



Enterprise

**PARSNIPS - MACHINE HARVEST**
**2001**

Furrow Irrigation

**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
1050	-\$1,076	-\$157	\$762	\$1,681	\$2,599	\$3,518
1150	-\$934	\$73	\$1,079	\$2,085	\$3,091	\$4,098
<b>1250</b>	-\$792	\$302	<b>\$1,396</b>	\$2,490	\$3,583	\$4,677
1350	-\$650	\$532	\$1,713	\$2,894	\$4,075	\$5,257
1450	-\$508	\$761	\$2,030	\$3,299	\$4,567	\$5,836

**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
1050	-\$196	-\$29	\$139	\$306	\$473	\$640
1150	-\$170	\$13	\$196	\$379	\$562	\$745
<b>1250</b>	-\$144	\$55	<b>\$254</b>	\$453	\$652	\$850
1350	-\$118	\$97	\$311	\$526	\$741	\$956
1450	-\$92	\$138	\$369	\$600	\$830	\$1,061

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

**NOTES:**

- Area** - MIA is the main growing area.
- Production** - Most parsnip growers grow 5ha of carrots for every 1ha of parsnips. Planting arrangement is 3 or 4 rows on beds (1.1m to 2m beds) under spray irrigation, or 1 row (under hills less than 1m) with furrow irrigation. Deep friable well drained soils are required Crops are grown during winter and summer periods. Weed control is important as parsnips are poor competitors.
- Pests** - Aphids and leaf hoppers are the main insect pests with leaf spot and powdery mildew the most common diseases.
- Harvesting** - Warm season crops mature within 6 months, while cool season crops take 8 to 9 months.  
- Mechanical harvesting with a carrot harvester is only possible during the warmer months. Tops die back in winter making lifting more difficult. The winter crop is lifted with a tilted blade, below a depth of 30cms, then hand labour is used to harvest the crop.
- Yields** - Paddock yields vary from 20 to 35 tonnes per hectare. One dirty bin of parsnips packs around 15 cartons (20kgs each) clean.
- Packaging** - Parsnips can be marketed in 20kg bags, 10kg cartons (½ carton) or 20kg cartons.
- 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.