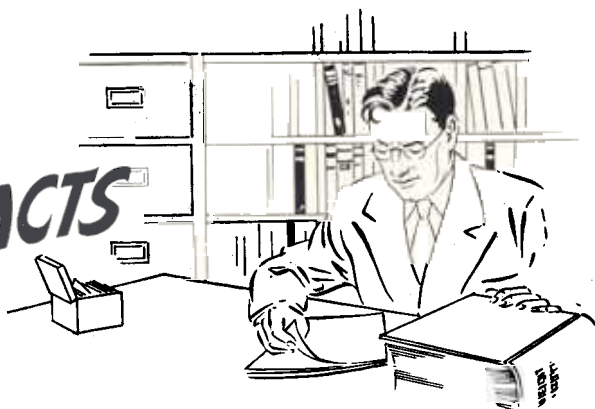


REVIEWS and ABSTRACTS



SMALL FRUIT COSTS IN MICHIGAN 1943

By K. T. Wright and
Stanley Johnston, 1946.

Michigan Agricultural Experiment Sta.
Circular Bulletin 203.

This is a bulletin we have intended to review for some time. The information should be of real interest to growers who wish to study their production schedules and attempt to adopt more efficient practices.

Detailed data are presented on the hours required by the various operations and their costs, for strawberries, raspberries, and blueberries.

Effect of Yield on Costs

One of the most interesting features of this publication are the data on the relationship between yield per acre and costs of production.

In strawberries for example, the high-yield growers produced 301 crates per acre at a cost of \$2.69 per crate. The low-yield growers produced 122 crates

per acre at a cost of \$3.30 per crate. Although production and harvesting costs were higher in the high yielding enterprises, the net profits were likewise greater. The high-yield plantings returned a net profit of \$1350.00 per acre whereas the low production units returned \$540.00 per acre. This is a very worthwhile reward for the grower who selects his site with care, and follows the best cultural methods.

In the case of raspberries the low-yield growers averaged about 640 lbs. per acre at a cost of 23 cents per pound. The high yield growers produced 1600 pounds per acre at a cost of 17 cents per pound. As with strawberries, the higher yields resulted in an appreciably higher net profit per acre.

Fruit growers should give more attention to a careful analysis of the costs and returns in their various enterprises. Careful selection of sites and soil, followed by the use of the best varieties and cultural practices will pay high dividends in increased profits.

—W.P.I.