



Industry & Investment

SWEET CORN (Fresh) - Overhead Irrigation

Farm Enterprise Budget Series - Sydney Basin

Sydney Basin 2009

1. GROSS MARGIN BUDGET:

INCOME:

2,150 cartons/ha @ \$11.00 /16.5kg carton

Standard Budget \$/ha	Your Budget \$/ha
\$23,650	

A. TOTAL INCOME \$/ha:

\$23,650	
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VARIABLE COSTS:

See following page for detail

Seed.....	\$315	
Tractor costs.....	\$310	
Irrigation.....	\$626	
Fertiliser.....	\$881	
Pest control.....	\$397	
Weed control.....	\$75	
Casual labour.....	\$2,778	
Harvesting.....	\$1,260	
Marketing.....	\$6,203	

B. TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS \$/ha:

\$12,845	
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C. GROSS MARGIN (A-B) \$/ha

\$10,805	
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D. GROSS MARGIN \$/ML

\$1,351	
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2. SENSITIVITY TABLES

2.1 EFFECT OF YIELD AND PRICE ON GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE

YIELD carton/ha	Price (\$/carton)				
	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13
1,850	\$5,213	\$7,053	\$8,894	\$10,735	\$12,576
2,000	\$5,870	\$7,860	\$9,850	\$11,840	\$13,830
2,150	\$6,527	\$8,666	\$10,805	\$12,944	\$15,084
2,300	\$7,184	\$9,472	\$11,761	\$14,049	\$16,338
2,550	\$8,279	\$10,816	\$13,353	\$15,891	\$18,428

2.2 EFFECT OF YIELD AND PRICE ON GROSS MARGIN PER MEGALITRE

YIELD carton/ha	Price (\$/carton)				
	\$9	\$10	\$11	\$12	\$13
1,850	\$652	\$882	\$1,112	\$1,342	\$1,572
2,000	\$734	\$982	\$1,231	\$1,480	\$1,729
2,150	\$816	\$1,083	\$1,351	\$1,618	\$1,885
2,300	\$898	\$1,184	\$1,470	\$1,756	\$2,042
2,550	\$1,035	\$1,352	\$1,669	\$1,986	\$2,303

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS: Operation	Machinery			Inputs		
	Hrs/ha	Cost \$/hr	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost	Total \$/ha
Deep rip	1.18	\$31.45	\$37.11			
Disc plough	1.74	\$24.18	\$42.07			
Fertiliser spreader <i>eg Urea</i>	0.10	\$24.91	\$2.49	200kg	\$0.98	\$196.00
<i>eg: Sulphate of Potash</i>				100kg	\$1.68	\$168.00
Lister	0.78	\$27.95	\$21.80			
Bedform	1.56	\$25.05	\$39.08			
Apply pre-emergent <i>eg: Duel Gold</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	0.5L	\$23.50	\$11.75
Apply pre-emergent <i>eg: Primextra</i>				3.2L	\$9.23	\$29.54
Planter	0.29	\$31.12	\$9.02			
Seed (45,000 plants/ha)				9kg	\$35.00	\$315.00
Apply starter fertiliser <i>eg: Starterfos MAP</i>				200kg	\$1.63	\$326.00
Insecticide at sowing <i>eg: Lorsban</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	2L	\$16.40	\$32.80
Foliar fertiliser <i>eg: Liquid Zinc</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	2L	\$8.18	\$16.36
Apply post-emergent <i>eg: Starane</i>				1L	\$33.30	\$33.30
Insecticide: Heliothis <i>eg: Gemstar</i> 8 times	0.1	\$22.92	\$18.32	0.25L	\$79.13	\$158.26
Insecticide: Heliothis <i>eg: Success 2</i>				0.4L	\$363.64	\$145.46
Apply sidedressing fertiliser <i>eg: Urea</i>	0.1	\$24.91	\$4.98	180kg	\$0.98	\$176.40
Crop Monitoring						\$60.00
Irrigation				8ML	\$32.80	\$262.39
Pumping costs				8ML	\$45.50	\$364.00
Contract harvest				35.5tonnes	\$33.00	\$1,170.84
Bin hire 40 days				14bins	\$0.16	\$89.60
Harvest labour				9hrs	\$22.00	\$198.00
Trailer	6	\$21.78	\$130.68			
Packaging: Cartons (16.5kg)				2150ctns	\$1.73	\$3,719.50
Packaging: Labour				2150ctns	\$1.20	\$2,580.00
Cooling				2150ctns	\$0.05	\$107.50
Freight to markets				1250ctns	\$1.05	\$2,257.50
Levy				0.50%		\$118.25

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AGRONOMIC NOTES

Area:	Sydney Basin and the Tablelands are the main growing areas.
Production:	Plants are spaced on single rows 0.75 to 0.9m apart for sprinkler irrigation with plants spaced 25-30cm apart give a plant population around 45,000 plants per hectare. Controlling heliothis in late crops is a big challenge with more growers now using IPM systems. Soil moisture should be maintained during tasselling to avoid desiccation during heatwave conditions.
Pests:	The main insect pest is heliothis with no major disease problems.
Harvesting:	Fresh market sweet corn can be harvested mechanically or by hand. Sowing is from September to December with harvest from January to April. Maturity is when the cobs reach 78% moisture, which takes about 75 to 95 days
Yields:	Packout yields vary considerably depending on heliothis damage. Marketable cobs with no grub-damaged cobs vary from 0 to 95%. This budget represents about a 65% yield of undamaged cobs. A limited market also exists for trimming and dehusking unsuitable cobs and selling them as cobetts.
Packaging:	Sweet corn is mainly marketed in 16.5kg cartons. Sweet corn can also be sold in pre-pack trays of 2 to 4 cobetts per pack with 12 trays per 18l-cellopack carton.
Economic note	This budget is ONLY A GUIDE and should be altered for movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and the farm characteristics. This budget does not include overhead costs or GST.