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September 2015

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Dobbins, Craig L. and Matli, Greg, "Indiana Custom Rates 2007" (2015). *Historical Documents of the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service*. Paper 1060.
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Agricultural ECONOMICS

Farm Management

Indiana Custom Rates 2007

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The rates reported in this publication are based on 251 survey results received in August and September 2007 from farmers throughout Indiana who either hired or performed various custom farming services. The number of responses received for each operation is reported in the tables below. The rates shown may differ significantly by local region depending on availability of custom operators, demand for their services, and timeliness. In Indiana, most custom work is done by neighbors after they complete their own work.

Unless otherwise stated, rates include machine fuel, operator labor, and all ownership costs associated with the machines. For each item, the average of the responses received and a range around the average are presented. The range is the average plus and minus one standard deviation. Approximately 67 percent of the responses are expected to be in this range.

For 2007 estimates of machinery operating and ownership costs, see *Machinery Cost Estimates*, by William Lazarus, University of Minnesota Extension Service <<http://www.apec.umn.edu/faculty/wlazarus/documents/mf2007.pdf>>. The University of Minnesota cost estimates are typically updated annually.

Land Preparation					
Operation	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Chisel plowing	acre	26	\$13.21	\$10.73	\$15.69
Disking	acre	30	10.54	7.44	13.64
Field cultivating	acre	29	10.03	7.18	12.89

Application of Fertilizer and Chemicals: Excluding Materials					
Fertilizer Applications	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Broadcasting bulk dry materials	acre	73	\$4.72	\$3.07	\$6.37
Spraying liquid fertilizer	acre	34	5.14	3.74	6.53
Knifing liquid fertilizer	acre	15	8.16	4.80	11.52
Applying anhydrous ammonia pre-plant or side-dress	acre	36	9.99	6.81	13.18
Herbicide & Insecticide Spraying					
Tractor mounted or pulled	acre	28	\$5.98	\$2.77	\$9.19
Self-propelled	acre	76	5.63	4.41	6.85
Airplane or helicopter	acre	34	8.42	6.70	10.13

Planting: Excluding Cost of Seed and Fertilizer					
Type of Planting	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Conventional till					
Corn, 30-inch rows	Acre	32	\$14.69	\$11.27	\$18.10
Soybeans, 15-inch rows	Acre	11	14.00	12.51	15.50
Soybeans, 30-inch rows	Acre	8	14.50	11.05	17.95
Soybeans, drilled	Acre	9	15.89	13.63	18.15
No-Till					
Corn, 30-inch rows	Acre	41	\$14.39	\$11.34	\$17.45
Soybeans, 15-inch rows	Acre	27	14.56	11.60	17.52
Soybeans, 30-inch rows	Acre	8	13.81	9.71	17.92
Soybeans, drilled	Acre	32	14.49	10.53	18.45
Small Grains, drilled	Acre	27	14.47	10.80	18.14

Soybean and Small Grain Harvesting					
Operation	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Combine soybeans	Acre	112	\$23.57	\$19.81	\$27.33
Combine small grains	Acre	41	23.25	19.89	26.61

Corn Harvesting					
Grain Combining	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Combine, 6-row head	Acre	55	\$24.21	\$20.65	\$27.77
Combine, 8-row head	Acre	44	24.65	21.06	28.24
Combine, 12-row head	Acre	15	27.24	23.26	31.22

Hay and Straw Harvesting					
Operation	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Mowing with conditioning	Acre	34	\$12.28	\$8.54	\$16.02
Raking	Acre	22	5.91	3.31	8.51
Tedding	Acre	15	5.87	3.15	8.58
Baling rectangular bales with twine					
Small 25-60 lb. bale	Bale	35	\$0.64	\$0.29	\$0.99
Baling round bales					
1,000 lb. and over bale – twine	Bale	22	\$8.83	\$6.31	\$11.35
1,000 lb. and over bale – net wrapped	Bale	19	10.43	7.29	13.58

Miscellaneous: Including Cost of Hiring Machine, Fuel, and Labor					
Operation	Unit	Responses	Average	Range	
Tiling – 6-inch tile, laying and backfilling, excludes cost of tile	Foot	11	\$0.53	\$0.18	\$0.89
Mowing or bushhogging pastures or CRP land	Acre	19	\$13.46	\$5.78	\$21.14
Bulldozer use - blade 9 ft. or less	Hour	14	75.14	57.31	92.97
Bulldozer use - blade more than 9 ft.	Hour	13	84.31	53.26	115.35
Hauling grain	Bushel	40	0.10	0.06	0.14