

Machinery Custom Rates, 2011

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, 2010-2011

Job	Basis of Charge	2011 (Dollars)				2010
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range ¹	State	State (Dollars)
HARVESTING						
Corn Picking.....	Acre	26.10	26.50	18.00-32.00	26.30	25.90
Corn Combining.....	Acre	31.90	30.60	25.00-35.00	30.90	30.50
Corn Drying (23 Percent).....	Bu.	0.49	0.45	0.24-0.75	0.46	0.44
Combining Small Grains.....	Acre	32.00	30.50	25.00-35.00	30.80	29.80
Combining Soybeans.....	Acre	32.40	31.10	27.00-35.00	31.30	30.70
Hay Making:						
Mowing.....	Acre	12.80	16.00	10.00-20.00	15.40	15.20
Mowing & Conditioning.....	Acre	14.80	16.20	10.00-20.00	15.90	15.40
Raking.....	Acre	8.90	9.05	5.00-12.00	9.00	8.45
Small Square Baling.....	Bale	0.80	0.82	0.40-1.30	0.81	0.82
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store.....	Bale	1.70	1.85	1.00-2.50	1.80	1.75
Large Round Baling.....	Bale	7.70	7.20	5.00-10.00	7.35	7.10
Size.....	Lbs.	897	853	600-1,200	869	859 lbs.
Large Square Baling.....	Bale	8.50	8.10	6.50-10.00	8.15	8.00
Size.....	Lbs.	782	840	600-1,100	833	837 lbs.
Wrapping Bales.....	Bale	6.70	6.90	4.50-10.00	6.85	6.90
Silage Making:						
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor.....	Hour	73.80	82.40	35.00-100.00	79.60	80.10
Self-Propelled Chopper.....	Hour	221.00	230.00	120.00-317.50	229.00	223.00
Less than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	90.00-250.00	174.00	188.00
Greater than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	200.00-350.00	281.00	260.00
Blower.....	Hour	14.60	16.90	9.00-30.00	16.40	17.40
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor.....	Hour	64.10	71.80	35.00-120.00	70.30	72.40
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors.....	Hour	94.30	128.00	60.00-180.00	122.00	111.00
1 Man, 1 Truck.....	Hour	57.90	66.60	50.00-80.00	64.90	64.00
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo.....	Ton	12.60	8.75	4.00-20.00	9.60	8.35
Bagging Silage.....	Foot	6.20	5.10	3.00-7.50	5.25	4.55
Less than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	2.50-5.75	4.25	4.20
Greater than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	4.00-9.25	6.25	5.40
PLOWING AND CULTIVATING						
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:						
Stubble.....	Acre	19.90	20.70	12.00-30.00	20.40	19.80
Sod.....	Acre	22.00	22.20	14.00-34.00	22.10	22.00
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More).....	Acre	22.20	25.70	14.00-30.00	24.80	25.20
Plowing, Chisel.....	Acre	19.80	17.20	12.00-25.00	17.90	16.90
Plowing, Disk.....	Acre	21.30	17.20	10.00-25.50	18.50	17.70
Disking, Tandem.....	Acre	17.90	16.30	10.00-22.00	16.90	15.70
With Harrow or Cultipacker.....	Acre	18.30	18.30	12.50-22.00	18.30	17.90
Harrowing:						
Cultivating.....	Acre	14.80	14.80	8.00-20.00	14.90	14.00
Cultivating.....	Acre	12.70	14.80	8.00-20.00	14.10	15.30

See footnote at end of table.