

# Machinery Custom Rates, 2007

By Adam W. Pike

The custom rates shown are averages from voluntary reports by custom operators and farmers throughout Pennsylvania. Most of the rates are stated per acre, cwt., ton, bale, or bushel rather than per hour to reduce the variation due to machinery size. Individual rates vary due to differences in working conditions, services performed, or even the operator's eagerness to do custom work. Therefore, the average rates shown should not be considered absolute indications of fair charges.

Acreage rates are shown separately for two regions of the state, labeled "**Mountain**" and "**Valley**". The differences in rates between regions reflect differences in terrain, soils and

alternative opportunities for the labor and equipment used. Figures labeled "**State**" represent the straight average of all reports used regardless of geographic location.

Of the 80 rates reported with year-to-year comparisons, 64 increased, 11 decreased, and 5 are virtually unchanged from last year. Overall, custom rates were up about 6 percent from the previous year. Because of the potential variation in size and overall productivity of equipment, a range of reported rates for each job has been added. The range represents the middle 80 percent of all reported rates for each job, thus the lowest 10 percent and the highest 10 percent of all reported values were excluded.

## Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 2006-2007

Job	Basis of Charge	2007 (Dollars)				2006 State (Dollars)
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range <sup>1</sup>	State	
----- Harvesting -----						
Corn Picking.....	Acre	25.90	23.80	20.00 – 30.00	24.50	23.50
Corn Combining.....	Acre	28.60	27.30	25.00 – 30.00	27.60	27.20
Corn Drying (23 Percent).....	Bu.	0.36	0.36	0.13 – 0.63	0.36	0.36
Combining Small Grains.....	Acre	27.30	26.70	24.00 – 30.00	26.90	26.40
Combining Soybeans.....	Acre	29.00	27.40	25.00 – 30.00	27.60	27.50
Hay Making:						
Mowing.....	Acre	13.10	13.10	9.50 – 17.50	13.10	12.00
Mowing & Conditioning.....	Acre	13.20	13.50	10.00 – 16.00	13.40	13.80
Raking.....	Acre	8.50	7.50	4.00 – 10.00	7.80	7.50
Small Square Baling.....	Bale	0.75	0.66	0.69 – 1.00	0.67	0.59
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store.....	Bale	1.70	1.50	1.00 – 2.00	1.60	1.48
Large Round Baling.....	Bale	7.00	6.40	5.00 – 8.50	6.60	6.50
Size.....	Lbs.	920 lbs.	820 lbs.	600 – 1,200 lbs.	860 lbs.	890 lbs.
Large Square Baling.....	Bale	8.70	7.40	6.00 – 10.00	7.70	7.40
Size.....	Lbs.	870 lbs.	840 lbs.	600 – 1,200 lbs.	850 lbs.	830 lbs.
Wrapping Bales.....	Bale	6.40	6.20	4.00 – 8.50	6.30	6.00
Silage Making:						
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor.....	Hour	70.50	82.70	45.00 – 113.00	78.70	74.90
Self-Propelled Chopper.....	Hour	218.00	190.00	75.00 – 280.00	195.00	195.00
Less than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	70.00 – 240.00	160.00	162.00
Greater than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	150.00 – 300.00	223.00	232.00
Blower.....	Hour	12.90	12.50	5.00 – 25.00	12.60	11.60
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor.....	Hour	48.70	50.80	30.00 – 65.00	50.10	50.60
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors.....	Hour	72.50	91.60	56.00 – 130.00	87.40	82.60
1 Man, 1 Truck.....	Hour	54.20	53.40	45.00 – 60.00	53.60	51.10
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo.....	Ton	10.90	8.00	5.00 – 15.00	9.10	9.20
Bagging Silage.....	Foot	5.80	4.40	3.00 – 6.50	4.70	4.90
Average Diameter.....	Feet	-	-	-	9.0 feet	9.0 feet
Less than 9.0.....	Foot	-	-	2.65 – 6.00	4.40	4.20
Greater than 9.0.....	Foot	-	-	3.00 – 8.00	5.00	6.00
----- Plowing & Cultivating -----						
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:						
Stubble.....	Acre	15.90	16.80	12.00 – 22.00	16.40	15.70
Sod.....	Acre	17.50	17.80	12.00 – 25.00	17.70	17.30
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More).....	Acre	19.00	19.40	13.00 – 25.00	19.30	18.20
Plowing, Chisel.....	Acre	15.70	14.50	12.00 – 18.00	14.90	14.10
Plowing, Disk.....	Acre	16.80	15.50	12.00 – 20.00	16.00	13.80
Disking, Tandem.....	Acre	12.80	13.80	10.00 – 18.00	13.50	13.30
With Harrow or Cultipacker.....	Acre	13.50	15.00	12.00 – 18.00	14.70	14.30
Harrowing:						
Cultivating.....	Acre	11.60	12.60	8.55 – 17.00	12.30	11.80
Cultivating.....	Acre	11.70	12.90	7.50 – 18.00	12.50	12.40

See footnote at end of table.