

Alternative & Specialty Crops			
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Qualitative Benefits of the Practice	Cost of Implementation and Potential Income Loss	Potential Income Gain and Reduced/Avoided Costs	Your Judgment: Value Per Acre of This Practice on Your Land
<p>May reduce pesticide use</p> <p>More profitable choice than corn & soybeans on some soils and in some climates (3)</p> <p>Choice of a suitable alternative crop can reduce or eliminate irrigation water use in dry climates. Restricting irrigation benefits water conservation efforts.</p> <p>Increased species diversity on the landscape</p> <p>The numbers in this table are broad estimates, and you should adjust them for your farm's conditions.</p>	<p>Risk of uninsured or under-insured loss of production costs for specialty fruit or vegetable crop: \$5,000/acre/year (<i>See Uninsured/Under-insured Risk text box</i>)</p> <p>High labor requirements per acre of specialty fruit/vegetable crop; average of 220 hours/acre/year (<i>See Labor Hours text box; 2</i>)</p> <p>Loss of net income from cash grain crop on the alternative or specialty crop acres: \$230/acre/year. (<i>See Cash Grain Profitability Calculation text box on page 4</i>).</p> <p>If dryland acres, loss of income from corn/soybean is about \$80/acre/year (3)</p>	<p>Specialty fruit and vegetables have widely varying income potential.</p> <p>\$2,000/acre/year, net income for mixed fruit and vegetable production; range of \$1,200 to \$18,100 or potentially higher (note high-end figure does not include marketing costs) (1, 2)</p> <p>Heirloom tomatoes, net income of \$54,000/acre/year, not including marketing costs (1)</p> <p>Dry beans, net income of \$200/acre/year (3)</p> <p>Confectionary sunflowers, net income of \$184/acre/year (3)</p>	<p>Potential income gain and costs avoided: +</p> <p>Potential income loss and costs to pay: -</p> <p>Your judgment on value to your farm of qualitative benefits: +</p> <p>Value to society or environment: +</p> <p>Add up the total net value per acre per year:</p> <p>Multiply by number of acres devoted to the practice:</p> <p>Multiply by a time frame (5 years? 10 years?)</p> <p>Total value over time:</p>