WATERMELON (Seedless), TRICKLE IRRIGATED

Kentucky Estimated Costs and Returns for 2022

Market Garden Scale (700 row feet, Approx. 0.12 acre, Direct Market)
NOT TO BE CONSIDERED CROPPING RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROFITABILITY
PROJECTIONS. FOR COMPARISON AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.



ODOGO DETUDNO	Quantity	Unit	1	\$/Unit	ı	Total	i	
GROSS RETURNS			_					
Watermelons, Seedless	450	melons	\$	7.00		3,150.00	a,b	
Watermelons, Seeded		melons			\$	-		
Total Returns					\$:	3,150.00		
	·							
VARIABLE COSTS								Your Numbers
Production								
Seedless Watermelon Seeds	175	seeds	\$	0.45	\$	78.75		
Pollenizers	88	seeds	\$	0.20	\$	17.60		
Cost of Growing Transplants - Labor, Media, Utilities	263	plants	\$	0.15	\$	39.45		
N Fertilizer: Urea	13	lbs	\$	0.40	\$	5.20		
K Fertilizer: Potash (0-0-60)	10	lbs	\$	0.30	\$	3.00		
N Fertilizer: Fertigation (Calcium Nitrate or Potassium Nitrate)	50	lbs	\$	0.45	\$	22.50		
Plastic Mulch	700	feet	\$	0.03	\$	21.00	С	
Drip Lines & Irrigation Fittings	700	feet	\$	0.05	\$	35.00		
Weed Control		plot		67.26		67.26	d	
Insect Control		plot	_	26.82	\$	26.82		
Disease Control		plot		35.76		35.76		
Pollination		hive		75.00	\$	25.00		
Irrigation		plot	\$	6.50	\$	6.50	C	
Hired Labor (Planting, Hand Weeding)		hrs.		16.50	\$	66.00		
Machinery Variable Costs		plot		11.55	\$	11.55	6	
Total Preharvest Variable Costs		piot	Ψ	11.00	\$	461.39	•	
Town French vest variable costs					Ψ	401.00		
HARVESTING AND MARKETING								
Plastic Disposal	2	hours	ď	16.50	\$	33.00		
Harvest Bin & Boxes		plot		220.00		220.00		
Hired Labor		ρίστ	ΨZ	220.00	φ	220.00		
Harvest & Field Grading	15	hours	¢	16.50	\$	247.50	£	
Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)	10.0%		φ	10.50	\$	315.00		
Transport to Market		miles	ď	0.60	_	120.00		
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost	200	miles	Ф	0.60	\$	935.50		
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost					Þ	935.50		
Internet on Veriable Conte					\$	27.87		
Interest on Variable Costs					Þ	21.81		
TOTAL WARIARIE COOT						1 404 70		
TOTAL VARIABLE COST					\$	1,424.76		
DETURN AROUS VARIABLE GOOTS						. =		
RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS					\$	1,725.24		
FIVED COOTS	1							
FIXED COSTS					_	04.00		
Machinery and Equipment					\$	21.26		
Irrigation System Capital Recovery					\$	144.16	С	
Taxes on Land					\$	1.00		
Insurance					\$	14.25		
TOTAL FIXED COSTS					\$	180.67		
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TOTAL EXPENSES					\$ '	1,605.44		
RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, & MGT.					\$	1,544.56		
Operator Labor (machinery and irrigation)	10	hrs.	\$	16.50	\$	165.00		
RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT					\$ '	1,379.56		I

a Yields based on UK variety trials and grower yield estimates. Yields on plastic with trickle irrigation are likely to be higher than bare field.

b Price based on Kentucky farmers market and auction prices.

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, plus extra labor. Product costs for 0.12 acre: Herbicide \$1.26; Insecticide \$10.32; Fungicide \$19.26.

e Machinery cost calculator updated for vegetable production in 2022.

f Based on state budgets with revisions by Kentucky vegetable experts.

g Hive rental rates are very dependent on local availability.