

BELL PEPPERS: FRESH MARKET, TRICKLE IRRIGATED

Kentucky Estimated Costs and Returns for 2017

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					
Peppers (1 1/9 bu. box)	20	boxes	\$ 30.00	\$ 600.00	a,b
				\$ -	
Total Returns				\$ 600.00	
VARIABLE COSTS					
Production					
Plants	200	plants	\$ 0.25	\$ 50.00	
Transplant Labor	1	hours	\$ 12.50	\$ 12.50	
N Fertilizer: Preplant Urea	2	lbs	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.80	
Starter Liquid Fertilizer	0.05	lbs	\$ 3.00	\$ 0.15	
N Fertilizer: Calcium Nitrate fertigation	8	lbs	\$ 0.45	\$ 3.60	
Black Plastic/Drip Lines	100	ft	\$ 0.08	\$ 8.00	d
Weed Control	1	row	\$ 25.65	\$ 25.65	e
Insect Control	1	row	\$ 9.10	\$ 9.10	e
Disease Control	1	row	\$ 17.40	\$ 17.40	e
Irrigation	2	hrs.	\$ 0.40	\$ 0.80	c
Machinery Variable Costs	1	row	\$ 4.62	\$ 4.62	f
Total Preharvest Variable Costs				\$ 132.62	
HARVESTING AND MARKETING					
Boxes	20	boxes	\$ 1.40	\$ 28.00	
Harvest Lugs/Buckets	3	each	\$ 20.00	\$ 60.00	
Plastic Disposal Labor	0.5	hours	\$ 12.50	\$ 6.25	
Harvest and Postharvest Hired Labor					
Harvest	\$1.10	box		\$ 22.00	g
Grade/Pack	\$1.75	box		\$ 35.00	g
Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)	10.0%	gross		\$ 60.00	
Other transportation/marketing costs	1	row	\$ -	\$ -	f
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost				\$ 211.25	
Interest on Variable Costs				\$ 7.15	
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				\$ 351.02	
RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS				\$ 248.98	
FIXED COSTS					
Machinery and Equipment				\$ 7.56	f
Harvest Crate Replacement				\$ 20.00	
Depreciation on Irrigation System				\$ 6.57	h
Taxes on Land				\$ 1.00	
Insurance				\$ 6.00	
TOTAL FIXED COSTS				\$ 41.13	
TOTAL EXPENSES				\$ 392.15	
RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, & MGT.					
Operator and Unpaid Family Labor	2	hrs.	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00	
RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT				\$ 177.85	
					Your Numbers

- a Reflects average to above-average yields for plasticulture.
- b Price based on Kentucky farmers market and auction prices, 2016.
- c Fuel and power for irrigation system. Assumes established well or water source. Depreciation fixed costs in capital recovery line.
- d Based on 2017 UK estimate for trickle irrigation.
- e Pesticide costs based on recommended applications of various products using 2017 product costs, plus additional labor charge for small plot. Herbicide: \$0.65; Insecticide: \$1.60; Fungicide \$9.90.
- f Machinery costs generator updated with 2016-17 fuel and equipment costs.
- g Based on past Kentucky budgets with increases for \$12.50 wage rate.
- h 2015 UK Estimate: \$2185 for one year