

Southeast Missouri Rice Planning Budget

Using this budget, rice producers may estimate their costs and returns for 2026. Table 1 presents estimates for flood-irrigated production of conventional and hybrid rice in southeast Missouri. Assumptions were based on price forecasts as of Nov2025. Detailed input and machinery assumptions are summarized in Tables 2 and 3. Use the “Your estimate” column to plan your operation’s costs and returns for 2026.

Table 1. Southeast Missouri rice planning budgets for 2026, in dollars per acre.

	Conventional Rice	Hybrid Rice
Income		
Rice grain	792.00	891.00
Other income	153.00	153.00
Total income	945.00	1,044.00
Operating costs		
Seed	33.75	176.87
Fertilizer	201.60	215.60
Crop protection	156.00	156.00
Irrigation ¹	82.80	82.80
Grain drying	40.00	45.00
Crop supplies, storage and marketing	8.50	8.50
Crop consulting and insurance	30.00	30.00
Custom hire and rental	46.85	46.85
Operator labor and management	45.93	49.39
Machinery fuel	22.46	22.88
Machinery repairs and maintenance	41.04	41.59
Operating interest	22.70	28.73
Total operating costs	731.63	904.21
Ownership costs		
Farm business overhead	18.90	20.88
Machinery ownership	124.04	124.80
Real estate charge	225.00	225.00
Total ownership costs	366.34	370.68
Total costs	1,099.57	1,274.89
Income over operating costs	213.37	139.79
Income over total costs	-154.57	-230.89
Return to land and management	98.78	25.43

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

1. Irrigation costs are explained in detail on Page 2.

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Irrigation costs in Table 1 include fuel, labor and any leveling, ditching or leveeing required for irrigation; and ownership costs for the pumping engine and aboveground irrigation systems.

Table 2 shows input assumptions for the rice budget. Commodity price estimates reflect harvest time prices. Costs or returns from storage or other marketing methods are not included. Farm business overhead includes liability insurance, utilities, accounting, etc. Real estate charge is an estimated rental rate for above average land.

Table 3 details the field activities assumed in this budget and their machinery costs. Machinery costs were estimated using typical life (years), use (hours) and performance (fuel and labor) factors for each power unit and implement used.

Table 2. Input assumptions used in southeast Missouri rice planning budgets for 2026.

Selected input quantities	Conventional rice per acre	Hybrid rice per acre	Selected input prices	Dollars per unit
Rice yield, bushels	160	180	Rice market price, per bushel	4.45
Seeding rate, pounds	75	23	Conventional rice seed price, per pound	0.45
Nitrogen rate, pounds	150	170	Hybrid rice seed price, per pound	7.69
Phosphorus rate, pounds P ₂ O ₅	60	60	Nitrogen, per pound N	0.70
Potassium rate, pounds K ₂ O	90	90	Phosphorus, per pound P ₂ O ₅	0.73
Skilled operator labor, hours	0.78	0.80	Potassium, per pound K ₂ O	0.42
Irrigation, acre-inches	30	30	Skilled operator labor, \$ per hour	22.50
Irrigation, cost per acre-inch	2.76	2.76	Farm diesel, per gallon	2.90

Table 3. Machinery assumptions used in the southeast Missouri rice planning budgets for 2026, on a per acre basis.

Machine activity (not custom fieldwork)	Passes per acre	Fuel (gallons)	Labor (hours)	Operating costs ¹ (dollars)	Ownership costs ² (dollars)	Total costs (dollars)
Tandem disk (32 feet), 340 HP MFWD	2	1.51	0.10	13.77	21.17	34.94
Field Cultivator (42 feet), 340 HP MFWD	1	0.46	0.03	3.96	6.08	10.04
Air drill (52 feet), 340 HP MFWD	1	0.63	0.04	10.59	13.99	24.59
SP boom sprayer (120 feet), 275 HP	2	0.25	0.02	5.62	3.20	8.82
Draper head (35 feet), 450 HP Combine	1	2.21	0.07	16.33	23.10	39.43
Grain cart (1,000 bushel), 280 HP MFWD		0.62	0.06	5.38	6.64	12.02
Grain trailer (1,000 bushel), 475 HP road tractor		1.28	0.20	13.12	6.80	19.92
Grain auger (13 inch), 130 HP MFWD		0.17	0.03	1.71	1.32	3.03
Pickup (1 ton), 4WD		0.75	0.25	12.05	4.96	17.01
Total		7.89	0.80	82.54	87.27	169.81

Note: Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Abbreviations: 4WD = 4-wheel drive; HP = horsepower; MFWD = mechanical front-wheel drive tractor; SP = self-propelled.

1. Machinery operating cost is the sum of fuel, repairs, maintenance and the value of labor.
2. Machinery ownership cost is the sum of machinery overhead and depreciation.

Producers can customize this budget using the [Southeast Missouri Crop Budgets workbook \(XLSX\)](https://www.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pro/AgBusinessPolicyExtension/Docs/crop-budgets-semo.xlsx) (extension.missouri.edu/media/wysiwyg/Extensiondata/Pro/AgBusinessPolicyExtension/Docs/crop-budgets-semo.xlsx).

Each crop budget has an accompanying sensitivity analysis so producers can see how their financial return to land and management varies with different crop yields and crop prices.



Check out the complete collection of Missouri crop and livestock enterprise budgets at muext.us/MissouriAgBudgets