

STUDIES IN THE COST OF PRODUCTION OF CROPS

(Continued)

By D. G. MUNRO

V

Name of Crop :	Paddy.
Area :	1 Acre.
Locality :	Omalur Taluk (Salem District).

This ryot is a big farmer. Among other lands which he has sublet to his tenants he cultivated a portion under his own management with his own men employed on monthly wages and with his own cattle. As in other places, the season was very bad. The lands are wet lands, but are also commanded by wells. Even in bad seasons, paddy could be cultivated with the help of well water. The seed beds were prepared in time, i.e., on the 25th July with well water. The variety of paddy, viz., Local *Karthikai Samba*—of 5 months duration, was transplanted when 50 days old. As usual, sprouted paddy seeds were sown, and the wet seed bed was allowed to dry up, and irrigation was given occasionally. The fields had to be irrigated only with the help of well water till the tanks got filled up during the middle of October. The plants were found diseased in the early stages and hence the crop did not grow satisfactorily. Irrigation charges were heavy. The farmer's cattle were mostly grazed by boys during half day and so the charges for maintenance of cattle are not much, and hence other cultivation expenses are comparatively low. The cattle were fed with concentrated food, viz., cotton seed and bran during the irrigation period. The Crop was harvested on the 25th December, 1928.

Details of cost of Cultivation

PARTICULARS	LABOUR			Amount
	Men @ 4 as	Women @ 3 as	Pairs @ 6 as	
<i>Preparatory Cultivation</i>				Rs A P
Well-irrigation for 15 days at 2 pairs per day before planting	30	11 4 0
Ploughing—3 pairs for 12 days	36	13 8 0
Total	66	24 12 0
<i>Seed and sowing</i>				
Preparing seed bed—irrigating, ploughing, etc.	6	2 4 0
Manuring seed bed with 14 bundles of Kolinji leaves at 3 as. per bundle	2 10 0
Trampling	2	...	0 6 0
Irrigating seed bed	5	1 14 0
Draining fields ...	1½	...	...	0 6 0
Cost of seed—25 <i>vallams</i> —(5½ lbs. per <i>vallam</i>) 141 lbs. at 14 lbs. per rupee	10 0 0
Pulling out seedlings and transplanting...	...	30	...	5 10 0
Total	32	11	23 2 0
<i>Manures and manuring</i>				
80 bundles of Kolinji leaves at 3 as. per bundle	15 0 0
Trampling leaves	10	...	1 14 0
Total	10	...	16 14 0
<i>After cultivation</i>				
Weeding	20	...	3 12 0
<i>Irrigation</i>				
Mhote buckets and mouth pieces	80	30 0 0
Mhote ropes and tail ropes	10 0 0
Blacksmith's and carpenter's wages for mhote repairs and chuckler's wages for repairing mhote buckets	4 2 0
Total	80	4 8 0
Total	80	48 10 0

Details of cost of Cultivation—Continued

PARTICULARS	LABOUR			Amount
	Men @ 4 as	Women @ 3 as	Pairs @ 6 as	
<i>Interest on Capital</i>				
Interest on the capital expenses on cattle costing Rs 500 and cultivation charges, etc., Rs 100 for 4 months at 12 per cent.	...	...	...	36 0 0
<i>Harvesting &c.</i>				
Harvesting and threshing including cattle threshing	12	2	8	6 6 0
Assessment ... ..	...	...	...	7 8 0
Total ...	...	...	...	13 14 0
Grand total of expenditure ...	...	...	...	167 0 0

Yield of crop—Area 1 Acre

Grain—14 <i>khandagams</i> (of 225 lbs. or 90 M. M.)	3,150 lbs.
Straw—80 bundles of 50 lbs.	4,000 lbs.
	Rs A P
Value of paddy at Rs 13 per <i>khandagam</i>	182 0 0
Value of straw—4,000 lbs. at 100 lbs. per rupee	40 0 0
Grand total ...	222 0 0
Net profit ...	55 0 0

Note. The crop was affected by stem borer, during the growth of the crop, and hence the yield was not satisfactory. The charges of cultivation were rather heavy because a large amount had to be spent in irrigating the crop from the well.

VI

Name of Crop:	Paddy.
Area:	1 Acre.
Locality:	Pottipuram Village (Omalur Taluk).
District:	Salem.

This tenant cultivated the lands on *Varam* system— $\frac{3}{5}$ share of the produce and the whole straw is taken by him, while $\frac{2}{5}$ of the grain is given to the landlord. The land in question was under the tank irrigation, but the tank supplied water only for about a month.

The variety *Sadai Samba* was sown in the seed bed by the end of July, and the seedlings were transplanted when about 75 days old. The harvest was done early in February, so that the crop was found to be one of six months duration.

The tenant has no lands to cultivate excepting the lands of the landlord. He has his own work bullocks costing about Rs. 120 and they were of poor type. No concentrated food is given, but the cattle are fed on grass cut from field bunds or on Cumbu or Ragi straw. Thus the average cost of maintaining cattle comes to 3 annas per pair, while his wages may be put down at 2 annas—the amount required by him for his maintenance.

Practically all the work was done by the members of the family.

Details of the cost of Cultivation. Area: 1 Acre.

PARTICULARS	Men	Women	Pairs	Amount
	@ 2 as.	@ 2 as.	@ 3 as.	
<i>Preparatory cultivation</i>				Rs A P
Ploughing, irrigating by mhote ...	16	...	16	5 0 0
<i>Seeds and sowing</i>				
Preparing seed beds, irrigating, etc. ...	7½	4	3½	2 1 6
Collecting green leaves, trampling, etc....	...	...	...	0 14 6
Cost of seed—42 lbs. ...	...	...	...	3 0 0
Transplanting (on contract) ...	...	...	...	4 4 0
Total ...	...	...	...	10 4 0

PARTICULARS	Men @ 2 as.	Women @ 2 as.	Pairs @ 3 as.	Amount
Brought forward ...	...	...	...	15 4 0
<i>Manuring and transplanting</i>				
Collecting leaves, trampling and trans- planting ...	6	18	...	3 0 0
<i>After-cultivation</i>				
Weeding ...	...	10	...	1 4 0
<i>Irrigation</i>	80	...	80	25 0 0
Mhote buckets ...	...	...	...	12 0 0
Mhote ropes, wages of chuckler, etc. ...	...	...	...	6 0 0
Total ...	...	...	...	43 0 0
<i>Harvesting and threshing</i>				
Harvest threshing at 4 annas ...	4	3	4	1 10 0
Total ...	...	...	...	4 14 0
Total cost of cultivation ...	...	...	...	67 6 0
Rent due to landlord—3 <i>khandagams</i> at Rs. 13 per <i>khandagam</i> ...	...	...	...	39 0 0
Total ...	...	...	...	106 6 0

Note.—Interest on the amount expended for the cultivation expenses was not charged for as the same is very little.

Yield of crop—Area : 1 Acre.

Grain—7½ <i>khandagams</i> of paddy (225 lbs. per <i>khandagam</i>) ...	1688 lbs.
Straw—36 bundles of 60 lbs. ...	2160 lbs.
	Rs A P
Value of grain at Rs 13 per <i>khandagam</i> ...	98 8 0
Paddy straw at 100 lbs. per rupee ...	21 10 0
Total ...	120 2 0
Net profit ...	13 12 0

Owing to late planting the yield was considerably low, hence the margin of the profit is small.