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EC839 Revised 1942 Winter Wheat Production Costs Nebraska 1942

F.J. Chase

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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK
IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS

U. of N. Agr'l College & U. S. Dept. of Agr. Cooperating
W. H. Brokaw, Director, Lincoln

Issued in furtherance of Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914.

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Winter Wheat Production Records in Nebraska
1942

F. J. Chase, Assistant Extension Economist

Introduction

Wheat production cost studies have been conducted in Cass, Douglas, Saunders, Fillmore, Perkins and Cheyenne counties since 1929 by the Department of Rural Economics, the Extension Service, county extension agent, and cooperating farmers. During this time, information has been assembled that is helpful in increasing profits from the wheat enterprise.

The data in the following tables are representative of the wheat enterprise for a period of years and can be used by county agents and farmers in other counties in the State. In addition to the tables which apply to the 1942 crop, attention is directed to the last two tables in this circular. One of these gives the average cost figures for a ten-year period in the counties, and the other gives the average man hours required to produce an acre of wheat. These tables are based on records kept for the past twelve years.

Acknowledgement is given to county extension agents, Willard H. Waldo, Cass; G. E. Scheidt, Douglas; Raymond C. Russell, Saunders; I. E. Lindstrom, Fillmore; Corwin M. Mead, Perkins; J. C. Swinbank, Cheyenne; and the 132 cooperating farmers who kept the records of their field operations.

Costs

In computing the costs for the wheat enterprise in the tables which follow, a uniform charge for the use of labor, power and machinery, is applied to all records. These rates are as follow:

Tractor Power per Hour

Draw-Bar Horse Power	Rate per Hour	
	East	West
6-10	.44	.46
11-20	.49	.51
21-25	.68	.70
26-30	.78	.80

Costs---Continued from page 2

Machinery		Rate Charged	
		per acre	per hr.
Harness	Horse	\$	\$.01
Hay racks	Horse		.02
Manure spreaders	Horse	.60	
Wagon box	Horse		.01
Wagon gears	Horse		.02
Duckfoot cultivator 7-8'	Tractor	.15	.02
Damming attachment for lister			
2-row	Tractor	.15	
Single disk 8-10'	Horse	.05	
9-14'	Tractor	.07	
15-18'	Tractor	.10	
Tandem disk 7-10'	Tractor	.15	
All spike tooth harrows		.02	
Spring tooth harrow	Tractor	.10	
Lister cultivator 2-row		.12	
4-row		.12	
One-way disk plow 7-10'		.20	
2 bottom gang plow	Horse	.25	
2 or 3 bottom gang plow	Tractor	.20	
Rod weeder 12'	Tractor	.03	
Rollers 8-14'		.05	
Grain drill 7-12'		.25	
2-row lister		.20	
Combine 3-4'		.85	
5-6'		.75	
Combine with motor 8-10'		1.10	
12'		.85	
16'		.75	
Grain binder 7-8'	Horse	.50	
8-10'	Tractor	.65	
Hay rake dump 10-12'	Horse	.10	
Side delivery		.25	
Hay sweep		.20	
Threshers (regular rate per bu.)			
Labor			.50

No charge is made for the use of land in calculating acre costs. Bushel costs are figured by deducting the customary grain rent from the total production and dividing the acre cost by the operator's share of the wheat. Other items of cost are charged at actual rates paid. Tenant's share is three-fifths in Cass, Douglas, and Saunders counties, and two-thirds in Fillmore, Cheyenne, and Perkins counties.

Table 1 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat in Cass County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 21 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		21
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		2.67
Horse*	8-	9.89
Tractor		1.99
Harvest		
Man		2.53
Horse*	7-	7.12
Tractor		.67
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		1.34
Power		1.37
Equipment		.69
Seed		1.26
Total (Based on acres seeded)		4.66
Total (Based on acres harvested)		4.67
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		3.20
Total cost per acre**		7.87
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDING		24.6
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		24.6
YIELD PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		29.1
Tenants share		17.4
COST PER BUSHEL**		.45

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

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Table 2 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat in Douglas County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 18 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		18
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		2.41
Horse*	8-	4.62
Tractor		1.93
Harvest		
Man		2.89
Horse*	11-	6.76
Tractor		.71
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor	\$	1.21
Power		1.12
Equipment		.61
Seed		1.28
Total (Based on acres seeded)		4.22
Total (Based on acres harvested)		4.22
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		3.98
Total cost per acre**		8.20
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDED		18.1
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		18.1
YIELDS PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		34.0
Tenants share		20.4
COST PER BUSHEL**	\$.40

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

Table 3 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat in Fillmore County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 24 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		24
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		1.93
Horse*	9-	7.03
Tractor		1.44
Harvest		
Man		1.46
Horse*	8-	6.50
Tractor		.45
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$.97
Power		.96
Equipment		.73
Seed		1.18
Total (Based on acres seeded)		3.84
Total (Based on acres harvested)		3.84
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		2.34
Total cost per acre**		6.18
NUMBER OF ACRES SEED		82.5
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		82.5
YIELDS PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		27.3
Tenants share		18.1
COST PER BUSHEL**		\$.34

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

Table 4 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat in Saunders County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 23 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		23
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		2.65
Horse*	10-	3.72
Tractor		2.05
Harvest		
Man		1.44
Horse*	1-	.72
Tractor		.84
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$ 1.33
Power		1.20
Equipment		.79
Seed		1.31
Total (Based on acres seeded)		4.63
Total (Based on acres harvested)		4.79
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		2.02
Total cost per acre**		6.81
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDING		25.7
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		24.8
YIELDS PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		29.1
Tenants share		16.8
COST PER BUSHEL**		\$.40

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

Table 5 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat on summer-fallowed land in Cheyenne County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 18 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		18
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		1.52
Horse		-
Tractor		1.52
Harvest		
Man		1.44
Horse		-
Tractor		0.73
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$.76
Power		1.06
Equipment		.63
Seed		.53
Total (Based on acres seeded)		2.98
Total (Based on acres harvested)		2.98
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		2.16
Total cost per acre*		5.14
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDING		196.3
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		196.2
YIELDS PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		33.5
Tenants share		22.4
COST PER BUSHEL*		\$.23

*Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

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Table 6 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat on non-fallowed land in Cheyenne County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 9 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		9
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		.41
Horse		-
Tractor		.41
Harvest		
Man		1.09
Horse		-
Tractor		.57
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$.21
Power		.28
Equipment		.35
Seed		.45
Total (Based on acres seeded)		1.29
Total (Based on acres harvested)		1.29
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		1.80
Total cost per acre*		3.09
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDED		49.9
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		49.9
YIELD PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		28.0
Tenants share		18.6
COST PER BUSHEL*		\$.17

*Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

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Table 7 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat on summer-fallowed land in Perkins County, 1942

	Your farm	Average of 11 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		11
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		1.32
Horse		-
Tractor		1.30
Harvest		
Man		1.34
Horse*	1-	1.50
Tractor		.74
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$.66
Power		.93
Equipment		.65
Seed		.55
Total (Based on acres seeded)		2.79
Total (Based on acres harvested)		2.83
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		2.09
Total cost per acre**		4.92
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDED		142.6
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		140.5
YIELD PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		27.3
Tenant's share		18.2
COST PER BUSHEL**		\$.27

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

Table 8 WHEAT: Cost of producing winter wheat on non-fallowed land in Perkins County, 1942.

	Your farm	Average of 8 farms
NUMBER OF FARMS		8
LABOR AND POWER PER ACRE: HOURS		
Up to harvest		
Man		.57
Horse*	4	1.52
Tractor		.43
Harvest		
Man		1.12
Horse*	1	4.00
Tractor		.51
COST PER ACRE		
Up to harvest (Based on acres seeded)		
Man labor		\$.28
Power		.34
Equipment		.36
Seed		.68
Total (Based on acres seeded)		1.66
Total (Based on acres harvested)		1.66
Harvesting and threshing or combining cost		1.84
Total cost per acre**		3.50
NUMBER OF ACRES SEEDED		58.9
NUMBER OF ACRES HARVESTED		58.9
YIELD PER ACRE: BUSHELS		
Total yield		21.5
Tenants share		14.3
COST PER BUSHEL**		\$.24

*First number in column indicates number of farms on which horses were used; second number indicates number of hours per acre horses were used on these farms.

**Bushel costs include a land charge; acre costs do not.

Table 9 WHEAT: Winter wheat production costs per bushel and per acre*, 1933 to 1942

County	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	10 year average**
	P E R				B U S H E L						
Cass	\$.47	\$.62	\$.53	\$.52	\$.42	\$.66	\$.81	\$.42	\$1.24	\$.45	\$.57
Douglas	.71	.71	.90	.88	.62	1.03	.60	.54	.84	.40	.67
Saunders	.51	.94	.63	.54	.53	1.04	.59	.41	1.87	.40	.62
Fillmore	.78	5.28	.86	.54	.52	.96	.50	1.09	2.07	.34	.65
Perkins, N. F.	.73	.80	.58	1.57	2.47	.52	.31	.40	.28	.24	.66
Perkins, S. F.	1.18	.55	.61	.96	1.19	.44	.28	.27	.22	.27	.39
Cheyenne, N. F.	.79	.76	1.37	3.55	1.80	.55	.69	1.65	.18	.17	.62
Cheyenne, S. F.	.93	.39	.76	.42	.77	.49	.45	.53	.19	.23	.36
	P E R				A C R E						
Cass	6.50	6.99	7.82	7.49	6.00	5.91	4.58	5.68	6.44	7.87	5.99
Douglas	7.07	8.27	9.03	6.58	7.59	7.54	6.44	7.68	9.61	8.20	7.65
Saunders	6.43	6.82	7.17	6.43	6.94	6.13	4.93	5.94	11.54	6.81	6.10
Fillmore	5.36	15.85	5.74	5.56	5.56	5.87	4.25	6.13	11.69	6.18	6.02
Perkins, N. F.	3.00	3.05	4.51	5.46	5.31	3.65	2.50	3.12	2.63	3.50	3.57
Perkins, S. F.	4.42	3.71	5.83	5.90	10.16	4.75	3.56	3.93	3.50	4.92	4.60
Cheyenne, N. F.	3.94	2.91	4.24	11.08	4.70	3.23	2.69	4.66	2.16	3.09	3.64
Cheyenne, S. F.	6.39	4.00	7.75	6.06	7.39	5.33	3.70	4.50	3.56	5.14	4.68

*No land charge included in per acre cost; bushel costs include a land charge.

**Weighted average

N. F. - Non-fallow

S. F. - Summer-fallow

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Table 10 Average Hours of Man Labor Required to Produce an Acre of Wheat Up to Harvest---1931 to 1942

County	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	12 yr. Ave.
Cass	3.64	3.22	3.46	3.19	3.10	3.19	2.20	2.92	2.43	3.05	3.37	2.67	3.04
Douglas	4.04	5.11	4.31	4.72	6.14	3.04	3.12	2.69	2.93	2.95	2.46	2.41	3.66
Saunders	4.57	3.44	3.32	3.61	2.56	2.76	2.26	2.67	2.67	2.86	2.50	2.65	2.99
Fillmore	3.89	2.53	3.11	3.39	2.21	2.49	2.05	1.71	2.21	2.04	1.83	1.93	2.45
Cheyenne SF	1.86	1.99	1.55	1.49	1.50	1.37	1.75	1.79	1.72	1.50	1.28	1.52	1.61
Cheyenne NF	.67	.66	.50	.56	.44	.46	.47	.49	.37	.40	.27	.41	.48
Perkins SF	1.51	1.36	1.36	1.11	1.11	1.39	1.36	1.49	1.52	1.23	1.25	1.32	1.33
Perkins NF	.76	.63	.73	.63	.50	.64	.49	.57	.52	.60	.64	.57	.61

Average Hours of Man Labor Required to Harvest an Acre of Wheat---1931 to 1942

County	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	12 yr. Ave.
Cass	4.92	3.90	3.82	3.75	5.63	4.26	1.91	1.67	.78	1.42	2.23	2.53	3.07
Douglas	5.56	5.30	4.48	4.16	6.32	4.60	3.41	4.05	3.13	4.54	2.53	2.89	4.25
Saunders	4.83	4.07	3.91	2.99	5.30	3.06	3.38	1.60	1.18	2.34	1.67	1.44	2.98
Fillmore	4.25	2.28	2.61	2.44	3.01	2.31	2.18	1.27	.78	1.03	1.28	1.46	2.08
Cheyenne SF	.63	1.02	.84	.62	.76	.63	.87	.89	.73	.74	.81	1.44	.83
Cheyenne NF	.64	.66	.64	.54	.50	.49	.48	.57	.77	.40	.69	1.09	.62
Perkins SF	.51	.58	.54	.66	.79	.58	.72	.80	.69	.64	.81	1.34	.72
Perkins NF	.61	.85	.60	.54	.71	.52	.67	.73	.62	.60	.57	1.12	.68

The data in these two tables are presented to assist county agents and farmers in estimating the labor requirements for the wheat and other small grain crops during the war emergency.