

Machinery Custom Rates, 2010

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.

Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 2009-2010

Job	Basis of Charge	2010 (Dollars)				2009
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range ¹	State	State (Dollars)
HARVESTING						
Corn Picking.....	Acre	25.50	26.10	18.00 – 33.00	25.90	25.90
Corn Combining.....	Acre	31.10	30.30	26.00 – 35.00	30.50	30.70
Corn Drying (23 Percent).....	Bu.	0.41	0.45	0.18 – 0.75	0.44	0.47
Combining Small Grains.....	Acre	30.40	29.60	25.00 – 35.00	29.80	30.30
Combining Soybeans.....	Acre	31.30	30.60	26.00 – 35.00	30.70	30.60
Hay Making:						
Mowing.....	Acre	14.10	15.50	10.00 – 20.00	15.20	14.20
Mowing & Conditioning.....	Acre	15.40	15.40	11.00 – 20.00	15.40	15.00
Raking.....	Acre	8.70	8.40	5.00 – 12.00	8.45	8.70
Small Square Baling.....	Bale	0.96	0.77	0.35 – 1.50	0.82	0.80
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store.....	Bale	1.65	1.80	1.00 – 2.50	1.75	1.80
Large Round Baling.....	Bale	7.40	6.95	5.00 – 9.00	7.10	7.30
Size.....	Lbs.	850 lbs.	864 lbs.	550 – 1,200 lbs.	859 lbs.	870 lbs.
Large Square Baling.....	Bale	8.30	7.95	6.00 – 10.00	8.00	8.20
Size.....	Lbs.	879 lbs.	829 lbs.	650 – 1,200 lbs.	837 lbs.	838 lbs.
Wrapping Bales.....	Bale	6.90	6.85	5.00 – 9.00	6.90	6.85
Silage Making:						
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor.....	Hour	76.80	82.20	35.00 – 120.00	80.10	78.90
Self-Propelled Chopper.....	Hour	242.00	220.00	120.00 – 325.00	223.00	218.00
Less than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	100.00 – 275.00	188.00	179.00
Greater than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	195.00 – 350.00	260.00	252.00
Blower.....	Hour	15.30	18.10	8.00 – 40.00	17.40	17.00
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor.....	Hour	61.00	75.40	50.00 – 125.00	72.40	70.00
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors.....	Hour	98.90	115.00	75.00 – 150.00	111.00	108.00
1 Man, 1 Truck.....	Hour	60.90	64.60	50.00 – 75.00	64.00	60.80
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo.....	Ton	9.65	7.80	4.00 – 12.00	8.35	12.00
Bagging Silage.....	Foot	5.70	4.25	2.50 – 6.50	4.55	4.75
Less than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	2.75 – 5.50	4.20	3.75
Greater than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	2.50 – 8.85	5.40	5.35
PLOWING AND CULTIVATING						
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:						
Stubble.....	Acre	19.00	20.20	13.00 – 25.00	19.80	19.10
Sod.....	Acre	20.30	23.00	12.00 – 35.00	22.00	20.80
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More).....	Acre	23.90	25.60	15.00 – 38.00	25.20	22.60
Plowing, Chisel.....	Acre	16.30	17.10	12.00 – 20.00	16.90	16.80
Plowing, Disk.....	Acre	16.40	18.10	10.00 – 23.00	17.70	17.20
Disking, Tandem.....	Acre	16.00	15.50	10.00 – 20.00	15.70	16.50
With Harrow or Cultipacker.....	Acre	16.80	18.10	13.00 – 20.25	17.90	18.50
Harrowing:						
Cultivating.....	Acre	13.20	14.20	10.00 – 18.00	14.00	15.00
Cultivating.....	Acre	13.90	15.90	10.00 – 20.00	15.30	15.60

See footnote at end of table.