



# 2002 Maryland Custom Rates

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This publication summarizes average rates paid by Maryland farmers for custom work in 2002. USDA's Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service and the Maryland Department of Agriculture are partners in this project. It continues the series of Custom Rates begun in 1969, and carried on until 2001, by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland at College Park.

Data was collected from 480 custom operators and farmers by mail, during April 2002. The Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service expresses gratitude and appreciation to the operators who make this report possible.

This summary is intended to be a guide to help custom

operators and farmers reach mutual agreements. The rates are averages, not estimates, with equal weight given to each report.

Rates vary due to supply and demand and also because of variability in the following operating conditions:

- Size, shape, and topography of field.
- Size and types of equipment used.
- Crop condition and yield.
- Weather during the season.
- Distance to job.
- Profits expected by custom operator.

Rates are given for the state and two regions - West of the Bay and East of the Bay. Operations without rates did not have adequate reports to calculate an average.

## Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Maryland 2002

Operation	Basis of Charge	West of Bay	East of Bay	State
<b>Harvesting</b>		<i>Dollars<sup>1</sup></i>		
Corn Picking	Acre	22.10	24.10	22.90
Corn Combining	Acre	26.10	24.20	25.20
Corn Drying (23 Percent)	Bushel	*	*	.27
Combining Small Grains	Acre	25.40	23.60	24.60
Combining Soybeans	Acre	26.00	23.60	24.80
<b>Hay Making</b>				
Mowing	Acre	10.80	10.70	10.70
Mowing & Conditioning	Acre	12.00	12.50	12.20
Raking	Acre	6.70	6.40	6.60
Baling, Small Bales	Bale	.56	.45	.52
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store	Bale	1.30	1.15	1.25
Baling, Large Round Bales	Bale	7.50	7.70	7.50
Baling, Large Square Bales	Bale	8.00	*	8.30
Wrapping Bales	Bale	4.70	*	5.00
<b>Silage Making</b>				
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor	Hour	54.80	*	54.50
Self-Propelled Chopper	Hour	96.50	*	102.60
Blower	Hour	10.50	*	10.50
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo	Ton	5.60	*	5.50
Bagging Silage	Foot	4.60	*	5.00

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<b>Operation</b>	<b>Basis of Charge</b>	<b>West of Bay</b>	<b>East of Bay</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Tillage &amp; Cultivating</b>		<i>Dollars<sup>1</sup></i>		
Plowing, Moldboard Plow	Acre	15.80	14.40	15.00
Plowing, Chisel	Acre	13.30	11.80	12.30
Disking, Tandem	Acre	11.90	10.60	11.10
Disking, With Harrow or Cultipacker	Acre	14.50	11.30	12.50
Harrowing	Acre	10.00	10.30	10.20
Cultivating	Acre	8.00	9.00	8.70
<b>Planting Corn</b>				
With Fertilizer:				
Conventional -Till	Acre	13.70	13.40	13.50
Minimum-Till	Acre	15.10	13.70	14.20
No-Till	Acre	14.40	14.60	14.50
Without Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	13.10	12.50	12.70
Minimum-Till	Acre	13.80	13.50	13.60
No-Till	Acre	13.70	14.10	13.90
<b>Planting Soybeans</b>				
With Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	14.60	13.60	13.90
Minimum-Till	Acre	*	13.30	14.20
No-Till	Acre	15.10	14.80	14.90
Without Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	14.60	12.20	13.10
Minimum-Till	Acre	14.80	13.30	13.90
No-Till	Acre	14.90	14.10	14.50
<b>Drilling Small Grains</b>				
With Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	13.10	12.10	12.40
Minimum-Till	Acre	*	12.30	13.30
No-Till	Acre	15.30	13.60	14.20
Without Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till	Acre	12.60	11.90	12.20
Minimum-Till	Acre	14.10	12.40	13.20
No-Till	Acre	14.10	13.90	14.00
<b>Seeding</b>				
Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc.	Acre	14.20	*	14.00
Broadcast Seeding (On Grain Fields)	Acre	8.00	*	7.80
<b>Spraying</b>				
Ground Application, excluding material	Acre	7.20	5.80	6.50
Aerial Application, excluding material	Acre	*	6.90	7.40

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<b>Operation</b>	<b>Basis of Charge</b>	<b>West of Bay</b>	<b>East of Bay</b>	<b>State</b>
<b>Grain Hauling &amp; Storage</b>			<i>Dollars<sup>1</sup></i>	
Hauling, Local	Bushel	.23	.13	.17
Hauling, Long Distance	Bushel	.26	.22	.24
Grain Storage	Bushel Per Month	.04	.04	.04
<b>Fertilizer &amp; Lime Application</b>				
Fertilizer, Dry	Acre	6.20	5.20	5.50
Fertilizer, Liquid	Acre	7.10	6.00	6.50
Fertilizer, Side Dressing	Acre	7.50	6.30	6.70
Lime, including cost of lime	Acre	24.20	28.40	26.00
Lime, excluding cost of lime	Acre	8.10	7.00	7.60
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Stalk Shredding	Acre	9.70	9.70	9.70
Bushhogging	Acre	34.10	28.20	31.50
Sawing Wood, Chain Saw	Hour	20.40	*	21.60
Post Hole Digging	Hole	2.90	*	2.70
Manure Loading, Solid	Hour	29.80	42.50	37.90
Manure Spreading, Solid	Hour	30.70	38.50	34.00
Manure Pumping	Hour	26.90	*	28.10
Manure Spreading, Liquid	Hour	49.90	*	49.90
Bulldozing	Hour	75.80	80.90	77.90
Backhoe	Hour	50.00	60.60	54.10

<sup>1</sup> Rates greater than \$2.00 are rounded to the nearest dime.

\* Inadequate number of reports to calculate average