

SPRING OR FALL LETTUCE, KALE, AND COLLARDS
IRRIGATED HIGH-DENSITY PLANTING

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION **

EXPECTED INCOME **			
	PRICE/CONTAINER		
	\$6.00	\$9.00	\$12.00
QUANTITY			
517	\$3,102	\$4,653	\$6,204
800	\$4,800	\$7,200	\$9,600
1142	\$6,852	\$10,278	\$13,704
(14 plants per lug)			
8000 = 517 LUGS/ACRE			
12000 = 800 LUGS/ACRE			
16000 = 1142 LUGS/ACRE			

Field test this double-row system using 1' in-row between plants. Double rows are on 5 ft. centers, for 17,424 plants/acre. Recommended only with irrigation! Spring lettuce can be on recycled black plastic mulch from previous year. Fall lettuce and fall greens are no-till with drip irrigation. Spring and fall lettuce from greenhouse grown as plug transplants. Double-row system needs top management and increased water and fertilizer requirements. 50# of N and K when planted. Drip irrigation system is recommended! First-acre irrigation cost is \$2,294. Drip irrigation. Volume market ing requires proper precooling (see Table 1).

VARIABLE COSTS:	UNITS	QUANTITY	PRICE	COSTS
SEEDING COSTS: Rye cover crop	BU	2	\$9.00 /BU	\$18.00 (*)
PLANTS:				
Lettuce varieties: New Red Fire, Sierra, Nevada	PLT	17424	\$0.05 /PLUG	\$871.20
Collards varitiety = Champion				
Kale variety = Vates -Dwarf Blue Curled				
FERTILIZER: N	LB	130	\$0.25 /LB	\$32.50
P	LB	150	\$0.24 /LB	\$36.00
K	LB	150	\$0.14 /LB	\$21.00
LIME	TONS	1	\$20.00 /TON	\$20.00
SPRAY MATERIALS:				
HERBICIDES				\$0.00
POAST	PT.	1.25	\$74.04 /GAL	\$11.57
INSECTICIDES				
DIAZINON	PT.	4	\$27.61 /GAL	\$13.81
CROP SUPPLIES: LUGS	BOXES	53	\$1.20 /BOX	\$64.00 (*)
IRRIGATION:	ACRE	\$2,294	20.46%	\$469.29 (*)
MARKETING:				
HAULING & COOLING *	BOXES	53	\$1.00 /BOX	\$53.33 (*)
MACHINERY & EQUIP. (Fuel, oil, repairs)	\$\$	\$112.78	\$1.00	\$112.78
Operating interest (on above costs except *)	\$\$	\$1,119	7.50%	\$83.91 (*)
OPERATING COSTS				\$1,807.39
OUT-OF-POCKET COST PER BOX **				\$2.26
FIXED COST:				
LABOR:	HRS	187	\$7.00	\$1,309.00
TOTAL FIXED MACHINE COSTS	\$\$	\$350.18	\$1.00	\$350.18
TOTAL FIXED BUILDING COSTS	\$\$	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00
(DEP., INT., INS., & TAXES)				
LAND CHARGE	\$\$	\$800.00	8.00%	\$64.00
TOTAL COSTS				\$3,530.57
TOTAL COSTS PER BOX **				\$4.41

** Based on 800-box production. Various costs of production are listed on the next page.

* Leaf lettuce: 10-13 lbs. per container. Kale or collards: 14 plants per lug.

LETTUCE, KALE, & COLLARDS (continued)

LETTUCE, KALE, & COLLARDS

LABOR REQUIRED	HOURS/SEASON	EXPECTED COSTS AT VARIOUS LEVELS OF PRODUCTION**			
		PRODUCTION LEVEL PER UNIT			
D-J-F	0				
M-A-MAY 15	27				
MAY 16-31	0				
JUNE 1-15	40	517	800	1142	
JUNE 16-30	40				
JULY 1-15	80	OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS	\$5.47	\$2.26	\$3.68
JULY 16-31	0				
AUGUST 1-15	0	TOTAL COSTS	\$8.17	\$4.41	\$5.48
AUGUST 16-31	0				
SEPT. 1-15	0	** Cost considers changes in harvest labor, box and marketing costs.			
SEPT. 16-30	0				
OCT. - NOV.	0				
TOTAL	187 HOURS				

MACHINE USED:	OPERATING COSTS			FIXED COSTS		
	Hours Used	Per Hour	Total	Per Hour	Total	
40 HP tractor and plow	1	4.47	\$4.47	\$7.74	\$7.74	
40 HP tractor and disc	1	4.67	\$2.34	\$13.52	\$6.76	
40 HP tractor and harrow	0	3.3	\$0.99	\$6.89	\$2.07	
40 HP tractor and fertilizer spreader	0	3.18	\$0.64	\$4.61	\$0.92	
40 HP tractor and sprayer	1	4.01	\$4.01	\$10.43	\$10.43	
40 HP tractor and transplanter	8	3.53	\$28.24	\$8.97	\$71.76	
Pick-up truck	16	3.85	\$61.60	\$8.35	\$133.60	
Mist blower	14	0.75	\$10.50	\$8.35	\$116.90	
TOTALS	41		\$112.78		\$350.18	
TOTAL MACHINE COSTS					\$462.96	

SPRING LETTUCE:

Order plugs from Aarons Creek Farms by January 1 for pick-up and delivery on or about March 15 - April 1.

FALL LETTUCE:

Purchase greenhouse plug plants by August 15. Please order from Aarons Creek Farms to germinate seeds and start plugs on July 10 (please order by May 1 or earlier).

LABOR:

Set plugs August 15 - 25 = 27 hours
~~Hoe labor~~ and pest control, September 15 - 30 = 40 hours
Hoe labor and pest control, October 1 - 15 = 40 hours
Harvest November 1 - 15 = 173 hours

TOTAL LABOR = 280 HOURS