



Machinery custom rates announced

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The custom rates published here are averages from voluntary reports by custom operators throughout Pennsylvania. Most of the rates are stated per acre, 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. Average rates are shown separately for most items by 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 "The State"

represent the straight average of all reports used regardless of geographic location. Most custom rates are higher this year, up an average of 5.6 per cent from last year. Some differences between rates, especially for jobs that were lightly represented in the survey, may occur due to sample variation. This is variation caused by a different sample of reporters answering the survey this year.

Some rates for jobs other than those asked on the questionnaire were volunteered by some reporters. Some examples are:

1. Post Driving - \$.45 per post
2. Chisel Plowing - \$6.00 per acre
3. Aerial Seeding - \$6.00 per acre
4. Aerial Fertilizing - \$6.00 per acre

CUSTOM RATES: SELECTED FARMING OPERATIONS, PENNSYLVANIA, 1978

| Job | Basis Of Charge | Mountain Section | Valley Section | The State |
|--|-----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Harvesting | | | | |
| Corn Picking..... | Acre | \$ 12.40 | \$ 11.50 | \$ 11.90 |
| Corn Picking And Shelling..... | Acre | 16.50 | 14.50 | 15.00 |
| Corn Combining..... | Acre | 16.00 | 15.50 | 16.00 |
| Corn Drying (23 Percent Corn)..... | Bu. | .22 | .22 | .22 |
| Combining Small Grains..... | Acre | 12.70 | 12.10 | 12.30 |
| Hay Making: | | | | |
| Mowing..... | Acre | 2.35 | 4.05 | 4.10 |
| Mowing And Conditioning..... | Acre | 5.90 | 5.65 | 5.75 |
| Raking..... | Acre | 3.40 | 3.10 | 3.15 |
| Pick-Up Baling: | | | | |
| Twine..... | Bale | .18 | .18 | .18 |
| Wire..... | Bale | .26 | .24 | .25 |
| Cut, Rake, Bale, And Store..... | Bale | .44 | .39 | .41 |
| Large Round Baler (Avg. = 1513 Lb.)..... | Bale | 7.55 | 6.00 | 6.85 |
| Stacker-Wagon (Avg. = 1 Ton)..... | Stack | 13.00 | 12.90 | 12.90 |
| Silage Making: | | | | |
| Pull-Type Chopper And Tractor..... | Hour | 18.00 | 21.00 | 19.50 |
| Self-Propelled Chopper..... | Hour | 24.00 | 31.00 | 29.00 |
| Blower..... | Hour | 3.70 | 3.80 | 3.75 |
| 1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor..... | Hour | 16.50 | 17.00 | 17.00 |
| 2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors..... | Hour | 26.00 | 25.00 | 25.50 |
| Potato Harvesting, 1-8 Men, 0-3 Trucks.... | Acre | - | 92.50 | 92.50 |
| Plowing And Cultivating | | | | |
| Plowing, Moldboard Plow: | | | | |
| Spring, Stubble..... | Acre | 7.40 | 7.15 | 7.25 |
| Sod..... | Acre | 8.25 | 8.00 | 8.10 |
| Fall, Stubble..... | Acre | 7.85 | 7.35 | 7.50 |
| Sod..... | Acre | 8.90 | 8.25 | 8.50 |
| Plowing, Deep (10 Inches Or More)..... | Acre | 9.50 | 9.40 | 9.45 |
| Plowing, Disk..... | Acre | 8.00 | 7.70 | 7.75 |
| Disking, Tandem..... | Acre | 4.90 | 4.95 | 4.95 |
| With Harrow Or Cultipacker..... | Acre | 6.00 | 6.25 | 6.15 |
| Harrowing: | | | | |
| Spike Tooth..... | Acre | 4.20 | 4.10 | 4.15 |
| Spring Tooth..... | Acre | 4.65 | 4.20 | 4.35 |
| Cultivating..... | Acre | 5.30 | 5.15 | 5.20 |
| Planting And Drilling | | | | |
| Planting Corn With Fertilizer: | | | | |
| Conventional-Till Planting..... | Acre | 5.50 | 5.35 | 5.40 |
| Reduced-Till Planting..... | Acre | 8.10 | 9.00 | 8.80 |
| Planting Soybeans, Without Fertilizer.... | Acre | 6.50 | 5.30 | 5.40 |
| Drilling Small Grain: | | | | |
| Without Fertilizer..... | Acre | \$ 4.85 | \$ 4.95 | \$ 4.95 |
| With Fertilizer..... | Acre | 5.00 | 5.40 | 5.20 |
| With Fertilizer And Cloverseed..... | Acre | 5.50 | 5.90 | 5.65 |

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