

## Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest as of March, 20, 2015

## Data Compiled by <u>Richard Halopka</u> UW-Extension Clark County Crops & Soils Agent

All hay prices quoted are dollars per ton FOB point of origin for alfalfa hay unless otherwise noted.

The information presented in this report is compiled from public and private sales and reports in the Midwest.

The past several months of the weekly hay reports are archived. To view previous hay reports, go to the Team Forage web site and click on the past hay reports section.

The hay report has a few changes. The data will be collected on the first and third week of the month and posted by the following Friday moving forward. If you have concerns please forward them to me.

## **Demand and Sales Activity**

Overall hay prices were steady to stronger for this report compared to the previous report. Hay supplies are good, but demand remains moderate to light at most auctions.

## **Hay Price Summary**

Hay Grade	Bale type	Price (\$/ton)		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	203.00	135.00	280.00
	Large Square	211.00	137.50	255.00
	Large Round	126.50	100.00	155.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	171.00	135.00	215.00
	Large Square	134.00	115.00	245.00
	Large Round	116.00	70.00	130.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	93.00	86.00	100.00
	Large Square	105.00	50.00	160.00
	Large Round	87.00	47.50	120.00
<b>Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	80.00	80.00	80.00
	Large Square	93.40	40.00	85.00
	Large Round	66.25	35.00	92.50

For Nebraska, compared to the last report alfalfa hay sold fully steady with moderate movement of hay. Low corn prices have some farmers considering replacing corn acres by seeding alfalfa. For Iowa, alfalfa hay sold steady to firm. Demand was light for light to moderate hay offerings.

*In South Dakota*, Demand picked up in the last week, although it is light for this time of the year. Drought concerns have some end users in the western and central parts of the state considering purchasing hay to have on hand.

*For Missouri*, spring officially arrived last week. Hay feeding may continue for a number of weeks, but farmers are watching for the tints of green to appear in their fields. Continued light movement of hay in the state.

*In Southwest Minnesota*, prices were steady with normal hay movement in the area. *For Illinois*, demand was moderate too good for moderate hay offerings with steady to weaker prices. Mud was a concern this past week limiting hay movement. *In Wisconsin*, hay prices were stronger for all hay types with active markets. Straw demand has also increased at local markets.

Midwest straw price was steady this week with an increased demand for large round bale packaged straw. Small square bale average dropped to \$2.00 per bale (range of \$1.00 to \$6.00), numerous markets report a demand for small square bale, though the current price doesn't reflect demand. Large square bales increased slightly and averaged \$35.75 per bale (range of \$28.00 to \$60.00); and large round bales increased considerably and averaged \$50.00 per bale (range of \$26.00 to \$75.00).

The next Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted By April 14, 2015.

**Due to the lack of quality-tested hay auctions in Wisconsin**, the following links are included in this report allowing producers to obtain some state and nearby state prices. The Equity Cooperative market report is at <a href="http://livestock.equitycoop.com/market\_reports/">http://livestock.equitycoop.com/market\_reports/</a>. Go to the Lomira and Reedsville locations for their reports on hay and straw prices.

The Fennimore Livestock Exchange is at

http://www.fennimorelivestock.com/index.php?site=home.

The Reynolds Feed & Supply, LLC of Dodgeville is at <a href="http://www.reynoldslivestock.com/what1snew/">http://www.reynoldslivestock.com/what1snew/</a>.

The Tim Slack Auction and Realty, LLC of Fennimore is at

http://www.timslackauctionrealty.com/market%20report.html.

The Zumbrota Hay & Bedding Auction of Zumbrota, MN is at

http://cla.crinet.com/page5295/ZumbrotaHayAndBeddingAuction.

The Dyersville Sales Company of Dyersville, Iowa is at <a href="http://dyersvillesales.com/hay-auction/hay-auction-results/">http://dyersvillesales.com/hay-auction/hay-auction-results/</a>.

**The Farmer to Farmer website** is an electronic neighborhood bulletin board that allows local farmers to get in touch with one another to facilitate the marketing of feed commodities. It has recently been expanded to connect those with productive pastures to those producers who are in need of pastures. It can be found at <a href="http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu/">http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu/</a>.