

**Costs and Returns per acre from growing alfalfa hay, 2006  
Wasatch County**

	Quantity per acre	Unit	Price/cost per unit	Value/cost per acre	Base Value	Your Value
<b>Receipts</b>						
Alfalfa hay	3.7	tons	\$88.57	\$327.70	\$327.70	
Residue	0.50	AUM	\$11.53	\$5.77	\$5.77	
				\$333.46	\$333.46	
<b>Operating costs</b>						
Fertilization						
Phosphate (11-52-0)	144	pounds	\$0.18	\$25.70	\$25.70	
Potassium (0-0-60)	125	pounds	\$0.15	\$18.75	\$18.75	
Custom application	1	acre	\$7.82	\$7.82	\$7.82	
Pesticides/herbicides						
Sencor	0.50	pint	\$13.00	\$6.50	\$6.50	
Custom application	1	acre	\$7.82	\$7.82	\$7.82	
Irrigation (flood)						
Labor	1.67	hours	\$10.00	\$16.67	\$16.67	
Water assessment	1	share	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	
Repairs/maintenance	1	acre	\$2.30	\$2.30	\$2.30	
Pumping	36	acre inch	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Harvesting						
Swathing	3	acre	\$15.56	\$46.68	\$46.68	
Turning	3	acre	\$4.69	\$14.07	\$14.07	
Baling	3.70	tons	\$4.79	\$17.72	\$17.72	
Hauling/stacking	3.70	tons	\$3.63	\$13.43	\$13.43	
Interest on operating capital			7.61%	\$4.93	\$5.87	
				\$197.39	\$247.95	
<b>Ownership costs (excludes cost of land)</b>						
Insurance	1	acre	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	
Machinery ownership costs	1	acre	\$31.71	\$31.71	\$31.71	
Irrigation equipment costs	1	acre	\$8.25	\$8.25	\$8.25	
				\$239.35	\$289.91	
<b>Total costs</b>						
Net returns to owner for unpaid labor, management, equity and risk						
Above operating costs				\$136.07	\$85.51	
Above total listed costs				\$94.11	\$43.55	

**Breakeven Table - Alfalfa**

Net returns per acre above operating costs

Yield (Ton/Ac)	Selling Price (\$/ton)				
	\$78.57	\$83.57	\$88.57	\$93.57	\$98.57
2.20	-\$6.15	\$4.85	\$15.85	\$26.85	\$37.85
2.70	\$28.92	\$42.42	\$55.92	\$69.42	\$82.92
3.20	\$64.00	\$80.00	\$96.00	\$112.00	\$128.00
3.70	\$99.07	\$117.57	<b>\$136.07</b>	\$154.57	\$173.07
4.20	\$134.14	\$155.14	\$176.14	\$197.14	\$218.14
4.70	\$169.22	\$192.72	\$216.22	\$239.72	\$263.22
5.20	\$204.29	\$230.29	\$256.29	\$282.29	\$308.29

**Assumptions**

1. Alfalfa already established. Harvested in June, August, September.
2. Interest computed on fertilization/herbicide costs for 6 months and operating costs for 3 months.
3. Custom rates for all field operations.
4. Only owned machinery are a loader and truck.

Budget prepared by: E. Bruce Godfrey, Cody Bingham and Kristina Haymore