

**Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, 2015**  
**Organic Broccoli – Irrigated – Wholesale Market – 20 lb Case**

**Budget Based on 1 acre of broccoli on a 10 acre mixed organic vegetable farm.**

**Estimated Costs and Returns per Acre.**

	UNIT	QUANTITY	\$/UNIT	TOTAL \$/AC	YOUR FARM \$/Ac.
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
1. Broccoli	Case	300	31	9,300	_____
<b>2. VARIABLE COSTS</b>					
3. Organic certification	Acre	1	80	80	_____
4. Seedlings	Thous.	18	45	810	_____
5. Compost/Manure	Ton	2	40	80	_____
6. Cover Crop	Acre	1	80	80	_____
7. Lime (prorated)	Ton	0.33	40	13	_____
8. Organic Pest. Sprays	Oz.	296	0.70	207	_____
9. Fuel	Gal.	20	2.50	50	_____
10. Box and Cool	Each	300	2.00	600	_____
11. Labor	Hrs.	170	10	1700	_____
12. Irrigation Supplies	Acre	1	1000	1000	_____
13. Plastic Mulch	Acre	1	200	200	_____
14. Other					_____
Total Variable Costs				4,820	_____
<b>15. FIXED COSTS</b>					
16. Machine & Equip.	Acre	1	240	240	_____
17. Irrigation	Acre	1	80	80	_____
18. Land Charge	Acre	1	50	50	_____
Total Fixed Costs				370	_____
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>				5,190	_____
<b>RETURN ABOVE VARIABLE COSTS</b>				4,480	_____
<b>RETURN ABOVE TOTAL COSTS</b>				4,110	_____

## **Notes – Budget estimates for planning only.**

1. Yield extrapolated from Mississippi State University Budgets 2013. Price taken from Carolina Farm Stewardship Assoc. (CFSA) Organic Produce Marketing Survey, 2013.
2. Variable costs are those costs that a farmer incurs because he/she decided to grow this specific crop.
3. Average organic certification cost from USDA Farm Services Administration.
4. Extrapolated from organic seedling prices found in Internet search, and Mississippi State University enterprise budgets.
5. Average price of 1 ton of compost, chicken litter, or manure found in Internet search.
6. Average of various cover crop seed and planting cost. Estimated from farmer interviews, and Mississippi State University enterprise budgets, 2013.
7. Equals 1 ton of lime per acre every 3 years. Price from Internet search.
8. Used only when mechanical and physical control methods are ineffective. Application rates and weighted average price for Dipel DF, PyGanic & Trilogy taken from 2013 CFSA pest control worksheets.
9. Mississippi State University, Traditional Vegetables 2013 Planning Budgets, and farmer reviews.
10. Cost estimate from Internet search of various suppliers.
11. Labor estimates vary widely. This estimate is extrapolated from enterprise budgets developed by University of Georgia 2009 and Mississippi State University 2013.
12. Irrigation supplies include 1.5 rolls of drip tape and 6 acre inches of rural water cost. Derived from the Mississippi State University 2013 enterprise budgets.
13. Price from Internet search.
14. Purposely left blank for other unspecified farm costs.
15. Fixed costs are costs that a farmer incurs whether or not a crop is grown.
16. See table below.
17. Annual fixed cost for irrigation setup.
18. Average of farm rental values for North and South Carolina. Estimated from USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service 2010 published cropland rents.

### **Machinery and Equipment Costs\***

			Useful			
	Purchase	Salvage	Life	Acres	Repair & Maint.	Total**
Item	Price \$	Value \$	Yrs.	Used/Yr.	\$/Ac.	\$/Ac.
Tractor	17,000	4,000	20	10	3.00	68
Chisel Plow	2,500	600	15	10	0.30	13
Transplanter	2,600	600	20	4	0.20	25
Pest. Sprayer	9,400	1,900	20	10	9.50	47
Trailer	1,100	200	20	10	0.10	5
Disk	4,450	900	15	10	0.20	24
Manure Spreader	3,000	1,500	20	10	0.20	8
Bed Shaper	2,500	600	20	5	1.50	21
200 Buckets	1,000	0	5	7	0	29

Total \$/ Acre = 240

\*Estimates derived from Mississippi State University, Traditional Vegetable 2013 Planning Budgets; Why Cows Need Names, and More Secrets of Amish Farms, Randy James, Kent State University Press, 2013 and Internet search of various machinery suppliers.

\*\*Total \$/Ac. = Purchase Price – Salvage Value/Useful Life/ Acres Used + Repair & Maintenance.

Prepared and updated by: Randy James, PhD, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University; Karen RM McSwain, MS, Farm Services Director, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association; and farmers who attended the Developing Enterprise Budget workshop at CFSA's Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference, 2015.