SUMMER SQUASH, FRESH MARKET, TRICKLE IRRIGATED
Kentucky Estimated Costs and Returns for 2022
Trickle-irrigated, Hand-harvested, 100-foot row NOT TO BE CONSIDERED CROPPING RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROFITABILITY PROJECTIONS. FOR COMPARISON AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY

|  | Quantity | Unit | \$/Unit | Total |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GROSS RETURNS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Squash | 250 | pounds | \$ 1.25 | \$ 312.50 | $a, b$ |  |
|  |  |  |  | \$ |  |  |
| Total Returns |  |  |  | \$ 312.50 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| VARIABLE COSTS |  |  |  |  |  | Your Numbers |
| Production |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Squash Seed (F1) | 100 | seeds | \$ 0.10 | \$ 10.00 |  |  |
| N Fertilizer: Urea | 1.25 | lbs | \$ 0.40 | \$ 0.50 |  |  |
| K Fertilizer: Potash (0-0-60) | 1 | lbs | \$ 0.60 | \$ 0.60 |  |  |
| N Fertilizer: Fertigation (Calcium Nitrate) | 2 | lbs | \$ 0.65 | \$ 1.30 | g |  |
| Black Plastic/Drip Lines | 100 | feet | \$ 0.10 | \$ 10.00 | c |  |
| Pollination | 0.1 | hive | \$ 75.00 | \$ 7.50 | h |  |
| Weed Control | 1 | row | \$ 33.15 | \$ 33.15 | d |  |
| Insect Control | 1 | row | \$ 10.20 | \$ 10.20 | d |  |
| Disease Control | 1 | row | \$ 24.37 | \$ 24.37 | d |  |
| Irrigation | 2 | hrs. | \$ 0.65 | \$ 1.30 | c |  |
| Machinery Variable Costs | 1 | row | \$ 4.36 | \$ 4.36 | e |  |
| Total Preharvest Variable Costs |  |  |  | \$ 103.28 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| HARVESTING AND MARKETING |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Plastic Disposal | 0.5 | hours | \$ 16.50 | \$ 8.25 |  |  |
| Hired Labor |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Harvest | 12 | box | \$ 1.30 | \$ 15.60 | $f$ |  |
| Packing | 12 | box | \$ 1.60 | \$ 19.20 | $f$ |  |
| Boxes | 12 | boxes | \$ 1.60 | \$ 19.20 |  |  |
| Marketing Costs (10\% of Gross) | 10\% | gross |  | \$ 31.25 |  |  |
| Other transportation/marketing costs | 1 | row | \$ | \$ |  |  |
| Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost |  |  |  | \$ 93.50 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Interest on Variable Costs |  |  |  | \$ 4.50 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL VARIABLE COST |  |  |  | \$ 201.28 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS |  |  |  | \$ 111.22 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| FIXED COSTS |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Machinery and Equipment |  |  |  | \$ 9.87 | e |  |
| Irrigation System Capital Recovery |  |  |  | \$ 6.57 | c |  |
| Taxes on Land |  |  |  | \$ 1.00 |  |  |
| Insurance |  |  |  | \$ 2.01 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL FIXED COSTS |  |  |  | \$ 19.45 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL EXPENSES |  |  |  | \$ 220.73 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, \& MGT. |  |  |  | \$ 91.77 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operator and Unpaid Family Labor | 2 | hrs. | \$ 16.50 | \$ 33.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT |  |  |  | \$ 58.77 |  |  |

a Yields of 250 pounds per 100-feet or 2.5 pounds per plant.
b Squash at market often priced per piece or per pound. Price based on Ky. farmers market prices of 2-3 for $\$ 1$ or $\$ 1$ to $\$ 3.50$ per pound
c Fuel and power for irrigation system. Assumes established well or water source. Depreciation
fixed costs in capital recovery line.
d Pesticide costs based on recommended applications of various products using 2022 product costs.
e Machinery cost calculator updated for vegetable production in 2022
f Based on state budgets with revisions by Kentucky vegetable experts.
g Fertilizer assumption: 8.5 lbs calcium nitrate per week per 1,000 plants.
$h$ Hive rental rates are very dependent on local availability.

