



**Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest
For April 23, 2018**

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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 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 the following Monday when possible. Prices quoted in this report are for “as fed” alfalfa hay.

Demand and Sales Comments

Hay prices increased considerably this week. There was demand for quality hay at the auction and prices reflected that demand. The delayed spring of 2018, contributed to an increased price for all classes of hay this week as farmers are not able to move livestock out to pasture.

Upper Midwest Hay Price Summary by Quality Grade

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$259.00	\$180.00	\$355.00
	Large Square	\$228.00	\$150.00	\$400.00
	Large Round	\$173.00	\$150.00	\$185.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$223.00	\$200.00	\$280.00
	Large Square	\$173.00	\$120.00	\$235.00
	Large Round	\$145.00	\$75.00	\$215.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No Reported Sales		
	Large Square	\$134.00	\$63.00	\$170.00
	Large Round	\$130.00	\$59.00	\$160.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00
	Large Square	\$115.00	\$115.00	\$115.00
	Large Round	\$125.00	\$110.00	\$150.00



For Nebraska, alfalfa hay sold stronger this week, demand was very good after the blizzard that placed large snow banks in front of hay barns. New crop alfalfa is slow growing with the delayed spring weather. *For Iowa*, hay prices moved higher this week as weather delayed pasture growth. Most of the quality hay has been sold out resulting in lower quality hay bringing higher prices as no dairy quality hay was offered. Cold soil temperatures are preventing pasture green up.

In South Dakota, all hay class prices were at steady to higher. Demand is good with very good interest as hay supplies tighten and weather is delaying spring conditions and farmers need to supplement feed cattle.

For Missouri, hay supplies are tight and finding hay is a concern for those who need to feed cattle. Most years planting is well underway and grass growing faster than cattle can eat. This year has provided a different pattern than in the past. Good news is moisture has relieved some early drought concerns.

In Southwest Minnesota, market is steady with no fancy high end quality hay. Demand is good, but below last year's average.

In Wisconsin, there is demand for high quality hay with a limited supply and prices increased considerably this week on quality hay. Extended winter has some farmers making unexpected hay purchases and there has been an increase in hay prices. There continues to be a large supply of lower quality hay in the country side and some is now moving to the market.

Straw prices were stronger this week as weather conditions influenced the market. Small square bale straw price averaged \$3.90 a bale (range of \$1.25 to \$6.00). Large square bale straw increased \$5.00 per bale and averaged \$45.00 per bale (range of \$27.00 to \$82.00). Large round bale straw increased \$20.00 a bale and averaged \$65.00 per bale (range of \$55.00 to \$75.00) with a very limited supply.

The next Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted on Monday, May 14, 2018.

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/. 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/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 (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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