	45
Man equivalent				
Range	4.0 to 17.6	2.2 to 3.9	1.2 to 2.1	1.2 to 17.6
Average	8.5	3.1	1.7	4.4
Months of work performed by:				
Men hired by month or year:				
With privileges	17	6	1	8
With board	1	4	1	2
With wage only	11	5	*	5
Men hired by day or hour	54	5	2	20
Operator	12	12	12	12
Other unpaid	7	6	4	6
Total months	102	38	20	53

* Less than one

Real Estate on Cost Account Farms, 1953

45 farms

Average per farm:

Acres of cropland	120.7
Total acres	226.0
Value of land and buildings	\$37,384
Value of cropland per acre	\$66
Cropland cost per acre	\$6.57
Building cost in per cent of value	15.0

Cost of Labor, 1953

45 farms

	Dollars per month
Hired by month or year:	
Men with privileges:	
Wage	214
Value milk, wood, house, etc.	51
OASI tax and compensation insurance	15
Total	280
	(High third, \$322; low third, \$219)
Men boarding with farmer:	
Wage	149
OASI tax, etc.	10
Value of board	48
Total	207
	(High third, \$233; low third, \$144)
Men living off farm:	
Cash wage	234
OASI tax, etc.	17
Total	251
	(High third, \$316; low third \$174)
Hired by day or hour:	
Average of 98 cents per hour, or \$230 per month (high third, \$1.24 or \$290; low third, 67 cents or \$157).	
Farm operator:	
His estimate of what he could get as superintendent of a similar farm, \$267 per month in cash and \$73 in privileges, or \$340 (high third, \$433; low third, \$261).	
Members of family other than operator:	
Average value \$298 (high third, \$445; low third, \$153).	
Average cost of all types of farm labor:	
Average of \$1.15 per hour or \$271 per month (high third, \$316; low third, \$223).	

Equipment, 1953

 \$369,123 investment on 45 farms

Average per farm:	Dollars
Cash purchases and repairs	2,820
Fuel, oil and grease	81
Other costs*	1,127
Total	4,028
Sales and net inventory increase	1,079
Net annual cost	2,949

Farm capital	72,120
Investment in equipment other than power	8,203
Investment in power**	4,992

Proportion of farm capital that is:	Per cent
Equipment	11
Equipment plus power	18

	Dollars
Equipment investment per acre	50
Equipment cost per acre	18

* Interest, insurance, use of buildings, farm labor, etc.

** Trucks, tractors, and farm share of auto.

Tractors, 1953

116 tractors on 44 farms				
	<u>3-plow*</u>	<u>2-plow**</u>	<u>1-plow***</u>	<u>All****</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Average per tractor:				
Fuel	192.75	125.35	65.33	134.30
Oil, grease, and greasing	19.44	14.76	7.56	14.03
Farm labor	28.25	19.70	10.78	19.62
Insurance	4.06	2.22	5.22	3.53
Depreciation	258.06	104.03	132.22	154.21
Repairs	99.81	75.57	47.22	85.76
Tires	10.44	14.27	---	13.18
Interest	88.81	41.16	41.67	54.06
Buildings	22.75	13.43	17.33	16.09
All other	5.38	6.89	0.45	6.22
Cost for the year	729.75	417.38	327.78	501.00
Hours of work per tractor	603	520	394	519
Cost per hour, dollars	1.21	0.80	0.83	0.97
Gallons of fuel per tractor	1,022	640	346	692

- * Sixteen tractors
 ** Thirty-seven tractors
 *** Nine tractors
 **** 116 tractors

Trucks, 1953

74 trucks on 40 farms			
	<u>Large</u>	<u>Small</u>	<u>All</u>
	\$	\$	\$
Average per truck:			
Fuel	100.73	134.30	112.66
Oil, grease, and greasing	13.77	13.55	12.89
Farm labor	33.58	12.22	21.99
License	53.96	22.48	38.77
Insurance	60.19	76.89	65.30
Depreciation	140.96	143.37	134.55
Repairs	87.00	70.67	83.96
Tires	34.54	24.04	27.64
Interest	39.73	34.96	35.89
Buildings	19.81	21.67	20.68
All other	3.65	0.41	1.47
Cost for the year	587.92	554.56	555.80
Distance driven per truck, miles	3,940*	7,019**	5,442***
Cost per mile, cents	17.8*	8.4**	11.5***
Gallons of fuel per truck	441	585	489

- * Based on 19 trucks with known mileage
 ** Based on 22 trucks with known mileage
 *** Based on 43 trucks with known mileage

Dairy Cows, 1953

905 cows on 27 farms

Average per cow:	Dollars
Costs:	
3,493 pounds of grain, at \$67.95 per ton	118.68
2.3 tons of hay, at \$23.01 per ton	52.92
5.6 tons of silage, at \$7.82 per ton	43.81
Other feed	0.48
Bedding	6.01
Pasture and fences	29.05
Total feed and bedding	250.95
104 hours of labor, at \$1.01 per hour	104.55
Depreciation	53.22
Horse work, automobile, truck, tractor	8.71
Dairy equipment	9.25
Interest on \$277 value of cow	13.93
Buildings	16.69
Breeding costs	8.00
Veterinarian, medicine, disinfectants	7.94
Hired milk-hauling	12.96
DHIA	4.49
Insurance	1.29
Registration and transfer fees	0.34
Light, water, power	6.19
Strainer cloths and other supplies	3.56
All other	8.33
Total other than feed, bedding, labor, and depreciation	101.68
Total cost	510.40
Returns:	
10,173 pounds of milk sold	456.17
320 pounds of milk used on farm	14.64
Calves	21.98
10.0 tons of manure	15.94
Other returns	0.58
Total returns	509.31
Loss	1.09
Cost of producing 100 pounds of milk	4.50
Value of 100 pounds of milk	4.49
Return per hour of labor	1.00

Heifers, 1953

304 mature-heifers equivalents on 23 farms*

Average per heifer raised to 27.5 months:	Dollars
Costs:	
Value of calf at birth	37.39
444 pounds of whole milk, at \$4.46 per hundredweight	19.81
1,765 pounds of grain, at \$3.66 per hundredweight	64.54
2.5 tons of hay, at \$22.79 per ton	56.97
2.1 tons of silage, at \$7.64 per ton	16.04
Other feed	2.94
Pasture and fences	29.46
Bedding	5.59
Total feed and bedding	195.35
42 hours of labor, at \$1.00 per hour	41.94
Equipment and power	4.75
Buildings	19.22
Breeding fees	8.22
Veterinarian and medicine	0.72
Insurance	0.93
Registration and transfer fees	0.97
Lights and water	2.94
Interest	14.12
All other	3.14
Total other than calf, feed, bedding, and labor	55.01
Total cost	329.69
By-products:	
8.4 tons of manure	12.56
Other returns	1.23
Net cost of raising a heifer to 27.5 months of age	315.90

* There were a total of 989 heifers of all ages on these farms for a part of or all of the year. They were fed a total of 8,366 heifer-months, which divided by 27.5 equals 304 mature-heifer equivalents.

Cost of Keeping Dairy Bulls, 1953

16 bulls on 11 farms

Average per bull:	Dollars
Costs:	
1,322 pounds of grain, at \$70.54 per ton	46.63
2.6 tons of hay, at \$23.08 per ton	60.00
1.3 tons of silage, at \$6.42 per ton	8.34
Other feed	0.77
Bedding	3.82
Pasture	3.50
Total feed and bedding	123.06
67 hours of labor, at \$1.01 per hour	67.52
Depreciation	29.87
Interest on value of bull	14.27
Buildings	27.83
All other	11.34
Total other than feed, bedding, labor, and depreciation	53.44
Total cost	273.89
Credits:	
7.2 tons of manure, at \$1.55 per ton	11.15
Services, 26.5 at \$9.91	262.74
Total credits	273.89

Hens, 1953

34,695 birds on 17 farms

Average per bird:	Dollars
Costs:	
36 pounds of grain, at \$3.42 per hundredweight	1.23
71 pounds of mash, at \$4.18 per hundredweight	2.97
Grit and shell	0.04
Other feed	0.02
Total feed	4.26
1.1 hours of labor, at \$1.09 per hour	1.20
Depreciation	1.16
Interest	0.07
Power and equipment	0.23
Buildings	0.34
Litter	0.04
Electricity	0.05
All other	0.21
Total other than feed, labor, and depreciation	0.94
Total cost	7.56
Returns:	
185 eggs per hen	8.02
56 pounds of manure	0.04
Total returns	8.06
Net gain	0.50
<hr/>	
Cost of producing a dozen eggs	0.49
Value per dozen eggs	0.53
Return per hour of labor	1.61
Labor return per bird	1.70

Raising Chicks, 1953

41,164 chicks started on 15 farms

Average per 100 chicks started:	Dollars
Costs:	
100 chicks started at 34 cents per chick	34.23
1,555 pounds of mash, at \$4.38 per hundredweight	68.18
684 pounds of grain, at \$3.45 per hundredweight	23.62
Other feed25
Total feed	92.05
14 hours of labor, at \$1.14 per hour	15.96
Horse, auto, truck, tractor	2.98
Poultry equipment	5.77
Litter98
Interest	3.09
Fuel and electricity	5.79
Medicine and disinfectants50
Range and fences32
Buildings	5.27
All other	1.16
Cost other than chicks, feed, and labor	25.86
Total cost	168.10
Returns:	
.03 pullets sold	0.07
13.4 meat birds sold or eaten, at \$1.28 per bird	17.11
72.3 pullets for laying flock, at \$1.91 per bird	137.90
1.5 breeding cockerels	5.32
12.8 birds died	
Total value of birds	160.40
578 pounds of manure	0.29
Eggs laid on range	0.97
Returns other than birds	1.26
Total returns	161.66
Loss	6.44
<hr/>	
Cost of raising a bird to maturity	2.03
Value of mature bird	1.94
Return per hour of labor	0.67
Labor return per 100 chicks started	9.52

Cabbage, 1953

94 acres on 7 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	8.43
2.9 tons of manure, at \$3.81 per ton	11.06
2,039 pounds of fertilizer, at \$59.08 per ton	60.23
Seeds and plants	31.67
Spray and dust materials	4.03
43.9 hours of labor, at \$1.26 per hour	55.14
12.5 hours of tractor work, at \$1.01 per hour	12.59
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	14.02
Interest	2.06
All other	28.80
Total growing	228.03
Harvesting:	
46.2 hours of labor	59.58
Tractor, truck, and auto	6.48
Other equipment	0.90
All other	2.11
Total harvesting	69.07
Storing and selling	55.16
Total cost per acre	352.26
Returns:	
15.6 tons of cabbage	286.33
All other	1.08
Total returns per acre	287.41
Net loss per acre	64.85
Cost to grow a ton	14.59
Cost to harvest a ton	4.42
Cost to store and sell a ton	3.53
Total cost per ton	22.54
Net cost per ton	22.47
Returns per ton	18.32
Loss per ton	4.15
Labor returns per acre	74.86
Returns per hour of labor	0.70

Canning Factory Tomatoes, 1953

202 acres on 8 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	12.07
0.8 tons of manure, at \$4.08 per ton	3.26
1,979 pounds of fertilizer, at \$55.75 per ton	55.17
Spray and dust	11.11
2,910 plants, at \$11.36 per thousand	33.05
43.3 hours of labor, at \$1.18 per hour	50.93
15.4 hours of tractor work, at 84 cents per hour	12.92
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	26.09
Interest	2.39
Cover crop	1.22
Hired spraying and dusting	0.97
All other	6.61
Total growing	215.79
Harvesting:	
97.0 hours of labor	119.66
Tractor, truck and auto	17.11
Other equipment	0.29
All other	4.18
Total harvesting	141.24
Storing and selling	6.84
Total cost per acre	363.87
Returns:	
11.7 tons of tomatoes	342.79
Net loss per acre	21.08
Cost to grow a ton	18.48
Cost to harvest a ton	12.09
Cost to store and sell a ton	0.59
Total cost per ton	31.16
Returns per ton	29.35
Loss per ton	1.81
Labor returns per acre	149.51
Returns per hour of labor	1.07

615 acres on 14 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Orchard overhead	24.23
0.1 tons of manure, at \$4.40 per ton	0.44
111 pounds of nitrogenous fertilizer, at \$99.46 per ton	5.52
Other fertilizer	0.07
Spray and dust materials	45.36
29.2 hours of labor, at \$1.40 per hour	40.80
9.0 hours of tractor work, at 85 cents per hour	7.61
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	22.57
Interest	3.20
All other	11.43
Total growing	161.23
Harvesting:	
66.4 hours of labor	87.49
2.9 hours of tractor work	2.62
Auto and truck	4.78
Other equipment	3.75
All other	5.41
Total harvesting	104.05
Storing and selling:	
Packages	58.98
Commissions, hired packing, storage, transportation	77.92
Labor	29.22
Equipment (including auto and truck)	5.82
Buildings	2.60
All other	11.24
Total storing and selling	185.78
Total cost per acre	451.06
Returns:	
304 bushels of packable fruit	665.49
Ciders and drops	16.81
Other	0.33
Total returns per acre	682.63
Net gain per acre	231.57
Cost to grow a bushel	0.53
Cost to harvest a bushel	0.35
Cost to store and sell a bushel	0.61
Total cost per bushel	1.49
Net cost per bushel*	0.98
Total returns per bushel	2.25
Net returns per bushel*	1.74
Gain per bushel	0.76
Labor returns per acre	389.08
Returns per hour of labor	3.23

* 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, 1953

10 1/2 acres on 7 farms*

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Orchard overhead	24.92
163 pounds of fertilizer, at \$83.93 per ton	6.84
Spray and dust materials	17.42
17.1 hours of labor, at \$1.34 per hour	22.84
6.3 hours of tractor work, at \$1.00 per hour	6.31
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	11.38
Interest	1.67
All other	7.89
Total growing	99.27
Harvesting:	
105 hours of labor	115.85
Auto, truck, and tractor	7.99
Other equipment	2.66
All other	4.12
Total harvesting	130.62
Storing and selling	5.54
Total cost per acre	235.43
Returns:	
2,983 pounds of cherries	332.21
Net gain per acre	96.78
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	Cents
Cost per pound to grow	3.3
Cost per pound to harvest	4.4
Cost per pound to store and sell	0.2
Total cost per pound	7.9
Total returns per pound	11.1
Gain per pound	3.2
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	Dollars
Labor returns per acre	236.21
Returns per hour of labor	1.92

* 11 accounts on 7 farms

Peaches, 1953

57 acres on 11 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Orchard overhead	23.98
1.1 tons of manure, at \$5.51 per ton	6.06
74 pounds of fertilizer, at \$82.97 per ton	3.07
Spray and dust materials	17.46
46.3 hours of labor, at \$1.34 per hour	62.24
10.4 hours of tractor work at \$1.01 per hour	10.55
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	19.91
Interest	2.84
All other	5.12
Total growing	151.23
Harvesting:	
73.3 hours of labor	90.64
Auto, truck, and tractor	14.81
Other equipment	4.43
All other	3.34
Total harvesting	113.22
Storing and selling:	
Packages	21.24
Hired storage	3.00
Labor	3.80
Equipment (including auto and truck)	6.48
All other	5.20
Total storing and selling	39.72
Total cost per acre	304.17
Returns:	
151 bushels of peaches	321.54
Net gain per acre	17.37
Cost to grow a bushel	1.00
Cost to harvest a bushel	0.75
Cost to store and sell a bushel	0.26
Total cost per bushel	2.01
Net cost per bushel*	1.85
Total returns per bushel	2.12
Net returns per bushel*	1.96
Gain per bushel	0.11
Labor returns per acre	174.05
Returns per hour of labor	1.42

* 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.

Grapes, 1953

76 acres on 5 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Vineyard overhead	24.84
133 pounds of nitrogenous fertilizer, at \$88.27 per ton	5.87
159 pounds of other fertilizer, at \$62.89 per ton	5.00
Spray and dust materials	8.44
Hired spraying	6.33
55.3 hours of labor, at \$1.25 per hour	69.17
11.4 hours of tractor work, at 75 cents per hour	8.56
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	15.94
Interest	3.91
All other	31.44
Total growing	179.50
Harvesting:	
63.8 hours of labor	75.42
Auto, truck, and tractor	15.24
Other equipment	0.87
All other	9.04
Total harvesting	100.57
Storing and selling	9.87
Total cost per acre	289.94
Returns:	
4.2 tons of grapes	577.22
Net gain per acre	287.28
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Cost to grow a ton	42.84
Cost to harvest a ton	24.00
Cost to store and sell a ton	2.35
Total cost per ton	69.19
Net cost per ton*	68.24
Total returns per ton	137.75
Net returns per ton*	136.80
Gain per ton	68.56
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Labor returns per acre	433.34
Returns per hour of labor	3.61

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

Pasture, 1953

1,783 acres of regular pasture on 27 farms with Dairy Cow Accounts

	Average cost		
	Per farm <u>dollars</u>	Per acre <u>dollars</u>	Per cow equivalent <u>dollars</u>
Cost of regular pasture*:			
Labor	55	0.83	
Tractor	32	0.49	
Auto and truck	4	0.06	
Other equipment	27	0.41	
Manure	176	2.66	
Lime	20	0.30	
Fertilizer	82	1.24	
Seed and seeding	73	1.10	
Interest	101	1.53	
Taxes	36	0.55	
Fences	228	3.45	
Other	37	0.57	
Total cost of regular pasture	871	13.19	
Credits for hay cut, etc	23		
Net cost of regular pasture	848		17.28
Aftermath pasture	303		6.17
Annual crops pasture	117		2.39
Hired pasture	73		1.49
Total pasture cost	1,341		27.33

*Includes permanent and rotated pasture.

Hay, 1953

1,655 acres on 40 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	5.99
2.4 tons of manure, at \$3.10 per ton	7.45
Share of seeding cost	3.64
Interest	0.71
All other	2.46
Total growing	20.25
Harvesting:	
5.9 hours of labor, at \$1.05 per hour	6.18
0.4 hours of horse work, at 30 cents per hour	0.12
3.1 hours of tractor work, at 94 cents per hour	2.90
Equipment (including auto and truck)	8.39
Hired baling	2.41
All other	1.78
Total harvesting	21.78
Storing and selling	6.56
Total cost per acre	48.59
Returns:	
2.1 tons of hay	46.99
Value of aftermath pasture	4.24
Value of all other returns	0.27
Total returns per acre	51.50
Net gain per acre	2.91
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Cost to grow a ton	9.42
Cost to harvest a ton	10.13
Cost to store and sell a ton	3.05
Total cost per ton	22.60
Net cost per ton (value of pasture, etc. deducted)	20.50
Value per ton	21.86
Net gain per ton	1.36
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Labor returns per acre	9.26
Returns per hour of labor	1.54

Grass Silage, 1953

316 acres on 20 farms

	Dollars
Average per acre:	
Growing:	
Land	6.03
2.3 tons of manure, at \$2.95 per ton	6.78
Seeding	4.19
Interest	0.68
All other	2.18
Total growing	19.86
Harvesting:	
7.3 hours of labor, at \$1.03 per hour	7.53
4.1 hours of tractor labor, at \$1.16 per hour	4.76
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	12.32
Hired silo filling	4.16
All other	0.34
Total harvesting	29.11
Storing costs	5.85
Total cost per acre	54.82
Returns:	
7.0 tons of silage	44.63
Aftermath	4.57
Hay	5.62
Total returns	54.82
Cost to grow a ton	2.83
Cost to harvest a ton	4.15
Cost to store a ton	0.83
Total cost per ton	7.81
Net cost per ton (aftermath and hay deducted)	6.36

Corn Silage, 1953

362 acres on 24 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	5.27
4.4 tons of manure, at \$3.05 per ton	13.44
322 pounds of fertilizer, at \$58.45 per ton	9.41
7.1 quarts of seed, at \$10.23 per bushel	2.27
6.7 hours of labor, at \$1.04 per hour	6.95
0.4 hours of horse work, at 50 cents per hour	0.20
5.4 hours of tractor work, at \$1.03 per hour	5.57
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	6.58
Interest	0.42
All other	1.91
Total growing	52.02
Harvesting:	
8.4 hours of labor	8.53
0.8 hours of horse work	0.31
3.6 hours of tractor work	3.70
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	9.06
Hired silo filling	4.48
All other	0.29
Total harvesting	26.37
Storing costs	8.63
Total cost per acre	87.02
Returns:	
10.5 tons of silage	86.88
All other	0.14
Total returns per acre	87.02
Cost to grow a ton	4.96
Cost to harvest a ton	2.51
Cost to store a ton	0.82
Total cost per ton	8.29
Net cost per ton	8.28
Net return per ton	8.28

Corn for Grain, 1953

442 acres on 19 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	6.10
2.0 tons of manure, at \$3.12 per ton	6.23
573 pounds of fertilizer, at \$60.03 per ton	17.20
6.9 quarts of seed, at \$10.57 per bushel	2.28
6.4 hours of labor, at \$1.12 per hour	7.15
0.3 hours of horse work, at 53 cents per hour	0.16
5.5 hours of tractor work, at \$1.03 per hour	5.66
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	5.56
Interest	0.46
All other	1.85
Total growing	52.65
Harvesting:	
3.8 hours of labor	4.22
2.2 hours of tractor work	2.14
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	5.52
Hired harvesting	3.43
All other	0.15
Total harvesting	15.46
Storing and selling	4.57
Total cost per acre	72.68
Returns:	
53 bushels of shelled corn	80.02
Net gain per acre	7.34
Cost to grow a bushel	0.99
Cost to harvest a bushel	0.29
Cost to store and sell a bushel	0.08
Total cost per bushel	1.36
Value per bushel	1.50
Gain per bushel	0.14
Labor returns per acre	18.85
Returns per hour of labor	1.84

Oats, 1953

376 acres on 19 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	6.43
2.3 tons of manure, at \$3.07 per ton	7.05
343 pounds of fertilizer, at \$51.60 per ton	8.85
2.3 bushels of seed, at \$1.55 per bushel	3.56
3.9 hours of labor, at \$1.12 per hour	4.38
3.6 hours of tractor work, at \$1.08 per hour	3.89
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	4.69
Interest	0.44
All other	1.06
Total growing	40.35
Harvesting:	
3.2 hours of labor	3.61
1.6 hours of tractor work	1.52
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	4.89
Hired threshing and combining	1.44
All other	0.85
Total harvesting	12.31
Storing and selling	4.97
Total cost per acre	57.63
Returns:	
47 bushels of oats	43.00
0.5 tons of oat straw	5.55
Total returns per acre	48.55
Net loss per acre	9.08
Cost to grow a bushel	
Cost to harvest a bushel	0.86
Cost to store and sell a bushel	0.26
Total cost per bushel	0.10
Net cost per bushel	1.22
Value per bushel	1.10
Loss per bushel	0.91
Labor returns per acre	-0.91
Returns per hour of labor	-0.13

Wheat, 1953

858 acres on 25 farms

Average per acre:	Dollars
Growing:	
Land	6.39
1.6 tons of manure, at \$3.08 per ton	4.92
384 pounds of fertilizer, at \$52.08 per ton	10.00
2.0 bushels of seed, at \$2.71 per bushel	5.42
3.9 hours of labor, at \$1.12 per hour	4.38
3.5 hours of tractor work, at 90 cents per hour	3.16
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	2.96
Interest	1.31
All other	1.34
Total growing	39.88
Harvesting:	
4.0 hours of labor	4.71
1.7 hours of tractor work	1.57
Hired threshing and combining	2.82
Other equipment (including auto and truck)	5.73
All other	2.08
Total harvesting	16.91
Storing and selling	5.63
Total cost per acre	62.42
Returns:	
36 bushels of wheat	74.50
0.7 tons of straw	7.87
Other	0.13
Total returns per acre	82.50
Net gain per acre	20.08
Cost to grow a bushel	
Cost to grow a bushel	1.11
Cost to harvest a bushel	0.47
Cost to store and sell a bushel	0.15
Total cost per bushel	1.73
Net cost per bushel	1.51
Value per bushel	2.07
Gain per bushel	0.56
Labor returns per acre	
Labor returns per acre	29.90
Labor returns per hour	3.55