2025 Actual Crop Cost and Return Estimates, Doña Ana and Sierra Counties – Flood

Irrigation

Pilja Vitale, Extension Economist, and Madhav Regmi, Associate Professor

Cost and return estimates for irrigated land crops in Doña Ana and Sierra Counties are presented in this report. These estimates were gathered from a panel of local producers, state and federal agencies, and others input industries in crop production. They are estimates for a representative farm with above-average management. These estimates will not fit any particular farm and should be adjusted to match individual businesses and operating conditions. We thank those individuals who provided data to make this report complete.

The representative farm contains 500 acres in the flood irrigated land of Doña Ana and Sierra Counties. The crops grown are:

Alfalfa Establishment
Alfalfa
Pima Cotton
Picker Cotton
Grain Sorghum
Spring Lettuce
Fall Lettuce
Corn Silage
Fall Onions
Midseason Yellow Onions
Sweet Spanish Onions
Green Chile
Red Chile

Primary Information Tables

Table 1 lists acreage and water use summary.

Table 2 lists the basic cost assumptions for primary inputs.

Table 3 shows overhead cost information.

Individual Crop Estimates

Tables 6 through 18 are the cost and return estimates for the individual crops. Definitions are explained on the link of understanding of NMSU enterprise budget in this website.

Summaries

Table 19 is a side-by-side summary of the individual crop estimates. Table 20 pulls together all the individual estimates into a whole-farm summary.

Further Explanation and Input Source reference

Input data sources other than producers and local input venders: Interest rate referred to American AgCredit, part of energy prices referred to https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/steo/ (short-term energy outlook).

Contact the Extension Economist at NMSU for a complete list of available crop cost and return estimates.

Released: April 2026