



Ohio Farm Custom Rates – 2008

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Many Ohio farmers hire custom farm work in their farm business or perform custom farm work for others. The rates reported in this fact sheet are based on survey results from 205 Ohio farmers, custom operators, and farm managers. The rates shown may differ significantly by local region depending on availability of custom operators and demand for their services. Custom rates published in this document include machine fuel and lube, labor, and all ownership costs associated with the machinery and equipment.

See “Farm Machinery Economic Cost Estimates” for an alternative approach to estimating custom machinery rates at: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/businessmanagement/DF6696.pdf>

The “Average” rate is the average of all responses. The range is the average +/- one standard deviation which includes about two-thirds of all responses.

	Average	Range
Strip Tillage		
Stalk chopper/acre	\$10.00	\$6.73 – \$13.27
Moldboard plow/acre	\$15.47	\$10.61 – \$20.33
Chisel plow/acre	\$14.23	\$10.37 – \$18.09
Disk chisel/acre	\$14.69	\$11.14 – \$18.23
Disk-tandem/acre	\$12.44	\$9.70 – \$15.19
Disk-offset/acre	\$12.71	\$10.02 – \$15.40
Soil finishing/acre	\$11.90	\$9.07 – \$14.73
Field cultivator/acre	\$10.55	\$8.30 – \$12.79
Subsoiling/acre	\$17.88	\$12.52 – \$23.23
V-ripping/acre	\$17.28	\$13.67 – \$20.89
Strip tillage/acre	\$16.65	\$13.61 – \$19.69
Fertilizer Application – Ground		
Dry bulk/acre	\$4.53	\$3.12 – \$5.93
Liquid knife/acre	\$8.70	\$4.74 – \$12.65
Liquid spray/acre	\$7.08	\$4.56 – \$9.60
Anhydrous/acre	\$10.50	\$7.16 – \$13.84
Lime application/acre	\$7.06	\$4.65 – \$9.46
Lime application/ton	\$6.05	\$2.90 – \$9.20

	Average	Range
Chemical Control of Weeds, Insects, or Diseases		
Spraying (self-propelled)/acre	\$6.36	\$4.86 – \$7.85
Spraying (pull type)/acre	\$6.33	\$4.22 – \$8.45
Highboy spraying/acre	\$7.30	\$5.16 – \$9.44
Aerial Application		
Chemicals/acre	\$7.78	\$6.02 – \$9.53
Planting Operations: Conventional Till		
Plant corn/30" rows/acre	\$15.11	\$10.81 – \$19.42
Plant corn with fert attach./30" rows/acre	\$17.00	\$12.35 – \$21.65
Plant soybeans/15" rows/acre	\$16.06	\$12.08 – \$20.04
Plant soybeans/30" rows/acre	\$13.29	\$9.81 – \$16.76
Drill soybeans/acre	\$14.60	\$10.78 – \$18.41
Drill small grains/acre	\$14.60	\$10.81 – \$18.38

	Average	Range
Planting Operations: No-Till		
Plant corn/30" rows/acre	\$17.14	\$13.36 – \$20.93
Plant corn with fert attach./30" rows/acre	\$18.75	\$13.87 – \$23.63
Plant soybeans/15" rows/acre	\$15.95	\$12.17 – \$19.74
Plant soybeans/30" rows/acre	\$16.78	\$13.11 – \$20.44
Drill soybeans/acre	\$15.68	\$11.72 – \$19.65
Drill small grains/acre	\$15.65	\$11.49 – \$19.80
Grass/Legume/Pasture Seeding		
Grain drill/acre	\$13.38	\$9.93 – \$16.82
Grain Harvest		
Combine corn/acre	\$25.45	\$21.61 – \$29.28
Combine soybeans/acre	\$24.73	\$20.96 – \$28.50
Combine small grains/acre	\$24.42	\$20.45 – \$28.40
Ear corn picker/acre	\$28.33	\$22.28 – \$34.39
Grain cart/acre	\$4.13	\$2.39 – \$5.86
Grain Storage – On Farm		
Storage/month/bushel	\$0.037	\$0.028 – \$0.046
Storage/year/bushel	\$0.16	\$0.09 – \$0.22
Grain Dry		
Moisture removed per point/bushel	\$0.031	\$0.021 – \$0.041
Grain Hauling		
Farm to market	\$0.14	\$0.10 – \$0.18
Miles	29	6 – 52
Farm to field	\$0.085	\$0.05 – \$0.12
Miles	10	6 – 15
Custom Farming (All Machinery Operations for Growing and Harvesting)		
Corn/acre	\$97.71	\$59.02 – \$136.40
Soybeans/acre	\$87.95	\$49.70 – \$126.21
Small grains/acre	\$77.50	\$50.53 – \$104.47

	Average	Range
Hay/Straw Harvest		
Mowing/acre	\$11.13	\$7.46 – \$14.79
Mowing and conditioning/acre	\$12.39	\$8.98 – \$15.80
Raking/acre	\$6.59	\$4.37 – \$8.81
Tedding/acre	\$6.13	\$3.64 – \$8.61
Baling Small Bales		
Bale and drop in field/bale	\$0.50	\$0.31 – \$0.68
Bale and load on wagon/bale	\$0.63	\$0.30 – \$0.96
Haul and store/bale	\$1.31	\$0.79 – \$1.82
Baling Large Round Bales		
Bale and drop in field/bale	\$8.43	\$6.33 – \$10.53
Bale and haul/bale	\$8.81	\$5.59 – \$12.02
Complete Hay Harvest		
Complete hay harvest/ % of crop	52%	48% – 56%
Miscellaneous		
Bush hogging/acre	\$13.91	\$7.00 – \$20.83
Income tax preparation/ hour	\$75.50	\$32.85 – \$118.15
Income tax preparation/ return	\$253.16	\$77.45 – \$426.86
Farm account summary/ return	\$255.00	\$98.94 – \$411.06
Track hoe/hour	\$78.93	\$54.58 – \$103.28
Snow removal (blade)/hour	\$63.56	\$46.97 – \$80.14
Hauling livestock/mile	\$2.31	\$1.00 – \$3.63
Soil testing/sample	\$9.14	\$4.26 – \$14.02
Soil testing/acre	\$5.30	\$3.58 – \$7.02
Grid soil sampling/acre	\$7.44	\$6.23 – \$8.65
Bulldozing per foot of blade/hour	\$8.58	\$5.41 – \$11.75
Machinery Rental		
Tractor/horsepower/hour	\$0.24	\$0.16 – \$0.32
Grain drill (no-till)/acre	\$11.85	\$4.79 – \$18.91
Bobcat/skid loader/day	\$170.71	\$116.29 – \$225.14

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