



Summary of 2008 Ridge and Indian River-South Florida Citrus Custom Rate Charges

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This year's annual questionnaire surveys were conducted through the mail from March through May. Seventeen citrus caretakers participated in the Ridge area survey, while fourteen citrus caretakers participated in the Indian River-South Florida area survey. Cooperatives, their members, and growers performing their own cultural practices were not included in this study. The author expresses sincere thanks to those caretakers and their staffs who took time from their busy schedules to report their custom charges.

The Ridge caretakers reported servicing 51,825 acres planted to citrus or 3,239 acres per caretaker. The Indian River-South Florida participants serviced 27,520 total acres or 3,440 acres per caretaker. A majority of Indian River-South Florida growers conduct their own cultural practices. During the past few years, there has been a consolidation among citrus caretaker firms along with citrus grove acreage resulting in fewer citrus caretakers participating in the annual study. Also, from 2004 to 2008 primarily due to the citrus canker eradication program, real estate development, and the removal of HLB-citrus greening symptomatic trees, there has been a 29% reduction of the citrus acreage in the Indian River-South Florida region compared to a 17% acreage reduction in all the other citrus regions.

The itemized custom rates, expressed as the low and high rate reported, along with the average of the rates for the 2008 surveys are the most current available (Tables 1 and 2). During the past several years, more citrus caretakers have been reporting the use of **electronic sensing technology** as shown in the **spraying section** on the 2008 summary of the citrus caretaker custom rate charges. The affect of higher fuel costs from 2007 to 2008 was an overall 11% increase in custom rates for 2008. Many citrus caretakers added a 5% surcharge to cover the higher cost of gasoline and diesel. Custom rates for growers who are members of cooperatives and costs for growers who conduct their own cultural practices may differ from these average caretaker rates.

Additional information on citrus budgeting and cost analysis and harvesting charges (pick, roadside and hauling) can be obtained by contacting your County Extension Citrus Agent or going to the UF/IFAS EDIS website: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu or UF/IFAS CREC website:

www.crec.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/economics

Table 1. A listing of 2008 custom rates reported by seventeen Ridge citrus caretakers

Conversation			Range of Rate Average						
Mechanic Labor Mech	Grove Practice	Unit	Repo	orted	Ratey		Co	omments	
Mechanic Labor Mech	CULTIVATION AND EQUIPMENT:								
Mechanic Labor with Truck Hour 37.00 50.00 50.55 Rotovate Hour 37.00 10.00 12.50 11.13 Averaged \$38.67/hour Disc 97-107 Hour 34.00 25.00 41.50 10.55 Disc 99-109 Acre 8.50 12.50 10.55 00c-way discing Chop Acre 9.75 12.25 10.15 00c-way discing Chop Hour 34.00 48.00 38.40 Mow 97-12" Hour 31.10 45.50 39.32 Mow 97-12" Hour 31.10 40.00 42.00 39.57 Mow 97-12" Hour 31.10 40.00 12.94 Mow 97-12" Hour 40.00 12.94 Mow 97-12" Hour 40.00 10.00 10.00 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Single Boom) Acre 10.50 13.25 11.67 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Somple Boom) Acre 10.50 10.00 16.09 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Double Boom) Acre 10.50 10.00 16.09 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Double Boom) Acre 10.50 10.00 16.09 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Double Boom) Acre 10.00 10.00 10.00 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Double Boom) Acre 10.00 10.00 10.00 10.00 Herbicide' (Striy/Band-Double Boom)		Hour	\$12.85-	\$21.10	\$14.60	Plus transp	ortation		
Not	Mechanic Labor	Hour	30.00-	45.00	36.72				
Disc 9-107	Mechanic Labor with Truck	Hour							
Disc 9-10' Hour 34.00' 32.00' 41.50' Special Specia									
Disc 9-10' Acre 8.50 12.50 10.55 5 10.74 Chop						Averaged	\$38.67/hour		
Chop Acre 9.75 12.25 10.74 Chop Abow 37 Hour 34.00 48.00 38.40 Mow 9-12' Hour 36.00 42.00 39.37 Mow 9-12' Acre 10.00 14.00 32.75 Mow 15-7 Acre 10.50 15.00 12.69 Horbicide' (Strip/Band-Single Boom) Acre 14.50 21.00 16.09 Plus materials; Avg. \$35.41/hour Herbicide' (Strip/Band-Double Boom) Acre 14.50 18.90 16.09 Plus materials; Avg. \$35.41/hour Herbicide' (Strip/Band-Double Boom) Acre 14.00 18.90 16.22 Plus materials Herbicide' (Chemical Mow) Acre 5.00 19.00 15.00 19.50 Pilow Hour 29.50 50.00 39.45 Plus materials Plow Hour 32.00 46.00 37.07 One reporting \$95.00/acre Backhoe Hour 30.00 55.00 37.90 One reporting \$9.50/acre Flated T									
Mow 97-7 Mow 97-12 Mow 97-12 Mow 97-12 Mow 97-12 Mow 97-12 Mow 15-16 More 10-50 12-50 12-50 Mow 15-16 More 10-50 M						One-way o	liscing		
Mow 9-1-2' Mow 9-1-2' Mow 9-1-2' Mow 9-1-2' Acre 1.00-1 4.00-1 39.57 Acre 1.00-1 1.400-1 39.57 Acre 1.00-1 1.400-1 1.29-1 Acre 1.00-1 1.00-1 1.100-1 1.100-1 1.000-1<									
Mow 9-12* Hour Mow 5-7* Acre Into 10.0 14.00 12.9 kg Mow 9-12' Acre Into 10.50 13.25 11.67 Mow 12-16' Acre Into 10.50 13.25 11.67 Mow 15-16' Acre Into 10.50 13.25 11.67 Merbicide' (Strip/BandSingle Boom) Acre 14.50 20.00 16.09 Plus materials; Avg. \$35.41/hour Herbicide' (Chemical Mow) Acre 5.00 10.00 7.65 Plus materials; Avg. \$38.19/hour Herbicide' (Chemical Mow) Acre 5.00 10.00 7.65 Plus materials; Avg. \$38.19/hour Herbicide' (Chemical Mow) Acre 5.00 10.00 7.65 Plus materials; Avg. \$38.19/hour Plow Hour 30.00 30.00 30.45 Plus materials; Avg. \$38.19/hour Bush Hog Hour 40.00 55.00 30.45 Plus materials; Avg. \$38.19/hour Backhoe Hour 40.00 55.00 37.94 One reporting \$9.50/acre Backhoe Hour 40.00 55.00 37.94 One reporting \$9.50/acre WaterSupply Truck Hour 45.00 100.00 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>									
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Mow 15-16'									
Mont 15-16 Merbicide' (Strip/Band—Single Boom)									
Herbicide' (Strip/Band—Single Boom)									
Herbicide' (Strip/Band—Double Boom)	Herbicide ^z (Strip/BandSingle Boom)	Acre	14.50-		16.09	Plus mater	ials; Avg. \$35.4	41/hour	
Plow		Acre	12.00-	18.90	14.72	Plus mater	ials; Avg. \$38.	19/hour	
Plow	Herbicide ^z (Chemical Mow)	Acre	5.00-	10.00	7.65	Plus mater	ials		
Deviner Hour 32.00 46.00 37.07 One reporting \$9.50/acre Backhoe Hour 40.00 55.00 48.80 Pickup Truck with Driver Hour 45.00 150.00 65.55 Average miles/year: 26,400 Flatbed Transport Truck with Driver Hour 27.00 45.00 36.18 Average miles/year: 26,400 ATV with Driver Hour 27.00 45.00 38.20 Average miles/year: 37,320 Average miles/year		Acre				Plus mater	ials		
Hour Substace Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour Substace Substace Hour			29.50-	50.00					
Hour									
Pickup Truck with Driver Flatbed Transport Truck with Driver Tractor with Driver Hour Tractor with Driver Hour Tractor with Driver Hour 27.00						One repor	ing \$9.50/acre		
Hour						0	. 70// 11		/ 26.400
Tractor with Driver Hour 31.50 50.00 38.20									s/year: 26,400
Mater/Supply Truck ATV with Driver Hour 31.50- 50.00 38.20 28.13	•					Average n	illes/year: 3/,32	20	
Note Provided Fine Provi									
SPRAYING:									
Truck plus labor and plus materials Hour S36.50 S40.00 S39.46 S18.00 S		Hour	23.00-	33.00	20.13				
Note Property Pr	SPRAYING:	•			PT	O AIR BLA	ST SPRAYER		
Note Property Pr			1,00	0 Gallon T	ank with		1,000	Gallon Tank	without
Sou GPA							E1	ectronic Sens	sing
250 GPA				High	Avera	age	Low	High	Average
125 GPA		Acre							
100 GPA		Acre							
FERTILIZE AND SOIL AMENDMENTS: Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.05 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.05 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre Inject Liquid Fertilizer Inje		Acre							
PTO - Variable Rate: \$30/acre @ 200 GPA; Engine Driven 500/1,000 gal tank @ \$60/hour Aerial (Bell-47 Helicopter) \$13.00 @ 5 GPA; \$18.50 @ 10 GPA; \$23.00 @ 15 GPA; \$26.00 @ 20 GPA FERTILIZE AND SOIL AMENDMENTS: Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation Inject into Inneal System Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigati			23.00-	25.00			22.00 -	27.00	24.82
Aerial (Bell-47 Helicopter) \$13.00 @ 5 GPA; \$18.50 @ 10 GPA; \$23.00 @ 15 GPA; \$26.00 @ 20 GPA FERTILIZE AND SOIL AMENDMENTS:* Hour \$36.50-							l		
FERTILIZE AND SOIL AMENDMENTS: Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Ory (Bulk) Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.05 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre Lime or Dolomite Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.60 Lime or Dolomite Ton 9.00- 11.00 9.63 Fertilize Young Trees: Hand Spread Fert. Spreader Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets Fert. Spreader Hour 27.50- 40.00 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets IRRIGATION: Microsprinkler ATV with Driver Hour 23.00- 35.00 28.17 Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials	_	_		_	_				
Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Injection inject	Aerial (Bell-47 Helicopter)	\$13.00	@ 5 GPA; \$	S18.50 @ 1	0 GPA; \$2	3.00 @ 15 0	PA; \$26.00 @	20 GPA	
Inject Liquid Fertilizer into Irrigation System Dry (Bulk) Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.05 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre Lime or Dolomite Lime or Dolomite Ton 9.00- Fertilize Young Trees: Hand Spread Fert. Spreader Hour 12.85- Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets Fert. Spreader Hour 35.00- Afrec 47.00 38.73 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver ATV with Driver Hour 12.80- Afrec 13.00 10.60 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre 10.05 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre 10.06 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre 10.06 Average with electronic sensing: \$11.50/acre 10.06 Plus transportation and materials 14.60 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre 34.17 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver ATV with Driver Hour 12.80- Afrec 13.00 10.05 10.00 10.									
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Lime or Dolomite Lime or Dolomite Ton 9.00- 11.00 9.63 Fertilize Young Trees: Hand Spread Fert. Spreader Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets IRRIGATION: Microsprinkler ATV with Driver Acre 8.50- 13.00 10.60 10.60 Plus transportation and materials 14.60 Plus transportation and materials 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre 34.17 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver 47.00 38.73 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver 47.00 38.73 Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials						-		-	-
Lime or Dolomite Fertilize Young Trees: Hand Spread Fert. Spreader Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets Hour Alternative Spreader Hour Alternative Spr						Average wit	h electronic sen	sing: \$11.50/	acre
Fertilize Young Trees: Hand Spread Fert. Spreader Hour 27.50- 40.00 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets 440.75/hour plus materials IRRIGATION: Microsprinkler Hour 35.00- 47.00 38.73 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver ATV with Driver Hour 23.00- 35.00 28.17 Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials									
Fert. Spreader Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets Hour 40.00 34.17 Plus materials; Average \$9.09/acre \$40.09/acre \$40.75/hour plus materials RRIGATION: Microsprinkler						Dlug transe -	rtation and m-4	oriola	
Airblast Spreader with Gator for Resets \$40.75/hour plus materials IRRIGATION: Microsprinkler Hour 35.00- 47.00 38.73 Start/stop and supervision; truck and driver ATV with Driver Hour 23.00- 35.00 28.17 Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials	-								
IRRIGATION:MicrosprinklerHour35.00-47.0038.73Start/stop and supervision; truck and driverATV with DriverHour23.00-35.0028.17Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials					34.1/	i ius materia	15, Average \$9.1	03/acie	
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ATV with Driver Hour 23.00- 35.00 28.17 Check/repair microsprinkler irrigation system-plus materials		Hour	35.00-	47.00	38.73	Start/ston an	d supervision: t	ruck and driv	/er
						-	-	2 - 3	

Table 1. A listing of 2008 custom rates reported by seventeen Ridge citrus caretakers (cont'd.)

REMOVING TREES: Tree Shearing (Cutting Tree at Ground Level)	Grove Practice	Range of Rate Unit Reported		Average Rate ^y	Comments		
Tree Shearing (Cutting Tree at Ground Level)		0	repo		11440	Comments	
Front-end Loader	<u> </u>	Hour	\$58.50-	\$70.00	\$64.75	Average trees sheared: 5 to 15 trees/hour	
Bulldozer	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·						
Front-end Loader with Tree Spade - \$65/hour; Excavation - \$115/hour; Site Preparation to Replant - \$65/hour						riverage areas removed. 5 to 15 areas/notal	
Hedging: Double Side (Tractor Mounted) Hour 2520.00 \$230.00 \$20.00 \$4 to 10 acres/hour \$21.00/acre Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour 275.00 325.00 306.07 8 to 20 A/H depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annua						t - \$65/hour	
Hedging: Double Side (Tractor Mounted) Hour 2520.00 \$230.00 \$20.00 \$4 to 10 acres/hour \$21.00/acre Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour 275.00 325.00 306.07 8 to 20 A/H depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annual cut depending on wwood size \$16/A annual cut \$15/acre to 803/barce annua	PRUNING:						
Double Side (Tractor Mounted) Hour \$220,00 \$230,00 \$230,00 \$10 la acres/hour; Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour \$250,00 205,00 205,00 306,67 \$10 acres/hour; \$21.00/acre Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour \$275,00 325,00 306,67 \$10 acres/hour; \$21.00/acre Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour \$275,00 325,00 306,67 \$10 acres/hour; \$21.00/acre Double Side (Self Propelled) Hour \$15/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut Self Propelled Hour \$15/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut Self Propelled Hour \$15/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$315/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$30^3/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$315/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$315/acre ton \$315/acre annual cut \$15/acre ton \$315/acre ton \$315/acr							
Double Side (Tractor Pulled)		Hour	\$220.00-	\$240.00	\$230.00	5 to 10 acres/hour	
Double Side (Self Propelled)		Hour	195.00-	205.00	200.00	4 to 10 acres/hour; \$21,00/acre	
Stokens		Hour	275.00-	325.00	306.67	8 to 20 A/H depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut	
Self Propelled Hour 285.00 315.00 300.00 Avg. 8-15 A depending on wood size type of cut; \$25/A		cre to \$30/a	cre annual	cut depend			
Double Sided Topper (Self Propelled) Double Sided (Tractor Mounted) Double Sided (Tractor Pulled) Hour Double Sided (Tractor Pulled) Hour Hour Double Sided (Tractor Pulled) Hour Acre Hour Acre Hour Acre Hour Hour Acre Hour Hour Hour Hour Acre Hour Hour Hour Hour Hour Hour Hour Hour							
Double Sided (Tractor Mounted)		Hour	_	_	400.00		
Double Sided (Tractor Pulled)		Hour	285.00-	315.00	300.00	Avg. 8-15 A depending on wood size type of cut; \$25/A	
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer (Single Side) Hour — — 85.00		Hour			200.00		
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer (Gingle Side) Hour — — 140.00 6 to 20 acres/hour Removing Brush: Haul Brush out of Grove Hour 54.00- 85.00 65.20 2-10 acres/hour Chop/Mow Brush) Hour 54.00- 85.00 65.20 2-10 acres/hour Chop/Mow Brush Hour 54.00- 85.00 65.20 2-10 acres/hour Chop/Mow Brush Tree Hour 37.50- 88.00 42.59 3-6 acres/hour; \$9.50/acre COLD PROTECTION: Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps Tree — \$0.35 18.14 Wraps Each 0.39- 0.50 0.43 OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plant Resets Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 5take, plant and first watering Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 5take, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Acre 2.50- 6.00 3.50 In addition to caretaking charges; One reporting 6% of Supervising Grove Care Operations Acre/Year — \$50.00 Average for those reporting \(\) Quippment labor charge Handling Fruit Marketing Box 0.10- 0.30 0.19 Supervising Grove Care Operations Acre/Year — \$50.00 Average for those reporting \(\) Quippment labor charge Handling Fruit Marketing Box 0.10- 0.30 0.19 Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer 10% to 25% of materials cost; Average: 17¢/box Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove		Hour	_	_	175.00		
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer (Double Sided Rotary) Hour Sq. 00 Sq		Acre	_	_	18.00	3 to 5 acres/hour	
Removing Brush: Haul Brush out of Grove Front-end Loader (Push Brush) Chop/Mow Brush Hour Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove Hour 19,750- 10,4054			_		85.00		
Haul Brush out of Grove Hour 39.70 55.00 46.54 Tractor-trailer plus 2 people Front-end Loader (Push Brush) Hour 54.00 85.00 65.20 2-10 acres/hour 2-10 acres/hour 2-10 acres/hour 3-6 acre		Hour	_	_	140.00	6 to 20 acres/hour	
Front-end Loader (Push Brush) Chop/Mow Brush Hour 37.50- 58.00 65.20 2-10 acres/hour Chop/Mow Brush Hour 37.50- 58.00 42.59 3-6 acres/hour; \$9.50/acre COLD PROTECTION: Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps Install Wraps Each 0.39- 0.50 0.43 OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plan Resets Per Tree \$1.75- \$3.00 \$2.58 Stake, plant and first watering Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Removing Brush:						
Chop/Mow Brush Hour 37.50- 58.00 42.59 3-6 acres/hour; \$9.50/acre COLD PROTECTION: Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps Install Wraps Tree — — — \$0.35 Install Wraps Each 0.39- 0.50 0.43 OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plant Resets Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Haul Brush out of Grove	Hour	39.70-	55.00	46.54		
COLD PROTECTION: Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps Install Wraps Tree	Front-end Loader (Push Brush)	Hour	54.00-	85.00	65.20		
Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps Install Wraps Tree — — \$0.35 Install Wraps Tree — — \$0.35 Install Wraps OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plant Resets Per Tree \$1.75- \$3.00 \$2.58 Stake, plant and first watering Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Chop/Mow Brush	Hour	37.50-	58.00	42.59	3-6 acres/hour; \$9.50/acre	
Install Wraps Each 0.39- 0.50 0.43 OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plant Resets Per Tree \$1.75- 1.65 \$1.54 \$1.54 \$1.54 \$1.55 \$1.55 \$1.54 \$1.55	COLD PROTECTION:						
OTHER CUSTOM RATES: Plant Resets Per Tree \$ 1.75- \$ 3.00 \$ 2.58 Stake, plant and first watering Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Annual Maintenance Cost for Wraps	Tree			\$ 0.35		
Plant Resets Solid Set Planting Per Tree \$ 1.75- \$ 3.00 \$ 2.58 Stake, plant and first watering Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Hour 50.00- 75.00 63.34 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles More 2.50- 6.00 3.50 Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Install Wraps	Each	0.39-	0.50	0.43		
Solid Set Planting Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering Travel/Setup Charge Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove Per Tree 1.45- 1.65 1.54 Stake, plant and first watering 1.54 One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles In addition to caretaking charges; One reporting 6% of Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Acre/Year — — 50.00 One reporting adding a 10% fuel surcharge on all billed equipment charges. Note: One reporting adding a 10% fuel surcharge on all billed equipment charges. Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	OTHER CUSTOM RATES:						
Travel/Setup Charge Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove Care Operations Acre 2.50-6.00 3.50 Acre/Year — — 50.00 Acre/Year — — 50.00 Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Average for those reporting \(\text{equipment labor charge} \) Note: One reporting adding a 10% fuel surcharge on all billed equipment charges. Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Plant Resets	Per Tree	\$ 1.75-	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.58	Stake, plant and first watering	
Grove Management Charge/Month: Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Cotal Reported Acreage Provided Grove Acre 2.50-6.00 3.50 In addition to caretaking charges; One reporting 6% of Average for those reporting \(\frac{1}{2}\) equipment labor charge Box 0.10-0.30 0.19 Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer 10% to 25% of materials cost; Average: 17% Note: One reporting adding a 10% fuel surcharge on all billed equipment charges. Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Solid Set Planting	Per Tree	1.45-	1.65	1.54	Stake, plant and first watering	
Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Travel/Setup Charge	Hour	50.00-	75.00	63.34	One reporting \$100 up to 20 miles	
Supervising Grove Care Operations Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Cotal Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Grove Management Charge/Month:						
Handling Fruit Marketing Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Supervising Grove Care Operations	Acre	2.50-	6.00	3.50		
Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer 10% to 25% of materials cost; Average: 17% Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Supervising Grove Care Operations	Acre/Year	_	_	50.00	Average for those reporting \equipment labor charge	
Charge for personnel to oversee harvesting operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Handling Fruit Marketing	Box	0.10-	0.30	0.19	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer	10% to 25%	6 of materi	als cost; A	verage: 17	%	
operations and coordinate harvest in different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	Charge for personnal to everges howevering					Note: One reporting adding a 100/ first surely	
different blocks/groves and keeping of harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove							
harvesting labor compliance record. Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove		$10\phi/box$ to $20\phi/box$; average $17\phi/box$ all billed equipment charges.					
Consulting Cultural Management/Horticultural Evaluation - \$300/hr Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove							
Financial Analysis Prospectus - \$400/hr Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove	narvesting labor compliance record.						
·	Consulting						
·	Total Papartad Agranga Provided Grave						
Service to. Acte 1,100- 12,300 3,239 Total acres reporting: 31,823		A ama	1 100	12 500	2 220	Total saras reporting: 51 925	
	Service to:	Acre	1,100-	12,300	3,239	Total acres reporting: 51,825	

^z Plus materials. Caretakers reporting rates include labor, tractor and sprayer; supply truck included by most caretakers.

Source: Ronald P. Muraro, Extension Farm Management Economist, Lake Alfred CREC, September 2008.

^y Calculated by dividing the total number of caretakers reporting a grove practice rate into the sum reported. Unless otherwise stated, labor included with all charges.

^xLow acres is for 2 years regrowth hedging; high acres is for annual maintenance hedging.

Table 2. A listing of 2008 custom rates reported by ten Indian River and South Florida citrus caretakers

Grove Practi	ce	Unit			Average Rate ^y		Comments			
CULTIVATION AND EQU	IDMENT:									
Labor		Hour	\$ 13.50-	\$21.7	\$16.70	Plus transportation a	and equipment			
				5			1. I			
Mechanic Labor		Hour	36.00-	55.00		Labor and service to	ruck			
Rotovate		Hour	38.00-	45.00	42.00					
Disc 7-8'		Hour	39.00-	40.00		One reporting \$10.0				
Disc 10-12'		Hour	38.00-	50.00		One reporting \$13.5	b0/acre			
Mow: 7-8' 9-10'		Hour Hour	42.00- 38.00-	46.00 50.00	42.33	Average \$13.00/acr				
15-16'		Hour	38.00-	55.00		\$11.50/acre	e			
V-Mower		Hour	40.00-	50.00		\$11.00/acre				
Herbicide ^z (Strip/Band–Sin	gle Boom)	Hour	38.00-	40.00		Plus materials; \$14.00/acre				
Herbicide ^z (Strip/Band–Dor		Acre	13.00-	15.50		Plus materials				
Herbicide ^z (Chemical Mow		Acre	3.50-	5.00		Plus materials				
Temik ^z		Acre	12.50-	17.50	14.92	Plus materials				
Plow		Hour	40.00-	45.00	42.00					
Backhoe		Hour	47.50-	63.00	55.10					
Bush Hog		Hour	40.00-	45.00	43.75					
Middle Buster		Hour	40.00-	42.00		With tractor and dri				
Mound Builder		Hour	40.00-	50.00		With tractor and dri				
Grader Blade		Hour	38.00-	45.00	42.67	Tractor/blade and d	river			
Water Truck with Driver Pickup Truck with Driver		Hour Hour	38.50 35.00-	45.00 55.00		A varaga milas trava	eled per year: Pick-up truck – 23,750 mile			
Flatbed/Transport Truck wi	th Driver	Hour	65.00-	90.00	76.67	Average fillies trave	ered per year. I lek-up truck – 23,730 mm			
Tractor with Driver		Hour	33.50-	45.00	36.90					
ATV with Driver		Hour	23.50-	30.00	26.17					
<u>SPRAYING</u> : ^z				PTO AIR BLAST SPRAYER 1,000 Gallon Tank		ank	ENGINE DRIVEN AIR BLAST SPRAYER			
				with Electronic S			500 Gallon Tank			
			Lo		High	Average	Average			
500 GPA		Acre	\$41.		\$45.00	\$42.35	\$40.08			
250 GPA		Acre		.00-	38.75	35.74	34.72			
125 GPA		Acre	30.	.00-	37.00	33.00	27.28			
100 GPA Curtec (25 GPA to 30 GP	۸)	Acre Acre	26	.00-	29.00	24.00 27.67				
Curiec (23 Gr A to 30 Gr	A)	Acre	20.	.00-	29.00	27.07				
			PTO AIR BLAST SPRAYER							
					0 Gallon T					
				without	Electronic	Sensing				
			Lo	ow	High	Average				
500 GPA		Acre	\$38.	-00-	\$45.00	\$40.25				
250 GPA		Acre		.00-	38.75	37.24				
125 GPA		Acre	30.	.00-	34.00	30.60				
Aerial			ed Wing: \$7.75/acre @ 10 gallons per acre; \$8.00/acre @ 15 gallons per acre							
		Hand	Sprayer (50	0 gallon ta	ank) with t	ractor and 2 workers	- \$45.00/hour			
FERTILIZING: ^z										
Inject Liquid Fertilizer int	o Irrigation System	Hour	\$35.00-	\$40.00	\$38.34	Tractor with irrigation	on pump			
Dry (Bulk)	IIIganon bystem	Acre 8.50- 11.00 \$38.34 Tractor with irrigation pump 9.29 Plus materials		b						
Dry (Bulk) VRT Spreader	-Electronic Sensor	Acre				Plus materials				
Lime or Dolomite		Acre				Plus materials				
Fertilize Young Trees:z	Hand Spread	Hour	12.50-			and materials; 15¢/tree				
		0	ι. φ.	40.00/1	(A DDT 7	10 1 1	.1.1			
	Hand Spread Fert. Spreader		reporting \$2 age: \$8.75/a			l 2 people) plus mate Plus materials	eriais			

Table 2. A listing of 2008 custom rates reported by ten Indian River and South Florida citrus caretakers (cont'd.)

Grove Practice	Unit	_		Average Rate ^y	Comments		
-	Cint	перо	····	Rute	Comments		
IRRIGATION:		¢40.00	0.45.00	O 42 24			
Ditch Mower	Hour	\$40.00-		\$ 43.34			
Water Furrow Disc	Hour	38.00- 35.00-	45.00	41.50			
Water Furrow Cleaner	Hour	63.00-	45.00	40.67 68.67			
Water Furrow Shaper	Hour		75.00				
Rotary Ditcher or Auger	Hour	40.00- 4.50-	45.00	41.67	Charle & manifestation and and and		
Microsprinkler/Drip Irrigation Maintenance A	cre/Month	4.50-	6.00	3.09	Check & repair system; parts extra		
REMOVING TREES:							
Front-end Loader	Hour	\$65.00-	\$75.00	\$68.10	Avg. range 10-20 trees per hour		
Tree Shearing (Cutting Tree at Ground Level)	Hour	65.00-	75.00	70.00	Avg. range 5-15 trees per hour		
Prepare Site for Replanting	Tree	\$0.25	- \$1.00				
PRUNING:							
Hedging:							
Double Side (Tractor Mounted)	Hour	\$220.00-	\$240.00	\$230.00	5 to 10 acres/hour		
Double Side (Tractor Pulled)	Hour	195.00-	205.00	200.00	4 to 10 acres/hour; \$21.00/acre		
Double Side (Self Propelled)	Hour	275.00-	325.00		8 to 20 A/H depending on wood size; \$16/A annual cut		
	5/acre to \$30/acre annual cut depending on wood size						
Topping:							
Double Sided Topper (Self Propelled)	Hour	285.00-	315.00	300.00	Avg. 8-15 A depending on wood size type of cut; \$25/A		
Double Sided (Tractor Mounted)	Hour		_	200.00	g		
Double Sided (Tractor Pulled)	Hour	_	_	175.00	One reporting \$27.50/acre		
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer	Acre	_	_		3 to 5 acres/hour		
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer (Single Side)	Hour			85.00			
Limb Lifter/Tree Skirt Trimmer (Double Sided Rotary)	Hour			140.00	6 to 20 acres/hour		
Removing Brush:							
Haul Brush out of Grove (Front-End Loader)	Hour	65.00-	75.00	68.67	Tractor & driver, trailer and 2 workers: \$63.67/hour		
Mow/Chop Brush	Hour	40.00-	65.00		One reporting \$18/acre		
OTHER CHETON PATTE							
OTHER CUSTOM RATES:	25 / 75 /	, 1	1.	C	1 1 6 4 1 1 4 4 4 4 5 4 6		
Install Tree Wraps					and number of trees; Annual maintenance cost: 45¢/tree		
Plant Trees (Solid Set)	Tree	\$ 1.25-	\$ 2.50		Varies as to density		
Plant Trees (Resets)	Tree	2.00-	3.00	2.45	Varies as to the number of resets		
Grove Management Charge/Month:	A	2.50	0.50	5.07	I 11/4: 44-1:1		
Supervising Grove Care Operations	Acre 3.50- 9.50 5.97 In addition to caretaking charges						
Handling Fruit Marketing	\$0.05-\$0.25/box – For Supervising and Marketing fruit 5% to 20% of materials cost						
Supervising/Handling Chemicals/Fertilizer							
Total Reported Acreage Provided Grove Service to:	Acre	800-	7,000	3,440	Total acres reporting: 27,520		

^zPlus materials. Caretakers reporting rates include labor, tractor and sprayer; supply truck included by most caretakers.

Source: Ronald P. Muraro, Extension Farm Management Economist, Lake Alfred CREC, September 2008.

^yCalculated by dividing the total number of caretakers reporting a grove practice rate into the sum reported. Unless otherwise stated, labor included with all charges.

^xLow acres is for 2 years regrowth hedging; high acres is for annual maintenance hedging.