

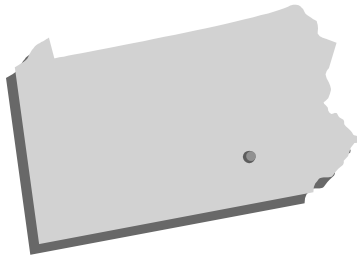


United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service  
**Pennsylvania's 2007  
Machinery Custom Rates**



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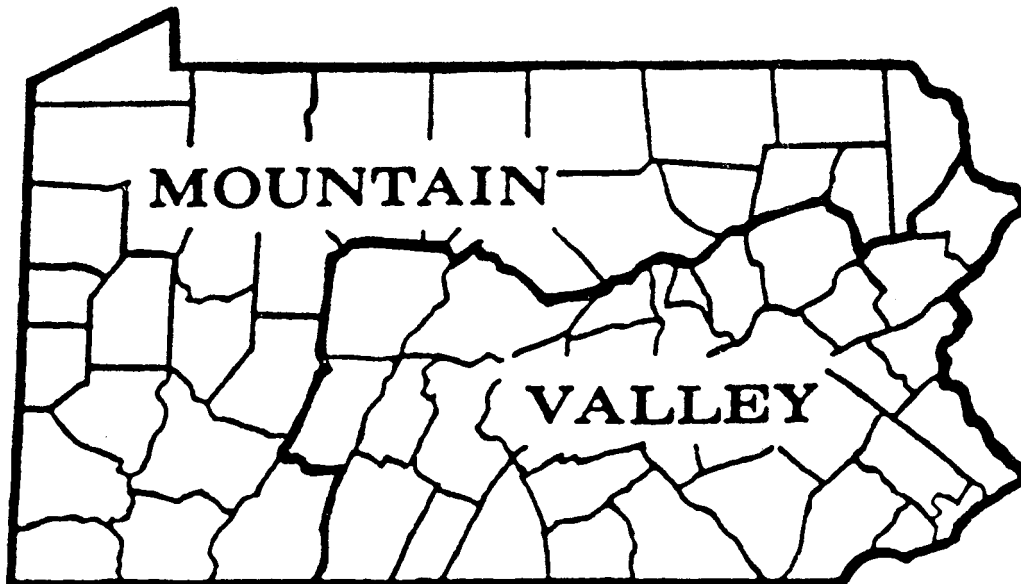
# Pennsylvania's 2007 Machinery Custom Rates

By Adam W. Pike, Agricultural Statistician

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. The rates shown include the cost of hiring machine with fuel and operator and exclude the cost of seed, fertilizer, and other materials used unless otherwise specified. 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.

Average 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 over 4 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 included. 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            |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|
|  |                 | Mountain Section | Valley Section | Range <sup>1</sup> | State    | State (Dollars) |
| <b>----- Harvesting -----</b>                |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| 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            |
| <b>----- Plowing &amp; Cultivating -----</b> |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| 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:                                   | 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           |
| <b>----- Planting &amp; Drilling -----</b>   |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| Planting Corn, With Fertilizer:              |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| Conventional-Till.....                       | Acre            | 16.60            | 16.80          | 12.00 – 20.00      | 16.70    | 15.70           |
| Minimum-Till.....                            | Acre            | 18.60            | 17.00          | 13.00 – 22.00      | 17.20    | 17.00           |
| No-Till.....                                 | Acre            | 22.10            | 17.60          | 14.00 – 22.00      | 18.40    | 17.70           |
| Planting Corn, Without Fertilizer:           |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| Conventional-Till.....                       | Acre            | 16.30            | 15.00          | 11.00 – 20.00      | 15.30    | 14.00           |
| Minimum-Till.....                            | Acre            | 17.90            | 16.10          | 12.00 – 20.50      | 16.50    | 15.00           |
| No-Till.....                                 | Acre            | 20.60            | 16.70          | 14.00 – 21.00      | 17.30    | 15.90           |
| Planting Soybeans, Without                   |                 |                  |                |                    |          |                 |
| Conventional-Till.....                       | Acre            | 13.80            | 15.30          | 10.00 – 20.00      | 15.00    | 14.80           |
| Minimum-Till.....                            | Acre            | 15.60            | 16.40          | 12.00 – 20.00      | 16.20    | 15.90           |
| No-Till.....                                 | Acre            | 18.10            | 16.70          | 11.00 – 20.00      | 16.90    | 16.50           |
| Drilling.....                                | Acre            | 14.70            | 16.40          | 10.00 – 20.00      | 16.10    | 16.10           |

See footnote at end of table.

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

| Job  | Basis of Charge | 2007 (Dollars)   |                |                    |        | 2006            |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------|-----------------|
|  |                 | Mountain Section | Valley Section | Range <sup>1</sup> | State  | State (Dollars) |
| <b>----- Planting &amp; Drilling (Continued) -----</b> |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Drilling Small Grain, Without Fertilizer               |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Conventional-Till .....                                | Acre            | 14.20            | 14.40          | 10.00 – 20.00      | 14.30  | 13.60           |
| Minimum-Till .....                                     | Acre            | 15.20            | 16.20          | 12.00 – 20.00      | 16.00  | 15.60           |
| No-Till .....  | Acre            | 17.10            | 16.30          | 11.00 – 20.00      | 16.40  | 16.50           |
| Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc.....                      | Acre            | 15.40            | 16.00          | 10.00 – 20.00      | 15.80  | 14.80           |
| Broadcast Seeding (On Grain Fields).....               | Acre            | 9.80             | 9.80           | 5.00 – 15.00       | 9.80   | 9.20            |
| Cleaning Grain Seed:                                   |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| With Treatment .....                                   | Bu.             | 1.38             | 1.43           | 0.10 – 2.25        | 1.41   | 1.25            |
| Without Treatment .....                                | Bu.             | 0.74             | 0.79           | 0.20 – 1.14        | 0.77   | 0.65            |
| <b>----- Spraying -----</b>                            |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Ground Equipment:                                      |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Spraying for Weed Control Excl. Material ...           | Acre            | 10.00            | 8.30           | 6.65 – 11.50       | 8.80   | 8.20            |
| Spraying for Corn Borer .....                          | Acre            | 10.90            | 9.50           | 7.00 – 12.00       | 9.80   | 9.80            |
| Spraying for Spittle Bug or Alfalfa Weevil ...         | Acre            | 9.90             | 8.10           | 6.00 – 11.00       | 8.40   | 8.00            |
| <b>----- Miscellaneous -----</b>                       |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Grain Hauling:   |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Local.....   | Bu.             | 0.21             | 0.17           | 0.10 – 0.25        | 0.18   | 0.16            |
| Long Distance.....                                     | Bu.             | 0.43             | 0.30           | 0.18 – 0.50        | 0.32   | 0.28            |
| Grain Storage .....                                    | Bu. Per         | 0.04             | 0.05           | 0.03 – 0.07        | 0.05   | 0.05            |
| Stalk Shredding, P.T.O. ....                           | Acre            | 17.00            | 13.10          | 8.00 – 21.00       | 13.90  | 12.60           |
| Bushhogging .....                                      | Acre            | 22.80            | 20.00          | 10.00 – 40.00      | 21.20  | 19.90           |
| Spreading Bulk Fertilizer:                             |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Dry .....  | Acre            | 8.50             | 7.30           | 4.00 – 11.00       | 7.70   | 7.30            |
| Liquid.....  | Acre            | 10.40            | 8.70           | 6.00 – 12.00       | 9.00   | 8.40            |
| Side Dressing .....                                    | Acre            | 9.90             | 8.60           | 7.00 – 11.00       | 8.90   | 8.50            |
| Lime .....   | Acre            | 11.20            | 9.60           | 4.00 – 15.50       | 10.10  | 10.00           |
| Grinding Feed:   |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Corn, Oats or Barley .....                             | Cwt.            | 0.88             | 0.84           | 0.30 – 1.20        | 0.85   | 0.91            |
| Corn & Cobs .....                                      | Cwt.            | 0.83             | 0.85           | 0.25 – 1.20        | 0.84   | 0.82            |
| Cobs.....  | Cwt.            | 0.70             | 0.85           | 0.15 – 1.00        | 0.81   | 0.75            |
| Additional Charge for Mixing .....                     | Cwt.            | 0.45             | 0.54           | 0.10 – 1.00        | 0.51   | 0.45            |
| Machine Tiling (No Tile).....                          | Foot            | -                | -              | 0.33 – 1.90        | 0.97   | 0.91            |
| Back Hoe.....  | Hour            | 52.80            | 55.60          | 40.00 – 75.00      | 54.80  | 51.70           |
| Sawing Wood, Chain Saw.....                            | Hour            | 20.90            | 21.40          | 10.00 – 40.00      | 21.20  | 20.80           |
| Post Hole Digging .....                                | Hole            | 2.80             | 2.70           | 1.00 – 5.00        | 2.70   | 2.20            |
| Manure Loading, <i>Solid</i> .....                     | Hour            | 35.70            | 41.00          | 20.00 – 60.00      | 39.40  | 40.50           |
| Manure Spreading, <i>Solid</i> .....                   | Hour            | 38.40            | 46.20          | 20.00 – 65.00      | 44.20  | 43.50           |
| Manure Pumping .....                                   | Hour            | 34.10            | 26.80          | 10.00 – 63.20      | 28.30  | 30.30           |
| Manure Spreading, <i>Liquid</i> .....                  | Hour            | 62.80            | 72.50          | 55.00 – 90.00      | 70.60  | 68.30           |
| Bulldozing.....  | Hour            | 68.30            | 75.40          | 45.00 – 103.00     | 73.00  | 66.50           |
| Average Size .....                                     | HP              | 93 HP            | 112 HP         | 60 – 180 HP        | 106 HP | 108 HP          |
| Tractor Rental Rates:                                  |                 |                  |                |                    |        |                 |
| Less than 80 HP .....                                  | Hour            | 29.40            | 23.10          | 10.00 – 40.00      | 24.70  | 21.20           |
| 80 to 120 HP.....                                      | Hour            | 35.80            | 27.90          | 15.00 – 50.00      | 29.50  | 26.00           |
| 120 to 160 HP.....                                     | Hour            | 44.40            | 33.00          | 18.50 – 51.50      | 34.50  | 32.10           |
| Greater than 160 HP .....                              | Hour            | 50.20            | 40.30          | 25.00 – 60.00      | 42.10  | 41.60           |

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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