



## Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest as of September 20, 2013

Data Compiled by [Ken Barnett](#), UW-Extension

*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 [Buying and Selling Hay and Straw](#) web site and click on the [archived hay reports](#) section.*

### Demand and Sales Activity

Compared to the previous week, small square bale prices were up 2%. Large square bale prices were up 4%. Large round bale prices were up 2%. Sales activity was light to moderate.

For *Nebraska*, hay prices were \$20.00 lower on very limited alfalfa hay sales. Demand was light. Some feedlots are starting to grind high moisture corn. There was light rain in some areas of the state. Other parts of the state are expecting flooding from rain runoff in Colorado. For *Iowa*, hay prices were \$42.90 lower on very limited alfalfa hay sales. Large areas of the state are bone dry, but demand still remains light for most hay products.

In *South Dakota*, hay prices were \$1.70 lower. There was very good demand for dairy quality hay, and moderate to good demand for lower qualities. Anywhere from 1.0 to 2.5 inches of rain mid-week was received across the middle section of the region and provided some relief to the drought conditions that were being experienced. Some producers are working on some third cutting grass and fourth cutting alfalfa.

For *Missouri*, alfalfa hay prices were steady to \$3.15 lower. Hay supply is heavy. Demand is light. Several of the driest areas of the state have received some rain over the last week, but widespread, soaking rains would still be welcome on the pastures. Most cattlemen feel confident that they have more than enough hay to make it through winter, even if it is particularly long or harsh.

In Southwest *Minnesota*, hay prices were \$34.30 lower on light alfalfa hay sales. The demand for *Illinois* hay was moderate to good, as sales activity was moderate to active. Offerings were light. Hay prices were \$95.60 higher.

For *Wisconsin*, hay prices were \$18.65 higher on moderate trading at a quality-tested hay auction in Fennimore. The third cutting was 93 percent harvested compared to the 5-year average of 96 percent. The fourth cutting was 35 percent harvested compared to the 5-year average of 51 percent. Third crop hay yields have reportedly been low in many areas due to dry conditions. Pastures conditions were fairly stable and were rated at 31% very poor; 30% poor; 27% fair; 11% good; and 1% excellent.

Straw prices in the Midwest averaged \$3.43 per small square bale (range of \$3.00 to \$5.00); \$35.53 per large square bale (range of \$12.50 to \$50.63); and \$37.09 per large round bale (range of \$17.00 to \$55.00). Compared to the previous week, straw prices for small square bales were 3% lower. For large square bales, prices were 14% lower. For large round bales, prices were 11% lower.

### Hay Price Summary

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	217.50	180.00	260.00
	Large Square	256.49	160.00	325.00
	Large Round	209.56	130.00	300.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	153.50	100.00	220.00
	Large Round	151.33	100.00	205.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	131.20	131.20	131.20
	Large Square	125.89	100.00	151.79
	Large Round	114.82	87.50	155.00

The next Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted on September 30.

Due to the lack of quality-tested hay auctions in Wisconsin, five links are included in this report so producers can get obtain some state prices. 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/what1snew/>. The Tim Slack Auction and Realty, LLC of Fennimore is at <http://www.timslackauctionrealty.com/market%20report.html>. 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/>.