# Northern Utah Conventional Peach Orchard Costs and Returns, 20 Acres, 2015 

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## Introduction

Peach production in Utah experienced a $12 \%$ reduction in the number of peach producing acres, decreasing from 1,792 to 1,594 acres from 2007 to 2012. However, peach production per acre and total value per acre increased, as yields expanded from 2.87 tons to 3.53 tons/acre equating to a change in overall peach production from 4,300 tons to 5,300 tons annually (U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2014). This appears to follow an overall trend for agriculture within the state as urbanization increases each year.

Also notable is the increase in "nonbearing age" peach acres which has increased 18\% from 287 acres in 2007 to 341 in 2012, indicating a potential increase in producing acres in the future. Per ton prices for peaches have also increased and in 2012 were estimated at $\$ 1080$ per ton, up $36 \%$ from 2007 with a total state peach production value of $\$ 5.7$ million (U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2014).

Several varieties of peaches grow well in Utah's climate, including Early Elberta, Elberta, Angelus, O’Henry, Hale, Globe, and Red Haven (Utah Department of Agriculture and Food, 2006). Producers should investigate each variety fully before planting. For an extended harvest, producers may want to plant several varieties (early bearing, mid-season, and late bearing for example).

As the population of Utah increases, increased demand for land and water resources, as well as urban encroachment create a challenging environment in which fruit producers operate (Reeve et al., 2014). However, along with the urbanization that brings many challenges to producers in the state, Utah is also seeing an increased interest in locally produced foods as seen by the increase of farmers' markets throughout the state (U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, 2014a; 2014b). Peach producers may have the opportunity to make their orchards/farms more profitable through direct marketing to the growing population in the state interested in locally produced food (Toler et al., 2009). Organic or Integrated Pest Management (IPM) production methods may further help producers add value to their products (U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2013; Oberholtzer, Dimitri, \& Greene, 2005).

Other factors that Utah peach producers need to be aware of are the relatively short growing season throughout most of the state, the threat of spring frosts and a wide variety of pests such as the Peach Twig Borer and diseases like Coryneum Blight (Murray \& Alston, 2011). Understanding these threats will allow producers to manage their orchards in order to minimize stress on trees and maximize tree productivity and fruit quality.

This publication contains average costs and returns for establishing and maintaining a 20 -acre peach orchard in Northern Utah. Unless otherwise indicated, information in this publication is based upon grower surveys and pricing data collected in 2014. The establishment and operating costs are meant to be "representative" of a

Utah peach orchard, but should be adjusted where necessary to reflect individual situations. Site selection, peach variety, pest management, and other practices will also affect the establishment and operating costs of an orchard and should be considered by the producer.

## Assumptions <br> Land

The site represented in this publication is established in open land with no improvements (ground levelling, for instance). It is also assumed that the site is in a location with minimal spring frost and winter cold damage.

This representative orchard is a 20 -acre peach orchard, which is leased at \$800/acre (Olsen, Curtis, Wagner, \& Knudsen, 2014). Although some producers may grow other crops as well (apples, apricots, cherries) in order to spread the cost of machinery and hedge against unfavorable weather or markets, it is assumed that only peaches are grown in this orchard.

## Peach Trees

The cost of purchasing peach trees and planting density can vary significantly. Trees for this publication are priced at $\$ 7.75$ each (Ty Ty Nusery, 2014) and the planting density is assumed at 400 trees per acre.

## Irrigation

The amount of water needed to properly irrigate a peach orchard will depend on a variety of factors including site location, soil type, annual temperatures, and rainfall. The year of growth also needs to be taken into consideration as younger orchards will require less water than fully producing orchards. The amount of water each orchard receives increases from 1.5 acre feet in year one to 3.5 acre feet in years 6-20 when orchards are in full production (Day, Klonsky, \& De Moura, 2009).

Although flood irrigation was commonly used in the past for orchard irrigation, drip systems and micro-sprinkler systems have become increasingly popular due to their consistent watering, as well as their efficiency in irrigation. This study assumes a micro sprinkler system priced at $\$ 1,500$ per acre (Mountain Land Sprinkler, personal communication, October 16, 2014) and annual water cost at $\$ 30 /$ acre foot.

## Electricity

Electricity to run the irrigation pumps is assumed at $\$ 14.22$ per acre foot of water (N. Allen, personal communication, November 6, 2014; Rocky Mountain Power, 2014) and electricity to run the cooler is assumed at $\$ 15.00$ per day during the months of August and

September (\$900) for a total of $\$ 1,895$ per acre per year during full production (years 6-20).

## Marketing

Yearly marketing fees include packaging at $\$ 6$ per 23pound box (half bushel), fees and stand costs for four markets (\$800), market labor costs $(\$ 2,400)$, and transportation to markets $(\$ 1,440)$.

## Market Prices

Prices received for peaches harvested are key to profitability. As with most agricultural products, several factors determine market prices received during any given year, including variety, total production, fruit quality, marketing strategies, and regular volatility in markets. Producers have found that through direct marketing (roadside stands, farmers' markets, community supported agriculture [CSA] programs, etc.) they have been able to gain higher prices for their peaches, and therefore can cover their costs more effectively. Contracts are also a good way to lock in prices, however, small producers may have difficulty finding buyers willing to contract with them (Utah State University, 2014).
"Wholesale" prices assumed in this study reflect prices paid by retail locations such as Associated Foods during 2014. "Direct Market" prices reflect prices received by producers at various farmers' markets in Northern Utah and Colorado during the 2014 market season. Table 1 demonstrates the prices per pound used in this publication. Also shown in Table 1 is the market share (percentage sold in each market) decided upon after gathering data from grower surveys. Wholesale markets mainly consist of grocery stores, and direct markets include farmers' markets, CSA programs, and roadside stands.

Table 1: Peach Prices and Market Allocation

| Market Type | Price per Pound | Percentage Sold |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Wholesale | $\$ 1.06$ | $20 \%$ |
| Direct Markets | $\$ 2.23$ | $80 \%$ |

## Yields

Table 2 provides the assumed peach yields per acre for each time period in this publication. The possibility of a partial or full crop loss due to frost or other factors is highly likely during the 20 -year orchard life. This publication assumes one-half crop loss every third year. An $80 \%$ pack-out rate is assumed and returns are based on the pack-out rate.

Table 2: Peach Yields per Acre/Year (Pounds)

|  | Annual Yield <br> per Acre (Lbs) | $\mathbf{8 0}$ \% Packout <br> Rate Yield (Lbs) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Year | - | - |
| (Establishment) | - | - |
| Year 2 | - | - |
| Year 3 | 5,500 | 4,400 |
| Year 4 | 13,750 | 11,000 |
| Year 5 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 6 | 9,625 | 7,700 |
| Year 7 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 8 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 9 | 9,625 | 7,700 |
| Year 10 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 11 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 12 | 9,625 | 7,700 |
| Year 13 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 14 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 15 | 9,625 | 7,700 |
| Year 16 | 19,250 | 15,400 |
| Year 17 | 16,500 | 13,200 |
| Year 18 | 5,500 | 4,400 |
| Year 19 | 11,000 | 8,800 |
| Year 20 |  |  |

## Cash Overhead

Cash overhead consists of various cash expenses paid during the year. These costs include accounting/legal costs, insurance, and office expenses.

Insurance. Insurance on farm investments vary, depending on the assets included and the amount of coverage. Property insurance provides coverage for property loss at . 666 percent of the average asset value and crop insurance provides coverage for crop loss at . 75 percent average yields. Liability insurance covers accidents on the orchard. Crop and liability insurance are estimated at an annual cost of $\$ 1,000$ for the 20 -acre orchard (S. Norman, personal communication, October 20, 2014).

Office \& Travel. Office and travel costs are estimated at $\$ 5,000$ for an average year. These expenses include office supplies, telephone service, internet service, and travel expenses to educational seminars.

Accounting \& Legal. Annual accounting and legal costs are estimated at $\$ 1,000$ for an average year for the 20 acre orchard.

## Equipment

The equipment listed is adequate for a 20-25 acre orchard. Unless otherwise noted, all equipment listed is new. Equipment prices were collected from producers,
equipment dealers, and other publications (Agrisupply, 2014; B. Chapman, personal communication, October 7, 2014; Commercial Truck Trader, 2014; Drollette, 2010; Galinato \& Gallardo, 2012; HOJ Forklifts, personal communication October 8, 2014; Intermountain Farmers Association, Country Stores, personal communication, September 15, 2014; Painter, 2011; Smith Equipment Co., personal communication, October 8, 2014; Weed Badger, personal communication, October 13, 2014). Producers should consider the costs of buying new equipment versus used, as well as leasing, custom hiring, and group purchasing when establishing a new orchard as these costs will vary and have a large impact on the economic returns to the project.

Fuel and Lube. The fuel and lube for machinery is calculated at $8 \%$ the average asset value.

Investment Repairs. Annual repairs on all farm investments or capital recovery items that require maintenance are calculated at $2 \%$ of the average asset value for buildings and equipment, and at $7 \%$ for machinery and vehicles.

Capital Recovery. Capital recovery costs are the annual depreciation (opportunity cost) of all farm investments. Capital recovery costs are calculated using straight line depreciation. All equipment listed is new unless otherwise noted. The price for used machinery is calculated as one-half the new purchase price and useful life is calculated as two-thirds that of new machinery.

Salvage Value. Salvage value is $10 \%$ of the purchase price, which is an estimate of the remaining value of an investment at the end of its useful life. The salvage value for land is the purchase price, as land does not normally depreciate.

## Labor

The wage rate used is representative of the net cost to the grower and is assumed at $\$ 15$ per hour (Galinato, Gallardo, \& Miles, 2014). Owner management and labor is $\$ 30,000$ per year (Olsen \& Curtis, 2012).

## Costs and Returns

Table 3 shows initial investment costs required for buildings, equipment, and machinery. The annual cost of these items is worked into the annual budgets and is reflected in Tables 4 through 9.

The establishment budget in Table 4 as well as the annual budgets in Tables 5-8 demonstrate a representation of costs and returns associated with establishing and operating a 20 -acre peach orchard in

Utah. Table 9 shows production expenses and cash inflows during full production years (years 6-20), and assumes that once the orchard is established and fully operating, expenses and sales will be constant with the exception of orchard yields noted in Table 2. Table 9 also shows the cumulative net returns for years 6-20.

Due to the nature of orchard production, producers will not see any revenues for at least the first 3 years of production when peach trees aren't producing. Depending on pricing and productivity, orchards may
not become profitable until the $7^{\text {th }}$ or $8^{\text {th }}$ year of production.

A peach orchard can produce beyond 20 years, but for this analysis a 20 -year orchard life is assumed. Although this publication represents "typical" establishment and operating costs for a peach orchard, costs of establishment and prices of inputs are highly variable so each producer will need to assess costs on an individual basis.

Table 3: Initial Investment Requirements - Conventional Peach Orchard, 20 acres

| Machinery \& Vehicles | Purchase Price |  | Salvage Value |  | Useful Life | Annual Capital Recovery |  | Annual Insurance |  | Annual Repairs |  | Annual Fuel \& Lube |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tractor 35 hp | \$ | 25,000 | \$ | 2,500 | 15 | \$ | 1,500 | \$ | 92 | \$ | 963 | \$ | 1,100 |
| Tractor 65 hp | \$ | 55,000 | \$ | 5,500 | 15 | \$ | 3,300 | \$ | 201 | \$ | 2,118 | \$ | 2,420 |
| Pickup 3/4 ton | \$ | 40,000 | \$ | 4,000 | 6 | \$ | 6,000 | \$ | 147 | \$ | 1,540 | \$ | 1,760 |
| Refridgerated Truck (used) | \$ | 22,000 | \$ | 2,200 | 7 | \$ | 2,829 | \$ | 81 | \$ | 847 | \$ | 968 |
| Forklift | \$ | 23,000 | \$ | 2,300 | 10 | \$ | 2,070 | \$ | 84 | \$ | 886 | \$ | 1,012 |
| Wind Machine (x2) | \$ | 50,000 | \$ | 5,000 | 15 | \$ | 3,000 | \$ | 183 | \$ | 1,925 | \$ | 2,200 |
| 4 Wheeler | \$ | 10,000 | \$ | 1,000 | 5 | \$ | 1,800 | \$ | 37 | \$ | 385 | \$ | 440 |
| Sub Total | \$ | 225,000 |  |  | NA | \$ | 20,499 | \$ | 824 | \$ | 8,663 | \$ | 9,900 |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Shop (40X40 \& Tools) | \$ | 15,000 | \$ | 1,500 | 15 | \$ | 900 | \$ | 55 | \$ | 165 |  | - |
| Temperature Controlled Storage (1500 square feet) | \$ | 80,000 | \$ | 8,000 | 20 | \$ | 3,600 | \$ | 293 | \$ | 880 |  | - |
| Implements | \$ | 10,000 | \$ | 1,000 | 10 | \$ | 900 | \$ | 37 | \$ | 110 |  | - |
| Irrigation System | \$ | 30,000 | \$ | 3,000 | 20 | \$ | 1,350 | \$ | 110 | \$ | 330 |  | - |
| Pneumatic Shears/Compressor | \$ | 8,000 | \$ | 800 | 10 | \$ | 720 | \$ | 29 | \$ | 88 |  | - |
| Tree Sprayer | \$ | 20,000 | \$ | 2,000 | 10 | \$ | 1,800 | \$ | 73 | \$ | 220 |  | - |
| Flail Mower | \$ | 3,000 | \$ | 300 | 10 | \$ | 270 | \$ | 11 | \$ | 33 |  | - |
| Flatbed Trailer (used) | \$ | 2,000 | \$ | 200 | 8 | \$ | 225 | \$ | 7 | \$ | 22 |  |  |
| Sub Total | \$ | 168,000 | \$ | 16,800 | NA | \$ | 9,765 | \$ | 615 | \$ | 1,848 | \$ | - |
| Total Initial Investment | \$ | 393,000 | \$ | 16,800 | NA | \$ | 30,264 | \$ | 1,440 | \$ | 10,511 | \$ | 9,900 |

Table 4: Peach Orchard Establishment and Year 1 Expenses

| Operation | Units | Unit Cost (\$) | Units Per Acre | Cost Per Acre (\$) | Your <br> Estimate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Clearing | Hrs | 15 | 30 | 450 |  |
| Discing (Custom) | Acre | 20 | 1 | 20 |  |
| Soil Finishing (Custom) | Acre | 20 | 1 | 20 |  |
| Fertilizing | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Trees | Trees | 7.75 | 400 | 3100 |  |
| Planting | Hrs | 15 | 40 | 600 |  |
| Training | Hrs | 15 | 3 | 45 |  |
| Irrigating | Hrs | 15 | 15 | 225 |  |
| Irrigation Setup | Acre | 100 | 1 | 100 |  |
| Soil Testing | Test | 30 | 1 | 30 |  |
| Fertility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonium Sulfate | Lbs | 3 | 100 | 300 |  |
| Metalosate Multi Mineral | Gal | 36 | 0.25 | 9 |  |
| Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water | Acre Feet | 30 | 1.5 | 45 |  |
| Twig Borer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Asana XL | Gal | 65 | 0.1 | 7 |  |
| Powdery Mildew |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur Granules | Lbs | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Weeds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roundup | Gal | 12.5 | 0.5 | 6 |  |
| Electricity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irrigation Pump | Annual | 427 | 0.05 | 21 |  |
| Cooler | Annual | 0 | 0.05 | 0 |  |
| Machinery/Vehicles/Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel \& Lube | Annual | 9900 | 0.05 | 495 |  |
| Repairs | Annual | 10511 | 0.05 | 526 |  |
| Cash Overhead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land Rental | Acre | 800 | 1 | 800 |  |
| Accounting/Legal | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Liability/Crop Insurance | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Office/Travel | Annual | 5000 | 0.05 | 250 |  |
| Annual Investment Insurance | Annual | 1440 | 0.05 | 72 |  |
| Owner Management/Labor | Annual | 30000 | 0.05 | 1500 |  |
| Non Cash Overhead (Capital Recovery) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Vehicles | Annual | 20499 | 0.05 | 1025 |  |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment | Annual | 9765 | 0.05 | 488 |  |
| Total Establishment Expense Per Acre |  |  |  | \$10,264 |  |
| Cash Inflows From Sales |  |  |  | \$ |  |
| Net Returns-Year 1 (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (10,263.78) |  |
| Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (10,263.78) |  |

Table 5: Peach Orchard Production Expenses-Year 2

| Operation | Units | Unit Cost (\$) | Units Per Acre | Cost Per Acre (\$) | Your <br> Estimate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pruning | Hrs | 15 | 32 | 480 |  |
| Spraying | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Mowing | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Thinning | Hrs | 15 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Fertilizing | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Irrigation | Hrs | 15 | 30 | 450 |  |
| Picking | Hrs | 15 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water | Acre Feet | 30 | 2 | 60 |  |
| Fertility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonium Sulfate | Lbs | 2.83 | 100 | 283 |  |
| Metalosate Multi Mineral | Gal | 36 | 1 | 36 |  |
| Twig Borer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imidan 70WP | Lbs | 10.65 | 4 | 43 |  |
| Coryneum Blight |  |  |  |  |  |
| Captan 70 WP | Lbs | 3.5 | 8 | 28 |  |
| Powdery Mildew |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur Granules | Lbs | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Green Peach Aphids |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dormant Oil Spray | Gal | 8.5 | 3 | 26 |  |
| Weeds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roundup | Gal | 12.5 | 0.5 | 6.25 |  |
| Electricity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irrigation Pump | Annual | 569 | 0.05 | 28 |  |
| Cooler | Annual | 0 | 0.05 | 0 |  |
| Machinery/Vehicles/Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel \& Lube | Annual | 9900 | 0.05 | 495 |  |
| Repairs | Annual | 10511 | 0.05 | 526 |  |
| Cash Overhead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land Rental | Acre | 800 | 1 | 800 |  |
| Accounting/Legal | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Liability/Crop Insurance | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Office/Travel | Annual | 5000 | 0.05 | 250 |  |
| Annual Investment Insurance | Annual | 1440 | 0.05 | 72 |  |
| Owner Management/Labor | Annual | 30000 | 0.05 | 1500 |  |
| Non Cash Overhead (Capital Recovery) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Vehicles | Annual | 20499 | 0.05 | 1025 |  |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment | Annual | 9765 | 0.05 | 488 |  |
| Total Yearly Expense Per Acre |  |  |  | \$6,875 |  |
| Cash Inflows From Sales |  |  |  | \$ - |  |
| Net Returns-Year 2 (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (6,875.48) |  |
| Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ $(17,139.26)$ |  |

Table 6: Peach Orchard Production Expenses-Year 3

| Operation | Units | Unit Cost (\$) | Units Per Acre | Cost Per Acre (\$) | Your Estimate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pruning | Hrs | 15 | 32 | 480 |  |
| Spraying | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Mowing | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Thinning | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Fertilizing | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Irrigation | Hrs | 15 | 30 | 450 |  |
| Picking | Hrs | 15 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water | Acre Feet | 30 | 2.5 | 75 |  |
| Fertility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonium Sulfate | Lbs | 2.83 | 100 | 283 |  |
| Metalosate Multi Mineral | Gal | 36 | 1 | 36 |  |
| Twig Borer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imidan 70WP | Lbs | 10.65 | 4 | 43 |  |
| Coryneum Blight |  |  |  |  |  |
| Captan 50 WP | Lbs | 3.5 | 8 | 28 |  |
| Powdery Mildew |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur Granules | Lbs | 0.4 | 0 | 0 |  |
| Green Peach Aphids |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dormant Oil Spray | Gal | 8.5 | 3 | 26 |  |
| Weeds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roundup | Gal | 12.5 | 0.5 | 6.25 |  |
| Electricity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irrigation Pump | Annual | 711 | 0.05 | 36 |  |
| Cooler | Annual | 0 | 0.05 | 0 |  |
| Machinery/Vehicles/Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel \& Lube | Annual | 9900 | 0.05 | 495 |  |
| Repairs | Annual | 10511 | 0.05 | 526 |  |
| Cash Overhead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land Rental | Acre | 800 | 1 | 800 |  |
| Accounting/Legal | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Liability/Crop Insurance | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Office/Travel | Annual | 5000 | 0.05 | 250 |  |
| Annual Investment Insurance | Annual | 1440 | 0.05 | 72 |  |
| Owner Management/Labor | Annual | 30000 | 0.05 | 1500 |  |
| Non Cash Overhead (Capital Recovery) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Vehicles | Annual | 20499 | 0.05 | 1025 |  |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment | Annual | 9765 | 0.05 | 488 |  |
| Total Yearly Expense per Acre |  |  |  | \$6,928 |  |
| Cash Inflows From Sales |  |  |  | \$ |  |
| Net Returns-Year 3 (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (6,927.58) |  |
| Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (24,066.84) |  |

Table 7: Peach Orchard Production Expenses-Year 4

| Operation | Units | Unit Cost <br> (\$) | Units Per Acre | Cost Per Acre <br> (\$) | Your <br> Estimate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pruning | Hrs | 15 | 42 | 630 |  |
| Spraying | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Mowing | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Thinning | Hrs | 15 | 50 | 750 |  |
| Fertilizing | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Irrigating | Hrs | 15 | 30 | 450 |  |
| Picking | Hrs | 15 | 60 | 900 |  |
| Marketing | Hrs | 15 | 6.4 | 96 |  |
| Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water | Acre Feet | 30 | 3 | 90 |  |
| Fertility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonium Sulfate | Lbs | 2.83 | 100 | 283 |  |
| Metalosate Multi Mineral | Gal | 36 | 1 | 36 |  |
| Twig Borer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imidan 70WP | Lbs | 10.65 | 4 | 43 |  |
| Coryneum Blight |  |  |  |  |  |
| Captan 50 WP | Lbs | 3.5 | 8 | 28 |  |
| Powdery Mildew |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur Granules | Lbs | 0.4 | 200 | 80 |  |
| Green Peach Aphids |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dormant Oil Spray | Gal | 8.5 | 3 | 26 |  |
| Weeds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roundup | Gal | 12.5 | 0.5 | 6.25 |  |
| Electricity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irrigation Pump | Annual | 853 | 0.05 | 43 |  |
| Cooler | Annual | 900 | 0.05 | 45 |  |
| Marketing |  |  |  |  |  |
| Packaging | Box | 6 | 239 | 1435 |  |
| Marketing fees | Annual | 800 | 0.05 | 40 |  |
| Transportation | Hrs | 15 | 4.8 | 72 |  |
| Machinery/Vehicles/Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel \& Lube | Annual | 9900 | 0.05 | 495 |  |
| Repairs | Annual | 10511 | 0.05 | 526 |  |
| Cash Overhead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land Rental | Acre | 800 | 1 | 800 |  |
| Accounting/Legal | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Liability/Crop Insurance | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Office/Travel | Annual | 5000 | 0.05 | 250 |  |
| Annual Investment Insurance | Annual | 1440 | 0.05 | 72 |  |
| Owner Management/Labor | Annual | 30000 | 0.05 | 1500 |  |
| Non Cash Overhead (Capital Recovery) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Vehicles | Annual | 20499 | 0.05 | 1025 |  |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment | Annual | 9765 | 0.05 | 488 |  |
| Total Yearly Expense Per Acre |  |  |  | \$10,487 |  |
| Cash Inflows From Sales |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wholesale Market Sales (20\%) | Lbs | \$ 1.06 | 880 | \$ 933 |  |
| Direct Market Sales (80\%) | Lbs | \$ 2.23 | 3,520 | \$ 7,850 |  |
| Net Returns-Year 4 (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (1,705.06) |  |
| Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (25,771.91) |  |

Table 8: Peach Orchard Production Expenses-Year 5

| Operation | Units | Unit Cost (\$) | Units Per Acre | Cost Per Acre <br> (\$) | Your <br> Estimate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Labor |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pruning | Hrs | 15 | 50 | 750 |  |
| Spraying | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Mowing | Hrs | 15 | 5 | 75 |  |
| Thinning | Hrs | 15 | 100 | 1500 |  |
| Fertilizing | Hrs | 15 | 2 | 30 |  |
| Irrigating | Hrs | 15 | 30 | 450 |  |
| Picking | Hrs | 15 | 80 | 1200 |  |
| Marketing | Hrs | 15 | 6.4 | 96 |  |
| Irrigation |  |  |  |  |  |
| Water | Acre Feet | 30 | 3.5 | 105 |  |
| Fertility |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ammonium Sulfate | Lbs | 2.83 | 100 | 283 |  |
| Metalosate Multi Mineral | Gal | 36 | 1 | 36 |  |
| Twig Borer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Imidan 70WP | Lbs | 10.65 | 4 | 43 |  |
| Coryneum Blight |  |  |  |  |  |
| Captan 50 WP | Lbs | 3.5 | 8 | 28 |  |
| Powdery Mildew |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sulphur Granules | Lbs | 0.4 | 200 | 80 |  |
| Green Peach Aphids |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dormant Oil Spray | Gal | 8.5 | 3 | 26 |  |
| Weeds |  |  |  |  |  |
| Roundup | Gal | 12.5 | 0.5 | 6.25 |  |
| Electricity |  |  |  |  |  |
| Irrigation Pump | Annual | 995 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Cooler | Annual | 900 | 0.05 | 45 |  |
| $\underline{\text { Marketing }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |
| Packaging | Box | 6 | 598 | 3587 |  |
| Marketing fees | Annual | 800 | 0.05 | 40 |  |
| Transportation | Hrs | 15 | 4.8 | 72 |  |
| Machinery/Vehicles/Equipment |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fuel \& Lube | Annual | 9900 | 0.05 | 495 |  |
| Repairs | Annual | 10511 | 0.05 | 526 |  |
| Cash Overhead |  |  |  |  |  |
| Land Rental | Acre | 800 | 1 | 800 |  |
| Accounting/Legal | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Liability/Crop Insurance | Annual | 1000 | 0.05 | 50 |  |
| Office/Travel | Annual | 5000 | 0.05 | 250 |  |
| Annual Investment Insurance | Annual | 1440 | 0.05 | 72 |  |
| Owner Management/Labor | Annual | 30000 | 0.05 | 1500 |  |
| Non Cash Overhead (Capital Recovery) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery \& Vehicles | Annual | 20499 | 0.05 | 1025 |  |
| Buildings, Improvements \& Equipment | Annual | 9765 | 0.05 | 488 |  |
| Total Yearly Expense Per Acre |  |  |  | \$13,832 |  |
| Cash Inflows From Sales |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wholesale Market Sales (20\%) | Lbs | \$ 1.06 | 2,200 | \$ 2,332 |  |
| Direct Market Sales (80\%) | Lbs | \$ 2.23 | 8,800 | \$ 19,624 |  |
| Net Returns-Year 5 (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ 8,124.26 |  |
| Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre) |  |  |  | \$ (17,647.65) |  |

Table 9: Peach Orchard Production Expenses-Years 6-20


Table 9: Continued
Cumulative Net Returns (Per Acre)

| Year 6 | $\$$ | $(3,475)$ |
| :--- | :--- | ---: |
| Year 7 | $\$$ | $(4,671)$ |
| Year 8 | $\$$ | 9,502 |
| Year 9 | $\$$ | 23,675 |
| Year 10 | $\$$ | 22,478 |
| Year 11 | $\$$ | 36,651 |
| Year 12 | $\$$ | 50,824 |
| Year 13 | $\$$ | 49,628 |
| Year 14 | $\$$ | 63,801 |
| Year 15 | $\$$ | 77,974 |
| Year 16 | $\$$ | 76,777 |
| Year 17 | $\$$ | 90,950 |
| Year 18 | $\$$ | 100,732 |
| Year 19 | 92,949 |  |
| Year 20 | $\$$ | 93,948 |

## Considerations and Limitations

## Break-Even Analysis

A break-even analysis is helpful in analyzing potential costs and returns of an investment. A break-even analysis shows a range of yields and prices required to
make a project profitable at a given cost. Table 10 demonstrates a break-even analysis for the 20 -acre peach orchard, and shows varying prices needed (italicized) for the orchard at and around the assumed pack-out rate yield for a full production year. The median pack-out rate yield (bolded) is the yield assumed in the budget during a full production year, rounded to the nearest hundredth. The yield varies by increments of 500 pounds to show the prices required for the orchard to be profitable, or "break-even." The analysis uses costs from a full production year and assumes an 80/20 direct and wholesale market distribution.

Table 11 shows another break-even analysis, but uses the peach prices assumed in the budget and changes the pack-out rate yields (italicized) needed at those prices for the orchard to become profitable, or to "break-even." The median prices (bolded) are the prices used in the budget, rounded to the nearest tenth. The price difference between wholesale and direct market prices is maintained while adjusting prices.

Table 10: Break-Even Analysis ${ }^{\text {a }}$ - Returns Per Acre at Varying Prices

|  | Wholesale and Direct Market Prices (Pound) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Wholesale | 0.45 | 0.50 | 0.55 | 0.60 | 0.65 | 0.70 | 0.75 |  |  |  |
| Direct Market | 0.95 | 1.05 | 1.16 | 1.26 | 1.37 | 1.47 | 1.58 |  |  |  |
| Pack-Out Rate Yield |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

[^0]Table 11: Break-Even Analysis ${ }^{\text {a }}$ - Returns Per Acre at Varying Pack-Out Yields

| Wholesale and Direct Market Prices (Pound) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wholesale | 0.90 |  | 0.95 |  | 1.00 |  | 1.05 |  | 1.10 |  | 1.15 |  | 1.20 |  |
| Direct Market | 1.89 |  |  | 2.00 | 2.10 |  | 2.21 |  | 2.31 |  | 2.42 |  | 2.52 |  |
| Pack-Out Rate Yield |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6500 | \$ | $(5,550)$ | \$ | $(4,938)$ | \$ | $(4,326)$ | \$ | $(3,714)$ | \$ | $(3,102)$ | \$ | $(2,490)$ | \$ | $(1,878)$ |
| 7000 | \$ | $(4,703)$ | \$ | $(4,043)$ | \$ | $(3,384)$ | \$ | $(2,725)$ | \$ | $(2,066)$ | \$ | $(1,407)$ | \$ | (748) |
| 7500 | \$ | $(3,855)$ | \$ | $(3,149)$ | \$ | $(2,443)$ | \$ | $(1,737)$ | \$ | $(1,031)$ | \$ | (324) | \$ | 382 |
| 8000 | \$ | $(3,008)$ | \$ | $(2,255)$ | \$ | $(1,501)$ | \$ | (748) | \$ | 5 | \$ | 758 | \$ | 1,511 |
| 8500 | \$ | $(2,160)$ | \$ | $(1,360)$ | \$ | (560) | \$ | 240 | \$ | 1,041 | \$ | 1,841 | \$ | 2,641 |
| 9000 | \$ | $(1,313)$ | \$ | (466) | \$ | 382 | \$ | 1,229 | \$ | 2,076 | \$ | 2,924 | \$ | 3,771 |
| 9500 | \$ | (466) | \$ | 429 | \$ | 1,323 | \$ | 2,218 | \$ | 3,112 | \$ | 4,006 | \$ | 4,901 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ Assumes full production year and total annual per acre cost of $\$ 16,566$

## Summary

Peach production has the potential to be profitable for producers in Northern Utah under the assumptions outlined in this publication. The peach orchard in this
publication is profitable starting in year 8 . Table 12 illustrates the costs, revenues, returns, and cumulative net returns for each of the 20 years. When discounted at a $5 \%$ rate, cumulative net returns per acre in year 20 are \$47,204.

Table 12: Summary of 20 Year Cost and Returns

| Year | Total Cost <br> per Acre | Total <br> Revenue Per <br> Acre | Net Returns <br> per Acre | Cumulative Net <br> Returns per <br> Acre |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Year 1 | $\$ 10,264$ | $\$ 0$ | $(\$ 10,264)$ | $(\$ 10,264)$ |
| Year 2 | $\$ 6,875$ | $\$ 0$ | $(\$ 6,875)$ | $(\$ 17,139)$ |
| Year 3 | $\$ 6,928$ | $\$ 0$ | $(\$ 6,928)$ | $(\$ 24,067)$ |
| Year 4 | $\$ 10,487$ | $\$ 8,782$ | $(\$ 1,705)$ | $(\$ 25,772)$ |
| Year 5 | $\$ 13,832$ | $\$ 21,956$ | $\$ 8,124$ | $(\$ 17,648)$ |
| Year 6 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $(\$ 3,475)$ |
| Year 7 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 15,369$ | $(\$ 1,196)$ | $(\$ 4,671)$ |
| Year 8 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 9,502$ |
| Year 9 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 23,675$ |
| Year 10 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 15,369$ | $(\$ 1,196)$ | $\$ 22,478$ |
| Year 11 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 36,651$ |
| Year 12 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 50,824$ |
| Year 13 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 15,369$ | $(\$ 1,196)$ | $\$ 49,628$ |
| Year 14 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 63,801$ |
| Year 15 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 77,974$ |
| Year 16 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 15,369$ | $(\$ 1,196)$ | $\$ 76,777$ |
| Year 17 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 30,738$ | $\$ 14,173$ | $\$ 90,950$ |
| Year 18 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 26,347$ | $\$ 9,782$ | $\$ 100,732$ |
| Year 19 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 8,782$ | $(\$ 7,783)$ | $\$ 92,949$ |
| Year 20 | $\$ 16,566$ | $\$ 17,565$ | $\$ 999$ | $\$ 93,948$ |
| NPV (5\%) |  |  |  | $\$ 47,204$ |

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[^0]:    ${ }^{\text {a }}$ Assumes full production year and total annual per acre cost of $\$ 16,566$

