YELLOW CROOKNECK SQUASH, FRESH MARKET, TRICKLE IRRIGATED
Kentucky Estimated per Acre Costs and Returns for 2017
Large Scale (5 or more acres trickle irrigated)*
NOT TO BE CONSIDERED CROPPING RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROFITABILITY PROJECTIONS. FOR COMPARISON AND PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.

CENTER FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION

	Quantity	Unit	$/Unit	Total		
GROSS RETURNS		cwt				
Summer Squash	1000	boxes	$ 7.00	$ 7,000.00	a,b	**Boxes picked/hour** 12.5
				$ -		**Boxes packed/hour** 10
Total Returns				**$ 7,000.00**		
VARIABLE COSTS						**Your Numbers**
Production						
Squash Seed (F1)	2	lbs	$ 200.00	$ 400.00		
N Fertilizer: Urea	100	lbs	$ 0.40	$ 40.00		
K Fertilizer: Potash (0-0-60)	80	lbs	$ 0.30	$ 24.00		
N Fertilizer: Fertigation (Calcium Nitrate)	395	lbs	$ 0.45	$ 177.75	g	
Plastic Mulch	1	acre	$ 191.00	$ 191.00	c	
Drip Lines & Irrigation Fittings	1	acre	$ 284.00	$ 284.00	c	
Pollination	1	hive	$ 75.00	$ 75.00		
Herbicides (Row Middles)	1	acre	$ 12.69	$ 12.69		
Insecticides	1	acre	$ 20.52	$ 20.52	d	
Fungicides	1	acre	$ 144.19	$ 144.19	d	
Irrigation	1	acre	$ 50.00	$ 50.00	c	
Hired Labor (Planting)	5	hrs.	$ 12.50	$ 62.50		
Machinery Variable Costs	1	acre	$ 42.36	$ 42.36	e	
Total Preharvest Variable Costs				**$ 1,524.01**		
HARVESTING AND MARKETING						
Plastic Disposal	18	hours	$ 12.50	$ 225.00		
Hired Labor						
Harvest	1,000	box	$ 1.00	$ 1,000.00	f	
Packing	1,000	box	$ 1.25	$ 1,250.00	f	
Boxes	1,000	boxes	$ 1.10	$ 1,100.00		
Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)	10.0%	gross		$ 700.00		
Hauling Variable Costs	1000	boxes	$ 0.05	$ 50.00	e	
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost				**$ 4,325.00**		
Interest on Variable Costs				$ 110.60		
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				**$ 5,959.61**		
RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS				**$ 1,040.39**		
FIXED COSTS						
Machinery and Equipment				$ 59.06	e	
Irrigation System Capital Recovery				$ 328.40	c	
Taxes on Land				$ 5.00		
Insurance				$ 59.60		
TOTAL FIXED COSTS				**$ 452.06**		
TOTAL EXPENSES				**$ 6,411.66**		
RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, & MGT.				$ 588.34		
Operator Labor (machinery and irrigation)	15	hrs.	$ 15.00	$ 225.00		
RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT				**$ 363.34**		

a Yields based on UK variety trials and grower yield estimates.
b Price based on shipping point prices from MO and NC and terminal market price trends in Atlanta, 2016; Ky. auction trends.
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 2017 product costs. Fungicide program can vary greatly according to downy mildew pressure.
e Machinery costs generator (ISU, 2002) using updated fuel, purchase price and replacement cost estimates.
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.
* Farm has 5 or more acres total in trickle-irrigated crops