**Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, 2019**

**Organic Cucumber – Irrigated – Wholesale Market – 20 lb Case**

**Budget Based on 1 acre of cucumber on a 10 acre organic mixed vegetable farm.**

**Estimated Costs and Returns Per Acre.**

 UNIT QUANTITY $/UNIT TOTAL $/AC YOUR FARM $/AC

**RECEIPTS**

1. Cucumber Case 800 18 14,400 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. VARIABLE COSTS**

1. Organic Certification Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Seed Lbs. 3 90 270 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Compost/Manure Ton 2 40 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Cover Crop Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Lime (prorated) Ton 0.33 50 17 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Organic Pest. Sprays Oz. 408 0.90 367 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Fuel Gal. 26 3.00 78 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Paper case Each 800 1.80 1440 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Labor Hrs. 150 10 1500 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. Irrigation Supplies Acre 1 1000 1000 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. Plastic Mulch Roll 3.75 100 375 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Variable Costs 5,287

1. **FIXED COSTS**
2. Machine & Equip. Acre 1 251 251 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Irrigation Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Land Charge Acre 1 50 50 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Fixed Costs 381

**TOTAL COSTS** **5,668**

**RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS 9,113**

**RETURN ABOVE TOTAL COSTS 8,732**

**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. Average cost for various cover crops species based on Internet search.
7. Equals 1 ton of lime per acre every 3 years. Price from Internet search.
8. Used only when mechanical and physical control methods are ineffective. Application rates and weighted average price for Dispel DF, Pyogenic & Trilogy taken from 2013 CFSA pest control worksheets.
9. Average annual diesel price per gallon in the Carolinas from the U.S. Dept. of Energy, 2018.
10. From Mississippi State University Budgets, 2018.
11. Labor estimates vary widely. This estimate is extrapolated from enterprise budget developed by Clemson Extension, University of Georgia and Mississippi State University.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. Purposely left blank for other unspecified farm costs.
15. Fixed costs are costs that a farmer incurs whether or not a crop is grown.
16. See table below.
17. Annual fixed cost for irrigation setup.
18. Average farm rental values for North and South Carolina from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2018.



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