**Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, 2019**

**Organic Irish Potato – Irrigated – Wholesale Market – 50 lb Case**

**Budget based on 1 acre of Irish potatoes on a 10 acre mixed organic vegetable farm.**

**Estimated Costs and Returns Per Acre.**

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

**RECEIPTS**

1. Irish Potato Case 375 39 14,625 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**2. VARIABLE COSTS**

1. Organic Certification Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Potato Seed Cwt. 22 140 1870 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Compost/Manure Ton 2 40 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Cover Crop Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Organic Pest. Sprays Oz. 515 0.60 301 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. Paper Case Each 375 1.50 450 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. Labor Hrs. 60 10 600 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. Irrigation Supplies Acre 1 1000 1000 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Variable Costs 5,911

**14. FIXED COSTS**

1. Machine & Equip. Acre 1 1,025 1,025 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Irrigation Acre 1 80 80 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Land Charge Acre 1 50 50 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Fixed Costs 1,155

**TOTAL COSTS** **7,066**

**RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS 8,713**

**RETURN ABOVE TOTAL COSTS 7,558**

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

1. Yield extrapolated from Louisiana State University 2011, Penn State University 2013 enterprise budgets. 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. 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.
8. Average annual diesel price per gallon in the Carolinas from the U.S. Dept. of Energy, 2018.
9. Cost estimate from Internet search of various suppliers.
10. Labor estimates vary widely. This estimate is extrapolated from enterprise budget developed by Clemson Extension, University of Georgia and Mississippi State University.
11. 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.
12. Purposely left blank for other unspecified farm costs.
13. Fixed costs are costs that a farmer incurs whether or not a crop is grown.
14. See table below.
15. Annual fixed cost for irrigation setup.
16. Average farm rental values for North and South Carolina from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2018.



Originally prepared by: Randy James, PhD, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University; Karen RM McSwain, MS, Associate Executive Director of Programs, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association. Updated in 2019 by Karen RM McSwain.