



# SURFACE IRRIGATED LUCERNE - Established stand

Farm Enterprise Budget Series - Northern Zone

(diesel pump from river-regulated)

Summer 2011-2012

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:		Machinery			Inputs			Total Cost \$/ha
Operation	Month	hrs/ha	Cost \$/hr	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost \$	Total \$/ha	
Spray - paraquat + diquat	Jul	0.10	24.51	2.45	2.5 L	10.28	25.70	<b>28.15</b>
Spray - diuron	Jul	with above			2.50 L	7.70	19.25	<b>19.25</b>
Apply Single Super	Aug	0.42	21.55	9.05	125kg	0.35	43.75	<b>52.80</b>
Spray aphids -dimethoate	Aug	0.10	24.51	2.45	0.37 L	10.49	3.88	<b>6.33</b>
Fertiliser- #Muriate of Potash	Aug	0.42	21.55	9.05	250kg	0.72	180.00	<b>189.05</b>
Irrigate	Oct				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Irrigate	Nov				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	Nov	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Nov	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Irrigate	Nov				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	Dec	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Dec	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Irrigate	Dec				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	Dec	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Dec	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Herbicide (haloxyfop-R)	Dec	0.10	24.51	2.45	0.1 L	103.00	10.30	<b>12.75</b>
Irrigate	Feb				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	Feb	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Feb	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Irrigate	Mar				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake & bale + accumulator	Mar	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Mar	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Irrigate	Apr				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	Apr	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	Apr	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>
Irrigate	May				1.25 ML	44.39	55.49	<b>55.49</b>
Mow, rake, bale & accumulator	May	contract		253.40				<b>253.40</b>
Cart & stack in shed (tractor + FEL)	May	contract	0.27	per bale @ 76 bales/ha per cut				<b>20.29</b>

## AGRONOMIC NOTES:

**Herbicides:** paraquat + diquat and diuron applied to established stands to clean up weeds.

To reduce the likelihood of herbicide resistance, rotate herbicide groups and weed management techniques.

**Fertilisers:** # In areas of long term irrigated hay production, there is a possibility that higher rates of potash may be required to correct chronic potassium deficiency.

**Hay storage:** The assumption is made that all of the hay is stored on farm prior to selling.

**Hay Grades:** The Australian Fodder Industry Association (AFIA) has developed a national grading system for legume and cereal hays. It is based on digestible dry matter, crude protein content and metabolisable energy.

AFIA (Incorporated in 1996) is the peak body for the hay and silage industries. Further information and a fodder vendor declaration form is available from AFIA. Phone: 03 9890 6855 Website: [www.afia.org.au](http://www.afia.org.au)

*Use of a particular brand name does NOT imply recommendation of that brand by NSW DPI.*

*Always read chemical labels and follow directions, as it is your legal responsibility to do so.*

**LABOUR REQUIREMENTS:** Labour to apply fertiliser or spray is not costed. If we assume a labour cost of \$21/hr the total labour cost would be \$29.93/hectare, reducing the gross margin to \$804/ha.

This does not include labour required to irrigate since this is more likely to be an overhead cost.

## MACHINERY ASSUMPTIONS:

Tractor: pto power: 57 KW (76 HP) FEL = front end loader

Machinery costs refer to variable costs of: fuel, oil, filters, tyres, batteries and repairs.

Mow, Rake, Bale costs: Assumes raking is done twice. Use your own costs if you use your own machinery.

**Irrigation Costs:** Estimated water usage charge of \$31.75 per ML assumed, your charges may be different.

Estimated water pumping cost of \$12.64 per ML assumed, your costs may be different.

**Water use assumed:** 10.0 ML/Ha

Costs calculated using a flood/furrow system with diesel powered pumping from surface supply.

This budget should be used as a GUIDE ONLY and should be changed by the grower to take account of movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and individual farm characteristics. Estimated prices are GST exclusive.