

Table 11. Eggplant: Estimated production costs in the Palm Beach County area, 1997-98.

| Category | Average per | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--------|
| | Acre ^a | Bushel |
| Yield (33 lb. bushels) | 1,400 | |
| OPERATING COSTS | -----Dollars----- | |
| Transplants | 250.00 | |
| Fertilizer and lime | 434.98 | |
| Fumigant | 464.00 | |
| Fungicide | 126.27 | |
| Herbicide | 27.35 | |
| Insecticide | 509.08 | |
| Labor | 496.13 | |
| Machinery | 264.78 | |
| Interest | 114.08 | |
| Miscellaneous | | |
| Replacement stakes | 112.50 | |
| Place and drive stakes | 110.35 | |
| String | 35.20 | |
| Tie plants | 162.62 | |
| Plastic mulch | 378.33 | |
| Ditch maintenance | 75.00 | |
| Scouting | 20.00 | |
| Laser level | 50.00 | |
| Remove string and stakes | 126.32 | |
| Plastic disposal | 80.59 | |
| Farm vehicles | 40.28 | |
| Total operating cost | 3,877.84 | |
| FIXED COST | | |
| Land rent | 400.00 | |
| Machinery | 138.67 | |
| Management | 860.49 | |
| Overhead | 1,075.61 | |
| Total fixed cost | 2,474.77 | |
| TOTAL PREHARVEST COST | 6,352.61 | 4.54 |
| HARVEST AND MARKETING COSTS | | |
| Pick, pack and haul | 1,638.00 | 1.17 |
| Containers | 1,190.00 | 0.85 |
| Selling | 700.00 | 0.50 |
| Total harvest and marketing cost | 3,528.00 | 2.52 |
| TOTAL COST | 9,880.61 | 7.06 |

^a 7,260 linear bed feet

Table 12. Eggplant: Estimated net returns for various price and yield combinations in the Palm Beach County area, 1997-98.

| Yield (bushels) | Dollars per bushel | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 6.00 | 7.00 | 8.00 | 9.00 | 10.00 |
| 1,000 | -2,873.00 | -1,873.00 | -873.00 | 127.00 | 1,127.00 |
| 1,200 | -2,177.00 | -977.00 | 223.00 | 1,423.00 | 2,623.00 |
| 1,400 | -1,481.00 | -81.00 | 1,319.00 | 2,719.00 | 4,119.00 |
| 1,600 | -785.00 | 815.00 | 2,415.00 | 4,015.00 | 5,615.00 |
| 1,800 | -89.00 | 1,711.00 | 3,511.00 | 5,311.00 | 7,111.00 |