



Ohio Farm Custom Rates 2012

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Abstract: A large number of Ohio farmers hire machinery operations and other farm related work to be completed by others. This farm work completed by others is often referred to as “custom farm work” or more simply “custom work”. A “custom rate” is the amount agreed upon by both parties to be paid from the custom work customer to the custom work provider.

The custom rates reported in this publication are based on a statewide survey of 122 farmers, custom operators, farm managers and landowners conducted in 2012.

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A large number of Ohio farmers hire machinery operations and other farm related work to be completed by others. This is often due to lack of proper equipment, lack of time or lack of expertise for a particular operation. Many farm business owners do not own equipment for every possible job that they may encounter in the course of operating a farm and may, instead of purchasing the equipment needed, seek out someone with the proper tools necessary to complete the job. This farm work completed by others is often referred to as “custom farm work” or more simply “custom work”. A “custom rate” is the amount agreed upon by both parties to be paid by the custom work customer to the custom work provider.

The custom rates reported in this publication are based on a statewide survey of 122 farmers, custom operators, farm managers and landowners conducted in 2012. These rates, except where noted, include the implement and tractor if required, all variable machinery costs such as fuel, oil, lube, twine etc., and the labor for the operation.

There is no assurance that the average rates reported in this publication will cover your total costs for performing the custom service or that you will be able to hire a custom operator for the average rate published in this factsheet. Calculate your own costs carefully before determining the rate to charge or pay.

Some custom rates published in this article have a wide range. Possible explanations are the type or size of equipment used, size/shape of fields, condition of crop (for harvesting operations), the value of labor, the mix of labor and equipment used and the different income needs of full-time custom operators versus farmers supplementing their income. Also some custom operations are provided at bargain rates due to family relationships between the parties or due to the fact that custom providers may see an increased probability of eventually securing the custom farmed farmland in a cash rental or other rental agreement. Charges may be added if the custom provider considers a job abnormal such as distance from the operator’s base location, difficulty of terrain, amount of product or labor involved with the operation, or other special requirements of the custom work customer.

Publications are available that may help in calculating your total costs of performing a given custom operation. Some of the online resources available that may be of assistance include:

Farm Machinery Cost Estimates available at:

<http://faculty.apec.umn.edu/wlazarus/documents/machdata.pdf>

Machinery Economics at *farmdoc*:

<http://www.farmdoc.illinois.edu/manage/index.asp>

Estimating Farm Machinery Costs

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/crops/html/a3-29.html>

Before entering into an agreement, discuss all of the details of the specific job with the other party.

Fuel prices have an impact on custom rates and rates may fluctuate based on large movements in fuel prices. The approximate price of diesel fuel at the time of this survey was \$3.75-\$4.00 per gallon for off-road (farm) usage.

For the custom rates reported in this publication the average is a simple average of all the survey responses. The “Low” and “High” rates represent +/- one standard deviation around the average. (Standard deviation is a measure of the variability of the survey responses and one standard deviation both above and below the average includes approximately two-thirds of all survey responses.)

Ohio Farm Custom Rates 2012

	Average	Hi	Low
Soil Preparation			
Stalk Chopper / Acre	\$10.40	\$12.60	\$8.30
Moldboard Plow /Acre	\$18.20	\$23.30	\$13.10
Chisel Plow /Acre	\$15.10	\$19.60	\$10.50
Disk Chisel / Acre	\$17.90	\$22.50	\$13.20
Disk-Tandem /Acre	\$13.70	\$17.10	\$10.20
Disk-Offset / Acre	\$15.20	\$16.00	\$14.75
Soil Finishing / Acre	\$14.20	\$18.30	\$10.10
Field Cultivator /Acre	\$11.30	\$14.40	\$8.30
Subsoiling / Acre	\$20.30	\$23.90	\$16.70
V-Ripping / Acre	\$22.10	\$26.50	\$17.70
Strip Tillage /Acre	\$19.00	\$22.30	\$15.80
Fertilizer Application - Ground			
Dry Bulk / Acre	\$5.80	\$7.30	\$4.30
Liquid - Sprayed / Acre	\$6.00	\$6.60	\$5.40
Anhydrous / Acre	\$12.10	\$15.20	\$9.00
Lime / Acre	\$7.20	\$10.30	\$4.10
Chemical Control of Weeds or Insects			
Spraying - self propelled /Acre	\$7.00	\$8.60	\$5.30
Spraying - pull type / Acre	\$6.10	\$8.30	\$4.00
Highboy spraying / Acre	\$7.30	\$9.60	\$5.00
Mechanical Weed Control			
Rotary Hoeing / Acre	\$8.00	\$8.90	\$6.30

Ohio Farm Custom Rates 2012**Planting Operations****Conventional Till**

	Average	Hi	Low
Plant Corn 30" / Acre	\$15.60	\$18.30	\$12.80
Plant Corn w/ Fertilizer Attachments 30" / Acre	\$18.20	\$23.10	\$13.40
Plant Soybeans 15" / Acre	\$16.00	\$19.10	\$12.90
Drill Soybeans / Acre	\$15.50	\$19.80	\$11.20
Drill Small Grains / Acre	\$15.40	\$19.80	\$10.80

No-Till

Plant Corn 30" / Acre	\$16.60	\$19.40	\$13.80
Plant Corn w/ Fertilizer Attachments 30" / Acre	\$18.70	\$22.70	\$14.60
Plant Soybeans 15" / Acre	\$17.10	\$21.40	\$12.80
Drill Soybeans / Acre	\$16.70	\$20.00	\$13.30
Drill Small Grains / Acre	\$15.40	\$18.70	\$11.60

Grass/Legume/Pasture Seeding

Broadcast / Acre	\$8.10	\$10.60	\$5.60
Grain drill / Acre	\$15.70	\$22.00	\$9.40

Grain Harvest

Harvest Corn (Combine, cart, haul to farm storage) / A	\$31.00	\$37.00	\$24.00
Harvest Soybeans (Combine, cart, haul to farm storage) / A	\$28.50	\$33.00	\$24.00
Harvest Wheat (Combine, cart, haul to farm storage) / A	\$28.00	\$33.00	\$23.00
Combine Corn / Acre	\$27.00	\$33.00	\$21.00
Combine Soybeans / Acre	\$26.00	\$32.00	\$20.50
Combine Small Grains / Acre	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
Grain Cart / Acre	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$3.00

Ohio Farm Custom Rates 2012**Grain Storage - On Farm**

	Average	High	Low
Storage / bushel / Month	\$0.04	\$0.06	\$0.02
Storage / bushel / Year	\$0.30	\$0.42	\$0.19

Grain Drying

Cost per point of moisture removed / Bushel	\$0.08	\$0.11	\$0.05
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Grain Haul

Farm to market / one way / Bushel	\$0.17	\$0.26	\$0.08
Farm to market / one way / average miles	30	63	3
Field to farm / one way / Bushel	\$0.10	\$0.16	\$0.04
Field to farm / one way / average miles	8	14	3

Custom Farming

(All machinery operations for tillage, planting, spraying, tending & harvest)

Corn / Acre	\$121.00	\$168.00	\$74.00
Soybeans / Acre	\$105.00	\$144.00	\$65.00
Small Grains / Acre	\$93.00	\$126.00	\$61.00

Hay/Straw Harvest

Mowing / Acre	\$11.00	\$17.30	\$4.70
Mowing/Conditioning / Acre	\$13.00	\$14.90	\$11.10
Raking / Acre	\$6.60	\$9.40	\$3.90
Tedding / Acre	\$5.70	\$8.90	\$2.50

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Baling

Small Square Bales

	Average	High	Low
Bale/Drop in Field / Bale	\$0.75	\$1.25	\$0.25
Bale/Load on Wagon / Bale	\$0.95	\$1.65	\$0.25
Haul/Store / Bale	\$0.30	\$0.55	\$0.05
Bale/Load/Haul/Store / Bale	\$1.25	\$2.20	\$0.40

Large Round Bales ~ 1000#

Bale/Left in Field / Bale	\$7.50	\$9.00	\$6.00
Bale/NetWrap / Bale	\$8.00	\$9.50	\$6.50

Large Square

Bale/Left in Field / Bale	\$9.50	\$10.50	\$8.30
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Complete Hay Harvest

% of Crop to Custom Provider	50%	50%	50%
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Hired Labor

Machinery Operation / Hour	\$13.85	\$17.50	\$10.25
Milking Cows / Hour	\$10.20	\$12.50	\$8.00
General Farm Labor / Hour	\$11.50	\$14.50	\$8.70
Average Hours Worked / Week	40	56	23

Ohio Farm Custom Rates 2012**Drainage and Tile Installation****Drain Plow - without materials**

4" Plastic / Foot

Average

High

Low

\$0.35

\$0.62

\$0.08

Drain Plow - with materials

4" Plastic / Foot

\$0.56

\$0.64

\$0.48

Miscellaneous

Bush Hogging / Acre

\$21.50

\$35.50

\$7.70

Track Hoe / Hour

\$98.00

\$121.00

\$75.00

Snow removal : Blade / Hour

\$60.00

\$93.50

\$30.00

Hauling Livestock / Loaded / Mile

\$2.20

\$2.80

\$1.65

Bulldozing per foot of blade / Hour

\$10.00

\$12.60

\$6.80

Soil testing / Sample

\$10.00

\$11.70

\$9.50

Grid soil sampling / Acre

\$8.00

\$13.00

\$3.00

Machinery Rental

Tractor / \$ Per Horsepower / Hour

\$0.29

\$0.46

\$0.12

Corn Planter: Conventional / Acre

\$13.75

\$18.00

\$9.50

Corn Planter: No-Till / Acre

\$14.00

\$17.50

\$9.65

Combine / Separator Hour

\$140.00

\$225.00

\$56.00

Grain Drill - Conventional / Acre

\$10.50

\$14.00

\$6.00

Grain Drill - No-till / Acre

\$12.00

\$15.50

\$8.60

Skid Loader / Day

\$145.00

\$225.00

\$64.00

Dry Bulk Fertilizer Applicator / Acre

\$4.50

\$5.75

\$3.40

Liquid Fertilizer Applicator / Acre

\$5.00

\$5.70

\$3.60

Estimating Machinery Rental Rate from Custom Rates

Example:
Field Cultivator

1.	Custom charge (includes labor, fuel, tractor)	\$ _____/acre	\$11.30
2.	Percent of custom charge which is for interest, insurance, depreciation, and repairs (excluding fuel and labor) (use 70% for tillage. 80% for planting and harvesting)	_____ %	70%
3.	Rental value, including tractor (1 x 2)	\$ _____/acre	\$7.91
4.	Tractor rental value. if tractor is not provided: _____ HP x \$ _____ per hp-hour rental rate (see above)/ _____ acres/hour =		
	Ex: 310 HP x \$.29 (per hp-hour rental rate)/33 acres/hr = \$2.72	\$ _____/acre	\$ 2.72
5.	Implement rental value. without tractor (3 minus 4)	\$ _____/acre	\$ 5.19