

# 2013 Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey

Many Iowa farmers hire some custom machine work done in their farm business, or perform custom work for others. Others rent machinery or perform other services. The information below is based on survey responses from 249 Iowa farmers, custom operators, and farm managers. For each operation, the average rate and the range reported are shown. Twenty-six percent of the respondents perform custom work, 14 percent hire work done, and 60 percent indicated doing both.

Values below are rates expected to be charged or paid this year, and include tractor, implement, fuel and labor. The average price for diesel fuel was assumed to be \$3.50 per gallon. A fuel price increase of \$0.50

per gallon will cause total machinery costs to increase by approximately 5 percent. This rate schedule is intended only as a guide. Actual custom rates may vary according to availability of machinery in a given area, timeliness, operator skill, field size and shape, crop conditions, and the performance characteristics of the machine being used.

Rental rates for some machinery items are shown on the following page, along with a worksheet for estimating rental rates for other items.

**Note: All rates include fuel, repairs, depreciation, interest, labor and all other machinery costs for the tractor and implement.**

Tillage		Average	Range	Harvesting, Drying, and Hauling Grain		Average	Range
Chopping cornstalks, / acre		\$11.40	5.00 - 18.00	Corn combining, / acre		\$32.90	24.00 - 55.00
Moldboard plowing, / acre		16.15	11.00 - 20.00	- with chopper head, / acre		38.00	30.00 - 60.00
Chisel plowing, / acre		15.20	9.00 - 20.00	Soybean combining, / acre		32.00	21.50 - 50.00
Disk/chiseling, / acre		16.05	9.00 - 22.00	- with air reel, / acre		33.50	28.00 - 38.00
Vertical Tillage, / acre		15.05	10.00 - 20.50	- with draper head, / acre		39.55	35.00 - 48.00
Subsoiling (8 to 15 in. deep), / acre		18.80	11.50 - 28.00	Small grain combining, / acre		29.70	22.00 - 35.00
V-ripping (over 15 in. deep), / acre		19.60	14.00 - 30.00	Complete harvesting (combine, cart, haul to farm storage)			
V-ripping with tandem disk, / acre		22.45	15.00 - 35.00	- Corn, / acre		46.15	30.00 - 78.00
Disking, tandem, / acre		13.60	8.00 - 20.00	- Soybeans, / acre		43.80	28.00 - 75.00
Disking, offset, / acre		17.00	12.00 - 25.00	Added charge for GPS mapping, / acre		2.55	1.00 - 5.00
Harrowing, / acre		9.65	7.00 - 15.00	Picking ear corn, / acre (seed corn)		35.25	30.00 - 40.00
Soil finishing, / acre		13.85	10.00 - 20.00	Picking ear corn, / acre (farm use)		27.65	25.00 - 30.00
Field cultivating, / acre		13.35	9.00 - 19.00	Drying corn (includes fuel, electricity, labor)			
Rock picking, / acre		13.45	10.00 - 17.50	- continuous flow dryer (/ point / bu.)		0.049	0.030 - 0.060
Cultivating, conventional, / acre		12.50	10.00 - 15.40	- bin dryer (/ point / bu.)		0.056	0.040 - 0.070
Cultivating, ridge-till, / acre		15.20	14.00 - 18.00	Handling grain by auger, / bu.		0.066	0.020 - 0.120
Rotary hoeing, / acre		9.15	5.00 - 14.00	Hauling grain			
Land rolling, / acre		7.90	5.00 - 13.00	- grain cart, corn / acre		6.80	2.00 - 14.00
<b>Planting</b>				- grain cart, soybeans / acre		5.60	2.00 - 11.00
Planting - w/ fert & insect. attach., / a.		\$18.45	12.00 - 28.00	- to farm storage, wagon, / bu.		0.066	0.030 - 0.110
- without attachments, / acre		16.60	12.00 - 27.00	- farm storage to mkt., wagon, / bu.		0.090	0.050 - 0.140
- w/ splitters & attach., / acre		19.05	13.00 - 25.00	- to mkt., truck, / bu., (5 mi. 1-way)		0.104	0.050 - 0.200
- no-till planter, / acre		18.45	13.00 - 31.00	- to mkt., truck, / bu., (25 mi. 1-way)		0.166	0.090 - 0.280
- no-till planter w/ splitters, / a.		19.85	14.00 - 30.00	- to mkt., truck, / bu., (100 mi. 1-way)		0.345	0.200 - 0.500
- ridge till planter, / acre		21.00	20.00 - 23.00	<b>Harvesting Forages</b>			
Extra charge for seed shut-offs, / acre		2.20	0.50 - 5.00	Hay - mowing, / acre		\$11.45	9.00 - 15.00
Extra charge for variable rate seeding, / a.		2.45	1.00 - 5.00	- conditioning, / acre		11.95	10.00 - 14.00
Drilling soybeans, / acre		15.75	12.00 - 19.00	- mowing/conditioning, / acre		13.00	10.00 - 15.00
Drilling soybeans, no-till, / acre		17.40	10.00 - 30.00	- raking, / acre		6.25	2.50 - 10.00
Drilling grass seed, / acre		15.35	8.00 - 20.00	- windrowing, / acre		12.50	10.00 - 15.00
Drilling small grain, / acre		14.90	11.00 - 20.00	- tedding, / acre		6.10	4.00 - 10.00
Seeding grass, broadcast with tractor, / a.		11.55	8.00 - 15.00	Swathing hay or small grain, / acre		13.50	11.50 - 15.00
Seeding grass, broadcast with ATV, / acre		13.00	10.00 - 20.00	Hay baling - small square, / bale		0.60	0.35 - 1.00
Seed tender, / acre		3.05	1.00 - 6.00	- large square, / bale		10.45	8.00 - 12.00
<b>Spraying (materials not included)</b>				- large round w/o wrap, / bale		10.95	9.00 - 13.50
Ground, broadcast, tractor, / acre		\$6.65	5.00 - 10.00	- large round with wrap, / bale		11.85	9.00 - 16.00
Ground, incorporated, tractor, / acre		13.40	10.50 - 15.00	Straw or corn stalk baling			
Ground, broadcast, self propelled, / acre		7.30	5.00 - 15.00	- large round or square w/o wrap, / bale		11.70	10.00 - 14.00
Ground, banded, tractor, / acre		9.10	6.00 - 12.00	- large round or square w/ wrap, / bale		13.00	10.00 - 17.50
Ground, road ditches, / hour		61.30	25.00 - 100.00	Moving large round bales to storage, / bale		2.85	1.50 - 4.00
Aerial, / acre		9.85	7.00 - 12.00	Moving large square bales to storage, / bale		3.55	2.00 - 5.00
<b>Fertilizer Application (materials not included)</b>				Hauling round bales, / bale, / loaded mile		0.19	0.07 - 0.27
Dry bulk - applied, / acre		\$4.95	2.00 - 10.00	Hauling square bales, / bale, / loaded mile		0.25	0.13 - 0.40
- strip-till, / acre		16.20	11.50 - 22.00	Silage - chopping, / hr., / header row		49.85	25.00 - 91.65
Liquid - spraying, / acre		6.50	4.50 - 10.00	- chop, haul, fill silo, /hr., / hdr row		53.40	28.35 - 87.50
- strip-till, knifed, / acre		12.30	8.00 - 16.00	- chop, haul, fill silo, / ton		7.90	7.00 - 8.50
- side dressing, / acre		11.60	6.00 - 20.00	Filling silage bags, / foot of bag		10.15	8.00 - 12.00
Anhydrous - injecting, w/ tool bar, / acre		12.40	8.00 - 22.00	Haylage - chopping, / hr., / ft. head width		12.70	8.50 - 16.00
- injecting, w/o tool bar, / acre		10.70	7.00 - 15.00	- chopping, / ton		9.45	7.50 - 11.80
Spreading lime, / ton		6.30	3.00 - 12.50	Earlage or snaplage - chopping, / acre		47.05	38.00 - 51.25

### Miscellaneous Services (labor, fuel, and equipment included)

	Average	Range
Removing snow (loader), / hour	\$78.45	40.00 - 135.00
Removing snow (blade), /hr., /ft. of blade	8.30	4.50 - 12.50
Removing snow (blower), /hr., /ft. of blower	11.50	5.00 - 16.65
Grinding, mixing feed, / ton	10.35	10.00 - 11.00
Tub grinding hay, / hour	223.75	135.00 - 300.00
Tub grinding hay, / ton	11.40	7.00 - 15.00
Spreading liq. manure, inject., / 1000 gal.	11.90	9.00 - 17.50
Liquid manure w/ drag line, / 1000 gal.	10.75	8.00 - 12.50
Loading solid manure, / hour	76.15	40.00 - 100.00
Loading, spreading solid manure, / hour	126.15	50.00 - 200.00
Power washing, / hour	41.35	25.00 - 60.00
Building fence, barb, / hr. (no materials)	18.10	15.00 - 20.00
Building fence, barb, / rod (no materials)	13.40	10.00 - 19.00
Building fence, woven, / hr. (no materials)	17.55	15.00 - 20.00
Building fence, woven, / rod (no materials)	14.40	12.00 - 18.50
Scouting crops, / acre	4.95	2.00 - 8.00
Soil testing, / sample	7.70	4.50 - 15.00
GPS grid soil testing, / acre	7.85	3.50 - 12.00
Managing stored grain, / bu.	0.06	0.02 - 0.10
Vacuuming grain, / bu.	0.09	0.04 - 0.15
Shearing sheep, / head	3.70	3.00 - 4.00
Livestock hauling w/ trailer, / loaded mile	2.60	2.00 - 3.10
Livestock hauling w/straight tr., /loaded m.	3.15	3.00 - 3.50
Livestock hauling w/semi tr., /loaded mile	3.50	3.00 - 4.25
Bulldozing, / hr., / ft. of blade	12.05	6.50 - 18.00
Digging post holes, / hole	4.35	3.00 - 5.00
Driving steel fence posts, / post	3.05	2.00 - 4.00
Driving wooden fence posts, / post	3.95	2.00 - 5.25
Building terraces, grassed backed, / foot	2.50	1.50 - 4.00
Building terraces, narrow based, / foot	2.15	1.45 - 3.25
Trenching, / foot	1.65	1.10 - 2.00
Tiling, tiling machine (ex. materials), / foot	1.05	0.75 - 1.60
Tiling, tile plow (ex. materials), / foot	0.90	0.40 - 1.20
Back hoeing, / hour	87.90	50.00 - 150.00
Clearing land, / hour	136.65	80.00 - 195.00
Building ponds, / hour	146.30	100.00 - 200.00
Chain sawing, / hour	42.80	20.00 - 75.00
Welding machinery, / hour	49.60	20.00 - 75.00
Mowing CRP or pasture, / acre	16.25	8.00 - 28.00
Mowing fence rows, ditches, / hour	66.15	30.00 - 100.00
Mowing lawns, / hour	28.55	12.00 - 50.00
Chopping brush, / acre	25.50	15.00 - 45.00
Using truck scale, / load weighed	3.45	1.00 - 5.00

### Custom Farming (tillage, planting, pest control, harvesting, and hauling to farm, no drying)

	Average	Range
Corn, / acre	\$126.65	85.00 - 175.00
Soybeans, / acre	112.40	68.00 - 165.00
Small grain, / acre	83.25	50.00 - 100.00

### Machine Rental (operator, tractor, and fuel not included)

	Average	Range
Tractor, / horsepower, / hour	\$0.27	0.16 - 0.45
Grain drill, / acre	9.85	6.00 - 15.00
No-till soybean drill, / acre	11.90	9.00 - 18.00
Corn head for combine, / acre	8.70	6.00 - 13.00
Soybean head for combine, / acre	8.80	6.00 - 12.00
Grain cart with auger, corn, / acre	5.90	3.00 - 10.00
Grain cart with auger, soybeans, / acre	5.45	3.00 - 9.00
Grain wagon, / bu.	0.08	0.05 - 0.11
Grain truck (semi), / bu. / round trip	0.12	0.10 - 0.15
Grain auger, / bu.	0.06	0.03 - 0.08
Grain vacuum, / bu.	0.08	0.05 - 0.12
Grain cleaner, / bu.	0.07	0.05 - 0.09
Liquid manure spreader, / hour	33.10	30.00 - 35.00
Solid manure spreader, / hour	40.50	20.00 - 55.00
Skid loader, / hour	51.95	20.00 - 80.00
Dry bulk fertilizer applicator, / acre	3.15	2.00 - 5.00
Liquid fertilizer applicator, / acre	5.55	3.50 - 7.00
Anhydrous fertilizer applicator, / acre	4.50	2.50 - 6.50
Power washer, / hour	38.10	30.00 - 50.00
Generator, / hour	47.80	30.00 - 100.00
Tub grinder, / hour	212.90	175.00 - 265.00

### Bin Rental

	Average	Range
Bin dryer, / bu. dried, (no fuel or labor)	\$0.045	0.020 - 0.060
Storing grain, bin rental / bu., / month	0.026	0.010 - 0.050
Storing grain, bin rental / bu., / year	0.163	0.050 - 0.300

### Farm Labor Wages for Operating Machinery

	Average	Range
Spraying or harvesting, / hour	\$14.90	10.00 - 25.00
Other operations, / hour	13.30	9.00 - 18.00

### Estimating a Machinery Rental Rate

1. Custom charge (includes labor, fuel, tractor)	\$ _____/acre	Example: <u>Tandem Disk</u> \$13.60
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)	x _____%	x 70%
3. Rental value, including tractor (1 x 2)	= \$ _____/acre	= \$9.52
4. Tractor rental value, if tractor is not provided: _____ HP x \$ _____ per hp-hour rental rate (see above) / _____ acres/hour =	= \$ _____/acre	= \$2.70
Ex: 150 HP x \$.27 (per hp-hour rental rate) / 15 acres/hr = \$2.70		
5. Implement rental value, without tractor (3 minus 4)	= \$ _____/acre	= \$6.82/acre

### ... and justice for all

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