



**Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest
as of February 27, 2015**

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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

Overall hay prices decreased about \$10 per ton this week. Limited premium sales and increase in lower quality hay contributed to the decline in price. Hay supplies are good, but demand remains moderate to light at most auctions. Summing up the sales this week, hay volume this week consisted of mostly lower quality hay.

For *Nebraska*, compared to the last report alfalfa hay sold fully steady. Demand picked up from the cow/calf producers purchasing more hay than normal. For *Iowa*, all classes of hay were steady to lower.

In *South Dakota*, light to moderate hay movement reported this week with steady prices. There is a demand from dairies for lower quality alfalfa hay to blend with premium quality hay to reduce ration cost. An open winter has allowed cattlemen to leave cows on cornstalks with limited supplemental hay feeding.

For *Missouri*, February weather has made it difficult to move hay. Overall hay prices are steady, with moderate supplies and light demand.

In *Southwest Minnesota*, there was a decrease in hay available at the auction. The hay offered was of lower quality and reduced price. For *Illinois*, demand was moderate too good for light hay offerings with steady to higher prices. Winter weather caused poor road conditions in the state. In *Wisconsin*, hay prices were stronger for all hay types compared to last week.

Midwest straw price was weaker for square bales again this week with a slight increase in the large round bales. Small square bales averaged \$2.60 per bale (range of \$1.00 to \$6.00); large square bales averaged \$21.60 per bale (range of \$25.00 to \$45.00); and large round bales were stronger averaging \$41.70 per bale (range of \$35.00 to \$48.00). Overall demand is moderate, but quality wheat straw has a good demand and price.

Hay Price Summary

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	231.00	200.00	280.00
	Large Square	185.50	150.00	225.00
	Large Round	120.00	100.00	180.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	157.50	100.00	215.00
	Large Square	148.50	95.00	200.00
	Large Round	121.10	50.00	160.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	60.00	50.00	70.00
	Large Square	105.40	70.00	140.00
	Large Round	90.00	45.00	125.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	92.50	85.00	100.00
	Large Square	102.50	30.00	140.00
	Large Round	78.00	55.00	100.00

The next Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted on March 13, 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/>.