

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

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	\$15.67				\$15.67
Cultivation	Mar	0.42	24.98	\$10.55				\$10.55
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Pre-sowing weed control eg: Glyphosate 540 (Roundup PowerMax®)	Apr	0.10	29.92	\$2.88	1.00 L	\$7.62/L	\$7.62	\$10.50
Pre-emergent weed control eg: Trifluralin 480g/L	May	0.10	29.92	\$2.88	1.40 L	\$10.73/L	\$15.02	\$17.91
Cultivation - incorporation	May	0.42	24.98	\$10.55				\$10.55
Sowing	May	0.29	33.25	\$9.67	12 kg	\$9.22/kg	\$110.64	\$120.31
Phosphorus fertiliser eg: Single Super	May	with above			250 kg	\$0.42/kg	\$105.00	\$105.00
Irrigation	May				1.50 ML	\$19.74/ML	\$29.61	\$29.61
Mite control eg: Omethoate (Le-mat®)	June	0.10	29.92	\$2.88	0.10 L	\$34.10/L	\$3.41	\$6.29

* 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.