

Machinery custom rates increase 5 percent

HARRISBURG — Most machinery custom rates have increased for 1984, up an average of nearly five percent from last year, according to the Crop Reporting Service of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

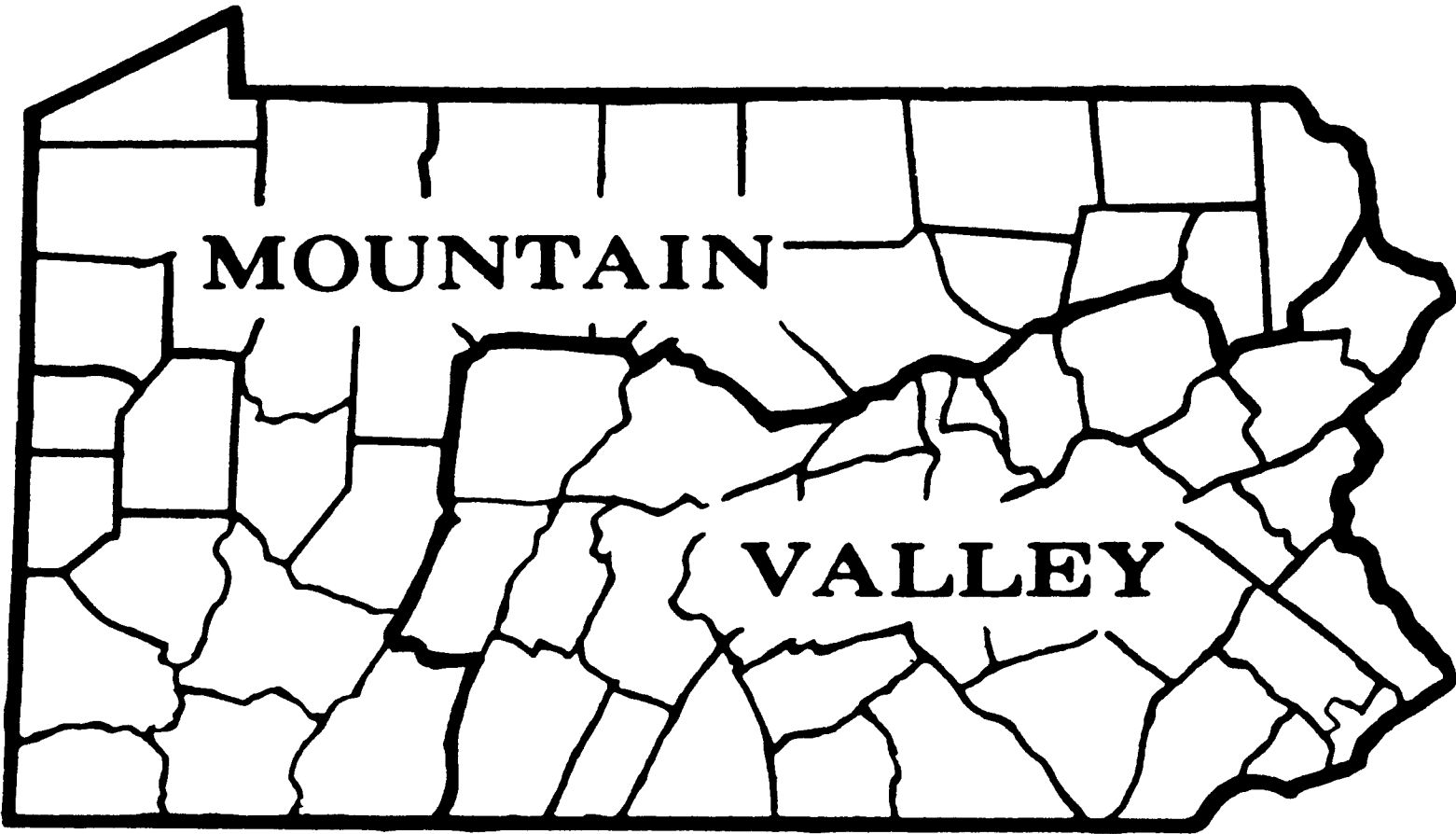
The five percent increase in rates was computed by adding the rates for all jobs, regardless of the basis of charge, and dividing by last year's comparable total, according to Jack St. Pierre, agricultural statistician for the State Crop Reporting Service.

The custom rates listed below are averages taken from voluntary reports by custom operators from throughout the state. 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 in the operator's willingness to do custom work.

The rates shown are guidelines to show averages and are not to be considered absolute indications of fair charges, according to St. Pierre.

Average rates are shown separately for two sections of the state — labeled "Mountain" and "Valley." Differences in rates between the two regions reflect differences in terrain, soils and alternative opportunities for the labor and equipment used. Under the column labeled "The State" the figures represent the straight average of all reports used regardless of geographic location.

Custom rates for Pennsylvania for 1984 include:



Machinery custom rates

Job	Basis Of Charge	Mountain Section	Valley Section	The State
Harvesting				
CORN HARVESTING:				
Corn Picking	Acre	\$ 18.30	\$ 16.70	\$ 17.40
Corn Picking & Shelling	Acre	22.00	20.50	21.30
Corn Combining	Acre	23.70	22.00	22.80
Corn Drying (23 Percent)	Bu.	.30	.30	.30
Combining Small Grains	Acre	19.20	19.40	19.30
HAY MAKING				
Mowing	Acre	5.60	5.35	5.45
Mowing & Conditioning	Acre	7.75	7.55	7.60
Raking	Acre	4.30	4.00	4.15
Pick-up Baling:				
Twine	Bale	.24	.25	.24
Wire	Bale	.33	.31	.32
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store	Bale	.60	.60	.60
Large Round Baler (Avg.=1300Lbs.)	Bale	6.40	6.60	6.50
Stacker-Wagon (Avg.=1 Ton)	Stack	17.40	17.80	17.60
SILAGE MAKING:				
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor	Hour	28.20	31.70	30.00
Self-Propelled Chopper	Hour	36.50	38.00	37.30
Blower	Hour	5.10	4.80	4.95
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor	Hour	21.60	24.20	23.00
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors	Hour	34.40	36.40	35.40

Plowing & Cultivating

PLOWING, MOLDBOARD PLOW:				
Spring, Stubble	Acre	9.30	10.10	9.80
Sod	Acre	10.40	11.50	11.00
Fall, Stubble	Acre	9.80	10.40	10.30
Sod	Acre	10.90	11.70	11.30
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches Or More)	Acre	11.40	12.20	11.80
Plowing, Chisel	Acre	10.40	9.70	10.00
Plowing, Disk	Acre	9.00	9.25	9.10
Disking, Tandem	Acre	7.20	7.85	7.50
With Harrow or Cultipacker	Acre	8.75	8.90	8.80
Harrowing:				
Spike Tooth	Acre	5.20	6.00	5.60
Spring Tooth	Acre	6.20	6.80	6.50
Cultivating	Acre	6.90	6.75	6.80

Planting & Drilling

Planting Corn With Fertilizer:				
Conventional-Till Planting	Acre	8.10	8.70	8.30
Reduced-Till Planting	Acre	11.00	11.60	11.30
Planting Soybeans, Without Fertilizer	Acre	7.80	8.40	8.10
Drilling Small Grain:				
Without Fertilizer	Acre	7.05	7.55	7.30
With Fertilizer	Acre	7.60	8.40	8.00
With Fertilizer & Cloverseed	Acre	7.75	8.55	8.15
Planting Potatoes	Acre	9.80	10.50	10.20
Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc.	Acre	7.40	7.30	7.35
Broadcast Seeding (On Grain Fields)	Acre	5.40	5.25	5.30
Cleaning Grain Seed:				
With Treatment	Bu.	.53	.53	.53
Without Treatment	Bu.	.33	.37	.35

Spraying

Ground Equipment:				
Spraying For Weed Control:				
Excluding Material	Acre	4.10	4.60	4.45
Spraying For Corn Borer:				
Including Cost of Material	Acre	9.00	9.20	9.10
Excluding Cost Of Material	Acre	4.10	4.35	4.25
Spraying for Spittle Bug Or Alfalfa Weevil:				
Including Cost of Material	Acre	6.50	6.40	6.45
Excluding Cost Of Material	Acre	4.05	4.25	4.15
Spraying Potatoes:				
Including Cost Of Material	Acre	12.00	11.75	11.90
Excluding Cost Of Material	Acre	4.70	4.80	4.75
Aerial Application (Excl. Material)				
Fixed Wing	Acre	6.80	6.50	6.60
Helicopter	Acre	6.50	6.20	6.30

Miscellaneous

Stalk Shredding, P.T.O.	Acre	6.45	6.45	6.45
Spreading Bulk Fertilizer:				
Dry	Acre	4.65	4.30	4.40
Liquid	Acre	4.30	4.20	4.25
Side Dressing	Acre	5.00	4.60	4.80
Grinding Feed:				
Corn, Oats Or Barley	Cwt.	.49	.45	.46
Corn & Cobs	Cwt.	.50	.45	.47
Cobs	Cwt.	.52	.49	.50
Additional Charge For Mixing	Cwt.	.14	.14	.14
Machine Tiling (No Tile)	Foot	.35	.39	.37
Back Hoe	Hour	26.00	24.25	25.10
Sawing Wood (Chain Saw)	Hour	9.10	8.90	9.00
Post Hole Digging	Hole	.58	.64	.60
Manure Loading	Hour	13.90	14.30	14.10
Manure Spreading	Hour	13.00	13.50	13.30
Bulldozing (Avg. H.P. 85)	Hour	38.00	38.70	38.40