

2026 Estimated Costs and Returns per Acre
Watermelon, Seedless, Plastic Mulch, Drip Irrigated, Rio Grande Valley
South Extension District - 12

Crop Acres		40				Enterprise
REVENUE	Quantity	Units	\$/Unit	Total	Total	
Watermelon, seedless	350.00	CWT	\$21.00	\$7,350.00	\$294,000.00	
Total Revenue				\$7,350.00	\$294,000.00	
VARIABLE COSTS	Quantity	Units	\$/Unit	Total	Enterprise Total	
Production Costs						
Fertilizer						
Phosphorus (46% P2O5)	1.74	CWT	\$28.00	\$48.72	\$1,948.80	
UAN (32% N)	2.5	CWT	\$16.85	\$42.13	\$1,685.00	
Custom						
Bee Rental	1	Hive	\$85.00	\$85.00	\$3,400.00	
Harvest and Sell Watermelons	450	CWT	\$8.50	\$3,825.00	\$153,000.00	
Insecticide						
Asana XL	5.8	Ounce	\$0.59	\$3.42	\$136.88	
Herbicide						
Trifluralin 4EC	2.75	Pint	\$4.80	\$13.20	\$528.00	
Seed						
Hybrid Watermelon Seed	2.1	Thousand	\$30.00	\$63.00	\$2,520.00	
Watermelon Seedlings	2.1	Thousand	\$115.00	\$241.50	\$9,660.00	
Miscellaneous						
DripTape (2 seasons)	6550	Foot	\$0.03	\$208.95	\$8,357.80	
Plastic Mulch, 3x4K'	0.61	Roll	\$198.00	\$120.78	\$4,831.20	
Sulfuric Acid	26	Ounce	\$0.22	\$5.77	\$230.67	
Other Labor						
Transplant Melons	8	Hour	\$15.00	\$120.00	\$4,800.00	
Pickup Plastic	8	Hour	\$15.00	\$120.00	\$4,800.00	
Unallocated Labor	0.8992	Hour	\$15.00	\$13.49	\$539.52	
Fungicides						
Bravo Ultrex	1	Pound	\$10.23	\$10.23	\$409.30	
Quadris	32	Ounce	\$1.56	\$49.99	\$1,999.50	
Irrigation						
Water Cost	1.13	Acre/Foot	\$33.64	\$38.14	\$1,525.76	
Irrigation Labor	0.19	Hour	\$17.50	\$3.31	\$132.30	
Machinery Labor						
Tractors/Self-Propelled	1.4	Hour	\$17.21	\$24.09	\$963.76	
Other Labor	0.41	Hour	\$17.21	\$7.06	\$282.24	
Diesel Fuel						
Tractors/Self-Propelled	9	Gallon	\$3.60	\$32.40	\$1,296.00	
Repairs & Maintenance						
Tractors/Self-Propelled	1	Acre	\$21.02	\$21.02	\$840.94	
Implements	1	Acre	\$10.35	\$10.35	\$414.01	
Interest on Credit Line			8.48%	\$51.62	\$2,064.81	
Total Variable Costs				\$5,159.16	\$206,366.50	
Planned Returns Above Variable Costs:				\$2,190.84	\$87,633.50	
Breakeven Price to Cover Variable Costs			\$14.74 CWT			
FIXED COSTS	Quantity	Units	\$/Unit	Total	Enterprise Total	
Machinery Depreciation						
Tractors/Self-Propelled	1	Acre	\$21.72	\$21.72	\$868.97	
Implements	1	Acre	\$12.38	\$12.38	\$495.02	
Equipment Investment						
Tractors/Self-Propelled	\$169.24	Dollars	8.20%	\$13.88	\$555.10	
Implements	\$54.74	Dollars	8.20%	\$4.49	\$179.54	
Cash Rent, Irrigated Vegetables	1	Acre	\$110.00	\$110.00	\$4,400.00	
Total Fixed Costs				\$162.47	\$6,498.63	
Total Specified Costs				\$5,321.63	\$212,865.13	
Returns Above Specified Costs				\$2,028.37	\$81,134.87	
Breakeven Price to Cover Total Costs			\$15.20 CWT			

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Information presented is prepared solely as a general guide and not intended to recognize or predict the costs and returns from any one operation. Brand names are mentioned only as examples and imply no endorsement.