



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# 2009 Machinery Custom Rates

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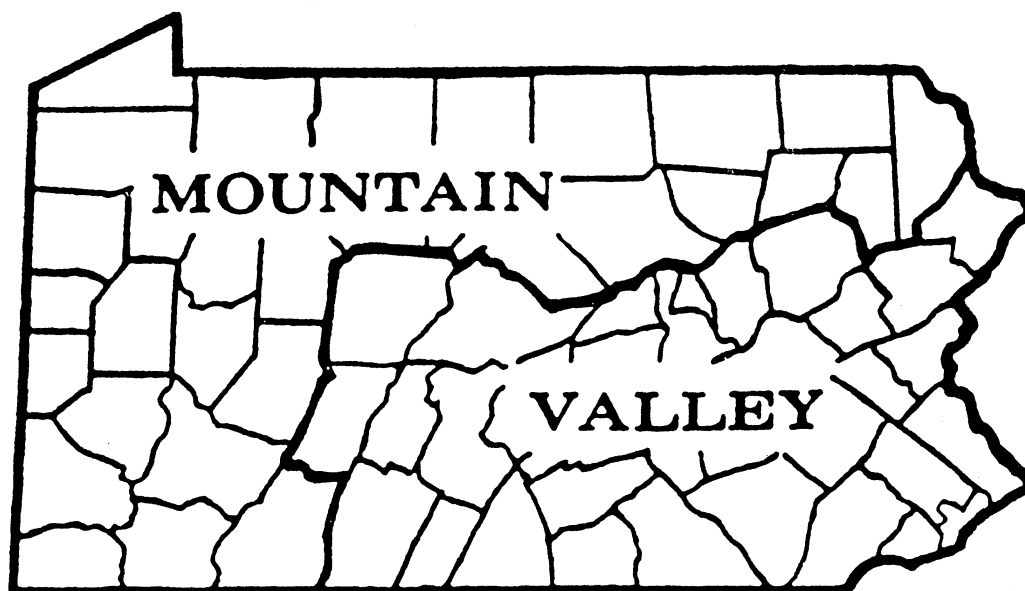
# Pennsylvania's 2009 Machinery Custom Rates

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, 67 increased, 11 decreased, and 4 are virtually unchanged from last year. Overall, custom rates were up almost 6 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, 2008-2009

Job	Basis of Charge	2009 (Dollars)				2008
		Mountain Section	Valley Section	Range <sup>1</sup>	State	State (Dollars)
<b>----- Harvesting -----</b>						
Corn Picking.....	Acre	27.40	25.20	20.00 – 35.00	25.90	26.00
Corn Combining.....	Acre	31.70	30.40	25.00 – 35.00	30.70	28.70
Corn Drying (23 Percent).....	Bu.	0.44	0.47	0.18 – 0.90	0.47	0.40
Combining Small Grains.....	Acre	30.10	30.40	25.00 – 35.00	30.30	27.90
Combining Soybeans.....	Acre	31.40	30.50	25.00 – 35.00	30.60	28.80
Hay Making:						
Mowing.....	Acre	13.30	14.50	10.00 – 19.00	14.20	13.40
Mowing & Conditioning.....	Acre	14.80	15.10	10.00 – 18.00	15.00	14.40
Raking.....	Acre	8.90	8.60	5.00 – 11.00	8.70	8.55
Small Square Baling.....	Bale	0.93	0.74	0.45 – 1.00	0.80	0.75
Cut, Rake, Bale & Store.....	Bale	1.95	1.65	1.00 – 2.50	1.80	1.80
Large Round Baling.....	Bale	8.00	6.85	5.00 – 9.00	7.30	6.85
Size.....	Lbs.	900 lbs.	850 lbs.	600 – 1,200 lbs.	870 lbs.	860 lbs.
Large Square Baling.....	Bale	8.75	8.10	6.00 – 11.00	8.20	7.70
Size.....	Lbs.	899 lbs.	824 lbs.	600 – 1,100 lbs.	838 lbs.	840 lbs.
Wrapping Bales.....	Bale	6.70	6.90	4.00 – 10.00	6.85	6.20
Silage Making:						
Pull-Type Chopper & Tractor.....	Hour	71.40	85.50	30.00 – 125.00	78.90	82.30
Self-Propelled Chopper.....	Hour	252.00	213.00	100.00 – 325.00	218.00	208.00
Less than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	77.00 – 270.00	179.00	185.00
Greater than 365 HP.....	Hour	-	-	175.00 – 325.00	252.00	238.00
Blower.....	Hour	15.90	17.30	6.00 – 35.00	17.00	15.00
1 Man, 2 Wagons, 1 Tractor.....	Hour	59.70	73.30	40.00 – 110.00	70.00	55.60
2 Men, 2 Wagons, 2 Tractors.....	Hour	94.70	111.00	54.30 – 160.00	108.00	90.80
1 Man, 1 Truck.....	Hour	62.50	60.50	48.00 – 75.00	60.80	56.70
Field Chop, Haul & Fill Silo.....	Ton	12.30	11.80	5.00 – 30.00	12.00	9.80
Bagging Silage.....	Foot	5.20	4.65	3.25 – 7.00	4.75	4.75
Less than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	2.90 – 4.75	3.75	4.10
Greater than 9.0 ft.....	Foot	-	-	4.00 – 7.00	5.35	5.35
<b>----- Plowing &amp; Cultivating -----</b>						
Plowing, Moldboard Plow:						
Stubble.....	Acre	18.70	19.40	12.00 – 25.00	19.10	18.00
Sod.....	Acre	19.80	21.50	14.00 – 28.00	20.80	20.00
Plowing, Deep (10 Inches or More).....	Acre	21.50	23.20	15.00 – 35.00	22.60	22.30
Plowing, Chisel.....	Acre	16.40	16.90	12.00 – 21.00	16.80	16.10
Plowing, Disk.....	Acre	17.20	17.30	10.00 – 25.00	17.20	16.90
Disking, Tandem.....	Acre	16.20	16.70	10.50 – 20.00	16.50	15.10
With Harrow or Cultipacker.....	Acre	16.70	19.00	13.00 – 23.00	18.50	16.10
Harrowing:	Acre	13.60	15.70	8.00 – 21.00	15.00	13.90
Cultivating.....	Acre	13.30	16.30	10.00 – 20.00	15.60	14.40
<b>----- Planting &amp; Drilling -----</b>						
Planting Corn, With Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till.....	Acre	19.00	17.70	13.00 – 24.00	18.10	17.20
Minimum-Till.....	Acre	19.40	18.50	13.00 – 24.00	18.70	18.10
No-Till.....	Acre	22.50	19.50	15.00 – 25.00	20.10	19.10
Planting Corn, Without Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till.....	Acre	17.40	17.20	13.00 – 22.00	17.30	16.70
Minimum-Till.....	Acre	19.00	18.10	14.00 – 24.00	18.20	17.10
No-Till.....	Acre	20.70	18.70	14.00 – 24.00	19.00	18.20
Planting Soybeans, Without Fertilizer:						
Conventional-Till.....	Acre	16.80	17.70	14.00 – 22.00	17.60	16.20
Minimum-Till.....	Acre	18.20	18.50	15.00 – 22.00	18.40	17.30
No-Till.....	Acre	20.10	18.30	13.50 – 24.00	18.60	18.10
Drilling.....	Acre	19.00	18.20	14.50 – 22.00	18.30	17.60

See footnote at end of table.

## Custom Rates: Selected Farming Operations, Pennsylvania, 2008-2009, Continued

Job	Basis of Charge	2009 (Dollars)				2008
		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	15.90	16.00	8.00 – 20.00	16.00	15.30
Minimum-Till.....	Acre	19.00	17.70	12.00 – 22.00	17.90	17.10
No-Till.....	Acre	19.20	17.40	12.00 – 22.00	17.60	17.30
Seeding Alfalfa, Clover, Etc.....	Acre	16.60	16.70	10.00 – 22.00	16.70	16.60
Broadcast Seeding (On Grain Fields).....	Acre	12.20	11.80	7.00 – 20.00	11.90	10.80
Cleaning Grain Seed:						
With Treatment.....	Bu.	1.25	1.45	0.50 – 1.90	1.40	1.45
Without Treatment.....	Bu.	0.85	0.82	0.45 – 1.25	0.84	0.80
<b>----- Spraying -----</b>						
Ground Equipment:						
Spraying for Weed Control Excl. Material...	Acre	10.80	10.30	7.00 – 12.00	10.50	9.50
Spraying for Corn Borer.....	Acre	11.70	10.90	7.00 – 13.00	11.10	9.90
Spraying for Spittle Bug or Alfalfa Weevil ...	Acre	11.30	10.50	7.00 – 15.00	10.60	9.10
<b>----- Miscellaneous -----</b>						
Grain Hauling:						
Local.....	Bu.	0.21	0.20	0.12 – 0.27	0.20	0.19
Long Distance.....	Bu.	0.49	0.33	0.20 – 0.55	0.36	0.37
Local.....	Mile	2.15	2.05	0.55 – 3.50	2.10	1.95
Long Distance.....	Mile	2.15	2.05	0.75 – 3.00	2.10	1.90
Grain Storage.....	Bu./Month	0.06	0.06	0.03 – 0.10	0.06	0.05
Stalk Shredding, P.T.O.....	Acre	16.00	14.70	8.00 – 22.00	15.00	13.40
Bushhogging.....	Acre	24.00	21.70	10.00 – 35.00	22.60	21.40
Spreading Bulk Fertilizer:						
Dry.....	Acre	10.40	8.60	5.00 – 15.00	9.20	9.15
Liquid.....	Acre	13.70	10.30	7.00 – 15.00	11.00	10.40
Side Dressing.....	Acre	12.00	9.70	7.50 – 15.00	10.00	9.75
Lime.....	Acre	13.40	11.10	5.00 – 20.00	12.00	12.40
Grinding Feed:						
Corn, Oats or Barley.....	Cwt.	0.94	1.10	0.60 – 1.50	1.05	0.94
Corn & Cobs.....	Cwt.	0.93	1.10	0.50 – 2.00	1.05	0.97
Cobs.....	Cwt.	0.92	0.99	0.60 – 1.60	0.97	0.82
Additional Charge for Mixing.....	Cwt.	0.53	0.68	0.25 – 1.00	0.62	0.53
Machine Tiling (No Tile).....	Foot	1.00	1.10	0.45 – 2.00	1.05	0.86
Back Hoe.....	Hour	54.40	54.80	35.00 – 75.00	54.60	58.80
Sawing Wood, Chain Saw.....	Hour	22.90	23.40	12.00 – 35.00	23.30	24.20
Post Hole Digging.....	Hole	4.10	4.40	1.00 – 10.00	4.30	3.65
Manure Loading, Solid.....	Hour	36.60	46.00	18.00 – 75.00	43.60	44.10
Manure Spreading, Solid.....	Hour	45.50	48.50	20.00 – 75.00	47.90	47.30
Manure Pumping.....	Hour	38.00	30.30	10.00 – 76.50	31.70	34.40
Manure Spreading, Liquid.....	Hour	72.00	76.80	60.00 – 100.00	76.20	75.80
Bulldozing.....	Hour	71.80	82.80	50.00 – 100.00	78.00	76.80
Average Size.....	HP	91.20 HP	106.30 HP	60 – 150 HP	99.50 HP	107 HP
Tractor Rental Rates:						
Less than 80 HP.....	Hour	33.90	25.00	15.00 – 45.00	27.40	27.70
80 to 120 HP.....	Hour	47.50	31.70	20.00 – 60.00	35.40	32.30
120 to 160 HP.....	Hour	53.50	39.80	25.00 – 65.00	42.40	37.80
Greater than 160 HP.....	Hour	66.50	48.50	30.00 – 75.00	52.40	48.70

<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.