

Enterprise		ROCKMELON - FURROW		2001	
Unit	ha	Furrow Irrigation		Standard Budget	Your Budget
GROSS MARGIN BUDGET:		1 ha			
INCOME:	1600 cartons/ha	@	\$8.00 /carton	\$12,800.00	
A. Total Income/ha				\$12,800.00	
VARIABLE COSTS:					
Seed					
	Hybrid	0.5 kg/ha	\$1,400.00 /kg	\$700.00	
Tractor costs					
Large equipment including labour, fuel, oil, etc					
	2 Cultivation	0.7 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$42.70	
	1 Lister	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$15.25	
	1 Drill Fertiliser	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$15.25	
	2 Bedform	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$30.50	
	1 Sidedress	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$15.25	
	1 Inter Row Cult'n	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$15.25	
	8 Boomspray	0.2 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$48.80	
	1 Sowing	0.5 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$15.25	
Irrigation					
	Water	6 ML/ha	\$17.36 /ML	\$104.16	
Fertiliser					
	Sap Testing			\$15.00	
	Single Super	200 kg/ha	\$0.24 /kg	\$48.00	
	Starter Fertiliser	350 kg/ha	\$0.45 /kg	\$156.45	
	Muriate of Potash	120 kg/ha	\$0.42 /kg	\$49.80	
	Urea	200 kg/ha	\$0.38 /kg	\$75.00	
Pest control					
	2 Fungicide	0.25 kg/ha	\$278.00 /kg	\$139.00	
	1 Fungicide	0.40 L/ha	\$136.00 /L	\$54.40	
	2 Fungicide	2.50 kg/ha	\$7.45 /kg	\$37.25	
	2 Fungicide	3.20 L/ha	\$22.15 /L	\$141.76	
	1 Insecticide	2.00 L/ha	\$14.60 /L	\$29.20	
	1 Insecticide	5.00 L/ha	\$14.90 /L	\$74.50	
	1 Insecticide	0.75 L/ha	\$8.75 /L	\$6.56	
Weed Control					
	1 Tractor with 3 weeders	1 hr/ha	\$24.50 /hr	\$24.50	
	3 Casual labour	1 hr/ha	\$14.50 /hr	\$14.50	
	Chipping	5 hr/ha	\$14.50 /hr	\$72.50	
	Pull back melons	5 hr/ha	\$14.50 /hr	\$72.50	
Pollination					
	Bee hives	3 hives/ha	\$20.00 /hive	\$60.00	
Harvesting					
	Contract picking	50 bins/ha	\$25.00 /bin	\$1,250.00	
	30 Bin Hire (30 days)	50 bins/ha	\$0.16 /bin-day	\$240.00	
	Bin Pick up	10 hr/ha	\$30.50 /hr	\$305.00	
Handling					
	Dip,grade,pack	1600 cartons/ha	\$0.75 /carton	\$1,200.00	
	Cartons	1600 cartons/ha	\$1.73 /carton	\$2,768.00	
	Cooling	1600 cartons/ha	\$0.05 /carton	\$80.00	
Freight					
	Markets	1600 cartons/ha	\$0.90 /carton	\$1,440.00	
Agents commission					
			12.00%	\$1,536.00	
B. Total Variable Costs				\$10,892.33	
Gross Margin /ha (A-B)				\$1,907.67	
Gross Margin /ML				\$317.94	

Break-even price	\$6.81 /carton
Break-even yield	1361.54 cartons/ha

PRODUCT TRADE NAMES

The product trade names in this publication are omitted on the understanding that no preference between equivalent products is intended and that the inclusion of a product does not imply endorsement by NSW Agriculture over any other equivalent product from another manufacturer.

Enterprise

ROCKMELON - FURROW
 Furrow Irrigation

2001

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS
TABLE 1- Effect of Yield and Price on Gross Margin /ha

YIELD (carton)	DELIVERED PRICE (\$/carton)					
	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00
1300	-\$1,463	-\$319	\$825	\$1,969	\$3,113	\$4,257
1450	-\$1,186	\$90	\$1,366	\$2,642	\$3,918	\$5,194
1600	-\$908	\$500	\$1,908	\$3,316	\$4,724	\$6,132
1750	-\$631	\$909	\$2,449	\$3,989	\$5,529	\$7,069
1900	-\$353	\$1,319	\$2,991	\$4,663	\$6,335	\$8,007

TABLE 2- Effect of Yield and Price on Gross Margin /ML

YIELD (carton)	DELIVERED PRICE (\$/carton)					
	6.00	7.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	11.00
1300	-\$244	-\$53	\$137	\$328	\$519	\$709
1450	-\$198	\$15	\$228	\$440	\$653	\$866
1600	-\$151	\$83	\$318	\$553	\$787	\$1,022
1750	-\$105	\$152	\$408	\$665	\$922	\$1,178
1900	-\$59	\$220	\$498	\$777	\$1,056	\$1,334

The weighted average price shown in bold is based on the Flemington Market prices over a recent 12 month period.

NOTES:

Area	- Sunraysia, MIA, Central coast and the north coast are the main growing areas.
Production	- Plants are usually spaced 300 to 500mm apart on beds 1.5 to 2.0m apart. A minimum soil temperature of 16°C at 40mm is needed for germination. Avoid soils of poor drainage. Early bed preparation at 8 weeks prior to sowing, including deep ripping to 50cms desirable. This budget applies to growers who pack and market their own melons. Growers can also supply packinghouses.
Pests	- The pumpkin beetle is the main insect pest with powdery mildew as the most common disease.
Harvesting	- Rockmelons are sown from mid-September to late December for a late December to April harvest. Rockmelons should be harvest at the half-full slip stage.
Yields	- Yields vary from 20 to 35 tonnes (1200 to 2000 cartons) per hectare with bees essential for pollination and high yields.
Packaging	- Rockmelons can be marketed in cartons or cardboard octabins. Single layer cartons hold 5 to 10 melons and weigh 14 to 17 kg. Multi-layered cartons hold 12 to 15 medium, 18 to 21 small or 24 very small melons and weigh approximately 16 to 20kg each. Octabins hold between 400 and 450kgs of melons.
Economic note	- This budget is ONLY A GUIDE and should be altered for movements in crop and input prices, changes in seasonal conditions and the farm characteristics. - This budget does not include overhead costs or GST.