

Machinery Custom Rates, 2012

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, 2011-2012

Job	Basis of Charge	2012 (Dollars)				2011 State (Dollars)
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range ¹	State	
HARVESTING						
Corn Picking.....	Acre	29.20	25.30	15.00-35.00	26.70	26.30
Corn Combining.....	Acre	33.10	32.00	28.00-35.00	32.20	30.90
Corn Drying (23 Percent).....	Bu.	0.46	0.48	0.14-0.75	0.47	0.46
Combining Small Grains.....	Acre	32.80	31.30	27.00-35.00	31.60	30.80
Combining Soybeans.....	Acre	34.00	31.90	29.50-35.00	32.30	31.30
Hay Making:						
Mowing.....	Acre	13.70	15.60	10.00-20.00	15.10	15.40
Mowing & Conditioning.....	Acre	17.20	15.60	12.00-20.00	16.10	15.90
Raking.....	Acre	9.75	8.75	5.00-12.00	9.00	9.00
Small Square Baling.....	Bale	0.85	0.79	0.40-1.25	0.81	0.81
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store.....	Bale	1.90	1.80	1.00-2.75	1.80	1.80
Large Round Baling.....	Bale	7.90	7.05	5.25-10.00	7.40	7.35
Size.....	Lbs.	879	811	550-1,200	839	869 lbs.
Large Square Baling.....	Bale	8.75	8.30	6.50-10.15	8.35	8.15
Size.....	Lbs.	738	799	600-1,000	791	833 lbs.
Wrapping Bales.....	Bale	6.60	6.85	4.50-10.00	6.80	6.85
Silage Making:						
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor.....	Hour	76.80	94.70	50.00-135.00	88.80	79.60
Self-Propelled Chopper.....	Hour	265.00	243.00	140.00-350.00	247.00	229.00
Less than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	105.00-300.00	204.00	174.00
Greater than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	200.00-365.00	281.00	281.00
Blower.....	Hour	14.60	15.70	8.00-29.00	15.50	16.40
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor.....	Hour	56.30	69.90	35.00-100.00	68.00	70.30
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors.....	Hour	82.00	120.00	68.00-160.00	115.00	122.00
1 Man, 1 Truck.....	Hour	61.30	67.10	50.00-85.00	66.00	64.90
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo.....	Ton	10.70	8.20	4.50-15.00	8.95	9.60
Bagging Silage.....	Foot	6.85	4.60	3.50-7.50	5.05	5.25
Less than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	3.50-6.50	4.60	4.25
Greater than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	4.13-10.00	5.95	6.25
PLOWING AND CULTIVATING						
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:						
Stubble.....	Acre	19.20	19.90	15.00-28.00	19.60	20.40
Sod.....	Acre	22.70	22.20	14.00-32.00	22.40	22.10
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More).....	Acre	20.20	25.40	15.00-30.00	24.00	24.80
Plowing, Chisel.....	Acre	19.00	18.60	15.00-25.00	18.70	17.90
Plowing, Disk.....	Acre	19.70	18.90	12.00-25.00	19.20	18.50
Disking, Tandem.....	Acre	18.10	18.10	12.00-23.00	18.10	16.90
With Harrow or Cultipacker.....	Acre	18.80	18.60	13.00-25.00	18.60	18.30
Harrowing:						
Cultivating.....	Acre	14.80	15.20	11.00-20.00	15.10	14.90
Cultivating.....	Acre	13.00	13.50	9.00-20.00	13.30	14.10

See footnote at end of table.