

## POTATO - Fresh (Summer) - Sprinkler Irrigation

Farm Enterprise Budget Series

### Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area 2009

#### 1. GROSS MARGIN BUDGET:

##### INCOME:

25 t/ha	@	\$600.00 /tonne
10 t/ha	@	\$450.00 /tonne

Standard Budget \$/ha	Your Budget \$/ha
\$15,000	
\$4,500	
<b>\$19,500</b>	

##### A. TOTAL INCOME \$/ha:

##### VARIABLE COSTS:

See following page for detail

Seed.....	\$2,025	
Tractor costs.....	\$153	
Irrigation.....	\$626	
Fertiliser.....	\$2,547	
Pest control.....	\$42	
Weed control.....	\$42	
Casual labour.....	\$264	
Harvesting.....	\$1,323	
Marketing.....	\$7,688	

##### B. TOTAL VARIABLE COSTS \$/ha:

##### C. GROSS MARGIN (A-B) \$/ha

##### D. GROSS MARGIN \$/ML

<b>\$14,710</b>	
<b>\$4,790</b>	
<b>\$599</b>	

#### 2. SENSITIVITY TABLES

##### 2.1 EFFECT OF YIELD AND PRICE ON GROSS MARGIN PER HECTARE

YIELD (top grade) t/ha	Price for top grade \$/tonne				
	\$500	\$550	\$600	\$650	\$700
15	\$57	\$714	\$1,370	\$2,026	\$2,682
20	\$1,330	\$2,205	\$3,080	\$3,955	\$4,830
<b>25</b>	\$2,602	\$3,696	<b>\$4,790</b>	\$5,884	\$6,977
30	\$3,875	\$5,187	\$6,500	\$7,812	\$9,125
35	\$5,147	\$6,679	\$8,210	\$9,741	\$11,272

##### 2.2 EFFECT OF YIELD AND PRICE ON GROSS MARGIN PER MEGALITRE

YIELD (top grade) t/ha	Price for top grade \$/tonne				
	\$500	\$550	\$600	\$650	\$700
15	\$7	\$89	\$171	\$253	\$335
20	\$166	\$276	\$385	\$494	\$604
<b>25</b>	\$325	\$462	<b>\$599</b>	\$735	\$872
30	\$484	\$648	\$812	\$977	\$1,141
35	\$643	\$835	\$1,026	\$1,218	\$1,409

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CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS:						
Operation	Machinery			Inputs		
	Hrs/ha	Cost \$/hr	Total \$/ha	Rate/ha	Cost	Total \$/ha
Deep rip	1.18	\$100.00	\$118.00			
Disc plough	0.42	\$22.85	\$9.60			
Broadcast fertiliser <i>eg: Lime</i>	0.1	\$24.91	\$2.49	2500kg	\$0.07	\$181.82
Lister	0.86	\$27.95	\$21.80			
Bedform	0.66	\$25.05	\$19.54			
Planter	0.29	\$31.12	\$9.02			
Apply starter fertiliser <i>eg: Starterfos DAP</i>	0.1	\$24.91	\$2.49	600kg	\$1.62	\$969.00
<i>eg: Sulphate of Potash</i>				300kg	\$1.68	\$502.50
Potato Seed				3000kg	\$0.67	\$2,010.00
Potato Seed Cutting				3000kg	\$0.01	\$15.00
Apply pre-emergent <i>eg: Roundup 360</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	1.5L	\$13.20	\$19.80
Apply post-emergent <i>eg: Sencor SC</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	0.4L	\$56.00	\$22.40
Potato moth & aphid control <i>eg: Nitofol</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	0.7L	\$39.00	\$27.30
Apply sidedressing fertiliser <i>eg: Urea</i>	0.1	\$24.91	\$4.98	400kg	\$0.98	\$390.80
Apply <i>Sulphate of potash</i>				300kg	\$1.68	\$502.50
Potato moth control <i>eg: Axe</i>	0.1	\$22.92	\$2.29	0.2L	\$73.00	\$14.60
Irrigation				8ML	\$32.80	\$262.39
Pumping costs				8ML	\$45.50	\$364.00
Contract harvest				35tonnes	\$33.00	\$1,155.00
Harvest labour				12hours	\$22.00	\$264.00
Tractor and bin trailer	0.42	\$21.78	\$9.15			
Bin hire (14 days)				75 bins	\$0.16	\$168.00
50kg hessian bags				700bags	\$1.00	\$700.00
Pack and grade (labour)				700bags	\$4.00	\$2,800.00
Freight				700bags	\$2.50	\$1,750.00
Levy				0.50%		\$97.50
Commission				12%		\$2,340.00

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## AGRONOMIC NOTES

- Tractor costs:** Tractor costs are calculated using a 66 KW engine (90 HP) tractor plus the cost of the implement.
- Irrigation:** The cost of irrigation water will vary depending on where it is obtained. River water obtained from Murrumbidgee Irrigation is about \$32.80/ML based on a 50% allocation. If purchasing a temporary transfer, the cost of water can increase considerably. The cost of pumping varies depending on a number of factors including the type of pump and it's efficiency, meters of head, flow rate required and cost of electricity.
- Production:** Plants are spaced 190 to 220mm apart on rows 810 to 910mm apart (this plant population is a bit higher than the winter crop to give a higher percentage of smalls for seed). In the higher elevation Tablelands district the entire summer crop is sold on the fresh market. In the rest of the state (as represented in this budget) the summer crop also provides seed for the following winter crop. The small potatoes (40 to 80g) are kept for seed, while the rest of the crop is sold on the fresh market. Coliban is the main white skin and Desiree is the main red skin variety.
- Harvesting:** Potatoes are sown in July and August for a December January harvest.
- Yields:** Paddock yields vary from 30 to 40 tonnes per hectare. Production in the tablelands can expect 20% higher yields than in the Riverina.
- 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.