**Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, 2014**

**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 $/ACRE YOUR FARM

**RECEIPTS**

1. Tomatoes Case 1500 24 36,000 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. **VARIABLE COSTS**
3. Organic Certification Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Seedlings Thou. 4.4 150 660 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Compost Ton 1 40 40 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Organic Fertilizer Acre 1 2600 2600 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Cover Crop Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Lime (prorated) Ton 0.33 40 13 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Organic Pest Spray Oz. 512 0.50 256 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. Fuel Gal. 24 4.00 96 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. Paper Case Each 1500 1.70 2550 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. Stakes & Twine Acre 1 400 400 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. Labor Hrs. 440 10 4400 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. Irrigation supplies Acre 1 1070 1070 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. Plastic Mulch Acre 1 200 200 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
16. Other? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Variable Costs 12,445

1. **FIXED COSTS**
2. Machine & Equip. Acre 1 240 240 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Irrigation Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Land Charge Acre 1 50 50

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Fixed Costs 370 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL COSTS** **12,815** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS**   **23,555**  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**RETURN ABOVE TOTAL COSTS 23,185 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Notes – Budget estimates for planning only.**

1. Yield is average of University of Georgia Budgets 2011. Price taken from Carolina Farm Stewardship Assoc. (CFSA) Organic Produce Marketing Survey, 2013.
2. Variable costs are those costs that a farmer incurs because he/she decided to grow this specific crop.
3. Average organic certification cost from USDA Farm Services Administration.
4. Average of organic seedling prices found in 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 of various cover crop seed and planting cost. Estimated from farmer interviews, and Mississippi State University enterprise budgets, 2013.
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 Cueve (copper), Serenade & Sporatec taken from 2013 CFSA pest control worksheets.
10. Mississippi State University, Traditional Vegetables 2013 Planning Budgets, and farmer reviews.
11. Cost estimate from Internet search of various suppliers.
12. Average of Clemson Extension 2012 and Mississippi State University 2013 enterprise budgets, plus prices from Internet search.
13. Labor estimates vary widely. This estimate is extrapolated from enterprise budget developed by Clemson Extension 2012, and Mississippi State University 2013.
14. Irrigation supplies include 1.5 rolls of drip tape and 6 acre inches of rural water cost. Derived from the Mississippi State University 2013 enterprise budgets.
15. Plastic Mulch.
16. Purposely left blank for other unspecified farm costs.
17. Fixed costs are costs that a farmer incurs whether or not a crop is grown.
18. See table below.
19. Annual fixed cost for irrigation setup.
20. Average of farm rental values for North and South Carolina. Estimated from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 2010 published cropland rents.

Machinery and Equipment Costs\*

Useful

Purchase Salvage Life Acres Repair & Maint. Total\*\*

Item Price $ Value $ Yrs. Used/Yr. $/Ac. $/Ac.

Tractor 17,000 4,000 20 10 3.00 68

Chisel Plow 2,500 600 15 10 0.30 13

Transplanter 2,600 600 20 4 0.20 25

Pest. Sprayer 9,400 1,900 20 10 9.50 47

Trailer 1,100 200 20 10 0.10 5

Disk 4,450 900 15 10 0.20 24

Manure Spreader 3,000 1,500 20 10 0.20 8

Bed Shaper 2,500 600 20 5 1.50 21

200 Buckets 1,000 0 5 7 0 29

Total $/ Acre = 240

\*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.

\*\*Total $/Ac. = Purchase Price – Salvage Value/Useful Life/ Acres Used + Repair & Maintenance.

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