

ARS Crop Research Cost Recovery Guidelines

Crop research conducted on ARS land will be assessed a per acre charge detailed in the table below.

	<i>Charge per acre*</i>	<i>Examples of work that fit in tier</i>
Tier Zero	No charge	No station personnel or dedicated acreage required.
Tier One	\$250	Standard agronomic row crop experiments with work completed by mechanized agricultural equipment.
Tier Two	\$500	Vegetable crops (except potatoes) and perennial fruit/nut plantings not listed below
Tier Three	\$900	Apples, potatoes, tree research
West Madison Premium	\$100 per acre in addition to amount above	

*There is a minimum one acre charge for an experiment that totals less than one acre.

All Tiers include service of routine field operations such as tillage, planting, spraying, cultivation, harvest and crop inputs not provided by the researcher.

Additional Guidance:

- Revenue from the harvested crop is reserved for the use of the Ag Station and may not be used to offset the fee assessed to the researcher
- Cost recovery for large acreage or unique experiments should be negotiated well in advance with the station superintendent and the ARS Director. ARS may negotiate a project to a lower tier if Principal Investigator is providing major support to project through labor, equipment, etc. Negotiated outcomes will be recorded and shared with the ARS committee.
- Experiments requiring more than the standard field operations and inputs may be assessed an additional fee as determined by the station superintendent in collaboration with the affected researcher.
- This fee schedule does not apply to the Greenhouses, OJ Noer, or Kemp. These stations have their own unique published fee structures.
- This cost structure will be reviewed/updated by the ARS Committee every 5 years