

Table 43. Tomatoes: Estimated production costs in the southwest Florida area, 1997-98.

Category	Average per	
	Acre ^a	Carton
Yield (25 lb. cartons)	1,400	
OPERATING COSTS	-----Dollars-----	
Transplants	336.00	
Fertilizer and lime	334.75	
Fumigant	464.00	
Fungicide	327.09	
Herbicide	66.68	
Insecticide	454.57	
Labor	323.81	
Machinery	533.93	
Interest	193.86	
Miscellaneous		
Level land	145.00	
Plastic mulch	234.00	
Cross ditch	27.20	
Trickle tube	290.40	
Plastic string	37.50	
Replacement stakes	123.42	
Remove string and stakes	156.82	
Remove and dispose of plastic	145.20	
Tie plants	78.41	
Prune plants	81.31	
Set and drive stakes	39.00	
Scouting	19.33	
Farm vehicles		
Total operating cost	4,524.77	
FIXED COST		
Land rent	450.00	
Machinery	197.67	
Management	995.72	
Overhead	1,244.65	
Total fixed cost	2,888.03	
TOTAL PREHARVEST COST	7,412.81	5.29
HARVEST AND MARKETING COSTS		
Harvest and haul	1,078.00	0.77
Packing	2,590.00	1.85
Containers	1,050.00	0.75
Selling	210.00	0.15
Assessments	70.00	0.05
Total harvest and marketing cost	4,998.00	3.57
TOTAL COST	12,410.81	8.86

^a 7,260 linear bed feet

Table 44. Tomatoes: Estimated net returns for various price and yield combinations in the southwest Florida area, 1997-98.

Yield (cartons)	Dollars per carton				
	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00
1,000	-4,983.00	-3,983.00	-2,983.00	-1,983.00	-983.00
1,200	-4,497.00	-3,297.00	-2,097.00	-897.00	303.00
1,400	-4,011.00	-2,611.00	-1,211.00	189.00	1,589.00
1,600	-3,525.00	-1,925.00	-325.00	1,275.00	2,875.00
1,800	-3,039.00	-1,239.00	561.00	2,361.00	4,161.00