## SWEET POTATOES: FRESH MARKET

Kentucky Estimated <u>per Acre</u> Costs and Returns for 2022 Large Scale (5 or more acres trickle irrigated)\*

NOT TO BE CONSIDERED CROPPING RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROFITABILITY



|                                     | Quantity   | Unit      |     | \$/Unit |                 | Total    |     |                     |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----|---------|-----------------|----------|-----|---------------------|
| GROSS RETURNS                       |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| US #1                               | 275        | box       | \$  | 15.00   | \$              | 4,125.00 | a,b | )                   |
| US #2                               | 150        | box       | \$  | 8.00    | \$              | 1,200.00 | a,b | Boxes harvested 17. |
| Sweet Potatoes                      | 425        | boxes     |     |         | \$              | 5,325.00 |     | per hour            |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| VARIABLE COSTS                      |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     | Your Numbers        |
| Production                          |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Lime                                |            | ton       |     | 20.00   |                 | 10.00    |     |                     |
| Fertilizer: Bulk Spread             |            | cwt       |     | 50.00   | \$              | 500.00   |     |                     |
| Sweet potato Plants                 |            | thousand  | · · | 60.00   |                 |          |     |                     |
| Fertilizer: Starter                 |            | lbs       | \$  | 2.00    | \$              | 100.00   |     |                     |
| Transplant Labor                    |            | hrs       |     | 12.50   | \$              | 125.00   |     |                     |
| Herbicides                          |            | acre      |     | 34.94   | \$              | 34.94    |     |                     |
| Insecticides                        |            | acre      |     | 43.58   | \$              | 43.58    |     |                     |
| Fungicides                          | 1          | acre      | \$  | 139.90  | \$              | 139.90   |     |                     |
| Irrigation                          |            | hrs       | -   |         | \$              | -        | с   |                     |
| Machinery Variable Costs            | 1          | acre      | \$  | 75.85   | \$              | 75.85    | е   |                     |
| Total Preharvest Variable Costs     |            |           |     |         | \$ <sup>-</sup> | 1,833.27 |     |                     |
|                                     |            | 1         |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| HARVESTING AND MARKETING            |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Machine Fuel, Oil, Lube / Or Rent   | 1          | acre      | \$  | 40.00   | \$              | 40.00    | е   |                     |
| Boxes                               | 425        | boxes     | \$  | 1.60    | \$              | 680.00   |     |                     |
| Hired Labor: Wash/Pack              | 24.3       | hrs       | \$  | 16.50   | \$              | 400.71   | f   |                     |
| Curing and Storage                  | 425        | boxes     | \$  | 1.50    | \$              | 637.50   |     |                     |
| Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)      | 10.0%      | gross     |     |         | \$              | 532.50   |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost |            |           |     |         | \$ 2            | 2,290.71 |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Interest on Variable Costs          |            |           |     |         | \$              | 89.36    |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| TOTAL VARIABLE COST                 |            |           |     |         | \$ 4            | 4,213.35 |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS         |            |           |     |         | \$ ·            | 1,111.65 |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
|                                     |            | 1         |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| FIXED COSTS                         |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Machinery and Equipment             |            |           |     |         | \$              | 169.84   |     |                     |
| Taxes on Land                       |            |           |     |         | \$              | 5.00     |     |                     |
| Insurance                           |            |           |     |         | \$              | 53.25    |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| TOTAL FIXED COSTS                   |            |           |     |         | \$              | 228.09   |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| TOTAL EXPENSES                      |            |           |     |         | \$ 4            | 4,441.44 |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAN       | D, CAPITAL | ., & MGT. |     |         | \$              | 883.56   |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| Operator and Unpaid Family Labor    | 10         | hrs.      | \$  | 16.50   | \$              | 165.00   |     |                     |
|                                     |            |           |     |         |                 |          |     |                     |
| RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MAN    | AGEMEN     | г         |     |         | \$              | 718.56   |     |                     |

a Average yields in nearby states.

b Price based on 2022 terminal market prices and season average prices in nearby states.

c Growers may elect to irrigate in some instances.

d Pesticide costs based on recommended applications of various products using 2022 product costs.

e Machinery cost calculator updated for KY vegetable production in 2022.

f Assumes 17.5 boxes harvested per acre. Curing cost of \$1.25 per box used in 2016 Clemson University budgets.

\* Farm has 5 or more acres total in trickle-irrigated crops