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# AGRICULTURAL ALTERNATIVES

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## Instructions for using the interactive budgets

You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to use these forms. If you do not have this program installed on your computer, you can download a free version [here](#).

You can make changes to the interactive PDF budget files for this publication by inputting your own prices and quantities in the green-outlined cells for any item. You will need to click on and add your own estimated price and quantity information to all of the green-outlined cells to complete your customized budget.

The cells outlined in red automatically calculate your revised totals based on the changes you made to the cells outlined in green.

When you are finished, you can print the budget using the green **Print Form** button at the bottom of the form.

You can use the red **Clear Form** button to clear all the information from your budget when you are finished.

# Sample Pepper Production Budget

Summary of estimated income and costs per acre using plasticulture production methods.

Item	Quantity or number of operations	Your Quantity	Unit	Price	Your Price	Total	Calculated Estimate
Pepper	830		cartons	\$20.00		\$16,600.00	
<b>Variable costs</b>							
Custom hire							
Soil test	1		acre	\$13.00		\$13.00	
Fertilizer spreading	1		acre	\$8.20		\$8.20	
Moldboard plowing	1		acre	\$25.20		\$25.20	
Harrowing	2		acre	\$14.40		\$28.80	
Disking	2		acre	\$19.90		\$39.80	
Pest scouting	1		acre	\$20.00		\$20.00	
Lime including spreading	0.5		ton	\$29.00		\$14.50	
Fertilizer							
Nitrogen	80		lb.	\$0.23		\$18.40	
Phosphorus	80		lb.	\$0.24		\$19.20	
Potassium	140		lb.	\$0.24		\$33.60	
Fungicides	1		acre	\$118.58		\$118.58	
Herbicides	1		acre	\$25.90		\$25.90	
Insecticides	1		acre	\$76.23		\$76.23	
Black plastic mulch	7,920		feet	\$0.03		\$237.60	
Drip tape	15,840		feet	\$0.02		\$316.80	
Stakes	1,190		each	\$0.37		\$440.30	
Twine	80		100 feet	\$0.33		\$26.40	
Transplants	11,910		each	\$0.25		\$2,977.50	
Labor							
Operator labor	3		hours	\$17.00		\$51.00	
Seasonal labor	18		hours	\$15.00		\$270.00	
Harvest labor	165		hours	\$15.00		\$2,475.00	
Diesel Fuel <sup>1</sup>	50		gallons	\$2.60		\$130.00	

Repairs and maintenance							
Implements <sup>1</sup>	1	_____	acre	\$68.48	_____	\$68.48	_____
Tractors	1	_____	acre	\$38.91	_____	\$38.91	_____
Packaging and grading	30	_____	hours	\$15.00	_____	\$450.00	_____
Cartons	830	_____	cartons	\$1.75	_____	\$1,452.50	_____
Marketing and advertising	15%	_____	sales	\$16,600.00	_____	\$2,490.00	_____
Additional expenses		_____			_____		_____
Additional expenses		_____			_____		_____
Interest expense	1	_____	acre	\$165.33	_____	\$165.33	_____
<b>Total variable costs</b>						<b>\$12,031.23</b>	_____
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<b>Fixed costs</b>							
Implements <sup>1</sup>	1	_____	acre	\$162.23	_____	\$162.23	_____
Tractors	1	_____	acre	\$76.78	_____	\$76.78	_____
Land charge	1	_____	acre	\$200.00	_____	\$200.00	_____
Additional expenses		_____			_____		_____
Food safety inspection <sup>2</sup>	1	_____	crop	\$250.00	_____	\$250.00	_____
<b>Total fixed costs</b>						<b>\$689.01</b>	_____
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<b>Total costs</b>						<b>\$12,720.24</b>	_____
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<b>Returns</b>							
Net returns over variable costs						<b>\$4,568.77</b>	_____
Net returns						<b>\$3,879.76</b>	_____
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<b>Break-even</b>							
Break-even price per 1 1/9 bu.						<b>\$15.33</b>	_____
Break-even yield 1 1/9 bu.						<b>636</b>	_____
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1. Includes irrigation system and operation for the production period.

2. This is a portion of the total cost for the entire farm producing more than one crop.

You should monitor local markets and contact suppliers to determine current values for all items contained in this sample budget.