

2016 North Dakota Custom Rates

Part I – Early Season Operations

August 2016

Introduction

The data in this report are the result of a survey conducted during July and August. Approximately 1,563 reports from aerial sprayers, farmer/ranchers, and other custom operators were tabulated. The survey was designed to provide state and regional averages for custom work rates. The early season survey has been conducted every three years since 1962, except during the early 1980's when it was conducted every other year.

Appreciation is expressed to all survey participants who provided the data for this report and also to the North Dakota State University Extension Service personnel for their assistance on this project.

The Data

This report contains state and regional level custom work rates for land tillage, planting, fertilizer and pesticide application, haying operations and other custom work.

Included for each operation is the number of reports, range, most frequently reported and average rates. Also included are state level 2013 average rates, 2016 rates as a percentage of 2013, and historical comparisons back to 1992 for selected operations. Regional averages are reported where there are a sufficient number of reports. **We advise the reader to exercise discretion when using rates where fewer than fifteen reports were tabulated.**

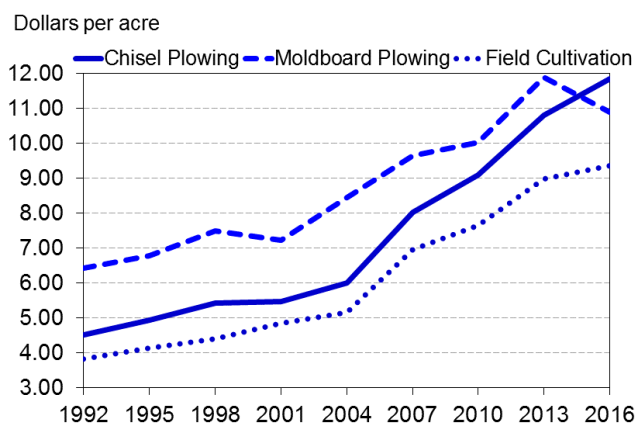
The range shows the minimum and maximum rate reported for each custom operation. The range is affected by the locality of the reporter and the size of the custom operator. A farmer/rancher who does a small amount of custom work for his or her neighbors may charge less than a large-scale operator.

The rates in this report include charges for equipment, power, fuel and the operator. Exchange work is not considered custom work for this survey.

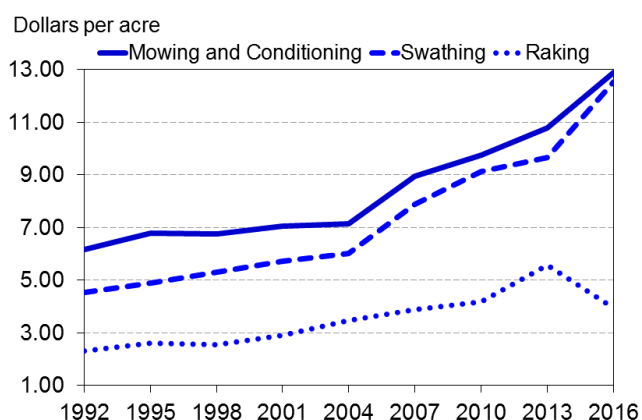
Other Reports

A late season custom rates survey will be conducted in September and October. It will collect data on harvesting, grain drying, crop and hay hauling and other miscellaneous custom rates. This information will be released in December.

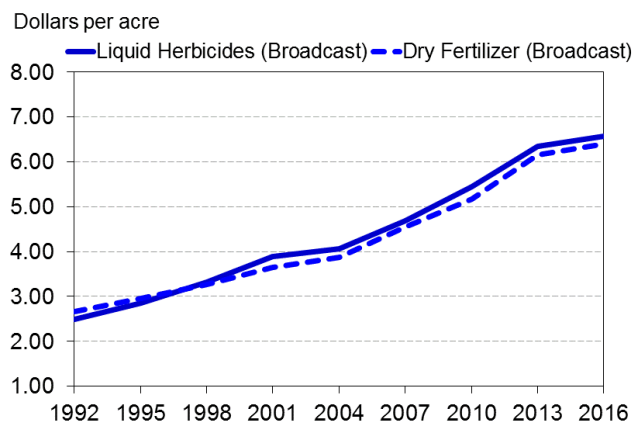
Land Tillage – Average rate: 1992-2016



Haying Operations – Average rate: 1992-2016



Chemical Application – Average rate: 1992-2016



LAND TILLAGE, SMALL GRAIN SEEDING AND ROW CROP PLANTING

STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 2016

Operation	2016				2013 Average Rate	2016 as Percent of 2013
	Number of Reports	Range in Rates	Most Frequent Rate Reported	Average Rate		
DIESEL FUEL	(number) 693	(dollars per gallon) 0.90-3.49	(dollars per gallon) 2.29	(dollars per gallon) 1.99	(dollars per gallon) 3.67	(percent) 54
LAND TILLAGE	(number)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(percent)
Primary Tillage (Deep)						
Plowing (Moldboard)	8	2.00-25.00	1	10.88	11.88	92
Sod Breaking	5	9.00-45.00	1	21.40	15.83	135
Heavy Disking	17	8.00-30.00	15.00	14.03	12.04	117
Chisel Plowing	27	2.00-30.00	12.00	11.85	10.80	110
Sub Soiling (16-20 inches deep)	11	7.00-40.00	20.00	18.36	15.79	116
Disk/Chisel Plowing	11	4.50-35.00	12.00	12.65	12.08	105
Secondary Tillage (Shallow)						
Field Cultivation	39	1.50-30.00	1	9.36	8.97	104
One-Way Disking	9	6.50-30.00	1	13.39	9.99	134
Tandem Disking	10	2.50-30.00	15.00	11.80	10.39	114
Rod Weeder	2	2	2	2	8.00	(NA)
Rotary Hoe	6	1.50-30.00	1	8.92	7.87	113
Vertical Tillage	31	4.50-30.00	8.00	12.10	10.49	115
Land Rolling	67	2.00-20.00	5.00	5.53	5.45	101
Light Harrowing	15	0.75-20.00	1	6.32	6.15	103
Heavy Harrowing	15	1.00-25.00	6.00	7.27	7.22	101
Row Crop Cultivation	4	1.50-20.00	1	8.75	8.88	99
SMALL GRAIN SEEDING						
With Fertilizer						
Regular Drilling	18	8.50-25.00	1	17.97	13.69	131
Drilling & Tillage	11	10.00-30.00	15.00	18.73	15.54	120
Pony Press Drill	2	2	2	2	16.47	(NA)
Air Seeding	43	4.00-35.00	18.00	18.07	15.62	116
No Till Drill	24	9.50-39.00	15.00	20.99	16.27	129
Without Fertilizer						
Regular Drilling	16	8.00-35.00	1	16.94	13.24	128
Drilling & Tillage	5	10.00-19.00	10.00	14.60	14.60	100
Pony Press Drill	2	2	2	2	15.41	(NA)
Air Seeding	32	7.50-35.00	1	16.67	14.35	116
No Till Drill	32	6.00-35.00	16.00	17.80	15.06	118
ROW CROP PLANTING						
With Fertilizer						
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower (Regular)	31	8.50-32.00	20.00	18.25	16.36	112
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower (Air Seed)	19	3.00-35.00	20.00	18.21	15.67	116
Dry Edible Beans	12	7.50-45.00	1	20.13	16.11	125
Sugarbeet	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	19.51	(D)
Without Fertilizer						
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower (Regular)	26	6.00-30.00	20.00	17.33	15.08	115
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower (Air Seed)	16	9.00-35.00	20.00	18.80	15.24	123
Dry Edible Beans	10	9.00-45.00	25.00	21.60	15.36	141
Sugarbeet	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	19.19	(D)
No Till With Fertilizer						
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower	27	8.00-43.40	20.00	22.76	16.93	134
No Till Without Fertilizer						
Corn, Soybean, Sunflower	19	6.00-35.00	16.00	17.63	15.89	111

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available.¹ Data not available due to multiple rates being reported at the highest frequency.

² No data reported.

FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE APPLICATION AND HAYING OPERATIONS

STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 2016

Operation	2016				2013 Average Rate	2016 as Percent of 2013
	Number of Reports	Range in Rates	Most Frequent Rate Reported	Average Rate		
	(number)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(dollars per acre)	(percent)
FERTILIZER APPLICATION						
Dry Fertilizer						
Broadcast	160	3.00-10.35	6.00	6.39	6.15	104
Deep Banded	9	10.00-40.00	¹	21.78	13.85	157
Liquid Fertilizer						
Broadcast	37	5.00-17.80	6.00	6.92	(NA)	(NA)
Side-Dressing	14	5.00-20.00	12.00	9.75	(NA)	(NA)
Anhydrous Ammonia						
With Knife Applicator	16	4.00-25.00	10.00	10.78	10.40	104
While Chiseling	8	4.75-35.00	12.00	15.16	12.44	122
PESTICIDE APPLICATION						
By Surface Vehicles						
Herbicides						
Broadcast, Liquid	167	4.00-17.00	6.00	6.57	6.35	103
Dry	34	4.00-8.00	6.50	6.28	6.34	99
Incorporated, Liquid	19	5.00-15.00	6.50	7.01	7.11	99
Dry	7	6.00-10.00	10.00	7.89	8.30	95
Insecticides						
Broadcast, Liquid	72	4.75-10.00	6.00	6.60	6.61	100
Dry	14	5.00-10.00	6.50	6.81	7.05	97
Incorporated, Liquid	10	6.25-13.00	6.50	7.98	7.31	109
Dry	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	8.20	(D)
Fungicides	90	3.50-15.00	¹	6.57	6.53	101
Desiccants	56	5.00-15.00	6.00	6.76	6.56	103
By Aircraft (All Pesticides)						
1 Gallon	51	6.00-9.25	8.00	7.74	7.85	99
2-3 Gallons	57	7.00-10.00	8.00	7.82	8.17	96
4-5 Gallons	51	7.25-9.50	8.00	7.93	8.41	94
Over 5 Gallons	31	6.50-11.00	8.00	8.17	9.44	87
HAYING OPERATIONS						
Mowing and Raking						
Mowing	17	1.00-45.00	10.00	12.06	8.85	136
Mowing and Conditioning	24	1.00-30.00	10.00	12.90	10.78	120
Swathing	14	4.50-25.00	¹	12.54	9.66	130
Raking	14	1.00-7.00	5.00	3.93	5.57	71
Baling (Wire or Twine Included)						
		(dollars per bale)	(dollars per bale)	(dollars per bale)	(dollars per bale)	
Small Square Bales, 250 lbs or less	6	1.00-2.50	2.00	1.79	2.80	64
Large Square Bales, Over 250 lbs	5	5.00-10.00	¹	8.40	9.64	87
Round Bales, 1,500 lbs or less	38	2.00-20.00	10.00	9.34	9.47	99
Round Bales, Over 1,500 lbs	18	5.00-15.00	10.00	10.08	10.53	96

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. (NA) Not available. ¹ Data not available due to multiple rates being reported at the highest frequency.

OTHER CUSTOM WORK AND HISTORICAL DATA

OTHER CUSTOM WORK, STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 2016

Operation	2016				2013 Average Rate	2016 as Percent of 2013
	Number of Reports	Range in Rates	Most Frequent Rate Reported	Average Rate		
	(number)	(dollars per head)	(dollars per head)	(dollars per head)	(dollars per head)	(percent)
Branding Calves	5	1.00-3.00	1.00	1.55	3.65	43
Shearing Sheep	4	1.50-4.75	¹	3.38	3.42	99
Custom Feeding Livestock		(dollars/head/day)	(dollars/head/day)	(dollars/head/day)	(dollars/head/day)	
Weaned Calves	8	1.00-8.00	2.00	2.48	1.96	126
Yearlings and Cull Cows	6	1.50-8.00	1.50	3.08	2.44	126
Wintering Pregnant Beef Cows	5	1.35-15.00	¹	5.02	2.24	224
Calving Out Cows	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	3.05	(D)
On-Farm Feed Grinding & Mixing		(dollars per ton)	(dollars per ton)	(dollars per ton)	(dollars per ton)	
Mobile Truck	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	19.99	(D)
PTO Unit	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	24.58	(D)
Tub Grinding Hay		(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	
Farmer Supplies Power	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	104.32	(D)
Power Supplied	6	125.00-400.00	250.00	235.83	154.50	153
Self Contained Unit	21	75.00-475.00	175.00	223.57	165.59	135
		(dollars per bushel)	(dollars per bushel)	(dollars per bushel)	(dollars per bushel)	
Pneumatic Handling of Grain	14	0.03-0.60	0.15	0.19	0.12	161
Post Hole Digging		(dollars per hole)	(dollars per hole)	(dollars per hole)	(dollars per hole)	
Digging	7	1.00-10.00	5.00	5.00	6.33	79
Building Multi-Strand Wire Fence (No Supplies Included)		(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	(dollars)	
Per Rod	6	1.00-22.50	¹	13.60	11.08	123
Per Hour	(D)	(D)	(D)	(D)	28.70	(D)
Loader Work		(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	(dollars per hour)	
Skid-Steer Loader	25	22.00-150.00	50.00	60.96	59.84	102
Tractor Loader	11	25.00-150.00	30.00	66.64	65.79	101
Industrial Loader	11	50.00-175.00	¹	99.82	95.25	105

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations. ¹ Data not available due to multiple rates being reported at the highest frequency.

HISTORICAL DATA, STATEWIDE AVERAGES, NORTH DAKOTA, 1992 - 2016

Operation	1992	1995	1998	2001	2004	2007	2010	2013	2016
	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)	(\$/acre)
Plowing (Moldboard)	6.43	6.78	7.48	7.22	8.44	9.65	10.03	11.88	10.88
Chisel Plowing	4.51	4.93	5.41	5.47	5.99	8.01	9.09	10.80	11.85
Field Cultivation	3.81	4.13	4.40	4.85	5.15	6.96	7.65	8.97	9.36
Small Grain Drilling									
Regular, With Fertilizer	5.28	6.00	6.48	7.30	7.95	10.32	12.37	13.69	17.97
Regular, Without Fertilizer	4.76	5.44	6.27	6.38	7.18	9.53	10.93	13.24	16.94
Air Seeding ¹	6.29	7.36	7.92	8.50	9.49	11.46	13.24	14.35	16.67
No-Till Drilling ¹	8.02	8.60	9.00	9.19	10.26	12.14	14.37	15.06	17.80
Fertilizer Application									
Dry Fertilizer (Broadcast)	2.66	2.95	3.27	3.64	3.87	4.54	5.17	6.15	6.39
Liquid Fertilizer (Broadcast) ²									6.92
Anhydrous Ammonia									
With Knife Applicator	4.16	4.66	5.11	5.33	6.12	7.62	9.39	10.40	10.78
While Chiseling	5.09	5.38	5.79	6.32	6.61	8.76	10.00	12.44	15.16
Ground Application of:									
Liquid Herbicides (Broadcast)	2.48	2.85	3.32	3.89	4.07	4.69	5.44	6.35	6.57
Liquid Insecticides (Broadcast)	2.65	2.88	3.38	3.93	4.11	4.77	5.42	6.61	6.60
Haying									
Mowing and Conditioning	6.15	6.77	6.76	7.06	7.14	8.95	9.73	10.78	12.90
Swathing	4.53	4.89	5.31	5.72	6.01	7.88	9.13	9.66	12.54
Raking	2.29	2.60	2.54	2.90	3.47	3.88	4.18	5.57	3.93
Post Holes	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)	(\$/hole)
Digging	1.90	1.82	2.38	2.49	2.64	4.60	4.04	6.33	5.00

¹ Without fertilizer ² Data series began in 2016.