



**Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest  
As of May 7, 2015**

Data Compiled by [Richard Halopka](#) 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 hay reports are archived. To view previous hay reports, go to the Team Forage web site and click on the [past hay reports](#) section.*

**A few changes have been made to the hay report. The data will be collected on the first and third week of the month and posted the following week moving forward.**

**Demand and Sales Activity**

Hay prices are strong compared to the previous report. Overall hay price averaged \$10.00 per ton higher at auction this week. Hay harvest is a few weeks away and there is a strong demand for all classes of hay, with a limited supply. Last week was the final quality tested hay auction for the season at some locations, while others will reduce the frequency of the auction and others will continue on a weekly basis.

**Hay Price Summary**

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
<b>Prime (&gt; 151 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	\$230.00	\$145.00	\$280.00
	Large Square	\$195.00	\$135.00	\$300.00
	Large Round	\$134.00	\$123.00	\$145.00
<b>Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	\$111.00	\$80.00	\$135.00
	Large Square	\$130.00	\$80.00	\$210.00
	Large Round	\$144.00	\$70.00	\$160.00
<b>Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	\$121.00	\$100.00	\$125.00
	Large Square	\$104.00	\$65.00	\$160.00
	Large Round	\$109.00	\$60.00	150.00
<b>Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)</b>	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	\$87.00	\$63.00	\$105.00
	Large Round	\$80.00	\$50.00	\$105.00

*For Nebraska*, alfalfa hay sold steady to firm. Grass hay was in demand as pasture green up has been slow and helped support the alfalfa hay market. Some talk from producers that first cutting of hay is a week or so away with help from Mother Nature. *For Iowa*, steady to firm prices, this week is the last Monday sale at Rock Valley. Very little alfalfa winter injury has been reported.

*In South Dakota*, good volume of hay movement this week with steady to firm prices on all classes of hay. There was increased interest in better quality alfalfa hay. Rainfall this past week reduced some concern of drought. First cutting of hay is about 10 days to 2 weeks away.

*For Missouri*, field work and planting is actually ahead of the norm for the area. Concern though is lack of widespread rainfall. Currently the hay crop appears short, stunted and maturing sooner compared to most years. Prices for hay are steady with a very light demand.

*In Southwest Minnesota*, prices were strong with light hay movement in the area. *For Illinois*, light to moderate demand for hay with steady to slightly lower prices as farmers are hoping to pasture cattle or begin their own first cut harvesting soon. Producers have reported some winter injury in alfalfa fields. Illinois hay market will now be reported monthly. *In Wisconsin*, strong market for good quality hay. As mentioned in comments from other states, farmers want to get cattle on pasture, but it may be a little early, as cattle may require supplemental feed for a week or two. Alfalfa injury is present in the state from heaving of alfalfa plants. The injury is greatest in areas with heavy soils that were saturated going into winter. PEAQ stick measurements are being recorded across the state and first cutting may be a few weeks off. Many local markets commented on a steady demand for small square baled straw.

Overall the Midwest straw price is stronger with continued demand for all packages of straw. Small square bale straw was in good demand the price averaged \$3.30 a bale (range of \$1.00 to \$6.00). Large square bale straw price had an average price of \$44.00 per bale (range of \$28.00 to \$56.00) an increase of about \$8.00 per bale from the last report; and no large round bale straw was available at any of the reporting markets this week.

The next Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted  
By May 27, 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 (these may or may not be quality tested auctions). The Equity Cooperative market report is at [http://livestock.equitycoop.com/market\\_reports/](http://livestock.equitycoop.com/market_reports/). 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 <http://www.reynoldslivestock.com/whatIsnew/>.

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 <http://dyersvillesales.com/hay-auction/hay-auction-results/>.

**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 <http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu/>.