



**Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest  
For May 8, 2017**

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 <http://fyi.uwex.edu/forage/> on the Team Forage web site and click on the [past hay reports](#) section.*

Hay auction data is collected on the first and third week of the month and posted on the following Monday when possible. Prices quoted in this report are for “as fed” alfalfa hay.

**Demand and Sales Activity**

The hay market continues to be a buyer’s market. There is demand for dairy quality hay and small square bales. A good supply of lower quality hay is discounted at local markets. With spring planting underway and pastures greening up, some hay markets have been discontinued for the summer months.

**Upper Midwest Hay Price Summary by Quality Grade**

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$218.00	\$180.00	\$250.00
	Large Square	\$181.00	\$130.00	\$265.00
	Large Round	No Reported Sales		
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$120.00	\$100.00	\$140.00
	Large Square	\$130.00	\$100.00	\$160.00
	Large Round	\$85.00	\$50.00	\$130.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$126.00	\$112.00	\$140.00
	Large Square	\$95.00	\$70.00	\$120.00
	Large Round	\$64.00	\$50.00	\$80.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No Reported Sales		
	Large Square	\$72.00	\$50.00	\$85.00
	Large Round	\$55.00	\$10.00	\$80.00



*For Nebraska*, hay sold unevenly steady with sporadic demand. Some cattlemen are buying up supplies of last year's hay to stock pile for future use, while others buy using the hand-to-mouth method. Wet heavy snow has slowed planting progress, however brought some needed moisture to some areas. There is talk that weather conditions may slow the growing alfalfa crop. *For Iowa*, most hay producers are sold out of last year's supply and will not have inventory until first crop in mid-May.

*In South Dakota*, buyer demand is light with some interest the past couple of weeks. Many farmer's hay supply is sold out for the year. Bedding materials are in demand. *In Illinois*, no reports this week.

*For Missouri*, this was a record setting week, but not for hay movement. Record rain fall and flooding was the concern this week and when will we be able to harvest first cutting? Livestock survival is the first concern of most farmers. Demand is light, prices are steady to weak.

*In Southwest Minnesota*, adequate supplies of average quality hay with steady prices. There continues to be a lack of quality hay at the auction.

*In Wisconsin*, quality hay will bring a good price; overall it is a buyer's market. Field work has begun and some local hay markets are closing until later in the summer.

Export report May 5, 2017, 1750 tons were exported this past week, price ranged from \$130.00 - \$165.00 per ton from USDA.

Straw prices were higher this week. Small square bale straw price averaged \$3.10 a bale this week (range of \$1.00 to \$6.00). Large square bale straw was up \$10.00 a bale averaging \$32.00 per bale (range of \$20.00 to \$40.00). Large round bales were about \$5.00 a bale higher this week and averaged \$25.00 per bale (wide range of \$5.00 to \$50.00).

The next Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted by Monday, May 22, 2017.

**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, Reedsville, and Stratford locations for their reports on untested 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/what1snew/>.

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 (market runs September – May)

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

The Dyersville Sales Company of Dyersville, Iowa is at <http://dyersvillesales.com/hay-auction/hay-auction-results/>. Fort Atkinson auction is at <http://www.fortatkinsonhay.com/>

**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/>. If you would like assistance posting to this web site, contact your county's UW-Extension agriculture agent.

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