

Cost to build Platform

Expect the cost to fabricate a Platform to vary widely based first on the price of steel and secondarily on labor. Steel prices fluctuate based on the world market and global demand.

The first platform, the prototype, cost only \$700 to build but contained less steel than V2 & V3 and was fabricated by a local part-time welder. The second and third platforms each cost \$1200 and were built by a professional fabrication shop and the price of steel was then relatively high.

See page #9 in the Alfred State College Engineering Document provided with the Final Documents. It provides a material list and steel prices at the time of writing. The estimated cost of steel alone was \$638 in 2011.

The price of the top, utilized in planting garlic, called a Garlic Functional Unit is approximately \$20 for a 3/8" sheet of plywood.

Finally the gauge wheels also vary based on steel prices, supplier and capacity.

The gauge wheels for V2 cost \$451

The gauge wheels for V3 cost \$356 lighter and easier to handle

The V2 platform has a 2.5" diamond pattern toolbar based on recommendation of a well known supplier of agricultural implements but I found that 2" is actually a better choice for small farm and vegetable operations.