

Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, 2019

Organic Tomatoes -- Irrigated --Wholesale Market - 18 lbs. Case

Budget based on 1 acre of tomatoes on a 10 acre mixed organic vegetable farm.

Estimated Costs and Returns Per Acre.

	Unit	Quantity	\$/Unit	Total \$/Ac	Your Farm \$/Ac
Receipts					
1. Tomatoes	Case	1200	28.00	33,600.00	
2. Variable Costs					
3. Organic Certification	Acre	1	80.00	80.00	
4. Seeds	Thous.	4.4	75.00	330.00	
5. Compost / Manure	Ton	2	40.00	80.00	
6. Organic Fertilizer	Acre	1	2,600.00	2,600.00	
7. Cover Crop	Acre	1	80.00	80.00	
8. Lime (prorated)	Ton	0.33	50.00	17.00	
9. Organic Pest. Sprays	Oz.	512	0.50	256.00	
10. Fuel	Gal.	24	3.00	72.00	
11. Paper Case	Each	1200	1.70	2,040.00	
12. Stakes & Twine	100	44	15.00	660.00	
13. 5-Gal. Bucket	Each	200	2.50	500.00	
14. Labor	Hrs.	440	10.00	4,400.00	
15. Irrigation Supplies	Acre	1	1,000.00	1,000.00	
16. Plastic Mulch	Roll	3.75	100.00	375.00	
17. Other					
Total Variable Costs				12,490.00	
18. Fixed Costs					
19. Machine & Equip.	Acre	1	240.00	240.00	
20. Irrigation	Acre	1	80.00	80.00	
21. Land Charge	Acre	1	50.00	50.00	
Total Fixed Costs				370.00	
TOTAL COSTS				12,860.00	
Return above Variable Costs				21,110.00	
Return Above Total Costs				20,740.00	

Notes - Budget Estimates for Planning Only

1. Yield extrapolated from Mississippi State University Budgets, 2013. Price are an average from the USDA Market News.
2. Variable costs are those costs that a farmer incurs because s/he decided to grow this specific crop.
3. Average organic certification cost from USDA Farm Services Administration.
4. Average of organic seedling prices based on Internet search.
5. Average price of 1 ton of compost, chicken litter, or manure found in Internet search.
6. Price extrapolated from Mississippi State University organic enterprise budget, 2009.

7. Average cost for various cover crops species based on Internet search.
8. Equals 1 ton of lime per acre every 3 years. Price from Internet search.
9. Used only when mechanical and physical control methods are ineffective. Application rates and weighted average price for Dipel DF, PyGanic & Trilogy taken from 2013 CFSA pest control worksheets.
10. Average annual diesel price per gallon in the Carolinas from the U.S. Dept. of Energy, 2018.
11. From Mississippi State University Budgets, 2018.
12. Average of Clemson Extension 2012 and Mississippi State University 2013 enterprise budgets, price from Internet search.
13. Price provided by farmers at CFSA's Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference, 2015.
14. Labor estimates vary widely. This estimate is extrapolated from enterprise budget developed by Clemson Extension, University of Georgia and Mississippi State University.
15. Irrigation supplies include 1.5 rolls of drip tape and 6 acre inches of rural water cost. Quantity needed derived from the Mississippi State University 2018 enterprise budgets, cost based on Internet search.
16. Plastic mulch quantity based on 6 foot row spacing from the center of one bed to the center of the next, requiring 8,712 linear feet, cost based on Internet search.
17. Purposely left blank for other unspecified farm costs.
18. Fixed costs are costs that a farmer incurs whether or not a crop is grown.
19. See table below.
20. Annual fixed cost for irrigation setup.
21. Average farm rental values for North and South Carolina from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2018.

Machinery and Equipment Costs*						
Item	Purchase Price	Salvage Value \$	Useful Life Years	Acres Used/Yr.	Repair & Maint. \$/AC	Total** \$/AC
Tractor	17,000.00	4,000.00	20	10	3.00	68.00
Chisel Plow	2,500.00	600.00	15	10	0.30	13.00
Transplanter	2,600.00	600.00	20	4	0.20	25.00
Pest. Sprayer	9,400.00	1,900.00	20	10	9.50	47.00
Trailer	1,100.00	200.00	20	10	0.10	5.00
Disk	4,450.00	900.00	15	10	0.20	24.00
Manure Spreader	3,000.00	1,500.00	20	10	0.20	8.00
Bed Shaper	2,500.00	600.00	20	5	1.50	21.00
200 Buckets	1,000.00	0.00	5	7	0.00	29.00

*Estimates derived from Mississippi State University, Traditional Vegetable 2013 Planning Budgets; Why Cows Need Names, and More Secrets of Amish Farms, Randy James, Kent State University Press, 2013 and internet search of various machinery suppliers.