

Table 49. Watermelons: Estimated production costs for the following crop of a double-crop system in the Manatee/Ruskin area, 1997-98.

| Category                           | Average per       |      |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|------|
|                                    | Acre              | Cwt. |
| Yield (cwts.)                      | 320               |      |
| <b>OPERATING COSTS</b>             | -----Dollars----- |      |
| Seed                               | 24.44             |      |
| Fertilizer and lime                | 105.00            |      |
| Fungicide                          | 54.17             |      |
| Herbicide                          | 33.87             |      |
| Insecticide                        | 53.39             |      |
| Labor                              | 338.11            |      |
| Machinery                          | 206.46            |      |
| Interest                           | 37.02             |      |
| Miscellaneous                      |                   |      |
| Scouting                           | 25.00             |      |
| Bee rental                         | 3.60              |      |
| Farm vehicles                      | 19.33             |      |
| Plastic removal and disposal       | 75.00             |      |
| Total operating cost               | 975.39            |      |
| <b>FIXED COST</b>                  |                   |      |
| Machinery                          | 63.14             |      |
| Management                         | 200.30            |      |
| Overhead                           | 250.38            |      |
| Total fixed cost                   | 513.82            |      |
| <b>TOTAL PREHARVEST COST</b>       | 1,489.21          | 4.65 |
| <b>HARVEST AND MARKETING COSTS</b> |                   |      |
| Harvest and pack                   | 480.00            | 1.50 |
| Packing material                   | 9.60              | 0.03 |
| Selling                            | 320.00            | 1.00 |
| Marketing and Promotion Assessment | 6.40              | 0.02 |
| Total harvest and marketing cost   | 816.00            | 2.55 |
| <b>TOTAL COST</b>                  | 2,305.21          | 7.20 |

<sup>a</sup> Cost attributed to second crop as a result of double-crop production practices following Tomatoes.

<sup>b</sup> Costs exclude field and bed preparation, plastic mulch and fumigant.

Table 50. Watermelons: Estimated net returns for various price and yield combinations for the following crop of a double-crop system in the Manatee/Ruskin area, 1997-98.

| Yield (cwts.) | Dollars per cwt. |         |         |        |        |
|---------------|------------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
|               | 5.00             | 6.00    | 7.00    | 8.00   | 9.00   |
| 280           | -803.00          | -523.00 | -243.00 | 37.00  | 317.00 |
| 300           | -754.00          | -454.00 | -154.00 | 146.00 | 446.00 |
| 320           | -705.00          | -385.00 | -65.00  | 255.00 | 575.00 |
| 340           | -656.00          | -316.00 | 24.00   | 364.00 | 704.00 |
| 360           | -607.00          | -247.00 | 113.00  | 473.00 | 833.00 |