



# Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents 2008–09

Barry Ward (ward.8@osu.edu), Leader, Production Business Management  
OSU Extension, OSU Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics (AEDE)

## Introduction

Ohio cropland values show signs of falling slightly while cash rents show signs of leveling off or seeing modest increases depending on the region and land productivity. Ohio cropland values are expected to decrease from 2.4% to 4.9% in 2009 while cash rents are expected to range from a decrease of 0.24% to an increase of up to 1.24%.

The “Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents” survey is conducted annually, drawing on the expertise of numerous professionals that are knowledgeable of Ohio’s cropland markets. Surveyed groups include farm managers, rural appraisers, agricultural lenders, OSU Extension educators, farmers and Farm Service Agency personnel.

One hundred eighteen surveys were completed, analyzed and summarized. Respondents were asked to give responses based on three classes of land in their area: “top” producing land, “average” producing land and “poor” producing land. The preliminary survey results are summarized below (Tables 1–5) for the entire state of Ohio (entire state results), Northwest Ohio and Southwest Ohio (these 2 regions had sufficient data to allow for regional summaries).

This survey found that in 2008, Ohio cropland averaged \$5,131 per acre for top land, \$4,257 for average land, and \$3,292 for poor land. Top land averaged 180.7 bushels of corn per acre, 56.5 bushels of soybeans per acre, and rented for \$165 per acre. Average land yielded, on average, 146.3 bushels of corn per acre, 44.3 bushels of soybeans per acre, and rented for \$128 per acre. Poor cropland averaged 111.7 bushels of corn per acre, 32.5 bushels of soybeans per acre, and rented for \$91 per acre.

Respondents were also asked to give their projections

of land values and cash rents for 2009. Cropland values in Ohio in 2009 are projected to average \$5,007, \$4,126, and \$3,131 per acre for “top,” “average,” and “poor” land, respectively. Cash Rents are projected to average \$165, \$128, and \$92 per acre for “top,” “average,” and “poor” land, respectively.

## Ohio Results

### Top Cropland

Survey results indicate that “top” performing cropland in Ohio averages 180.7 bushels of corn per acre (Table 1). Results also show that average value of “top” cropland in 2008 was \$5,131 per acre (Tables 1 and 4). According to this survey, “top” producing cropland in Ohio is expected to be valued at \$5,007 in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 2.4%.

“Top” cropland in Ohio rented for an average of \$165 per acre in 2008 according to survey results (Tables 1 and 5). “Top” cropland is expected to rent for \$165 in 2009. This equates to a cash rent of \$0.91 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “top” cropland category are expected to equal 3.5% of land value in 2009.

### Average Cropland

Survey results for “average” production cropland show an average yield to be 146.3 bushels of corn per acre. Results show that the value of “average” cropland in Ohio was \$4,257 per acre in 2008. According to survey data this “average” producing cropland is expected to be valued at \$4,126 per acre in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 3.1%.

“Average” cropland rented for an average of \$128 per

acre in 2008 according to survey results. “Average” cropland is expected to rent for \$128 per acre in 2009. This equates to a cash rent of \$0.88 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “average” cropland category are expected to equal 3.3% of land value in 2009.

### **Poor Cropland**

The survey summary shows the average yield for “poor” performing cropland equals 111.7 bushels of corn per acre. Results also show that the average value of “poor” cropland was \$3,292 per acre in 2008. According to survey data, this “poor” producing cropland is expected to be valued at \$3,131 in 2009. This is a decrease of 4.9%.

“Poor” cropland rented for an average of \$91 per acre in 2008 according to survey results. Cash Rent for “Poor” cropland is expected to average \$92 per acre in 2009. This equates to a cash rent of \$0.83 per bushel of corn produced in 2009. Rents in the “poor” cropland category are expected to equal 3.0% of land value in 2009.

## **Northwest Ohio Results**

### **Top Cropland**

Survey results indicate that “top” performing cropland in northwest Ohio averages 179.5 bushels of corn per acre or 55.5 bushels of soybeans per acre (Table 2). Results also show that the average value of “top” cropland was \$4,894 per acre in 2008 (Tables 2 and 4). According to this survey, “top” producing cropland in northwest Ohio is expected to be valued at \$4,803 in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 1.9%.

“Top” cropland in northwest Ohio rented for an average of \$164 per acre in 2008 and is expected to rent for \$161 in 2009 according to survey results, which equals \$0.90 per bushel of corn produced (Tables 2 and 5). Rents in the “top” cropland category are expected to equal 3.8% of land value.

### **Average Cropland**

Yields for “average” production cropland are 143.4 bushels of corn per acre or 42.9 bushels of soybeans per acre. Results show that the value of “average” cropland in northwest Ohio was \$4,120 per acre in 2008. According to survey data this “average” producing cropland is expected to be valued at \$3,997 per acre in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 3.0%.

“Average” cropland rented for an average of \$130 per acre in 2008 according to survey results and is expected to rent for \$130 in 2009, which equals \$0.90 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “average” cropland category are expected to equal 3.6 % of land value in 2009.

### **Poor Cropland**

The survey summary shows the average yield for “poor” performing cropland in northwestern Ohio equals 109.3 bushels of corn per acre or 31.7 bushels of soybeans per acre. Results also show that the average value of “poor” cropland was \$3,189 per acre in 2008 and is expected to average \$3,014 per acre in 2009. This is a decrease of 5.5%.

“Poor” cropland rented for an average of \$95 per acre in 2008 and is expected to average \$96 per acre in 2009 according to survey results, which equals \$0.88 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “poor” cropland category are expected to equal 3.3% of land value in 2009.

The northwest region for the purposes of this survey includes the following counties: Williams, Fulton, Lucas, Ottawa, Defiance, Henry, Wood, Sandusky, Paulding, Putnam, Hancock, Seneca, Van Wert, Allen, Hardin, Wyandot, Crawford, Marion, and Morrow.

## **Southwest Ohio Results**

### **Top Cropland**

Survey results indicate that “top” performing cropland in southwest Ohio averages 185.1 bushels of corn per acre or 57.6 bushels of soybeans per acre (Table 3). Results also show that average value of “top” cropland was \$5,844 per acre in 2008 (Tables 3 and 4). According to this survey, “top” producing cropland in southwest Ohio is expected to be valued at \$5,681 in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 2.8%.

“Top” cropland in southwest Ohio rented for an average of \$189 per acre in 2008 and is expected to rent for \$192 per acre in 2009 according to survey results, which equals \$1.04 per bushel of corn produced (Tables 3 and 5). Rents in the “top” cropland category are expected to equal 3.7% of land value in 2009.

### **Average Cropland**

Yields for “average” production cropland equal 151.8 bushels of corn per acre. Results show that the value of “average” cropland in southwest Ohio was \$4,814 per acre. According to survey data, this “average” producing cropland is expected to be valued at \$4,646 per acre in 2009. This is a projected decrease of 3.5%.

“Average” cropland rented for an average of \$147 per acre in 2008 and is expected to rent for \$148 per acre in 2009 according to survey results, which equals \$0.98 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “average” cropland category are expected to equal 3.4 % of land value in 2009.

### **Poor Cropland**

The survey summary shows the average yield for “poor” performing cropland in southwestern Ohio equals 117.2

bushels of corn per acre. Results also show that the average value of “poor” cropland was \$3,760 per acre. According to survey data, this “poor” producing cropland is expected to be valued at \$3,534 per acre in 2009. This is a decrease of 6.0%.

“Poor” cropland rented for an average of \$105 per acre in 2008 and is expected to average \$105 per acre in 2009 according to survey results, which equals \$0.90 per bushel of corn produced. Rents in the “poor” cropland category are expected to equal 3.1% of land value in 2009.

The southwest region for the purposes of this survey includes the following counties: Mercer, Auglaize, Shelby, Logan, Union, Delaware, Darke, Miami, Champaign, Clark, Madison, Franklin, Preble, Montgomery, Greene, Butler, Warren, Hamilton, Clermont, Clinton, Fayette, and Pickaway.

### Additional Survey Results

Survey respondents were asked to give their best estimates for long-term land value and cash rent change as well as projections for mortgage and operating loan interest rates for 2009. Survey respondents estimate cash rents will

increase 1.89% in the next five-year period while cropland values will increase only 0.72% in that same period.

The summary of these responses is presented in Tables 1–3 and includes the following: Value of Cropland in Transition (areas where much of the land is moving into residential, commercial, and industrial uses), Expected Percent Change in the Value of Bare Cropland in the Next 5 Years, Expected Percent Change in the Cash Rental Rates in the Next 5 Years, Expected Average Interest Rate for Mortgage Loans for 2009, Expected Average Operating Loan Rate for 2009, Pasture Cash Rent Per Acre, and the Value of Pasture Land. Tables 1–3 below show the results of the survey for these measures for Ohio and two sub-regions (northwest and southwest) of Ohio.

### Interpreting Tables 1–3

Tables 1–3 show the average (Avg) (simple average) of each measure, standard deviation (Std) of the data for that measure (measure of variability), average plus one standard deviation (Avg+1 Std), and average minus one standard deviation (Avg-1 Std). These latter two numbers reported indicate a range within which about two-thirds of the responses in the data for that measure will fall.

Ohio Results			Avg	Std	Avg+ 1 Std	Avg - 1 Std
Top	Avg Corn Yield		180.69	18.37	199.05	162.32
	Avg Soybean Yield		56.47	6.74	63.22	49.73
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$5,131.19	1414.72	6545.91	3716.48
		2009	\$5,006.62	1463.54	6470.16	3543.08
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$165.10	43.04	208.14	122.06
		2009	\$164.67	46.43	211.10	118.24
Average	Avg Corn Yield		146.25	13.96	160.22	132.29
	Avg Soybean Yield		44.34	5.26	49.60	39.08
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$4,256.88	1096.17	5353.05	3160.71
		2009	\$4,125.74	1171.11	5296.84	2954.63
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$127.69	34.48	162.17	93.21
		2009	\$128.11	36.49	164.60	91.61
Poor	Avg Corn Yield		111.70	17.22	128.92	94.48
	Avg Soybean Yield		32.51	6.44	38.95	26.07
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$3,291.51	927.22	4218.73	2364.29
		2009	\$3,130.86	868.34	3999.20	2262.52
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$91.12	28.21	119.32	62.91
		2009	\$92.25	27.95	120.20	64.30
	Cropland in Transition	2008	\$7,333.73	3176.50	10510.23	4157.23
		2009	\$7,065.85	3255.50	10321.36	3810.35
	Cash Rental % Change		1.89%	0.14	0.16	-0.12
	Cropland Value % Change		0.72%	0.12	0.13	-0.12
	Mortgage Interest		8.29%	0.09	0.17	-0.01
	Operating Loan Rate		6.24%	0.01	0.07	0.05
	Pasture - Cash Rent per Acre		\$51.31	29.69	81.00	21.63
	Value per Acre		\$2,694.40	1031.13	3725.53	1663.27

Northwest Ohio Results						
			Avg	Std	Avg+ 1 Std	Avg - 1 Std
<b>Top</b>	Avg Corn Yield		179.50	18.99	198.49	160.51
	Avg Soybean Yield		55.47	7.38	62.85	48.09
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$4,894.19	862.18	5756.37	4032.00
		2009	\$4,803.05	856.78	5659.83	3946.27
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$164.13	21.79	185.92	142.34
		2009	\$161.06	19.54	180.60	141.51
<b>Average</b>	Avg Corn Yield		143.42	15.44	158.86	127.99
	Avg Soybean Yield		42.86	5.62	48.48	37.23
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$4,120.24	619.41	4739.65	3500.83
		2009	\$3,996.88	639.92	4636.79	3356.96
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$129.84	18.44	148.28	111.39
		2009	\$129.67	20.24	149.90	109.43
<b>Poor</b>	Avg Corn Yield		109.26	19.30	128.56	89.95
	Avg Soybean Yield		31.74	6.88	38.62	24.87
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$3,189.02	578.09	3767.12	2610.93
		2009	\$3,014.10	582.41	3596.51	2431.69
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$95.34	15.41	110.75	79.93
		2009	\$96.22	14.67	110.89	81.55
	Cropland in Transition	2008	\$8,687.50	3005.91	11693.41	5681.59
		2009	\$8,583.33	3021.39	11604.72	5561.94
	Cash Rental % Change		1.39%	0.15	0.16	-0.13
	Cropland Value % Change		0.82%	0.14	0.14	-0.13
	Mortgage Interest		8.85%	0.10	0.19	-0.01
	Operating Loan Rate		6.33%	0.01	0.07	0.05
	Pasture - Cash Rent per Acre		\$69.55	30.45	100.00	39.09
	Value per Acre		\$2,490.91	713.38	3204.29	1777.53

Southwest Ohio Results						
			Avg	Std	Avg+ 1 Std	Avg - 1 Std
<b>Top</b>	Avg Corn Yield		185.10	17.63	202.74	167.47
	Avg Soybean Yield		57.56	6.58	64.15	50.98
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$5,843.62	1543.66	7387.28	4299.95
		2009	\$5,680.68	1666.85	7347.53	4013.83
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$189.03	39.90	228.93	149.13
		2009	\$192.46	44.64	237.10	147.82
<b>Average</b>	Avg Corn Yield		151.78	11.64	163.42	140.14
	Avg Soybean Yield		45.96	4.87	50.83	41.09
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$4,813.54	1128.06	5941.60	3685.48
		2009	\$4,645.56	1310.05	5955.61	3335.51
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$147.05	27.06	174.11	119.99
		2009	\$148.18	29.87	178.05	118.31
<b>Poor</b>	Avg Corn Yield		117.17	14.71	131.88	102.46
	Avg Soybean Yield		34.11	5.93	40.04	28.17
	Market Value per Acre	2008	\$3,759.78	862.27	4622.05	2897.51
		2009	\$3,534.30	834.92	4369.22	2699.39
	Rent per Acre	2008	\$105.00	23.04	128.04	81.96
		2009	\$104.89	24.19	129.09	80.70
	Cropland in Transition	2008	\$7,612.94	3421.28	11034.22	4191.67
		2009	\$7,266.67	3495.54	10762.21	3771.12
	Cash Rental % Change		0.05%	0.15	0.15	-0.15
	Cropland Value % Change		-1.35%	0.12	0.11	-0.14
	Mortgage Interest		8.25%	0.10	0.19	-0.02
	Operating Loan Rate		6.16%	0.01	0.07	0.05
	Pasture - Cash Rent per Acre		\$52.86	30.07	82.93	22.78
	Value per Acre		\$2,927.50	1172.65	4100.15	1754.85

Table 4. Average estimated Ohio land value per acre (tillable, bare land), per bu. corn and soybean yields, by geographical area and land class, Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents Survey 2008-09.

Area	Land Class	Corn bu/A	Soy bu/A	Land Value			Land Value/	Land Value/
				Dollars Per Acre			Bushel Corn	Bushel Soy.
				2008	2009*	% Change	2008	2008
						\$/Bu	\$/Bu	
Northwest	Top	179.5	55.5	\$4,894	\$4,803	-1.9%	\$27.27	\$88.23
	Average	143.4	42.9	\$4,120	\$3,997	-3.0%	\$28.73	\$96.13
	Poor	109.3	31.7	\$3,189	\$3,014	-5.5%	\$29.19	\$100.47
Southwest	Top	185.1	57.6	\$5,844	\$5,681	-2.8%	\$31.57	\$101.52
	Average	151.8	46.0	\$4,814	\$4,646	-3.5%	\$31.71	\$104.73
	Poor	117.2	34.1	\$3,760	\$3,534	-6.0%	\$32.09	\$110.23
Ohio	Top	180.7	56.5	\$5,131	\$5,007	-2.4%	\$28.40	\$90.87
	Average	146.3	44.3	\$4,257	\$4,126	-3.1%	\$29.11	\$96.01
	Poor	111.7	32.5	\$3,292	\$3,131	-4.9%	\$29.47	\$101.25
	Transition	XXX	XXX	\$7,334	\$7,066	-3.65%		
* Projected Land Value								

Table 5. Average estimated Ohio cash rent per acre (tillable, bare land), per bushel corn and soybean yields, by geographical area and land class, Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents Survey 2008-09.

Area	Land Class	Corn bu/A	Soy bu/A	Rent Per Acre		% Change	Rent per	Rent per	Rent as % of	Rent as % of
				2008	2009*		Bushel Corn	Bushel Corn	Land Value	Land Value
				\$/A	\$/A		08 to '09	2008	2009	2008
Northwest	Top	179.5	55.5	\$164	\$161	-1.87%	\$0.91	\$0.90	4.1%	3.8%
	Average	143.4	42.9	\$130	\$130	-0.13%	\$0.91	\$0.90	3.8%	3.6%
	Poor	109.3	31.7	\$95	\$96	0.92%	\$0.87	\$0.88	3.5%	3.3%
Southwest	Top	185.1	57.6	\$189	\$192	1.81%	\$1.02	\$1.04	3.8%	3.7%
	Average	151.8	46.0	\$147	\$148	0.77%	\$0.97	\$0.98	3.6%	3.4%
	Poor	117.2	34.1	\$105	\$105	-0.10%	\$0.90	\$0.90	3.3%	3.1%
Ohio	Top	180.7	56.5	\$165	\$165	-0.26%	\$0.91	\$0.91	3.7%	3.5%
	Average	146.3	44.3	\$128	\$128	0.33%	\$0.87	\$0.88	3.4%	3.3%
	Poor	111.7	32.5	\$91	\$92	1.24%	\$0.82	\$0.83	3.1%	3.0%
* Projected Rental Rate										

## Summary

This study will add to existing research on Ohio farmland values and cash rents that can assist producers and landowners with purchase and rental decisions.

Existing research includes:

*Ohio Cropland Values and Cash Rents 2007–08* at:

[http://ohioline.osu.edu/ae-fact/pdf/Cropland\\_Values\\_Rents\\_07\\_08.pdf](http://ohioline.osu.edu/ae-fact/pdf/Cropland_Values_Rents_07_08.pdf)

*Ohio Farm Real Estate Markets* at:

<http://aede.osu.edu/resources/docs/pdf/C2V16S20-H8CG-UEFY-JGL2H3JPU7Y1PO5J.pdf>

*Land Rental Rates: Survey Results and Summary* at:

<http://vanwert.osu.edu/ag/landrentalrates.pdf>

and companion *Cash Rent Calculator* at:

<http://vanwert.osu.edu/ag/calculator.htm>

Also, check with your local OSU Extension office for local land value/rental survey summaries. For additional information on farmland lease issues see the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics (AEDE) Farm Management webpage at: <http://aede.osu.edu/Programs/FarmManagement/MgtPublications.htm>

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Keith L. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration and Director, Ohio State University Extension

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