

**Non-Irrigated Grain Sorghum, Strip Tillage
South Georgia, 2012**

Estimated Costs and Returns

Expected Yield: **65 bushel** Yield Your Farm: _____

Variable Costs	Unit	Amount	\$/Unit	Cost/Acre	\$/bushel	Your Farm
Seed	thousand	55	\$ 0.15	\$ 8.25	\$ 0.13	_____
Cover Crop Seed	bushel	1.5	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 0.46	_____
Lime	ton	0.25	\$ 35.00	\$ 8.75	\$ 0.13	_____
Fertilizer						
<i>Nitrogen</i>	pounds	80	\$ 0.68	\$ 54.40	\$ 0.84	_____
<i>Phosphate</i>	pounds	40	\$ 0.50	\$ 20.00	\$ 0.31	_____
<i>Potash</i>	pounds	60	\$ 0.58	\$ 34.80	\$ 0.54	_____
Weed Control *	acre	1	\$ 17.95	\$ 17.95	\$ 0.28	_____
Insect Control	acre	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	_____
Disease Control	acre	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	_____
Preharvest Machinery **						
<i>Fuel</i>	gallon	3.4	\$ 3.55	\$ 12.11	\$ 0.19	_____
<i>Repairs and Maintenance</i>	acre	1	\$ 7.37	\$ 7.37	\$ 0.11	_____
Harvest Machinery						
<i>Fuel</i>	gallon	2.5	\$ 3.55	\$ 8.99	\$ 0.14	_____
<i>Repairs and Maintenance</i>	acre	1	\$ 5.63	\$ 5.63	\$ 0.09	_____
Labor	hours	0.8	\$ 11.25	\$ 9.32	\$ 0.14	_____
Crop Insurance	acre	1	\$ 18.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 0.28	_____
Land Rent	acre	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	_____
Interest on Operating Capital	percent	\$ 117.79	6.5%	\$ 7.66	\$ 0.12	_____
Drying - 8 points	bushel	71.5	\$ 0.28	\$ 20.02	\$ 0.31	_____
Total Variable Costs:				\$ 263.25	\$ 4.05	
Fixed Costs						
Machinery Depreciation, Taxes, Insurance and Housing						
<i>Preharvest Machinery **</i>	acre	1	\$ 19.83	\$ 19.83	\$ 0.31	_____
<i>Harvest Machinery</i>	acre	1	\$ 28.18	\$ 28.18	\$ 0.43	_____
General Overhead	% of VC	\$ 263.25	5%	\$ 13.16	\$ 0.20	_____
Management	% of VC	\$ 263.25	5%	\$ 13.16	\$ 0.20	_____
Owned Land Cost, Taxes, Cash Payment, etc.	acre	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	_____
Other _____	acre	1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	_____
Total Fixed Costs				\$ 74.34	\$ 1.14	
Total Costs Excluding Land				\$ 337.59	\$ 5.19	
Your Profit Goal				\$ _____	/bushel	
Price Needed for Profit				\$ _____	/bushel	

* Substituting mechanical cultivation for pre-emerge herbicide application would lower variable costs by \$9.50/ac and increase fixed cost by \$1/ac.

** Rip, strip and plant in one pass. Performing rip, strip and plant as separate operations increases preharvest fuel use by 0.6 gal (\$2.13/ac), labor costs by \$0.77/ac, and repairs by \$0.80/ac. Fixed costs would increase by \$2.30/ac.

Budget developed by Amanda Smith and Nathan Smith. The authors would like to acknowledge contributions by Dewey Lee, Glen Harris, Bob Kemerait and the Georgia County Extension Agents.

Sensitivity Analysis of Non-Irrigated Grain Sorghum, Strip Tillage

Net Returns Above Variable Costs Per Acre					
Varying Prices and Yields (bushel)					
Price \ bushel/Acre	-25%	-10%	Expected	+10%	+25%
	49	59	65	72	81
\$4.50	-\$43.88	\$0.00	\$29.25	\$58.50	\$102.37
\$5.00	-\$19.50	\$29.25	\$61.75	\$94.25	\$143.00
\$5.50	\$4.87	\$58.50	\$94.25	\$130.00	\$183.62
\$6.00	\$29.25	\$87.75	\$126.75	\$165.75	\$224.25
\$6.50	\$53.62	\$117.00	\$159.25	\$201.50	\$264.87

Estimated Labor and Machinery Costs per Acre Preharvest Operations

Operation	Acres/Hour	Number of Times Over	Labor Use*** (hrs/ac)	Fuel Use (gal/ac)	Repairs (\$/ac)	Fixed Costs (\$/ac)
Spin Spreader 5 ton with Tractor (120-139 hp) 2WD 130	23.8	1	0.05	0.28	\$ 0.56	\$ 1.59
Disk Harrow 32' with Tractor (180-199 hp) MFWD 190	16.3	1	0.08	0.60	\$ 1.41	\$ 4.08
Spray (Broadcast) 60' with Tractor (120-139 hp) 2WD 130	35.5	1	0.04	0.19	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.82
ST Plant Rigid 6R-36 with Tractor (180-199 hp) MFWD 190	6.9	1	0.18	1.42	\$ 2.89	\$ 8.64
Fert Appl (Liquid) 6R-36 with Tractor (120-139 hp) 2WD 130	9.2	1	0.14	0.73	\$ 1.83	\$ 3.88
Spray (Broadcast) 60' with Tractor (120-139 hp) 2WD 130	35.5	1	0.04	0.19	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.82
Total Preharvest Values			0.52	3.41	\$ 7.37	\$ 19.83

Harvest Operations

Operation	Acres/Hour	Number of Times Over	Labor Use*** (hrs/ac)	Fuel Use (gal/ac)	Repairs (\$/ac)	Fixed Costs (\$/ac)
Header Wheat/Sorghum 18' Rigid with Combine (200-249 hp) 240 hp	6.5	1	0.19	1.90	\$ 4.42	\$ 24.89
Grain Cart Corn 500 bu with Tractor (120-139 hp) 2WD 130	10.6	1	0.12	0.63	\$ 1.22	\$ 3.29
Total Harvest Values			0.31	2.53	\$ 5.63	\$ 28.18

*** Includes unallocated labor factor of 0.25. Unallocated labor factor is percentage allowance for additional labor required to move equipment and hook/unhook implements, etc.

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