
AGRICULTURAL ALTERNATIVES

Instructions for using the interactive budgets

You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to use these forms. If you do not have this program installed on your computer, you can download a free version [here](#).

You can make changes to the interactive PDF budget files for this publication by inputting your own prices and quantities in the green-outlined cells for any item. You will need to click on and add your own estimated price and quantity information to all of the green-outlined cells to complete your customized budget.

The cells outlined in red automatically calculate your revised totals based on the changes you made to the cells outlined in green.

When you are finished, you can print the budget using the green **Print Form** button at the bottom of the form.

You can use the red **Clear Form** button to clear all the information from your budget when you are finished.

extension.psu.edu/ag-alternatives

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Cooperative Extension
College of Agricultural Sciences

Sample Honey Production and Pollination Budget (Established Operation)

Summary of Estimated Costs and Returns for 10 Established Colonies.

Item	Quantity	Your Quantity	Unit	Receipts or costs per unit	Your Price	Total receipts (one crop)	Calculated Estimate
Receipts							
Honey (Extracted) (1)	600	_____	pounds	\$ 3.00	_____	\$ 1,800.00	_____
Pollination fee (2)							
Spring	10	_____	hives	\$ 85.00	_____	\$ 850.00	_____
Summer	10	_____	hives	\$ 100.00	_____	\$ 1,000.00	_____
Wax	5	_____	pounds	\$ 4.00	_____	\$ 20.00	_____
<i>Total receipts</i>						\$ 3,670.00	_____
Variable costs							
Bees (replacement bees) (3)							
Package (3 lb.)	2	_____	hive	\$ 100.00	_____	\$ 200.00	_____
Queens (replacements)	2	_____	queen	\$ 18.00	_____	\$ 36.00	_____
Parasite and disease control							
Varroa chemical control	4	_____	pkg of 10	\$ 33.00	_____	\$ 132.00	_____
Fumidil-B	1	_____	2-gm bottle	\$ 44.00	_____	\$ 44.00	_____
Sugar	50	_____	pounds	\$ 0.40	_____	\$ 20.00	_____
Jars	21	_____	cases of 24	\$ 15.50	_____	\$ 325.50	_____
Labels (supplier and quality id)	500	_____		\$ 0.15	_____	\$ 75.00	_____
Paint	2	_____	gallon	\$ 40.00	_____	\$ 80.00	_____
Buckets	5	_____	5-gallon	\$ 7.80	_____	\$ 39.00	_____
Vehicle (fuel, maint., depreciation)	150	_____	miles	\$ 0.55	_____	\$ 82.50	_____
Marketing (advertising)	1	_____	year	\$ 150.00	_____	\$ 150.00	_____
Bee management	1	_____	year		_____		_____
Production information	1	_____	year		_____		_____
Additional inputs	1	_____	year		_____		_____
Additional inputs	1	_____	year		_____		_____
Registration fee	1	_____	year	\$ 5.00	_____	\$ 5.00	_____
<i>Total variable costs</i>						\$ 1,189.00	_____

Fixed costs

Brood boxes with frames and foundation ⁽⁴⁾	20	_____	10 colonies	\$	3.35	_____	\$	67.00	_____
Top, bottoms, and inner covers ⁽⁴⁾	10	_____	10 colonies	\$	4.00	_____	\$	40.00	_____
Honey supers with frames and foundation ⁽⁴⁾	30	_____	10 colonies	\$	2.70	_____	\$	81.00	_____
Protective clothing ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	10 colonies	\$	9.00	_____	\$	9.00	_____
Hive tool/smoker ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	10 colonies	\$	4.50	_____	\$	4.50	_____
Feeder ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	10 colonies	\$	5.50	_____	\$	5.50	_____
Queen excluder ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	10 colonies	\$	1.55	_____	\$	1.55	_____
Bee escape ⁽⁴⁾	10	_____	10 colonies	\$	1.05	_____	\$	10.50	_____
Extracting equipment (based on 50 hives)									
Extractor ⁽⁴⁾ (\$1,600)	1	_____	year	\$	160.00	_____	\$	160.00	_____
Bottling tank (300 lb. with covered strainer) (\$1,000) ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	year	\$	100.00	_____	\$	100.00	_____
Uncapping tank (\$135) ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	year	\$	13.50	_____	\$	13.50	_____
Uncapping knife (\$100) ⁽⁴⁾	1	_____	year	\$	10.00	_____	\$	10.00	_____
Upgrading existing facilities (\$2,000) ⁽⁵⁾	0.5	_____	year	\$	200.00	_____	\$	100.00	_____
Additional inputs		_____				_____			_____
<i>Total fixed costs</i>							\$	602.55	_____

Total costs

\$ 1,791.55 _____

Returns

Net returns over variable costs							\$	2,481.00	_____
Net returns							\$	1,878.45	_____

1. Retail price.

2. Rental fee may vary depending on the crop.

3. Estimated 20 percent loss each year.

4. Depreciated over 10 years.

5. Depreciated over 20 years. Building may not be necessary. Sideline beekeepers often convert a garage, basement, or other outbuilding into a honey house.

You should monitor local markets and contact suppliers to determine current prices for all items contained in this sample budget.