

Costs and Returns per acre from growing onions, 2006
Box Elder County

Receipts	Quantity per acre	Unit	Price/cost per unit	Value/cost per acre	Base Value	Your Value
Payable onions	497	cwt	\$8.57	\$4,254.78	\$4,254.78	
Residue	-	cwt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal				\$4,254.78	\$4,254.78	
Operating costs						
Land preparation						
Plowing	1	acre	\$5.88	\$5.88	\$5.88	
Discing	2	acre	\$3.73	\$7.47	\$7.47	
Land plane	2	acre	\$3.34	\$6.69	\$6.69	
Bedding	1	acre	\$6.06	\$6.06	\$6.06	
Roller harrow	1	acre	\$3.64	\$3.64	\$3.64	
Planting	1	acre	\$8.90	\$8.90	\$8.90	
Seed	2	pounds	\$67.00	\$134.00	\$134.00	
Fertilization						
Nitrogen (34-0-0)	450	pounds	\$0.18	\$80.33	\$80.33	
Phosphate (11-52-0)	160	pounds	\$0.18	\$28.56	\$28.56	
Micro Nutrients	1	acre	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$5.00	
Custom application	1	acre	\$7.82	\$7.82	\$7.82	
Pesticides/herbicides						
Roundup	1	quart	\$6.32	\$6.32	\$6.32	
Goal	1	pint	\$13.40	\$13.40	\$13.40	
Mustang Max	20	ounce	\$1.87	\$37.34	\$37.34	
Buctril	1.37	pint	\$7.25	\$9.93	\$9.93	
Penncap	5	quart	\$8.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	
Prowl	2	quart	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	
Warrior	10	ounce	\$2.39	\$23.91	\$23.91	
Custom application	14	acre	\$7.82	\$109.48	\$109.48	
Cultivation						
1st cultivating	1	acre	\$19.60	\$19.60	\$19.60	
2nd and 3rd cultivating	2	acre	\$19.60	\$39.20	\$39.20	
Hand weeding	2	times/acre	\$85.00	\$170.00	\$170.00	
Irrigation (siphon)	10	irrigations				
Labor	2.67	hours	\$10.00	\$26.67	\$26.67	
Water assessment	1	share	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	
Repairs/maintenance	1	acre	\$2.30	\$2.30	\$2.30	
Pumping	-	acre inch	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Harvesting						
Undercutting	1	acre	\$15.09	\$15.09	\$15.09	
Topping	1	acre	\$37.34	\$37.34	\$37.34	
Loading	1	acre	\$28.68	\$28.68	\$28.68	
Trucking	4.1	loads/acre	\$16.04	\$66.39	\$66.39	
Grading	497	cwt	\$2.00	\$993.33	\$993.33	
Crop insurance (75% Yield, 100% Price)	1	acre	\$84.55	\$84.55	\$84.55	
Interest on operating capital			7.61%	\$19.50	\$19.50	
Subtotal				\$2,097.38	\$2,097.38	
Ownership costs (excludes cost of land)				\$167.51	\$167.51	
Farm insurance	1	acre	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	
Machinery ownership costs	1	acre	\$157.26	\$157.26	\$157.26	
Irrigation ownership costs	1	acre	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$8.25	
Total costs				\$2,264.89	\$2,264.89	
Net returns to owner for unpaid labor, management, equity and risk						
Above operating costs				\$2,157.40	\$2,157.40	
Above total listed costs				\$1,989.89	\$1,989.89	

Breakeven Table - Dry Onions

Net returns per acre above operating costs

Yield (cwt/Ac)	Selling Price (\$/cwt)				
	\$7.57	\$8.07	\$8.57	\$9.07	\$9.57
466.67	\$1,493.73	\$1,727.06	\$1,960.40	\$2,193.73	\$2,427.06
476.67	\$1,549.40	\$1,787.73	\$2,026.06	\$2,264.40	\$2,502.73
486.67	\$1,605.06	\$1,848.40	\$2,091.73	\$2,335.06	\$2,578.40
496.67	\$1,660.73	\$1,909.06	\$2,157.40	\$2,405.73	\$2,654.06
506.67	\$1,716.40	\$1,969.73	\$2,223.06	\$2,476.40	\$2,729.73
516.67	\$1,772.06	\$2,030.40	\$2,288.73	\$2,547.06	\$2,805.40
526.67	\$1,827.73	\$2,091.06	\$2,354.40	\$2,617.73	\$2,881.06

Assumptions

1. Onions planted in late March and harvested in September.
2. Interest computed on land preparation and planting costs for 6 months and fertilization/herbicide/irrigation/cultivation costs for 3 months.
3. Machinery operating costs include: fuel, oil, repairs and labor.
4. Machinery ownership costs are allocated based on equipment used for each crop.
5. Onion equipment ownership costs are allocated to onion acreage only.
6. Machinery ownership costs include depreciation, interest, insurance, and housing.

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