

CUSTOM RATES SURVEY SUMMARY



2010

**Government
of Alberta ■**

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Introduction

Since 1975 Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development has annually surveyed custom rates and rental rates to provide information to farmers and custom operators.

This publication presents a summary of custom work and rental rates during 2009. These rates are only intended as a guide. **They are not to be interpreted as the rates you must charge or pay.** The surveys were conducted by Maureen Wenger for the Statistics and Data Development Branch from February 2009 through December 2009.

The department gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the farmers and custom operators who willingly cooperated by providing information about their custom and rental rates.

Again for 2010, a listing of prices for some common farm inputs is included. These prices are collected throughout the year by Wild Rose Agricultural Producers (formerly Unifarm) and the Statistics and Data Development Unit of Alberta Agriculture & Rural Development.

Custom Rates Survey Summary - Objective

The specific objective of this survey summary is to organize and report 2009 custom rates for certain custom operations on the farm. No effort is made to evaluate the fairness of reported rates. **The goal is to report what is being charged, not what should be charged.** Because many of the surveys were conducted in 2009, higher costs or other market factors may have resulted in higher custom rates by the time of publication.

Sample size

Sample size is often small, and thus, reported rates should only be used as a general indication of rates being charged for various custom operations in Alberta. **Custom rates in this publication are not to be interpreted as recommended rates.** Rates charged by individual custom operations should still be evaluated on their own merit.

Users of custom rates information

Farmers may find custom rates useful as a guide for machinery management, budgeting and financial planning for credit needs. Also, custom rates can be used as a guide in negotiating settlements for work performed for neighbors or others. Lenders, educators, government institutions and others doing budgeting or planning analysis may also find custom rates helpful in their work. Custom operators can use these guides to compare their own rate with the market rate in a certain area.

Understanding the tables

Within the tables are custom rates for various operations in Alberta which are itemized under:

- type of operation surveyed
- location where rates apply
- most common rates charged in 2008
- range of rates charged in 2009
- most common rates charged in 2009

Under the heading Location, four regions (south, central, north and Peace) are identified. When survey reports were insufficient for regional comparisons, the location is identified as Alberta.

Custom rates in 2009 for the various operations are shown as Range 2009 and Most Common 2009. The rates quoted most often by custom operators are under the heading Most Common 2009. Variations in rates from lowest to highest are under the heading Range 2009. Many factors contribute to these ranges, some of which are listed below.

Factors contributing to lower rates:

- neighborly work exchange
- location of job in relation to home base of custom operator
- custom operator's desire to cover variable costs, but not necessarily all fixed costs
- use of older equipment that does not reflect current investment cost and/or has a lower capacity

- services such as labor, meals, fuel, supervision, transportation or other convenience services being provided to the custom operator by the farmer
- the size of the job

Factors contributing to higher rates:

- full-time custom operators who are covering all costs
- charging what the market will bear
- tough jobs requiring extra power, repairs, fuel or time
- field conditions such as rocks, rough terrain, obstructions or high yield crops
- small size jobs
- higher capacity machines

How to Use Custom Rates Information

Rates quoted in this publication for the various custom operations are expressed in numerous ways (per hour, ton, tonne, bale, acres, etc.). Before comparing the various custom operations, always choose the appropriate basis on which to compare. For example, grain harvesting may require a per acre cost as compared to corral cleaning where a per hour rate is more appropriate. When custom rates are given in dollars per hour, it is advisable to convert to a physical unit cost (bushels, tonnes, acres) appropriate to that operation. A low cost per hour can be a very high cost per acre, tonne, etc.

Because custom rates quoted in this publication may not suit all custom operators and those hiring custom work, you should calculate your own custom costs. You can use the online [Machinery Cost Calculator](http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app24/costcalculators/machinery/getmachimpls.jsp) at <http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca/app24/costcalculators/machinery/getmachimpls.jsp>.

Tillage

Operation		Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Plowing	- hay & pasture	Alberta	\$110-120/hr	\$110-115/hr	\$110-115/hr
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Discing	- crop & stubble	Alberta	\$130-165/hr	\$115-165/hr	\$130-165/hr
	- hay & pasture	Alberta	\$120-165/hr	\$110-200/hr	\$130-165/hr
Total reports = 45 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Rototilling	- hay & pasture	Alberta	\$80-100/hr	\$100-115/hr	\$100-115/hr
Total reports = 9 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Cultivating		Alberta	\$10/ac* \$110-120/hr	\$10/ac* \$110-115/hr	\$10/ac* \$115/hr
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Harrowing		Alberta	\$4.50-6.50	\$4.50-6.50	\$4.50-6.50
Total reports = 3 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Harrowing & packing		Alberta	\$6.50-7.50	\$6.50-7.50	\$6.50-7.50
Total reports = 3 Surveyed Fall 2009					
Land Rolling		Alberta	\$7-10/ac -	\$5-10/ac \$100/hr*	\$7-10/ac \$100/hr*
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009					

Seeding

Operation		Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Seeding – air seeder/airdrill		Alberta	\$15-18/ac	\$11-24/ac	\$16-20/ac
Total reports = 28 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009					
Seeding – floater truck		South	\$6.50-7.50/ac	\$5.40-8/ac	\$6.50-7.50/ac
		Central	\$7.50-9/ac	\$6-12/ac	\$7.50-8.25/ac
		North	\$7.50-8.95/ac	\$7.50-11/ac	\$7.50-8.95/ac
		Peace	\$6.50/ac*	\$6.50/ac*	\$6.50/ac*
Total reports = 80 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009					
Seeding – aerial		Alberta	\$7.50/ac	\$7.50/ac	\$7.50/ac
Total reports = 7 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009					
Seeding – no-till drill		Alberta	\$16-20/ac	\$16-25/ac	\$18-22/ac
Total reports = 41 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009					
Seeding – corn planter		Alberta	**No response to survey	\$22-30/ac	\$22-27.50/ac
Total reports = 12 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009					

Fertilizer Application

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Granular fertilizer application – floater truck	South	\$5.50-7.50/ac	\$4.75-8/ac	\$5.50-7.50/ac
	Central	\$6.75-8.25/ac	\$6-9/ac	\$6.50-8.25/ac
	North	\$6.50-8/ac	\$5-9.50/ac	\$6.50-8/ac
	Peace	\$6/ac*	\$6/ac*	\$6/ac*
Total reports = 84 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid or granular fertilizer application – fixed-wing aerial	Alberta	\$7.50-9.10	\$7.50-9.10	\$7.50-9.10
Total reports = 35 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Granular - pull-type	Alberta	**No response to survey	\$25/load*	\$25/load*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Anhydrous fertilizer application – cultivator with cold flow kit	Alberta	\$30-70/tonne*	\$30-70/tonne*	\$30-70/tonne*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				

Herbicide Application

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Granular herbicide application – floater truck	South	\$6.50-6.75/ac	\$5.75-7.50/ac	\$6.50-7/ac
	Central	\$6.50-6.75/ac	\$6.75-7/ac	\$6.75-7/ac
	North	\$8/ac*	\$8/ac*	\$8/ac*
	Peace	**No response to survey	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 23 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid herbicide application – floater truck	Alberta	\$300/hr*	\$300/hr*	\$300/hr*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid or granular herbicide application – truck mount	Alberta	\$3-5/ac	\$3-5/ac	\$3-5/ac
Total reports = 4 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid herbicide application – high clearance	South	\$6-7.25/ac	\$4.50-9/ac	\$5.75-7.25/ac
	Central	\$6.75-7.60/ac	\$6.25-15/ac	\$6.75-7.50/ac
	North	\$5.75-7.50/ac	\$5-8.50/ac	\$6-7/ac
	Peace	\$12-20/ac	\$12-20/ac	\$12-20/ac
Total reports = 162 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid herbicide application – fixed-wing aerial	South	\$8.20-9.10/ac	\$7.25-9.10/ac	\$8.20-9.10/ac
	Central	\$7.50-8.75/ac	\$7.50-9.10/ac	\$7.50-8.75/ac
	North	\$7.50/ac	\$7.50-7.75/ac	\$7.50/ac
	Peace	**No response to survey	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 28 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Liquid herbicide application - pull-type	Alberta	**No response to survey	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 0 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				

Machinery Rental

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Land Roller	Alberta	\$2-3/ac	\$1.75-3/ac	\$2-3/ac
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Breaking disc	Alberta	\$5.50/ac \$300-525/day	\$5.50/ac \$400-525/day	\$5.50/ac \$400-525/day
Total reports = 12 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				
Heavy harrow	Alberta	\$1.75-2.50/ac \$350/day*	\$1.75-2.50/ac \$350-400/day	\$1.75-2.50/ac \$350-400/day
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				

Soil Testing

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Soil testing (lab fees included)	Alberta			
	Four nutrients	\$55-100/field	\$34-150/field	\$60-100/field
	Complete analysis 0-6"	\$75-110/field	\$55-142.50/field	\$75-110/field
	Complete analysis 0-6" plus GPS	-	\$25-160/field	\$70-102/field
	Complete analysis 0-6" plus GPS mapped	-	\$269/field	\$269/field
	Complete analysis plus N, K, S, Ca, and Mg on 6-12"	-	\$160/field	\$160/field
	Four nutrients & manure management - 3 level analysis	-	\$150/field	\$150/field
	Complete pH, organic & micronutrients	\$85/field	\$85/field	\$85/field
Soil sampling (lab fees not included)		\$30/field	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 176 Surveyed Summer & Fall 2009				

Grain Harvesting

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Swathing	Alberta	\$10-12/ac \$75-90/hr	\$8-15/ac \$75-90/hr	\$10-12/ac \$75-90/hr
Total reports = 48 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Combining – straight cut or pickup header (**may be additional cost for fuel)	South - dryland	\$18/ac* \$200/hr*	\$20-30/ac \$200/hr*	\$20-30/ac \$200/hr*
	South - irrigated	**No response to survey	\$30-35/ac	\$30-35/ac
	Central	\$20/ac \$225-250/hr	\$22-30/ac \$140-250/hr	\$22-30/ac \$225-250/hr
	North	\$24-30/ac \$185-270/hr	\$18-30/ac \$180-270/hr	\$20-25/ac \$180-270/hr
	North - dry	\$100-140/hr	\$100-190/hr	\$100-140/hr
	Peace	-	\$220/hr*	\$220/hr*
	Peace - dry	\$100-130/hr	\$100-130/hr	\$100-130/hr
Total reports = 50 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Combining and hauling to bin (**may be additional cost for fuel)	South - dryland	\$23.50-32/ac -	\$20-34.50/ac \$230/hr*	\$23.50-32/ac \$230/hr*
	South - irrigated	\$43/ac*	\$30-43/ac	\$30-43/ac
	Central	\$27-34.50/ac \$275-300/hr	\$27-43/ac \$250-300/hr	\$30-43/ac \$250-300/hr
	North	\$30/ac \$200-240/ac	\$27-30/ac \$200-240/ac	\$30/ac \$200-240/ac
	Peace	**No response to survey	\$220/hr*	\$220/hr*
Total reports = 51 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Grain drying	Alberta	\$95-175/hr	\$95-175/hr	\$95-175/hr
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Grain cleaning	Alberta	\$0.45-0.55/bu	\$0.45-0.90/bu	\$0.45-0.90/bu
Total reports = 3 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Grain vacumming	Alberta	\$0.07/bu*	\$0.07/bu*	\$0.07/bu*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Grain Hauling

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
0 - 50 kilometers (0-30 miles)	Alberta	\$6.84-9.61/tonne	\$6.84-10.50/tonne	\$7.21-9.61/tonne
51 - 100 kilometers (31-60 miles)	Alberta	\$10-11/tonne	\$10-11.50/tonne	\$10-11.50/tonne
101 - 150 kilometers (61-90 miles)	Alberta	\$10.76-14.50/tonne	\$14.50/tonne	\$14.50/tonne
Over 150 kilometers (over 90 miles)	Alberta	\$16.50/tonne	\$16.50/tonne	\$16.50/tonne
Total reports = 67 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Haying

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Cutting & conditioning hay – mower conditioner	South	\$17-20/ac	\$15-30/ac	\$17-20/ac
	Central	\$17-20/ac \$60-90/hr	\$13-28/ac \$60-100/hr	\$17-20/ac \$60-100/hr
	North	\$14-15/ac \$60-122/hr	- \$60-122/hr	- \$60-122/hr
	Peace	**No response to survey	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 51 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Raking	Alberta	\$5-7/ac \$60-65/hr	\$4-12/ac \$50-72/hr	\$5-7/ac \$50-65/hr
Total reports = 35 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling – small square	Alberta	\$0.60-0.90/bale	\$0.50-1.00/bale	\$0.55-0.90/bale
Total reports = 12 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Stacking – small square	Alberta	\$0.50-0.60/bale	\$0.60/bale*	\$0.60/bale*
Total reports = 14 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling	– medium square	Alberta	\$7-7.75/bale	**No response to survey
	– large square		\$12-14.50/bale	\$14-15/bale
Total reports = 16 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling - medium round	Alberta	\$10/bale*	\$9-10/bale	\$9-10/bale
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling – large round	South	\$11.50-14/bale	\$8-15/bale	\$11.50-13/bale
	Central	\$9-11.50/bale \$100/hr*	\$6-12.50/bale \$60-100/hr	\$10-12.50/bale \$60-100/hr
	North	\$8-9/bale \$100/hr	\$8-15/bale \$100/hr	\$8-9/bale \$100/hr
	Peace	\$9/bale	\$9-13/bale	\$9-13/bale
Total reports = 70 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Stacking – large round	Alberta	\$2-3/bale -	\$2-3/bale \$125/hr*	\$2-3/bale \$125/hr*
Total reports = 13 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Hay hauling – small square (1060 bales/load)	0-35 miles	\$85-100/hr \$19-20/tonne	\$90-100/hr \$19-20/tonne	\$90-100/hr \$19-20/tonne
	36-65 miles	- \$23-24/tonne	- \$21.50-24/tonne	- \$23-24/tonne
Total reports = 22 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Hay hauling – large round (up to 22 bales/load)	0-50 miles	- \$85/hr	\$3-5/bale \$80/hr*	\$3-5/bale \$80/hr*
	Over 50 miles	**No response to survey	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Hay hauling – large round (30 or more bales/load)	0-30 miles	\$5-7/bale \$110/hr*	\$3-7/bale -	\$5-7/bale -
	31-60 miles	\$9-10.50/bale \$110/hr*	\$8-10.50/bale -	\$9-10.50/bale -
	61-90 miles	\$11-13/bale \$110/hr*	\$11-13/bale -	\$11-13/bale -
	Over 90 miles	\$14-17/bale \$125-150/hr \$4-5/lmi	\$14-16/bale \$110-150/hr \$4-9/lmi	\$14-16/bale \$125-150/hr \$4-5/lmi

Total reports = 95 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Bale pickup & stacking - large round (self-loading truck)	Alberta	\$85/hr*	\$125-150/hr	\$125-150/hr
Total reports = 6 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Silage

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Cutting silage – swathing (6-20 ac/hr)	Alberta	\$2/tonne* \$70-95/hr \$10-12/ac	\$2-2.50/tonne \$70-95/hr \$10-13/ac	\$2-2.50/tonne \$70-95/hr \$10-12/ac
Total reports = 32 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Chopping silage (20-75 Ton/hr)	Alberta	\$4.75-6.50/tonne \$300-450/hr \$24.50/load	\$4.75-6.50/tonne \$135-450/hr \$25/load*	\$4.75-6.50/tonne \$300-450/hr \$25/load*
Total reports = 49 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Hauling silage – truck and operator (1-5 mile haul)	Alberta	\$1-3/tonne \$70-125/hr	\$1-3/tonne \$45-125/hr	\$1-3/tonne \$70-125/hr
Total reports = 75 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Packing silage – tractor with dozer loader or packer (25-60 tons/hr)	Alberta	\$1-1.25/tonne \$1.30/ton \$80-115/hr	\$1-1.65/tonne \$1.15-1.85/ton \$60-115/hr	\$1-1.25/tonne \$1.15-1.85/ton \$80-115/hr
Total reports = 31 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Chopping & hauling silage (1-5 mile haul)	Alberta	\$6.75-8/tonne \$6.25-6.75/ton \$270-595/hr	\$5.75-9.25/tonne \$6.50-10/ton \$180-640/hr	\$6.75-8/tonne \$6.50-10/ton \$270-605/hr
Total reports = 79 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Chopping, hauling & packing (1-2 mile haul)	Alberta	\$7.75-9/tonne \$9/ton \$305-355/hr	\$6.75-10.90/tonne \$9/ton \$305-365/hr	\$7.75-9.92/tonne \$9/ton \$305-365/hr
Total reports = 31 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Swathing, chopping & hauling silage	Alberta	\$10.50/tonne*	\$10.50/tonne*	\$10.50/tonne*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Swathing, chopping, hauling & packing	Alberta	\$12-12.90/tonne \$375-440/hr	\$12-12.90/tonne \$375-390/hr	\$12-12.90/tonne \$375-390/hr
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling	Alberta	\$8-9/bale	\$5-9/bale	\$8-9/bale
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Bale wrapping	Alberta	\$5-8/bale	\$5-8/bale	\$5-8/bale
Total reports = 3 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Baling, hauling & wrapping	Alberta	\$19/bale*	\$19/bale*	\$19/bale*
Total reports = 1 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Silage bagging – includes bag (customer provides tractor)	Alberta			
	Bag size 10x150	\$1750/bag \$6/ton	\$1750/bag \$6/ton	\$1750/bag \$6/ton
	Bag size 10x200	\$2200-2300/bag \$6/ton	\$2200-2300/bag \$6/ton	\$2200-2300/bag \$6/ton
	Bag size 10x250	\$2700-2725/bag \$6/ton	\$2700-2725/bag \$6/ton	\$2700-2725/bag \$6/ton
	Bag size 10x300	\$3000-3200/bag	\$3000-3200/bag	\$3000-3200/bag

Total reports = 49 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Silage chopping, hauling & bagging - includes bag (customer may need to provide tractor) (1-3 mile haul)	Alberta			
	Bag size 10x150	\$3350/bag \$15/ton	\$3350/bag \$15/ton	\$3350/bag \$15/ton
	Bag size 10x200	\$4000-4400/bag -	\$4000-4400/bag \$15/ton	\$4000-4400/bag \$15/ton
	Bag size 10x250	\$4950-5000/bag -	\$4950-5000/bag \$15/ton	\$4950-5000/bag \$15/ton
	Bag size 10x300	\$5700-6000/bag	\$5600-6000/bag	\$5600-6000/bag
Total reports = 51 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Grain Processing

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Grinding (mixing cost included)	Alberta	\$18-25/tonne	\$15-35/tonne	\$18-25/tonne
Total reports = 6 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Dry rolling (mixing cost included)	Alberta	\$15-25/tonne	\$19-35/tonne	\$15-25/tonne
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Steam rolling (mixing cost included)	Alberta	\$30-40/tonne	\$20-40/tonne	\$20-40/tonne
Total reports = 3 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Pelleting (mixing cost included)	Alberta	\$30-40/tonne	\$30-40/tonne	\$30-40/tonne
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Processed grain delivery (7-13 tonne load) (0-35 miles)	Alberta	\$100/hr*	\$85-100/hr	\$85-100/hr
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Mobile Feed Processing

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Tub Grinding (customer supplies tractor)	Alberta	\$3.50/bale -	\$3.50/bale \$245/hr	\$3.50/bale \$245/hr
Tub Grinding (self-powered)	Alberta	\$170-225/hr	\$180-250/hr	\$180-250/hr
Dry Rolling (grain)	Alberta	\$58-60/load \$180/hr	\$58-60/load \$180/hr	\$58-60/load \$180/hr
Total reports = 43 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Livestock Hauling

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009	
Possum belly liner (50,000-65,000 lb) lmi=loaded mile	Alberta	0-50 km (0-30 mi)	\$190-305/load \$125/hr*	\$200-350/load \$125-135/hr	\$225-350/load \$125-135/hr
		51-100 km (31-60 mi)	\$275-430/load - -	\$300-455/load \$70-80/cwt \$6.50/lmi*	\$350-455/load \$70-80/cwt \$6.50/lmi*
		101-150 km (61-90 mi)	\$455-575/load	\$410-575/load \$85-95/cwt	\$455-575/load \$85-95/cwt
		Over 150 km (over 90 mi)	\$675-850/load \$5.10/lmi \$2.90-3.30/lkm	\$500-900/load \$2.50-5.25/lmi \$2.93-3.20/lkm	\$625-820/load \$5-5.25/lmi \$3-3.20/lkm

Total reports = 522 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Straight liner, body job and gooseneck (16,000-42,000 lb) lmi=loaded mile	Alberta	- -	\$4.25/lmi \$100/hr	\$4.25/lmi \$100/hr
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Hog hauling lkm=loaded kilometre	Alberta	\$480-675/load \$5/lmi \$1.84/lkm* \$1.40/cwt* \$130/hr	\$310-715/load \$4.50-5/lmi \$1.85/lkm \$1.40/cwt* \$130/hr	\$480-660/load \$4.50-5/lmi \$1.85/lkm \$1.40/cwt* \$130/hr
Total reports = 25 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Livestock Feeding

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Overwintering cows (calving extra) Limited response - customer supplies feed - feed included - winter pasture	Alberta	\$0.35-0.50/hd/day \$0.75-1.75/hd/day -	\$0.75-1/hd/day \$1.50-2.25/hd/day \$0.35-0.50/hd/day	\$0.75-1/hd/day \$1.50-2.25/hd/day \$0.35-0.50/hd/day
Grazing & feeding cows (365 days, calving included)	Alberta	**No response to survey	\$0.65-1/hd/day	\$0.65-1/hd/day
Total reports = 14 Surveyed Spring 2009				

Corral Cleaning

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Corral cleaning	Alberta			
loader, 3 or 4 spreaders, 5 operators		\$425-465/hr	\$425-500/hr	\$455-490/hr
loader, 2 or 3 spreaders, 4 operators		\$315-400/hr	\$300-410/hr	\$315-400/hr
loader, 1 or 2 spreaders, 3 operators		\$240-400/hr	\$225-400/hr	\$240-310/hr
loader only, 1 operator, for stockpiling		\$85-130/hr	\$60-134/hr	\$90-130/hr
spreader only, 1 operator		\$83-125/hr	\$75-150/hr	\$85-125/hr
Total reports = 515 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Liquid Manure

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Liquid manure handling	Alberta			
application - pump, injection system & operators		\$0.012/gal -	\$0.012/gal \$225-755/hr	\$0.012/gal \$225-755/hr
application - pump, 2-3 vacuum tanks & operators		\$300-547.50/hr	\$335-440/hr	\$335-440/hr
vacuum tank only, 1 operator		\$130/hr	\$105-130/hr	\$105-130/hr
tractor & straw blower for covering lagoons		\$135/hr	\$135-140/hr	\$135-140/hr
Total reports = 101 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Fencing

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Barbed wire fence construction (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$2000-3000/mi \$90-120/hr \$7.45-7.50/m	\$1500-5200/mi \$60-125/hr \$4-7.50/m	\$2000-3300/mi \$90-120/hr \$7.45-7.50/m
Total reports = 64 Surveyed Fall 2009				
High tensile barb wire (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$5.00/post	**No response to survey	**No response to survey
Total reports = 0 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Pipe rail or corral fencing (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$60-70/hr	\$37.50-165/hr	\$60-70/hr
Total reports = 9 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Elk & buffalo fencing (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$11.50-18.75/m	\$7.50-28/m	\$11.50-18.75/m
Total reports = 14 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Page wire fence construction (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$100/hr \$11.90/m	\$100/hr \$11.90-12/m	\$100/hr \$11.90/m
Total reports = 14 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Post pounding (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$70-110/hr	\$60-165/hr	\$70-125/hr
Total reports = 22 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Barbed wire fence repair or removal (labour & equipment)	Alberta	\$1200-2400/mi \$85-165/hr \$2/m	\$1200-2400/mi \$37.50-165/hr \$2/m	\$1200-2400/mi \$85-165/hr \$2/m
Total reports = 73 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Land Clearing & Breaking

Operation	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Brushing & piling or repiling (with a dozer blade)	Alberta			
	D5 or D6 (140-180hp)	\$125-150/hr	\$110-155/hr	\$125-150/hr
	D7 (180-200hp)	\$130-175/hr	\$120-185/hr	\$135-165/hr
	D8 (225-335hp)	\$150-210/hr	\$150-220/hr	\$160-210/hr
Total reports = 94 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Ripping or sub-soiling	Alberta	\$155-225/hr	\$140-225/hr	\$150-210/hr
Total reports = 56 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Discing (higher rates for remote locations or tough terrain)	Alberta	\$130-165/hr -	\$110-200/hr \$14-50/ac	\$130-150/hr \$15-40/ac
Total reports = 24 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Plowing	Alberta	\$110-115/hr	\$110-115/hr	\$110-115/hr
Total reports = 2 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Rototilling	Alberta	\$100/hr	\$100-115/hr	\$115/hr
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Dugout construction, drainage, feedlot construction & land leveling	Alberta			
	D6 Cat	\$118-135/hr	\$110-155/hr	\$118-150/hr
	D7 Cat	\$130-175/hr	\$120-185/hr	\$130-175/hr
	D8 Cat	\$150-210/hr	\$150-220/hr	\$160-210/hr
	Backhoe	\$90-140/hr	\$90-135/hr	\$90-135/hr
	Dozers	-	\$115/hr	\$115/hr
	Dump trucks	\$90-120/hr	\$90-120/hr	\$90-120/hr
	Excavators	\$150-200/hr \$1.75-2.50/cu yd	\$90-255/hr \$2.50/cu yd	\$130-200/hr \$2.50/cu yd
	Graders	-	\$130/hr	\$130/hr
	Scrapers	\$195-250/hr	\$120-250/hr	\$195-250/hr
Skid steers	\$75/hr	\$75/hr	\$75/hr	
Total reports = 291 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Brush mowing	Alberta	\$120-130/hr	\$120-130/hr	\$120-130/hr
Total reports = 8 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Brush & mulch	Alberta	\$260/hr	\$260/hr	\$260/hr
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Rock picking	Alberta	\$175/hr	\$175/hr	\$175/hr
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Rock raking	Alberta	\$100/hr	\$100/hr	\$100/hr
Total reports = 5 Surveyed Fall 2009				
Tree moving	Alberta	\$95/hr	-	-
Total reports = 0 Surveyed Fall 2009				

Cash Rental

Cash Rent - cropland	Location	Average 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009	Average 2009
Alberta	South – irrigated	Insufficient data	\$37.50-\$150/ac	\$57.14-\$70/ac	\$64.29/ac
	South – dryland	\$45.19/ac	\$8.35-\$55/ac	\$35.00-\$50/ac	\$46.37/ac
	Central	\$45.70/ac	\$18.75-\$75/ac	\$40-\$60/ac	\$49.58/ac
	North	\$37.29/ac	\$10.31-\$70/ac	\$25-\$50/ac	\$35.56/ac
	Peace	\$23.12/ac	\$15-\$25/ac	\$15-\$25/ac	\$19.25/ac
Total reports = 128 Surveyed spring 2009					

Cropshare Rental

Cropshare Rental - cropland	Location	Landlord: Tenant	No. of Leases	% Reporting	Notes	
Alberta	South	1/4:3/4	3	43	Tenant pays all but taxes in 3 of 7 agreements.	
		1/3:2/3	4	57		
	Central	1/4:3/4	1	11		Tenant pays all but taxes in 3 of 9 agreements.
		1/3:2/3	5	56		
		2/5:3/5	2	22		
	1/2:1/2	1	11			
	North	1/5:4/5	2	15		Tenant pays all but taxes in 8 of 13 agreements.
		1/4:3/4	2	15		
		1/3:2/3	8	62		
	1/2:1/2	1	8			
	Peace	1/4:3/4	1	100	Tenant pays all but taxes in 0 of 1 agreements.	
	Total reports = 30 Surveyed spring 2009					

Length of Lease

Length of Lease - cropland	Cash Rent		Crop Share	
	Number of leases	%	Number of leases	%
Years				
1	48	38	12	40
2	3	2	0	0
3	28	22	4	13
4	3	2	1	3
5	16	12	0	0
6+	6	5	0	0
Open	24	19	13	44
Total	128	100	30	100
Total reports = 158 Surveyed Spring 2009				

Type of Lease

Type of Lease - cropland Location	Cash Rent		Crop Share	
	Number of leases	%	Number of leases	%
South	23	79	6	21
Central	48	84	9	16
North	54	81	13	19
Peace	4	80	1	20
Total reports = 158 Surveyed Spring 2009				

Pasture Rental

Cash Rent - private pasture	Location	Most Common 2008	Range 2009	Most Common 2009
Alberta	South	\$20-30.50/AUM	\$12.50-30/AUM	\$25-30/AUM
		-	\$1500-\$4000/season	\$1500-\$2000/season
	Central	\$22-30.50/AUM	\$15-33/AUM	\$22-30/AUM
		-	\$1000-\$4000/season	\$2700-\$4000/season
	-	\$18-\$21/hd/mo	\$18-\$21/hd/mo	
North	\$25-30.50/AUM	\$10-\$30/AUM	\$25-30/AUM	
	-	\$10.29-\$25/ac	\$20-\$25/ac	
-	\$1180-\$8000/season	\$1900-\$3400/season		
Peace	Insufficient data	\$81.73-\$2500/season	\$1210-\$2500/season	
Total reports = 73 Surveyed Spring 2009				

These are survey results only - not recommended rates.

Average Alberta Farm Input Prices

Building Supplies

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2009/2008 Percentage Change
Constr. grade lumber 2x6 spruce, metre	\$428.46	\$374.07	-12.69
Rough grade lumber 2x8 spruce, metre	\$616.06	\$666.39	8.17
Sheathing, ply., spruce, 3/8", 4'x8' sht	\$14.16	\$13.96	-1.39
Ready-mix concrete, 20 mpa, cubic metre	\$181.41	\$191.92	5.80
Fence posts, std. gr., treated, 3-4" diam., 7' length, ea.	\$3.90	\$3.97	1.92
Nails, std. grd., 4" spiral, 50 lb box	\$64.86	\$70.70	9.00
Pipe, plastic, 1", 75 psi., 100' coil	\$59.63	\$57.00	-4.41
Rods, re-enforcing 1/2", 6 metres	\$6.52	\$6.33	-2.83
Barbed wire, 12 gauge, double strand	\$57.67	\$63.28	9.72

Machinery Repairs

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Truck tires, 1st line, LT 285-70R-17, each, env. tax incl.	\$312.83	\$305.66	-2.29
Battery, 525 cranking amp, each	\$99.28	\$86.85	-12.52
V-belt, 1/2" x 70", ea.	\$13.56	\$14.44	6.47
Antifreeze, 4 litres	\$14.18	\$14.48	2.08
Mech. repairs, per hour	\$94.62	\$99.43	5.08

Crop Supplies

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Baler twine, plastic, 28000' bale	\$29.62	\$31.36	5.86
Fertilizer, 46-0-0, tonne, bulk	\$731.37	\$532.10	-27.25
Fertilizer, 11-51-0, tonne, bulk	\$1158.88	\$687.82	-40.65
Fertilizer, 82-0-0, tonne, bulk (applicator inc.)	\$1166.59	\$909.24	-22.06
Refine Extra, granular, 320 gram	\$256.98	\$264.54	2.94
Assert 300 SC, liquid, 10.8 litre	\$261.71	\$270.22	3.25
Roundup Weather Max, liquid, 10 litre	\$144.50	\$157.78	9.20
Seed; wheat, #1, 100 kg., bulk	\$44.67	\$43.94	-1.63
Seed; barley, #1, 100 kg., bulk	\$38.22	\$37.47	-1.95
Seed; conventional canola, #1, treated, 100 kg., bagged	\$929.72	\$943.54	1.49
Seed; herbicide tolerant canola, #1, treated, 100 kg., bagged	\$1311.51	\$1397.67	6.57

Feeds

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Calf starter ration, pellets, 13-20%	\$477.49	\$461.42	-3.37
Dairy supp., 32%, tonne (bulk)	\$586.50	\$612.33	4.40
Feedlot supp., pellets, 32%, excl. Ionophore, tonne (bulk)	\$394.60	\$411.48	4.28
Hog grower ration, 15-17%, tonne (bulk)	\$386.00	\$362.31	-6.14
Swine supplement, pellets, 35-40%	\$642.33	\$708.11	10.24
Broiler grower complete feed, 18-20%, tonne (bulk)	\$426.67	\$433.15	1.52
Cattle mineral, 25 kg.	\$31.77	\$37.30	17.42
Feed barley, #1, (farm gate), bu	\$3.87	\$3.01	-22.21
Feed wheat, #1, (farm gate), bu	\$5.60	\$4.33	-22.78
Hay, good quality baled, ton	\$70.29	\$95.28	35.56

Livestock Supplies

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Penicillin G, injectable, 300 mg/ml, 250 ml	\$13.90	\$13.57	-2.38
Vitamin A D E., injectable, 250 ml	\$25.58	\$24.69	-3.47

Fuel and Oil

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Purple gas, 100 litres (minus prov. rebate only)	\$99.28	\$76.19	-23.26
Diesel fuel, 100 litres (minus prov. rebate only)	\$98.18	\$63.34	-35.48
Propane, bulk, 100 litres	\$63.74	\$51.21	-19.66
Natural gas, GJ (excluding delivery charge)	\$7.41	\$4.12	-44.42
Electricity, farm use, 100 kwh (excluding delivery charge)	\$9.96	\$8.40	-15.67
Oil, for diesel engines, 5 litres	\$15.67	\$17.04	8.70

Other

Items	Average 2008	Average 2009	2008/2009 Percentage Change
Farm labour, per month, without board	\$2,466.74	\$2,512.30	1.85
Tractor 105-130 hp, diesel, fwd	\$93,415.42	\$107,383.38	14.95
Tractor 325-375 hp, diesel, 4wd	\$217,969.24	\$247,639.36	13.61
Combine, sp, diesel, 250-310 hp	\$272,938.49	\$311,180.56	14.01
Air drill, 40-42', w/packer wheels, 325 bu tank	\$138,270.74	\$155,850.56	12.71
Sprayer, pt, 800-900 gal. tank, 90-100' boom	\$37,945.89	\$41,881.33	10.37
Round baler, pull type 5'x6' bale	\$38,973.24	\$42,177.87	8.22
Double disc, hvy duty 19'-21'	\$33,120.15	\$37,136.91	12.13
Truck, 3/4 ton 4x4, 4 spd. Auto., 5.4L or 5.9L V8	\$36,927.95	\$36,352.94	-1.56
Grain bin, hopper btm., 3500 bushel	\$12,894.69	\$13,185.99	2.26