

Machinery costs up in 1984

(Editor's note: The following story is reprinted with permission of the Holstein World magazine. The article first appeared in the March 10, 1984 issue of Holstein World).

MINNESOTA, Minn. — It will cost more to plant and harvest your crops in 1984, reports an annual survey of machinery prices and estimates of operating overhead costs.

While fuel and interest costs have actually fallen, the purchase price of "iron" has increased in most cases. There are exceptions, but the net impact is for slightly higher total costs. What that

across-the-board increase actually amounts to is difficult to determine because cost movement varies by machine.

Dr. Fred Benson, University of Minnesota extension ag economist, developed the following cost estimates based on a survey of regional sales offices of several farm machinery manufacturers. Total fixed and operating costs were then determined by formula.

Benson is quick to point out that the costs listed in the table are not indicative of every grower's costs.

"Individuals have unique costs because of differences in buying power, repair programs, average

annual use and overall replacement programs," he says.

But he feels the costs can be used as a guide in crop planning, and extrapolated to give top-side custom rates.

Cost Breakdowns

Cash costs in these tables include only estimates for diesel fuel, oil, and repairs (for both the tractor and implement). Diesel is priced at \$1 per gallon, and lubrication costs are assumed to be 10 percent of fuel costs. The \$1 per gallon diesel fuel costs compares to \$1.20 per gallon last year.

All machines in the table are (Turn to Page D11)

TABLE I
TILLAGE EQUIPMENT

Machine	Tractor HP	New Cost	Estimated Acres/Hr	Annual Acres Use	Total Cost/Acre	Total Cost/Hour	Cash Cost/Acre	Labor Cost/Acre	Diesel Fuel Gal/Acre
MB Plow 3-16	60	2 616	1 75	209 45	12 34	21 53	3 60	2 78	2 06
MB Plow 4-16	75	7 760	2 33	279 10	14 81	34 44	4 20	2 08	1 93
MB Plow 5-16	100	9 063	2 91	348 74	14 94	43 40	4 50	1 67	2 06
MB Plow 6-16	120	10 511	3 49	453 82	13 72	47 88	4 39	1 39	2 06
Chisel Plow 10 Ft	75	2 959	4 36	436 36	6 42	28 01	1 80	1 11	1 03
Chisel Plow 15 Ft	120	4 409	6 55	654 55	6 18	40 45	1 96	74	1 10
Chisel Plow 20 Ft	160	6 560	8 73	872 73	5 84	50 99	1 98	56	1 10
Field Cultivator 12	75	2 752	6 06	727 77	4 38	26 53	1 29	80	74
Field Cultivator 18	100	4 033	8 73	1 047 27	4 06	35 43	1 28	56	69
Field Cultivator 28	160	9 097	13 58	1 629 09	3 88	52 72	1 35	36	71
Disk 10 Ft	60	4 718	4 85	484 85	5 53	26 80	1 44	1 00	74
Disk 16 Ft	75	9 228	7 76	775 76	5 17	40 11	1 31	62	58
Disk 20 Ft	100	12 436	9 70	969 70	5 49	53 26	1 46	50	62
Disk 28 Ft	140	18 328	13 58	1 357 58	5 24	71 17	1 45	36	62
Disk Offset 14 Ft	140	10 075	6 11	610 91	9 02	55 09	2 72	79	1 38
Disk Offset 18 Ft	180	11 111	7 85	785 45	8 00	62 82	2 62	62	1 38
Springtooth Drag 30	60	3 325	16 00	480 00	2 29	36 68	3 8	32	22

TABLE II
PLANTING EQUIPMENT

Machine	Tractor HP	New Cost	Estimated Acres/Hr	Annual Acres Use	Total Cost/Acre	Total Cost/Hour	Cash Cost/Acre	Labor Cost/Acre	Diesel Fuel Gal/Acre
Corn Planter 4-36	40	9 335	4 58	320 73	10 05	46 03	2 15	1 90	52
Corn Planter 6 36	60	14 096	6 87	481 09	9 30	63 92	2 15	1 27	52
Grain Drill PW 12 Ft	40	8 677	4 78	382 25	8 60	41 10	2 04	1 74	50
Min-Til Planter 4-36	60	11 045	3 56	249 45	15 33	54 64	3 57	2 44	1 01
Min-Til Planter 6-36	75	15 488	5 35	374 18	13 47	72 01	3 22	1 63	84

TABLE III
MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

Machine	Tractor HP	New Cost	Estimated Acres/Hr	Annual Acres Use	Total Cost/Acre	Total Cost/Hour	Cash Cost/Acre	Labor Cost/Acre	Diesel Fuel Gal/Acre
Cultivator 4-36	40	2 310	4 65	465 45	3 95	18 39	95	1 06	52
Cultivator 6 36	60	3 446	6 98	698 18	3 51	24 49	94	71	52
Sprayer 30 Ft	40	3 129	14 18	1 134 55	1 94	27 51	41	66	17
Shredder 12 Ft	60	6 147	4 36	436 36	6 53	28 47	1 53	1 09	83
Light Truck	—	13 000	1 52	606 06	12 74	19 31	—	—	—
Manure Spreader 150	75	4 118	3 49	349 09	8 07	28 16	—	—	—
Manure Spreader 225	100	6 147	3 49	349 09	10 96	38 28	—	—	—
Manure Spreader 400	100	10 200	4 65	465 45	9 73	45 30	—	—	—
Gravity Box 185 BU	40	1 502	1 65	215 09	9 80	16 22	—	—	—
Gravity Box 240 BU	40	1 663	1 65	215 09	9 97	16 49	—	—	—
Hay Wagon	40	1 978	3 78	945 45	5 28	19 96	—	—	—
Forage Wagon 16 Ft	40	9 490	1 65	215 09	16 07	26 60	—	—	—

TABLE IV
HARVESTING EQUIPMENT

Machine	Tractor HP	New Cost	Estimated Acres/Hr	Annual Acres Use	Total Cost/Acre	Total Cost/Hour	Cash Cost/Acre	Labor Cost/Acre	Diesel Fuel Gal/Acre
Mower-Cond 9 Ft	60	8 984	4 09	327 27	9 76	39 94	2 29	1 28	88
Swather Cond 12 Ft	—	19 554	5 45	436 36	9 84	53 66	1 52	87	55
1 Ton Stack	60	8 787	4 15	829 09	7 55	31 29	2 12	2 01	87
Baler PTO Twine	40	10 264	3 78	756 36	7 53	28 46	1 74	2 20	63
Round Baler 1000 Lb	60	10 920	3 01	602 73	9 75	29 40	2 81	1 75	1 19
Rotary Mower	40	1 913	2 73	272 73	6 40	17 45	1 65	1 74	88
Rake (HYD)	40	3 063	3 49	698 18	4 88	17 04	1 35	1 36	69
Forage Harv 1 Row	60	13 242	95	94 55	48 65	46 00	9 84	8 81	3 81
Forage Harv 2 Row	100	16 212	1 65	165 45	37 74	62 44	8 77	5 03	3 63
For Harv 2 Row SP	—	73 371	2 04	305 45	56 42	114 89	13 72	4 09	3 63
Forage Blower LG	60	3 226	1 00	50 00	28 06	28 06	6 02	4 75	3 60
Corn Picker 2-36	40	15 000	1 42	212 73	27 17	38 53	6 30	5 87	1 69
Picker-Sheller 2-Row	60	16 000	1 49	223 36	29 24	43 53	7 38	5 59	2 42
Combine Sm Grain SML	SML	5 292	4 10	819 39	17 98	73 68	7 11	2 03	1 46
Combine Sm Grain LRG	LRG	8 129	6 30	1 260 61	16 70	105 27	6 82	1 32	1 38
Combine Corn 4-36 Md	MED	13 038	2 84	567 27	36 43	103 33	14 88	2 94	2 54
Combine Corn 6 30 Lg	LRG	16 887	3 90	780 00	30 34	118 33	12 57	2 13	2 23

TABLE V
TRACTORS AND COMBINES (WITHOUT HEADS)

Tractor HP	New Cost	Annual Hours Use	Annual Fixed Cost	Annual Variable Cost	Annual Total Cost	Variable Cost/Hour	Fixed Cost/Hour	Total Cost/Hr	Repair Maint Cost/Hr	Fuel Cons/Hour
40 HP	14 505	500	2 366 23	1 788 15	4 154 38	3 58	4 73	8 31	94	2 4
60 HP	20 419	500	3 311 86	2 639 02	5 950 88	5 28	6 62	11 90	1 32	3 6
75 HP	28 278	500	4 564 78	3 387 67	7 952 45	6 78	9 13	15 90	1 83	4 5
100 HP	44 114	550	7 081 80	5 272 59	12 354 40	9 59	12 88	22 46	2 99	6 0
120 HP	48 460	550	7 772 35	6 160 42	13 932 77	11 20	14 13	25 33	3 28	7 2
140 HP	54 919	550	8 847 80	7 126 92	15 974 72	12 96	16 09	29 04	3 72	8 4
160 HP	60 678	600	9 759 88	8 910 35	18 670 23	14 85	16 27	31 12	4 29	9 6
180 HP	66 277	600	10 646 62	9 939 89	20 586 51	16 57	17 74	34 31	4 69	10 8
Sml Combine	58 800	300	9 537 45	8 263 13	17 800 58	27 54	31 79	59 34	20 94	6 0

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