

2011 Cucumbers on Plastic Fresh Market Budget

Prepared by:

Esendugue Greg Fonsah
Dept. of Ag & Applied Economics

And

Justin Shealey
Echols Extension Co. Agent

Table 1: Yields and Prices for Double Cropped Cucumber on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Items	Best	Optimistic	Median	Pessimistic	Worst
Yield (cartons)	1200	1000	800	600	400
Price per carton	14.00	12.00	10.00	8.00	6.00

Table 2: Pre-Harvest Variable Costs of Double Cropped Cucumber on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Variable Cost Items	Unit	Quantity	Price	Total	Yours
Seed	Lb.	3.00	58.40	175	
Fumigant	Gal.	70.00	4.00	280	
Fertilizer	Cwt.	0.00	7.40	0	
Side-dressing	Gal.	200.00	1.50	300	
Insecticide	Appl.	6.00	22.00	132	
Fungicide	Appl.	6.00	53.00	318	
Nematicide	Acre	0.00	33.60	0	
Herbicide	Acre	1.00	23.50	24	
Plastic 1/	Roll	1.20	60.00	72	
Plastic Removal	Acre	1.00	85.00	85	
Machinery	Acre	1.00	30.00	30	
Labor	Acre	1.00	47.00	47	
Land rent	Acre	1.00	100.00	100	
Irrigation 2/	Acre	1.00	197.11	197	
Interest on Operation Capital	\$	1759.81	0.07	31	
Pre-Harvest Variable Costs				1,791	

1/- 50% of total cost of plastic since it is double cropping

2/- This includes \$145.20 for tubing.

Table 3: Harvesting and Marketing Costs of Double Cropped Cucumber on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Items	Unit	Quantity	Price	\$Amt./Ac	Yr. Cost
Picking and hauling	Ctn.	800	1.50	1,200	
Grading and packing	Ctn.	800	1.00	800	
Container	Ctn.	800	1.30	1,040	
Marketing	Ctn.	800	0.85	680	
Total Harvest and Marketing			4.65	3,720	
Total Variable Costs				5,511	

Table 4: Fixed Costs of Producing Double Cropped Cucumbers on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Items	Units	Quantity	Price	\$Amt./Ac	Yr. Cost
Machinery 3/	Acre	0.50	2,150.40	1,075.20	
Irrigation 4/	Acre	0.50	58.63	29.31	
Overhead and Management	\$	1791	0.15	268.65	
Total Fixed Cost (\$)				1373.16	
Total budgeted cost per acre (\$)				6,884.16	

3/- 50% of total cost since it is double cropping/acre/year.

4/- 50% of total cost since it is double cropping/acre/year.

Table 5: Risk Rated Returns Over Total Costs for Double Cropped Cucumber on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Net return levels (TOP ROW);							
The chances of obtaining this level or more (MIDDLE ROW); and							
The chances of obtaining this level or less (BOTTOM ROW).							
	Best	Optimistic	Expected	Pessimistic	Worst		
Returns(\$)	3,966	3,003	2,041	1,078	116	-846	-1,809
Chances	7%	16%	31%	50%			
Chances				50%	31%	16%	7%
Chances for Profit		71%	Base Budgeted Net Revenue			\$1,078	

Table 6: Break-Even (BE) Cost of Producing Double Cropped Cucumber on Plastic for Fresh Market in Georgia, 2011.

Items	Cost	Yours
BE Pre-harvest variable cost per carton	2.24	
BE Harvest & marketing cost per carton	4.65	
BE Fixed Outlays per carton	1.83	
BE Total budgeted cost per carton	8.72	
BE Yield per Acre (cartons)	688	

Acknowledgment

This Project was funded by Georgia Commodity Commission for Vegetables Grant in 2009 for which the authors are indebted. We are equally thankful to the growers, agricultural equipment, chemical and fertilizer vendors who assisted us in data collection, review and insightful comments.

