June 2004

2004 Nebraska Custom Rates, Part I

H. Douglas Jose  
*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*, hjose1@unl.edu

Lydee Jo Brown  
*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

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The reports for Parts I and II of the 2004 Survey of Custom Rates in Nebraska have gone to press and will soon be available in printed and electronic form. The 2004 reports should be available online by early July, and the website address for the publications is [http://agecon.unl.edu/pub/misc.html](http://agecon.unl.edu/pub/misc.html) and then click on “2004 Farm Custom Rates.” Part I covers spring operations, hay harvesting, small grain harvest, tractor rental and custom framing contracts. Part II covers fall operations including harvesting of corn, soybeans and other crops and silage operations.

The full reports include a summary of the survey by Agricultural Statistics District, the range of responses, the most common response and the average. The following Table presents the overall state average for a selection of operations in Part I. The full report includes data on many other operations.

The custom rates reported include the charges for the use of the machinery, fuel, supplies such as twine supplied by the custom operator, equipment repairs and the custom operator’s labor. The cost of seed, chemicals and fertilizer are not included. To determine a guideline on labor rates the survey asked custom operators to report the labor rate they include in calculating their custom charges. The state average was $10.30 per hour.

Increasing fuel costs have had an impact on custom rates this year. The survey was conducted early in 2004 when diesel fuel was about $1.10 to 1.36 per gallon. As the prices change, fuel consumption rates and the change in fuel costs can be used to change custom rates. For example, if the farm price of diesel was $1.10 per gallon at the time of the survey and the fuel consumption for a particular operation is .8 gallons per acre, the fuel cost per acre would be $.88, or $.88 of the quoted custom rate would be for fuel. If the farm price of diesel increases to $1.40, the additional cost of fuel would be .30 x .8 = $.24 per acre. This will provide a guideline to adjust custom rates due to changes in fuel costs.

Doug Jose, (402) 472-1749
Extension Farm Management Specialist

Lydee Jo Brown
Student Assistant
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAND TILLAGE OPERATIONS</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disk Harrowing, Tandem or Offset (Primary Tillage), per acre</td>
<td>$7.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disk Harrowing, Tandem or Offset (Secondary Till age), per acre</td>
<td>7.38</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Cultivator, per acre</td>
<td>7.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rotary Tiller, PTO Driven, per acre</td>
<td>11.14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rod Weeder, per acre</td>
<td>5.19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stalk Shredder, PTO Driven, per acre</td>
<td>7.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLANTING AND POST PLANTING OPERATIONS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling Small Grains, Conventional Drill, per acre</td>
<td>8.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling Small Grains, No-Till Drill, per acre</td>
<td>11.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling Soybeans, Conventional Drill, per acre</td>
<td>9.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drilling Soybeans, No-Till Drill, per acre</td>
<td>11.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting Dry Edible Beans, per acre</td>
<td>11.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting Sugar Beets, per acre</td>
<td>13.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seeding Grass Seed, per acre</td>
<td>10.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops, No-Till with Band Application, per acre</td>
<td>11.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops, No-Till, without Band Application, per acre</td>
<td>10.23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops with Coulters, with Band Application, per acre</td>
<td>12.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops with Coulters, without Band Application, per acre</td>
<td>10.76</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops with Row Cleaning, with Band Application, per acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planting Row Crops with Row Cleaning, without Band Application, per acre</td>
<td>11.47</td>
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<tr>
<td>HAYING AND BALING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mowing and Raking, per acre</td>
<td>9.82</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swathing with Crushing/Crimping, per hour</td>
<td>58.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Swathing with Crunching/Crimping, per acre</td>
<td>8.96</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baling Small Square Bales with Wire Tie, (Average lbs/bale = 65), per bale</td>
<td>0.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baling Large Round Bales, (Bale = 1450), per bale</td>
<td>8.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Baling Large Square Bales, (Average lbs/bale = 1380), per bale</td>
<td>8.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>SMALL GRAIN HARVEST (WHEAT, BARLEY AND OATS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Windrowing Grain Crops, per acre</td>
<td>8.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combining Small Grains, Flat Charge, per acre</td>
<td>19.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Combining Small Grains, Flat Charge Plus Fee Per Bushel for High Yields, per acre</td>
<td>14.69</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Fee per Bushel for Crops Yielding Over 20 bushels per acre</td>
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<td>Combining Small Grains, Combination Charge Regardless of Yield, per acre</td>
<td>18.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Fee, for Each Bushel</td>
<td>0.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>APPLICATION OF FERTILIZER (Excludes Cost of Fertilizer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Fertilizers, Including Power, Labor and Applicator, per acre</td>
<td>4.19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dry Fertilizers, Applicator Rental Only, per acre</td>
<td>3.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liquid Fertilizers, Including Power, Labor and Applicator, per acre</td>
<td>5.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anhydrous Ammonia, Conventional Knife Including Power, Labor and Applicator, per acre</td>
<td>7.57</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anhydrous Ammonia, Knife with Coulters, Including Power, Labor and Applicator, per acre</td>
<td>8.29</td>
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<tr>
<td>INSECT, DISEASE AND WEED CONTROL (Excludes Cost of Fertilizer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crop Spraying by Surface Vehicles, per acre</td>
<td>4.72</td>
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<td>Crop Spraying by Aircraft, per acre</td>
<td>5.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>CUSTOM CONTRACT FARMING</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winter Wheat, No Fallow Ground, (Average times over field=4), per acre</td>
<td>45.00</td>
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<td>Winter Wheat, with Fallow Ground, (Average times over field=4), per acre</td>
<td>48.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum (Average times over field=4), per acre</td>
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<td>Dryland Soybeans (Average times over field=4), per acre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irrigated Soybeans (Average times over field=5) per acre</td>
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<td>Dryland Corn (Average times over field=4), per acre</td>
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<td>Irrigated Corn (Average times over field=6), per acre</td>
<td>74.56</td>
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Source: Farmer Custom Rate Survey, Ag Economics Department, UNL, June 2004
**Cornhusker Economics**  
Subscription Rates Prorated by Month  
(Subscriptions run from July 1 – June 30)  
2004 - 2005

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<th>Subscription as of</th>
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<td>August 1</td>
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<td>September 1</td>
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<td>October 1</td>
<td>15.20</td>
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<td>November 1</td>
<td>13.60</td>
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<td>December 1</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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<td>January 1</td>
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<td>February 1</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
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<td>April 1</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>2.40</td>
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