Utah State University
Extension Economics

Costs and Returns per acre from growing corn for silage, 2006
Weber County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Receipts</th>
<th>Quantity per acre</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Price/cost per unit</th>
<th>Value/cost per acre</th>
<th>Your Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corn silage</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>tons</td>
<td>$33.00</td>
<td>$924.00</td>
<td>$924.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residue</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>AUM</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$924.00</td>
<td>$924.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating costs**

- **Land preparation**
  - Plowing: 1 acre, $5.88
  - Discing: 2 acre, $3.73
  - Roller harrow: 2 acre, $3.64
  - Planting: 1 acre, $5.28
  - Seed: 0.4 bags, $110.00

- **Cultivation**
  - first: 1 acre, $2.94
  - second: 1 acre, $2.94

- **Fertilization**
  - Nitrogen (34-0-0): 455 pounds, $0.18
  - Phosphate (11-52-0): 48 pounds, $0.18
  - Potassium (0-0-60): 42 pounds, $0.15
  - Custom application: 1 acre, $7.82

- **Pesticides/herbicides**
  - Lasso: 2.00 Quart, $6.50
  - Phorate: 6.75 pounds, $2.40
  - 2-4-D: 2.00 pint, $2.75
  - Custom application: 1 acre, $7.82

- **Irrigation (wheel line)**
  - Labor: 2.00 hours, $10.00
  - Water assessment: 1 share, $25.00
  - Pumping: 27 acre inch, $0.00

- **Harvesting**
  - Chopping: 1 acre, $6.79
  - Packing and pushing: 1 acre, $5.73
  - Trucking: 2.5 loads/acre, $16.04
  - Crop insurance (75% Yield, 100% Price): 1 acre, $10.19
  - Interest on operating capital: 7.61%, $6.63

**Ownership costs (excludes cost of land)**
- Farm insurance: 1 acre, $2.00
- Machinery ownership costs: 1 acre, $189.27
- Irrigation equipment costs: 1 acre, $8.25

**Total costs**
- $342.56
- $342.56

**Net returns to owner for unpaid labor, management, equity and risk**
- Above operating costs: $581.44
- Above total listed costs: $381.91

**Breakeven Table - Corn Silage**
Net returns per acre above operating costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yield (Ton/Ac)</th>
<th>$23.00</th>
<th>$28.00</th>
<th>$33.00</th>
<th>$38.00</th>
<th>$43.00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26.50</td>
<td>$236.94</td>
<td>$399.44</td>
<td>$531.94</td>
<td>$664.44</td>
<td>$796.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>27.00</td>
<td>$278.44</td>
<td>$413.44</td>
<td>$548.44</td>
<td>$683.44</td>
<td>$818.44</td>
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<td>27.50</td>
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<td>$564.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>28.00</td>
<td>$301.44</td>
<td>$441.44</td>
<td>$581.44</td>
<td>$721.44</td>
<td>$861.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>28.50</td>
<td>$312.94</td>
<td>$455.44</td>
<td>$597.94</td>
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<td>$882.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>29.00</td>
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<td>$469.44</td>
<td>$614.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>29.50</td>
<td>$335.94</td>
<td>$483.44</td>
<td>$630.94</td>
<td>$778.44</td>
<td>$925.94</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Assumptions**
1. Corn planted in late March and harvested in September.
2. Interest computed on land preparation and planting costs for 6 months and cultivation, fertilization, herbicide and irrigation 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. Machinery ownership costs include depreciation, interest, insurance, and housing.

Budget prepared by: E. Bruce Godfrey, Cody Bingham and James Barnhill