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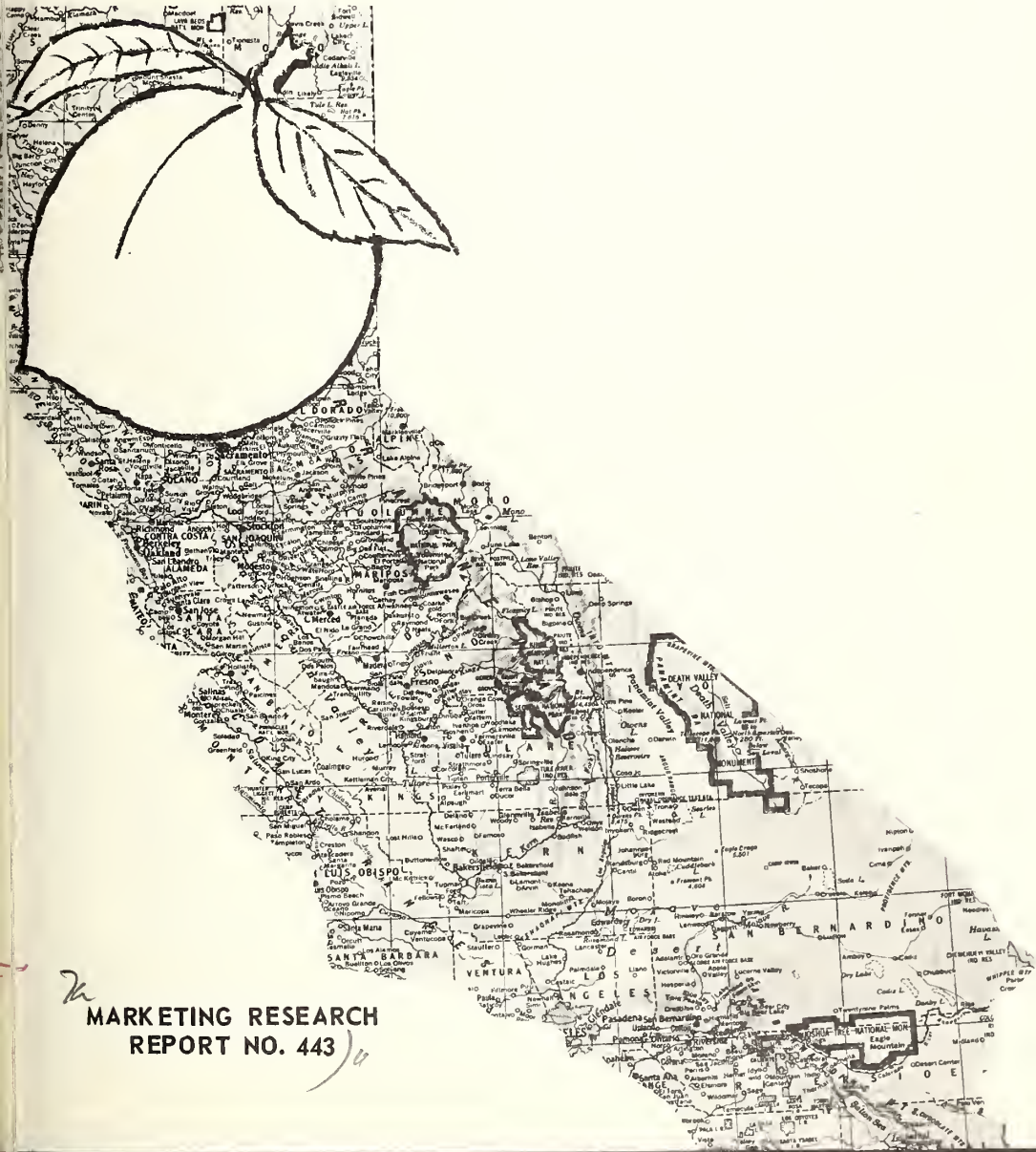
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COSTS OF PACKING CALIFORNIA PEACHES IN 1959

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MARKETING RESEARCH
REPORT NO. 443

PREFACE

This is the sixth in a series of reports on the cost of preparing peaches for the fresh market. It is a part of a continuing research program designed to aid growers and marketing firms to improve efficiency and to reduce costs in the marketing of farm products. Previous reports include: Costs, Methods, and Facilities in Packing South Carolina Peaches, 1959 (Marketing Research Report No. 425); Costs of Packing Arkansas Peaches in 1958 (MRR No. 361); Costs of Packing Michigan Peaches in 1957 (MRR No. 290); Costs of Packing Colorado Peaches in 1956 (MRR No. 179); Costs of Marketing Carolina Peaches in 1954 (MRR No. 103).

These reports provide growers and packers with information on costs in several major production areas. They may be used by packing-shed owners and managers in developing improved methods of operation and in reducing costs. Lower costs, in turn, may make possible higher returns to growers or lower prices to consumers, or both.

Peach growers and packers in Fresno County, California, permitted the observation of packing operations in their sheds and made available the information on costs of overhead and materials which are a major component of the analysis.

L. L. Sammet, of the California Agricultural Experiment Station, G. A. Rowe, of the California Agricultural Extension Service, C. Verner Carlson and Chester C. Conley, of the Merced County Farm Advisor's office, and R. C. Crouch and John L. Quail, of the Fresno County Farm Advisor's office, all offered many helpful suggestions.

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COSTS OF PACKING CALIFORNIA PEACHES IN 1959

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HIGHLIGHTS

Total costs of packing California Red Haven and Early Elberta peaches in 1959 averaged slightly over 70 cents per 20-pound lug. In 9 commercial sheds in Fresno County, costs averaged 70.6 cents a lug and in 5 ranch sheds, 73.5 cents. These differences, however, are small compared with the wide range in packing costs among individual sheds, from a low of 64.7 cents to a high of 80.8 cents per lug. On the average, packing materials were nearly 60 percent of all costs, labor about 25 percent, and overhead about 15 percent.

In the California peach packing sheds, the handling of incoming fruit, movement of fruit to packers, and movement of packed fruit to be lidded and then stored in a cold room are about as mechanized as in other production areas, if not more so. The grading, sizing, and packing operations, however, are done entirely by hand. Labor requirements for all packing-shed operations averaged about 10 man-minutes a lug in ranch sheds and about 9 man-minutes in commercial sheds. Labor costs in the two types of sheds averaged 19 cents and 18 cents a lug, respectively.

Variations in labor requirements and costs among sheds were wide. Among the factors contributing to high labor costs in some sheds were: (1) Inexperienced packers; (2) frequent breakdowns of automatic dumpers; (3) incoming fruit too ripe, therefore requiring heavy culling; and (4) operation of shed at less than capacity. More effective management in sheds where these conditions occurred would have made lower labor costs possible.

In the five commercial sheds which both cup-packed in lugs holding 20 pounds and wrap-packed in peach boxes holding 16 pounds, the average labor requirements were 9.5 man-minutes per cup-packed lug and 7 man-minutes per wrap-packed box. Average labor costs were 18 cents per lug and 14 cents per box. Labor requirements and costs per pound of peaches packed were about the same for both types of containers.

Material costs, including lug, lid, pads, and cups, were 41 cents per lug. Corresponding costs for peach boxes were 30 cents per box.

Overhead costs per lug averaged 13.5 cents for the ranch sheds and 11.8 cents for commercial sheds.

Possibilities for reducing total packing costs in the short run appear to be greatest in those operations that are mostly manual--that is, the dumping, grading, sizing, and packing operations. Cost reductions in the long run can be expected through new technologies in packing machinery and packaging materials.

INTRODUCTION

California produces more peaches than any other State. In 1949, California produced 38.9 million bushels of peaches, or 52 percent of the total U. S. peach crop. The State's production in 1959 was about 6 percent above the 1949-58 average of 33.4 million bushels. About two-thirds of the California production in 1959, and in most years since 1949, was cling peaches, and one-third was freestone. Nearly all California cling peaches are processed. In 1959, 35 percent of the California freestones were sold for fresh consumption.

The California fresh market peach season begins in May and extends into September. Early varieties, including the Red Havens, encounter little or no competition from other producing areas. But from the time when Early Elbertas, become available, around June 20, through the rest of the season to September, California peaches compete in out-of-State markets with peaches from other areas. Because such competition is keen, diversions of California peaches to canneries frequently occur and may involve substantial amounts of fruit. For example, total sales of California freestones in 1959 were 13.2 million bushels, or 19 percent greater than the 1949-58 average of 11.1 million bushels. But sales for fresh consumption were only 4.6 million bushels, or 4 percent less than the 1949-58 average of 4.8 million. Between 1949 and 1958, sales for fresh consumption varied from 35 to 52 percent of total sales of California freestones.

Fresno County leads in freestone peach production in California. Other important counties are Tulare, Merced, and Stanislaus (fig. 1).

Red Havens, Early Elbertas, regular Elbertas including Fay Elbertas, J. H. Hales, and Rio Oso Gems are the principal varieties grown. These five varieties comprise 82 percent of the freestone peach acreage in Fresno County in plantings made before 1953, but only 56 percent of the plantings made between 1953 and 1958.

All varieties of peaches sold intrastate are marketed under the State marketing order for California fresh peaches. In addition, the Elberta varieties are covered by a Federal marketing order for interstate shipments. These orders specify the size, grade, and degree of maturity of California peaches that may be sold for fresh consumption.

This report presents the principal cost components involved in packing California freestone peaches for fresh market in Fresno County, California, in 1959. The packing costs in this report are for ranch and commercial sheds. Each ranch shed usually handled the fruit of only one grower, and was located on the grower's ranch. The commercial sheds handled fruit from

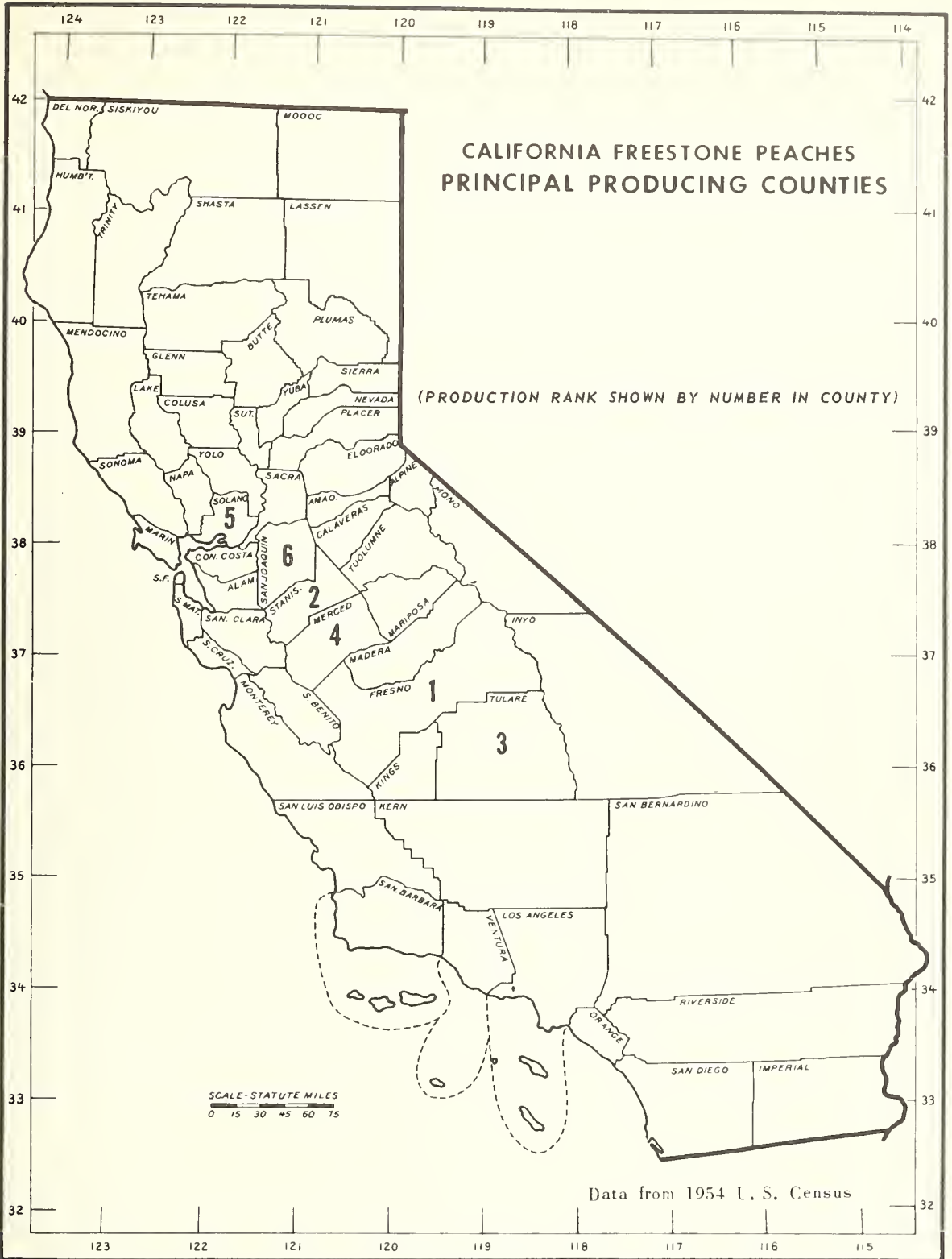


Figure 1

many growers. With one exception, the commercial sheds in which observations were made were located in or near cities and on railroad sidings.

PROCEDURE

During June and July, 1959, detailed observations during 1 to 3 days were made of packing operations in five ranch packing sheds and in nine commercial packing sheds in Fresno County. The time required for each of the packing operations, from receiving the fruit to storing the packed containers, was measured. The volume of peaches packed was recorded. Wage rates for packing-shed personnel were obtained from owners or managers. Estimates of replacement costs of buildings and equipment, material costs, and charges for electricity, telephone, and other variable costs were obtained from shed owners or managers.

The study was conducted at the time when Red Havens, early Elbertas, and other early peach varieties were being harvested. However, the results obtained are applicable throughout the 1959 peach season.

All varieties except early Elbertas were generally cup-packed in IA lugs^{1/} having inside dimensions of 13 1/2 X 16 1/8 X 5 3/4 inches, with an 11/16-inch cleat to take care of the larger peaches. At five of the commercial sheds, the early Elbertas were both cup-packed in IA lugs, and wrap-packed in peach boxes having inside dimensions of 11 1/2 X 16 1/8 X 4 3/4 inches. A box contains about 80 percent of the volume of a lug.^{2/} In the other sheds visited, early Elberta peaches were cup-packed in IA lugs only.

THE PACKING PROCESS

The principal packing operations in ranch sheds were: (1) Unload incoming fruit with forklift trucks, (2) bring fruit to packers, (3) supply packing materials, (4) grade and pack, (5) operate lidding machine, (6) stamp, (7) tally, (8) move packed fruit to cold storage, and (9) stack packed fruit. The principal packing operations in the commercial sheds were: (1) Unload incoming fruit with forklift trucks, (2) bring fruit to dumper, (3) dump, (4) supply packing materials, (5) grade, (6) pack, (7) operate lidding machine, (8) stamp, (9) tally, (10) move packed fruit to cold storage, and (11) stack packed fruit. The operations were similar in both types of sheds except in getting fruit to the packers, grading and packing.

^{1/} An IA lug contains approximately 20 pounds of fruit. In cup-packing, peaches are placed individually in paper cups.

^{2/} A peach box contains approximately 16 pounds of fruit. In wrap-packing, peaches are individually wrapped.

In Ranch Sheds

Peaches were packed out of field crates directly into LA lugs in three of the ranch sheds and out of rotating bins in the other two. One of the latter sheds moved peaches with an automatic dumper and conveyor belt to the bins. The other unloaded peaches directly into the bins from buckets stacked on a custom-built ranch trailer.

In out-of-crate packing, full crates of peaches were placed on a sloping stand to the right of each packer. Directly in front of each packer on another sloping stand were placed the lugs into which the fruit was packed. Each packer had to grade, size, and pack peaches from the crate at her right into the lugs in front of her. With this method, each packer was concerned with at least four sizes of peaches simultaneously. At the end of each lot or variety, some trading among packers was necessary to get complete boxes of different sizes of fruit. The packer also usually stamped the size of fruit on the lug and then placed the lug on a conveyor to the lidder. Empty crates were removed by workers who brought fruit to the packers.

In packing out of rotating bins, each packer was stationed so that the bins were to her right, and the lugs into which she packed were placed on a sloping stand in front of her. Otherwise, the packing operation was similar to out-of-crate packing.

In Commercial Sheds

Automatic dumpers equipped with destackers were used in most of the commercial sheds. A separate crew of graders was employed to remove over-ripe fruit and culls before the peaches reached the packers. Peaches were packed from return-flow belts. The packers were stationed along packing belts so that they faced the oncoming fruit. In all commercial packing sheds visited, each return-flow belt was large enough to accommodate up to 50 packers. Sizing of peaches was done visually. Each packer tended to concentrate on one or two sizes of peaches, the packers at the beginning of the belt packing the larger sizes. The packing boxes were placed on small, sloping stands beside the packing belt and directly in front of the packers. To give all packers a chance at larger peaches, the packers were moved forward around the packing belt, by about four packing positions, every 2 hours. Removal of packed boxes from the packing stand to the chain conveyor which carried fruit to the lidder was sometimes done by packers and sometimes by other personnel.

LABOR REQUIREMENTS

The average time required for operations from receiving the bulk fruit in the packing shed to storing the packed containers was about 10 man-minutes per packed LA lug for ranch sheds and about 9 man-minutes for commercial sheds. The ranges in time were 6.7 to 13.5 man-minutes for ranch sheds and 6.2 to 14.9 man-minutes for commercial sheds. Labor requirements for individual operations in packing LA lugs appear in tables 1, 2, 7, and 9. Grading and packing required approximately two-thirds of total labor.

Table 1.--Labor requirements and costs per IA lug for packing peaches, cup-packed for fresh market, 5 ranch sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Labor requirements		Labor costs	
	Average	Range	Average	Range
	Man-minutes	Man-minutes	Cents	Cents
Receive & handling				
incoming fruit.....	.83	.57-1.14	1.48	1.19- 1.91
Grade and pack.....	6.79	4.89-8.49	11.77	10.30-14.15
Supply boxes and				
paper cups.....	.38	.11-0.60	.63	.18- 0.99
Lid, stamp, tally.....	.50	.22-1.14	.85	.37- 1.91
Stack.....	.65	.22-1.14	1.12	.37- 2.05
Supervisory.....	.86	.44-1.37	2.56	1.48- 3.81
Miscellaneous.....	.42	-- 0.92	.72	-- 1.52
Total	10.43	6.66-13.53	19.13	14.00-24.06

Table 2.--Labor requirements and costs per IA lug for packing peaches, cup-packed for fresh market, 9 commercial sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Labor requirements		Labor costs	
	Average	Range	Average	Range
	Man-minutes	Man-minutes	Cents	Cents
Receive.....	.25	.09- .52	.52	.18- 1.08
Dump.....	.21	.09- .34	.41	.18- .70
Grade.....	.78	.46- 1.27	1.32	.76- 2.12
Pack.....	5.30	3.56- 8.74	10.24	9.00-14.57
Supply boxes and paper:				
cups.....	.30	.17- .48	.56	.29- .80
Lid, stamp, tally.....	.62	.30- 1.20	1.14	.60- 2.10
Stack packed fruit.....	.41	.18- .96	.80	.38- 1.80
Supervisory.....	.44	.29- .73	1.12	.66- 1.82
Miscellaneous.....	.98	.52- 1.42	1.83	.94- 2.58
Total	9.29	6.17-14.94	17.94	14.05-26.08

Five of the commercial sheds visited wrap-packed peaches in boxes in addition to cup-packing in IA lugs (table 3). Average labor requirements were 7 man-minutes per box for wrap-packed peaches and 9.5 man-minutes for cup-packed peaches. The two types of containers differed very little in labor requirements per pound of peaches packed.

Table 3.--Labor requirements and costs for packing fresh market peaches, wrap-packed in peach boxes and cup-packed in LA lugs, 5 commercial sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Labor requirements and costs ^{1/}			
	Per wrap-packed peach box		Per cup-packed LA lug	
	Man-minutes	Cents	Man-minutes	Cents
Grading.....	.80	1.33	.87	1.44
Packing.....	3.89	7.60	5.33	9.86
Supervisory.....	.35	.93	.47	1.13
Other.....	2.05	3.95	2.85	5.44
Total.....	7.09	13.81	9.52	17.87

^{1/} A peach box contained about 0.8 as many peaches as an LA lug. Thus if an LA lug contains 20 pounds of peaches, a peach box contains 16 pounds. The labor requirements per pound for peaches packed in peach boxes were 0.44 man-minutes; and for peaches packed in LA lugs, 0.48 man-minutes. The labor cost per pound of peaches wrap-packed in peach boxes was 0.86 cent, and of those packed in LA lugs, 0.89 cent.

LABOR COSTS

The wage rates used in computing labor costs in this report were those quoted by shed owners or managers. In both the ranch sheds and the commercial sheds, the range was \$1.00 to \$1.75 an hour, exclusive of shed foremen. Graders were paid \$1.00 an hour. The most common wage rate in the ranch sheds was \$1.00 an hour, exclusive of graders and packers, while that of the commercial sheds was \$1.25. Packers were paid on a piece-rate basis of 9 to 11 cents a packed lug, with a minimum of \$1.00 an hour in accordance with the California Industrial Welfare Commission regulations. However, the more skilled packers could earn considerably more than \$1.00 an hour.

Commercial shed owners or managers were excluded in the computation of supervisory costs, because their functions with respect to packing operations appeared to be more nearly those of top management than those of foremen or similar supervisory workers. Ranch packing-shed owners were comparable to both the commercial shed owners or managers and shed foremen, but they performed other duties in addition to shed supervision. To make supervisory data comparable, all ranch shed owners and commercial shed foremen were assigned an estimated wage of \$2.00 an hour--an actual wage of some of the foremen. It was assumed that ranch shed owners devoted full time to supervision of packing operations.

Payment for overtime work was not included in this analysis. Most sheds had to pay some overtime during the peak of the season. However, inclusion of overtime pay would merely affect the level of costs, not the relative costs and efficiency among plants.

Using 1959 wage rates, the total cost of labor per lug averaged 19 cents in the ranch sheds and 18 cents in the commercial sheds. The range in labor costs was 14 to 24 cents in the ranch sheds and 14 to 26 cents in the commercial sheds. The components of these costs are shown in tables 1, 2, 8, and 10. Over 60 percent of the average labor cost per lug in both types of sheds was for grading and packing.

Ranch sheds and commercial sheds differed little in average labor costs. However, labor costs varied considerably among individual sheds within each group. Labor costs were highest in one ranch shed and one commercial shed because workers performing the packing operation were not sufficiently experienced or qualified. Labor costs were high in one ranch shed and one commercial shed because of frequent breakdowns of equipment. In two other commercial sheds, labor costs were high because of heavy culling of incoming fruit. One ranch shed had relatively high labor costs because it was operating under its capacity. Labor costs in the other sheds visited seem to have varied mainly because of variations in packing-shed organization and management.

In the five commercial sheds which wrap-packed peaches as well as cup-packed them, labor costs averaged 14 cents per wrap-packed peach box and 18 cents per cup-packed LA lug (table 3). Costs per pound of peaches packed were about the same for both types of containers.

MATERIAL COSTS

The usual charge for a complete LA lug in Fresno County was about 41 cents. This includes the cost of the completed box, lid, divider, cups, and two pads. Container costs were:

	<u>Cents</u>
Unlidded box (including box construction labor and materials)	25.00
Lid	4.00
Divider	.85
Top and bottom pad	4.00
Cups	7.00
Total	<u>40.85</u>

Prices for cups and pads were in lots of 25,000. Tray packs cost 13.5 cents each, but were not often used. Prices for box materials, lid, and divider were in lots of 10,000. The box construction labor usually was hired on a contract basis per 100 units.

Total cost of a peach box was about 30 cents. The container-making operation for the boxes is highly mechanized. Some packing sheds bought materials at a quantity discount below the prices quoted.

OVERHEAD COSTS

The term "overhead costs" is used to describe all costs other than labor and packing materials. These costs include the cost of power, telephone, and repairs, which vary slightly with volume. Hence, in this report overhead costs are not synonymous with "fixed costs."

Overhead costs of buildings and equipment were computed on the estimated 1959 replacement cost of these items. Buildings were depreciated on a 20-year basis and equipment on a 10-year basis.

Taxes on packing sheds were estimated at \$1.50 to \$1.75 per \$100 of the replacement value, depending on location within the county. Fire insurance was estimated at \$1.20 per \$100 assessed valuation. Workmen's compensation insurance on packing-shed workers was computed at \$1.15 per \$100 of estimated payroll. Social Security taxes were computed at 2.5 percent and Federal unemployment taxes at 3 percent of estimated payroll.

Three of the ranch sheds and all of the commercial sheds also packed plums, nectarines, or grapes. Allocation of overhead costs to peaches was made on a lug volume basis.

Overhead costs averaged 13.5 cents a packed lug for ranch sheds and 11.8 cents for commercial sheds. The range in overhead costs was 10 to 20 cents for ranch sheds and 8 to 20 for commercial sheds. The components of the overhead costs are shown in tables 4, 5, 11, and 12. Depreciation of buildings and equipment comprised about 45 percent of the overhead costs in ranch sheds and 35 percent in commercial sheds. Assessments per lug packed under the State marketing order for California fresh peaches were 2.5 cents a lug, or about 20 percent of the overhead costs.

TOTAL COSTS

The total costs of packing fresh-market peaches averaged 73.5 cents a lug for ranch sheds and 70.6 cents for commercial sheds (table 6). Total packing costs ranged from 69.2 to 78.4 cents in ranch sheds and from 64.7 to 80.8 cents in commercial sheds. Packing materials were nearly 60 percent of the total, labor about 25 percent, and overhead about 15 percent.

IMPLICATIONS OF STUDY

The greatest potentials for cost reduction in the packing of California peaches for the fresh market occur in the labor costs. Under existing technology, prospects for cost reduction in container materials and overhead are not great. Nor are cost reduction potentials equally promising within the

Table 4.--Overhead costs per LA lug for packing peaches, cup-packed for fresh market, 5 ranch packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Item	Average	Range
	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>
Depreciation:		
Building.....	3.27	1.75 - 5.68
Equipment.....	2.81	1.00 - 4.30
Insurance.....	.66	0.44 - 0.94
Taxes.....	2.54	1.81 - 3.28
Power.....	0.91	0.30 - 1.88
Repairs44	0.20 - 0.75
Telephone & telegraph..	.39	0.15 - 1.00
Assessments.....	2.50	-- 2.50 --
Total.....	13.52	9.84 -20.04

Table 5.--Overhead costs per LA lug for packing peaches, cup-packed for fresh market, 9 commercial packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Item	Average	Range
	<u>Cents</u>	<u>Cents</u>
Depreciation:		
Building.....	2.63	0.54-6.47
Equipment.....	1.45	0.42-3.92
Insurance.....	0.56	0.39-0.85
Taxes.....	2.22	1.42-3.74
Power.....	0.75	0.33-1.14
Repairs.....	0.97	0.42-1.54
Telephone & telegraph..	0.71	0.30-0.96
Assessments.....	2.50	2.50
Office supplies.....	0.06	0.03-0.10
Total.....	11.85	8.40-19.67

Table 6.--Total costs per LA lug for packing peaches, cup-packed for fresh market, 9 commercial and 5 ranch sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Item	Commercial sheds		Ranch sheds	
	Average	Range	Average	Range
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Labor.....	17.94	14.05-26.07	19.13	14.0-24.06
Overhead.....	11.85	8.39-19.66	13.52	9.84-20.03
Materials.....	40.85	40.85	40.85	40.85
Total.....	70.64	64.67-80.77	73.50	69.16-78.41

entire area of labor costs. Most of the major packing operations in California sheds are about as mechanized as those of other production areas. These include receiving incoming fruit, moving incoming fruit to packers, and moving packed fruit to be lidded and into the cold room for storage. Prospects for further cost reduction in these operations exist where hand labor is still used to a considerable extent--for example, in hand dumping of incoming fruit on the packing belt. The greatest expenditures for hand labor are in the grading, sizing, and packing operations, which involve most of the packing-shed workers.

California peach packing sheds differ from sheds in other areas in that the sizing and packing operations are performed entirely by hand. This is mainly because: (1) California--to meet competition--packs a riper peach than can be safely handled by presently manufactured equipment; (2) peaches are only one of several kinds of fruit packed, and hand packing allows greater flexibility of operation and a greater utilization of existing facilities; and (3) California, because of its long packing season, has a large pool of workers proficient in grading, sizing, and packing.

As long as these factors are controlling, a major shift from hand to machine methods of grading, sizing, and packing is unlikely and prospects of reducing labor requirements and costs in these operations do not appear promising. Packing-shed owners, managers, and foremen are fully aware of the need to keep packer costs per container down as near to the piece rate as possible. They are beginning to experience some difficulty in getting and holding really qualified packers, because: (1) Many of the better packers are retiring; (2) it takes several weeks to train new personnel; (3) new workers often have little inclination to pack at a rate much above the \$1.00 an hour minimum; and (4) even experienced workers find it difficult to maintain a high output per hour over an extended time.

Packing-shed owners, managers, and foremen all recognize the importance of having an adequate volume of suitable incoming fruit before the packers at all times. Yet weather conditions (like a sudden heat wave) and delays

in picking and in getting the fruit to the packing shed have at times increased the amount of culls to a point where volume of fruit available for packing was insufficient to keep packers busy. Consequently labor costs per box became higher than necessary. Equipment breakdowns, particularly in the automatic dumper mechanism, also interrupted the flow of peaches to packers sufficiently to affect packing costs. Some of the sheds visited abandoned use of automatic dumpers in favor of hand dumping, to minimize equipment breakdowns.

In the commercial sheds, breaks between lots occurred frequently, not only because of the numerous growers served by each packing shed but also because several varieties of peaches, as well as of nectarines and plums, might be packed on the same day. Breaks between lots owned by different growers were minimized to a considerable extent by estimation of packout toward the end of a lot. Breaks between lots because of variety or kind of fruit packed were often up to 20 minutes long. In the ranch sheds, particularly those packing out of crates, breaks between lots were not important because changes from one lot to another could be made abruptly. However, packing tended to slow down towards the end of a lot because of the necessary trading among packers to complete packing lugs of different sizes of fruit.

Under California Industrial Welfare Commission Order No. 8057, all women packing-shed employees, when employed over 8 hours and up to 12 hours in any one day, are paid overtime at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ times the hourly rate, for all hours over 8. When such women employees work more than 12 hours a day, they are paid double the regular rate, for all hours worked over 12 in any one day. Both overtime and worker fatigue, if sheds operate longer hours, work in the direction of higher labor costs. It thus becomes a real challenge to packing-shed owners, managers, and foremen to operate plants in ways that hold down labor costs.

Table 7.--Labor requirements per cup-packed LA lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 5 ranch packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Packing sheds					Average
	A	B	C	D	E	
	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes
Receiving and handling						
incoming fruit	.78	.89	.57	.77	1.14	.83
Grade and pack	4.89	6.32	6.53	7.73	8.49	6.79
Supply boxes and paper cups...	.11	.60	.57	.39	.23	.38
Lid, stamp, tally	.22	.30	1.14	.39	.46	.50
Stack	.22	.60	1.14	.39	.92	.65
Supervisory	.44	.60	1.12	.78	1.37	.86
Miscellaneous.....	--	.60	.57	--	.92	.42
Total	6.66	9.91	11.64	10.45	13.53	10.43

APPENDIX

Table 8.--Labor costs per cup-packed LA lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 5 ranch packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Packing sheds					Average
	A	B	C	D	E	
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Receiving and handling						
incoming fruit.....	1.30	1.72	1.19	1.29	1.91	1.48
Grade and pack.....	10.30	10.53	11.00	12.88	14.15	11.77
Supply boxes and paper cups...	.18	.99	.95	.64	.38	.63
Lid, stamp, tally.....	.37	.50	1.91	.73	.76	.85
Stack.....	.37	.99	2.05	.65	1.53	1.12
Supervisory.....	1.48	1.74	3.49	2.28	3.81	2.56
Miscellaneous.....	--	.99	1.06	--	1.52	.72
Total	14.00	17.46	21.65	18.47	24.06	19.13

Table 9.--Labor requirements per cup-packed 1A lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 9 commercial packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Packing sheds										Average	
	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	O			
Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes	Man- minutes
Receive.....	.09	.29	.52	.17	.30	.23	.12	.36	.15	.25		
Dump.....	.20	.29	.34	.09	.20	.12	.24	.24	.15	.21		
Grade.....	.75	1.27	.75	.61	.62	.93	1.06	.60	.46	.78		
Pack.....	4.06	6.52	5.62	3.56	5.09	5.43	8.74	3.62	5.03	5.30		
Supply boxes and paper cups.....	.18	.29	.31	.17	.30	.33	.48	.36	.30	.30		
Lid, stamp, tally...	.40	.73	.88	.44	.51	.49	1.20	.60	.30	.62		
Stack packed fruit...	.29	.42	.18	.35	.30	.46	.96	.24	.46	.41		
Supervisory	.29	.73	.54	.26	.30	.46	.72	.36	.30	.44		
Miscellaneous	1.03	1.36	1.27	.52	1.01	.93	1.42	.60	.65	.98		
Total	7.29	11.90	10.41	6.17	8.63	9.38	14.94	6.98	7.80	9.29		

Table 10.--Labor costs per cup-packed LA lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 9 commercial packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Operation	Packing sheds										Average	
	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	O			
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Receive.....	.18	.53	1.08	.36	.63	.52	.30	.76	.32	.52	.32	.52
Dump.....	.41	.53	.70	.18	.37	.26	.50	.44	.32	.41	.32	.41
Grade.....	1.26	2.12	1.25	1.02	1.04	1.55	1.77	1.11	.76	1.32	.76	1.32
Pack.....	9.00	10.87	10.00	9.00	10.36	9.05	14.57	10.00	9.28	10.24	9.28	10.24
Supply boxes and paper :												
cups.....	.37	.51	.57	.29	.52	.62	.80	.70	.64	.56	.64	.56
Lid, stamp, tally.....	.72	1.24	1.72	.73	.94	1.03	2.10	1.15	.60	1.14	.60	1.14
Stack packed fruit.....	.69	.78	.38	.73	.54	.90	1.80	.50	.90	.80	.90	.80
Supervisory.....	.66	1.82	1.43	.80	.80	.92	1.70	.98	.95	1.12	.95	1.12
Miscellaneous.....	1.40	2.58	2.36	.94	1.95	2.17	2.54	1.22	1.29	1.83	1.29	1.83
Total.....	14.69	20.98	19.49	14.05	17.15	17.02	26.08	16.86	15.06	17.94	15.06	17.94

Table 11.--Overhead costs per cup-packed LA lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 5 ranch packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Item	Packing sheds						Average
	A	B	C	D	E		
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Depreciation							
Buildings	5.68	1.75	3.50	1.80	3.62	3.27	
Equipment	4.20	4.30	1.00	1.80	2.75	2.81	
Insurance	.75	.44	.94	.47	.71	.66	
Taxes	3.28	2.20	2.58	1.81	2.82	2.54	
Power	1.88	.30	1.29	.65	.45	.91	
Repairs	.75	.20	.20	.53	.50	.44	
Telephone and telegraph	1.00	.22	.30	.28	.15	.39	
Assessments	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	
Total	20.04	11.91	12.31	9.84	13.50	13.52	

Table 12.--Overhead costs per cup-packed LA lug for packing peaches for fresh market, 9 commercial packing sheds, Fresno County, California, 1959

Item	Packing sheds											Average			
	F	G	H	J	K	L	M	N	O	Average					
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Depreciation															
Buildings	3.50	1.84	.54	1.32	1.04	1.65	2.54	6.47	4.80	2.63					
Equipment	1.20	1.07	.84	1.35	.42	1.50	1.54	3.92	1.24	1.45					
Insurance	.55	.52	.44	.39	.39	.49	.79	.85	.59	.56					
Taxes	2.29	1.88	1.53	1.46	1.43	1.83	3.38	3.74	2.46	2.22					
Power	.69	.82	.96	1.14	.97	.33	.58	.61	.63	.75					
Repairs	.60	1.43	1.20	.67	.67	1.00	1.54	1.18	.42	.97					
Telephone and telegraph	.80	.51	.96	.87	.95	.67	.94	.30	.39	.71					
Assessments	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50					
Office supplies	.04	.04	.08	.07	.03	.03	.03	.10	.10	.06					
Total	12.17	10.61	9.05	9.77	8.40	10.00	13.84	19.67	13.13	11.85					

