

# Flood Irrigated Lucerne: Establishment Central Zone

## Winter 2010

### 1. GROSS MARGIN BUDGET:

**INCOME:**

0.00 tonnes/ha @ \$0.00 /tonne (on farm)

**A. TOTAL INCOME \$/ha:**

**VARIABLE COSTS:**

See opposite page for detail

	Standard Budget \$/ha	Your Budget \$/ha
	\$0.00	
<b>A. TOTAL INCOME \$/ha:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	
Cultivation.....	\$47.32	
Sowing.....	\$120.31	
Fertiliser.....	\$105.00	
Herbicide.....	\$28.41	
Insecticide.....	\$6.29	
Irrigation.....	\$29.61	
Contract-harvesting.....	\$0.00	
<b>B. TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS \$/ha:</b>	<b>\$336.95</b>	
<b>C. GROSS MARGIN (A-B) \$/ha:</b>	<b>(\$336.95)</b>	

#### PRODUCT TRADE NAMES

The product trade names in this publication are supplied on the understanding that no preference between equivalent products is intended and that the inclusion of a product does not imply endorsement by Industry & Investment NSW over any other equivalent product from another manufacturer.

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:								
Operation	Month	hrs /ha	Machinery		rate/ha	Inputs		Total Cost \$/ha
			Cost \$/hour	Total \$/ha		Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Plough	Jan	0.58	27.08	<b>\$15.67</b>				<b>\$15.67</b>
Cultivation	Mar	0.42	24.98	<b>\$10.55</b>				<b>\$10.55</b>
Cultivation	Mar	0.42	24.98	<b>\$10.55</b>				<b>\$10.55</b>
Pre-sowing weed control eg: Glyphosate 540 (Roundup PowerMax®)	Apr	0.10	29.92	<b>\$2.88</b>	1.00 L	\$7.62/L	<b>\$7.62</b>	<b>\$10.50</b>
Pre-emergent weed control eg: Trifluralin 480g/L	May	0.10	29.92	<b>\$2.88</b>	1.40 L	\$10.73/L	<b>\$15.02</b>	<b>\$17.91</b>
Cultivation - incorporation	May	0.42	24.98	<b>\$10.55</b>				<b>\$10.55</b>
Sowing	May	0.29	33.25	<b>\$9.67</b>	12 kg	\$9.22/kg	<b>\$110.64</b>	<b>\$120.31</b>
Phosphorus fertiliser eg: Single Super	May	with above			250 kg	\$0.42/kg	<b>\$105.00</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
Irrigation	May				1.50 ML	\$19.74/ML	<b>\$29.61</b>	<b>\$29.61</b>
Mite control eg: Omethoate (Le-mat®)	June	0.10	29.92	<b>\$2.88</b>	0.10 L	\$34.10/L	<b>\$3.41</b>	<b>\$6.29</b>

\* Irrigation water price is an average price. Use the variable cost of irrigation water applicable to your situation.

\*\*\* Input and crop prices are correct at the time of writing (March 2010). Market uncertainty makes estimation of future pricing impractical.

### NOTES:

- Sowing time:**
- Winter establishment is preferable to spring to maximise root development before summer.
  - Seed price used above assumes cost of pre-treatment required (eg insect protection) and inoculation.
- Fertiliser:**
- Adequate phosphorus is critical for successful establishment.
  - Can be applied via a range of products including single super or starter fertiliser.
- Weed control:**
- Incorporation of trifluralin by cultivation may be optional dependent on seedbed preparation method (eg: No-till).
- Insect control:**
- Earthmite control at establishment is essential.
- Irrigation:**
- This budget is applicable for the Central Zone east, a higher water requirement may be required for the central zone/west than the figures used in this budget.
- Machinery:**
- A tractor with 57 kW (77 HP) pto power and 66kW (90 HP) engine power is assumed.
  - Machinery costs refer only to variable costs: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries & repairs.
- Labour:**
- The labour required for machinery operations is 3.11 hr/ha
  - Using a labour cost of \$21/hr, an additional \$65.34 can be deducted from the budget
  - The Lucerne stand is assumed to last 4 years.
- Important notes:**
- These gross margins are only a guide. They do not include overhead costs.
  - **Use your own figures and price assumptions to estimate your own gross margin.**
  - Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply a recommendation of that brand by Industry & Investment NSW.