



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# 2011 Machinery Custom Rates

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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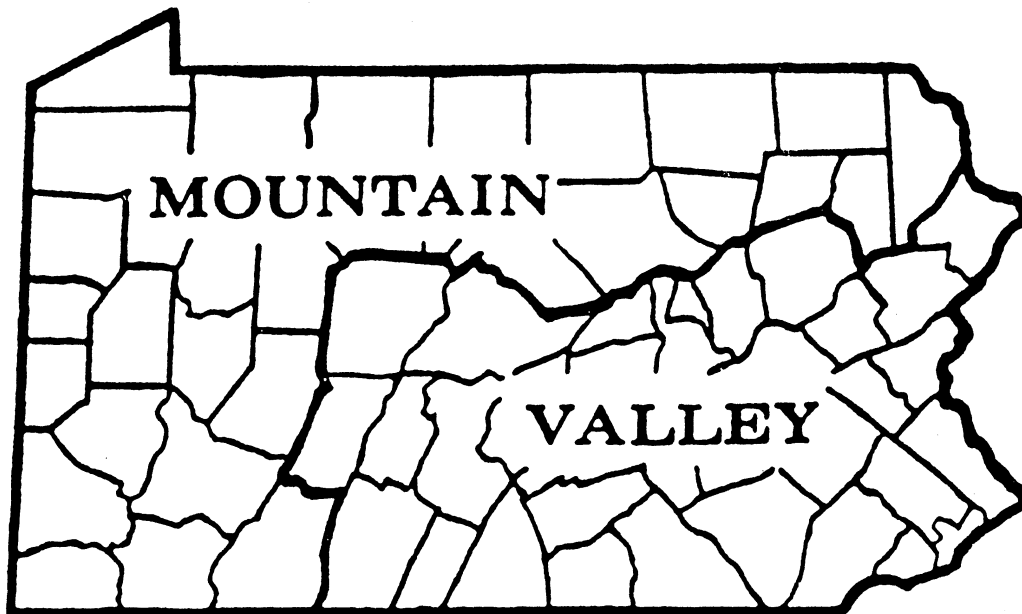
# Pennsylvania's 2011 Machinery Custom Rates

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 82 rates reported with year-to-year comparisons, 52 increased, 24 decreased, and 6 are virtually unchanged from last year. Overall, custom rates were up 1.88 percent compared to 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, 2010-2011

Job	Basis of Charge	2011 (Dollars)				2010
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range <sup>1</sup>	State	State (Dollars)
<b>Harvesting:</b>						
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
<b>Plowing &amp; Cultivating:</b>						
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	Acre	14.80	14.90	8.00-20.00	14.90	14.00
Cultivating	Acre	12.70	14.80	8.00-20.00	14.10	15.30
<b>Planting &amp; Drilling</b>						
Planting Corn, With Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till	Acre	19.00	18.70	14.00-25.00	18.80	18.40
Minimum-Till	Acre	20.70	19.30	14.00-25.00	19.60	19.90
No-Till	Acre	22.70	19.80	15.00-25.00	20.40	20.50
Planting Corn, Without Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till	Acre	18.10	17.70	12.00-23.00	17.80	17.30
Minimum-Till	Acre	18.40	18.60	14.00-22.00	18.60	18.60
No-Till	Acre	21.10	19.10	15.00-23.00	19.30	19.10
Planting Soybeans, Without Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till	Acre	18.20	18.00	12.00-22.00	18.10	17.30
Minimum-Till	Acre	19.30	18.40	15.00-22.00	18.60	18.10
No-Till	Acre	21.50	18.60	15.00-24.00	19.00	19.10
Drilling	Acre	19.00	18.60	13.00-23.00	18.60	18.30

See footnote at end of table.

## Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 2010-2011, Continued

Job	Basis of Charge	2011 (Dollars)				2010 State (Dollars)
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range <sup>1</sup>	State	
<b>Planting &amp; Drilling (Continued):</b>						
Drilling Small Grain, Without Fertilizer						
Conventional-Till	Acre	16.70	16.80	10.00-20.00	16.70	16.20
Minimum-Till	Acre	19.50	17.40	12.50-22.00	17.70	17.50
No-Till	Acre	19.80	17.60	12.00-22.00	17.90	18.00
Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc.	Acre	17.60	17.30	10.00-25.00	17.40	17.40
Broadcast Seeding (On Grain Fields)	Acre	12.10	11.70	8.00-16.50	11.80	11.20
Cleaning Grain Seed:						
With Treatment	Bu.	1.10	1.20	0.50-1.75	1.15	1.50
Without Treatment	Bu.	0.82	0.85	0.45-1.05	0.84	0.92
<b>Spraying:</b>						
Ground Equipment:						
Spraying for Weed Control Excl. Material	Acre	11.70	10.40	7.50-15.00	10.70	10.40
Spraying for Corn Borer	Acre	12.90	10.90	8.00-18.00	11.40	10.10
Spraying for Spittle Bug or Alfalfa Weevil	Acre	12.60	9.85	7.00-15.00	10.40	9.90
<b>Miscellaneous:</b>						
Grain Hauling:						
Local	Bu.	0.24	0.19	0.12-0.25	0.20	0.20
Long Distance	Bu.	0.43	0.31	0.20-0.50	0.33	0.35
Local	Mile	2.70	2.15	1.50-3.50	2.30	2.15
Long Distance	Mile	2.45	2.25	1.40-3.50	2.30	2.10
Grain Storage	Bu./Month	0.05	0.05	0.03-0.08	0.05	0.05
Stalk Shredding, P.T.O.	Acre	16.90	14.20	8.00-20.00	14.70	14.30
Bushhogging	Acre	26.20	26.40	12.00-45.00	26.40	24.20
Spreading Bulk Fertilizer:						
Dry	Acre	10.50	10.30	6.75-15.00	10.40	9.85
Liquid	Acre	11.20	10.00	8.00-15.00	10.40	10.60
Side Dressing	Acre	13.50	10.20	8.00-15.00	10.90	10.40
Lime	Acre	12.00	12.40	6.00-20.00	12.20	12.20
Grinding Feed:						
Corn, Oats or Barley	Cwt.	0.97	0.91	0.45-1.25	0.93	0.95
Corn & Cobs	Cwt.	0.78	0.94	0.40-1.25	0.87	0.97
Cobs	Cwt.	0.81	0.82	0.25-1.00	0.82	0.88
Additional Charge for Mixing	Cwt.	0.42	0.67	0.10-1.00	0.58	0.53
Machine Tiling (No Tile)	Foot	0.82	1.30	0.45-2.00	1.05	1.00
Back Hoe	Hour	54.50	63.40	35.00-85.00	59.90	57.80
Sawing Wood, Chain Saw	Hour	24.00	24.20	10.00-40.00	24.10	25.90
Post Hole Digging	Hole	3.90	3.95	1.50-7.00	3.95	3.75
Manure Loading, Solid	Hour	40.00	48.50	25.00-65.00	46.60	45.00
Manure Spreading, Solid	Hour	37.70	56.60	25.00-80.00	52.90	54.50
Manure Pumping	Hour	38.20	30.30	10.00-65.00	31.80	32.00
Manure Spreading, Liquid	Hour	67.80	85.10	65.00-100.00	83.40	79.90
Bulldozing	Hour	71.90	85.90	50.00-100.00	79.80	77.30
Average Size	HP	80.20	107.00	60.00-130.00	94.90	116.00 HP
Tractor Rental Rates:						
Less than 80 HP	Hour	36.90	29.90	10.00-65.00	31.40	27.80
80 to 120 HP	Hour	45.90	31.50	15.00-57.00	33.80	35.40
120 to 160 HP	Hour	59.90	38.80	20.00-60.00	41.70	41.70
Greater than 160 HP	Hour	64.80	46.10	25.00-75.00	49.50	51.60

<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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