



**Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest
as of January 5, 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 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.

Demand and Sales Activity

Compared to the previous week, large square bale prices were up 15%. Large round bale prices were down 4%. Sales activity was very light with holiday season.

No prices were posted for *Nebraska*. For *Iowa*, all classes and grades of hay sold for \$2.00 - \$5.00 higher on good demand at year end. Colder weather in near future helped create demand for hay.

In *South Dakota*, hay prices were steady. Demand is light to moderate with most end users bought up until after the New Year.

For *Missouri*, Hay movement continues to be limited due to large supplies and lack of winter snow cover. Hay demand may have decreased as farmer have decreased cattle numbers plus they are feeding on stockpiled forages. Although good for the cattleman, the hay business continues to be very difficult. Many hay producers have even stopped advertising as the cost of ad space is not worth it with the lack of interest or inquires.

In *Southwest Minnesota*, hay prices were stronger as compared to last week with limited alfalfa hay sales, though there were alfalfa mixed loads available. For *Illinois*, demand for hay remained light to moderate with adequate availability of hay. Wheat straw demand remained good especially for small square bales. For *Wisconsin*, hay prices were \$10.00 higher for premium and good hay, but \$10.00 lower on poorer quality hay at an auction in Fennimore.

Straw prices in the Midwest averaged \$3.55 per small square bale (range of \$2.50 to \$5.00); \$48.00 per large square bale (range of \$35.00 to \$65.00); and \$41.00 per large round bale (range of \$25.00 to \$55.00). Compared to the previous week, straw prices for small square bales increased 13%. For large square bales, prices were 1% higher. For large round bales, prices were 6 % less. Wheat straw demand picked up over the holiday. Remember there were limited auctions with the holidays.

Hay Price Summary

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	280.00	240.00	320.00
	Large Square	221.90	180.00	330.00
	Large Round	152.50	125.00	200.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	196.25	160.00	280.00
	Large Square	159.15	110.00	165.00
	Large Round	128.75	90.00	160.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	140.00	140.00	140.00
	Large Square	116.90	72.50	175.00
	Large Round	96.90	77.50	115.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	122.50	110.00	135.00
	Large Round	85.40	75.00	90.00

The next Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted on January 12, 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 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/>.

2014 Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System, doing business as the Division of Cooperative Extension of the University of Wisconsin-Extension