



NAAC Contracting Prices Survey 2023

Prices are based on red diesel at £1.00 per litre. Please note that prices are likely to vary as input costs change and contractors should add a fuel surcharge if diesel prices are over £1.00/l to cover their costs. If any non-agricultural operations are carried out, expect the costs to be higher to take account of using white diesel.

These survey prices are intended as a guide only. They are average prices surveyed from NAAC members - however the actual price may vary considerably between regions, soil types, distance travelled, size of contract undertaken, size and type of equipment used, amount of product applied etc. Contractors may also have individual arrangements with customers regarding diesel (eg. separate fuel surcharge, fuel used on-farm etc). The prices below do not reflect this market trend, and this may make a significant difference to contracting charges.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT CONTRACTORS CALCULATE THEIR OWN COSTS BASED ON INDIVIDUAL CIRCUMSTANCES.

Soil preparation	COST £/hectare	COST £/acre	COST £/hour
Ploughing:			
- Light land	72.85	29.48	
- Heavy land	81.16	32.85	
- Add for furrow press on plough	8.47	3.43	
Deep ploughing (over 30cm)	92.85	37.58	
Rotovating (ploughed land/grass)	94.82	38.37	
Sub-soiling/Flat lifting	77.33	31.30	
Mole-ploughing:			
- Single leg	100.28	40.58	
- Twin leg	89.57	36.25	
Stubble raking	26.76	10.83	
Disc harrowing	61.43	24.86	
Power harrowing:			
- Shallow/ seedbed prep	64.82	26.23	
- Deep/ on ploughing	73.00	29.54	
Spring-tine harrowing	46.01	18.62	



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Pressing: (Rexius twin/Cultipress or similar)	50.52	20.45	
One-pass tillage train (solo/discordon etc)	74.36	30.09	
Rolling:			
- flat (grassland)	34.02	13.84	
- ring (seedbeds)	25.56	10.35	
Bed tilling	310.00	125.46	
Chain harrowing	33.07	13.38	
Drilling	COST £/hectare	COST £/acre	COST £/hour
Cereal drilling:			
- conventional (Vaderstad/Sprinter etc)	56.86	23.01	
- combi-drilling (powerharrow drill/combination)	79.42	32.14	
- direct drilling (tine/disc/strip)	74.54	30.17	
Rape drilling with flat-lift/subsoiler	85.25	34.05	
Sugar beet drilling	61.25	24.80	
Potato planting	230.00	93.08	
Carrot/parsnip/onion precision drilling	98.84	40.00	
Maize precision drilling	56.94	23.04	
Maize drilling under plastic	156.91	63.50	
Grass seed - broadcast	33.06	13.38	
Grass seed - drilling with harrow	47.86	19.37	
Grass seed - cross drilling (per pass)	63.53	25.71	
Application	COST £/hectare	COST £/acre	COST £/hour
Fertiliser distribution:			
- spinning disc	15.63	6.32	
- extra for variable rate application	10.55	4.27	
Liquid fertiliser	15.24	6.17	
Crop spraying	15.05	6.09	



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Grassland/pasture/paddock spraying	24.09	9.75	70.00
ATV spraying			47.96
Slug-pelleting	9.15	3.70	
Avadex application	18.51	7.49	
Weed wiping	-	-	55.00
	COST £/tonne		
Lime spreading	7.58		
Slurry and Farmyard Manure	COST £/tonne		COST £/hour
FYM spreading – tractor and rear discharge spreader	3.24		67.05
FYM spreading - tractor and side discharge spreader	2.00		56.00
Self-propelled muck spreading	6.00		
Loading and spreading chicken litter	9.50		
Loading shovel			72.75
		COST per m cubed	COST £/hour
Slurry spreading – tanker trailing shoe or dribble bar			66.14
Slurry spreading – umbilical		2.89	135.33
- extra pump			67.22
Slurry injection			110.00
Hedges and boundaries	COST £/metre run		COST £/hour
Hedge cutting - flail			47.95
Hedge cutting – saw blade			59.36
Hedge laying	17.00		
Verge bank mowing			52.75
Fence erection (with materials)			



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post and 4 Barb	7.05		
post, stock net & 2 Barb	10.90		
post and 3 rails	23.50		
Harvesting	COST £/hectare	COST £/acre	COST £/hour
Combining cereals	114.63	47.32	
- Extra for straw chopper on combine	12.26	4.96	
Oilseed rape harvesting			
- combining out of windrow	112.84	45.67	
- direct combining	107.70	43.58	
Swathing rape	58.00	23.47	
Combining peas/beans	112.61	45.57	
Combining grain maize	138.10	55.89	
Grain carting to barn			54.47
Potato harvesting only	700.00	283.29	
Potato harvesting and carting	1055.00	426.95	
	-	-	
Potato - de-stoning land	298.26	120.70	
Sugar beet harvesting - harvesting only	292.01	118.17	
Sugar beet harvesting - harvesting and carting	325.31	131.65	
Topping margins/ flail mowing	50.85	20.58	
Grass - topping	47.94	19.40	54.08
Grass - mowing	36.17	14.64	
Grass - tedding	21.12	8.55	
Grass - raking	22.06	8.93	



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Forage harvesting only	83.25	33.69	
Whole crop forage harvesting, cart (3 trailers) & clamping	208.22	84.27	
Complete service – mow, rake, forage harvest, cart (3 trailers) and clamp	191.19	77.37	
Maize harvesting incl. carting (3 trailers) and clamping	206.59	83.61	
Extra trailer for carting silage/maize/whole crop			58.24
Forage wagon/hour			131.20
Baling*	Cost £/bale		
- Small conventional	0.94		
- 80cm x 90cm	4.67		
- 120cm x 70cm	5.89		
- 120cm x 90cm	7.11		
- 120cm x 130cm	8.08		
- Round 120cm	4.06		
- Round 150cm	4.69		
<i>*note these prices may vary with bale density</i>			
Bale-wrapping:			
- Round 120cm (with 6 layers of plastic)	7.06		
- Round 120cm (with 4 layers of plastic)	6.08		
- Round 120cm (without plastic)	3.04		
- Square 120cm x 70cm (with 6 layers of plastic)	8.33		
- Square 120cm x 70cm (with 4 layers of plastic)	8.63		
- Square 120cm x 70cm (without plastic)	3.50		
Bale Chasing (per bale)	3.06		
Mobile Feed	COST £/tonne		
Mobile feed mixing and processing from	25.50		
Crimping	14.07		
Tractor hire			COST £/Hour



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Tractor + post knocker + man			52.25
Ditching using 180 degree digger			44.83
Ditching using 360 degree digger			50.86
Drain jetting			62.33
Tractor + man 100 – 150 hp Tractor			48.63
Tractor + man 150 – 220 hp Tractor + man			57.80
Tractor + man 220 – 300 hp Tractor + man			70.62
Tractor + man 300 hp + Tractor + man			91.57
Additional charge for trailer			16.66
Forklift/Telehandler + man			53.58
Livestock Services	COST £/Head		
Sheep shearing			
- shearing ewe	1.65		
- rams	3.30		
- crutching	0.73		
Sheep dipping	1.40 -		
Specialist			COST £/Hour
Snow ploughing/clearing			68.63
Labour only			19.40
Chainsaw with operator			34.55