SUMMER SQUASH, 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.

CENTER FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION

	Quantity	Unit	$/Unit	Total		Your Numbers
GROSS RETURNS						
Squash	250	pounds	$ 1.00	$250.00	a,b	
				$ -		
Total Returns				**$250.00**		
VARIABLE COSTS						
Production						
Squash Seed (F1)	100	seeds	$ 0.08	$ 7.50		
N Fertilizer: Urea	1.25	lbs	$ 0.40	$ 0.50		
K Fertilizer: Potash (0-0-60)	1	lbs	$ 0.30	$ 0.30		
N Fertilizer: Fertigation (Calcium Nitrate)	2	lbs	$ 0.45	$ 0.90	g	
Black Plastic/Drip Lines	100	feet	$ 0.08	$ 8.00	c	
Pollination	0.1	hive	$ 75.00	$ 7.50		
Weed Control	1	row	$ 25.15	$ 25.15	d	
Insect Control	1	row	$ 9.96	$ 9.96	d	
Disease Control	1	row	$ 9.16	$ 9.16	d	
Irrigation	2	hrs.	$ 0.40	$ 0.80	c	
Machinery Variable Costs	1	row	$ 4.36	$ 4.36	e	
Total Preharvest Variable Costs				**$ 74.13**		
HARVESTING AND MARKETING						
Plastic Disposal	0.5	hours	$ 12.50	$ 6.25		
Hired Labor						
Harvest	12	box	$ 1.25	$ 15.00	f	
Packing	12	box	$ 1.90	$ 22.80	f	
Boxes	12	boxes	$ 1.40	$ 16.80		
Marketing Costs (10% of Gross)	10%	gross		$ 25.00		
Other transportation/marketing costs	1	row	$ -	$ -		
Total Harvesting and Marketing Cost				**$ 85.85**		
Interest on Variable Costs				$ 3.51		
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				**$ 163.49**		
RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS				**$ 86.51**		
FIXED COSTS						
Machinery and Equipment				$ 7.45	e	
Irrigation System Capital Recovery				$ 6.57	c	
Taxes on Land				$ 1.00		
Insurance				$ 1.63		
TOTAL FIXED COSTS				**$ 16.65**		
TOTAL EXPENSES				**$ 180.15**		
RETURN TO OPERATOR LABOR, LAND, CAPITAL, & MGT.				$ 69.85		
Operator and Unpaid Family Labor	2	hrs.	$ 15.00	$ 30.00		
RETURN TO LAND, CAPITAL, AND MANAGEMENT				**$ 39.85**		

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 in 2016.

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.

e Machinery cost calculator updated for vegetable production in 2017.

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.