



Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest as of June 21, 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 down 1%. Large square bale prices were down 11%. Large round bale prices were down 17%. Sales activity was mostly light to moderate.

For *Nebraska*, hay prices were steady to \$16.25 lower. There was no test on new crop hay. Ground and delivered hay has really dropped off this week since most cattle are out on grass. A lot of the first cutting is down. Some is really good for tonnage and some is light on tonnage. A lot of brome grass is cut and most reports of really good tonnage in the Eastern part of the state. Some oat hay is getting ready to cut and bale. There was light to moderate hail in some parts of the state on Sunday which caused some damage to pastures and crops. There were several reports of a lot of "summer" feed have been planted across the state. This might include: millet, sorghum or sudangrass. For *Iowa*, hay prices were \$54.80 lower on very limited sales. There was no test on the market this week. Some hay down and baled. Some alfalfa is good quality other in poor quality due to excess rain. As of press time, no new crop hay has been sold. Many buyers and sellers are having a hard time figuring out where the new crop price will be.

In *South Dakota*, hay prices were \$59.00 lower. Demand was moderate to good for all classes of hay. Many hay growers were able to put up a first cutting of alfalfa hay and grass hay, without any rain on it. First cut of alfalfa was rather mature this year, due to the late first cutting made as frequent showers in recent weeks weren't conducive to haying. High humidity levels late week are keeping hay from drying easily, with more rain and storms forecast for the weekend. Producers were spraying for alfalfa weevils this week as well.

For *Missouri*, alfalfa hay prices were steady. Supply and demand are moderate. After a week of dry weather, producers are battling pop up showers trying to get hay baled. Few are actually getting rain, but a chance nearly every afternoon has made cutting decisions hard. Hay yields have been exceptional, allowing supplies to be rebuilt. However, hay quality varies greatly. Some producers have noted much of their hay has gotten very coarse and matured quicker than they could get it in to bales. Movement of hay has been light with not many sales of new crop hay taking place to provide a real solid test of this year's market so far.

In Southwest *Minnesota*, hay prices were \$41.25 lower on moderate alfalfa hay sales.

There were no alfalfa prices for *Illinois* posted this week.

For *Wisconsin*, hay prices were \$40.00 higher on active trading at a quality-tested hay auction in Fennimore. Mostly sunny and drier weather settled over Wisconsin, improving conditions for winter wheat, emerging summer crops, and pastures. However, much of the state received heavy rains on Friday. First cutting alfalfa was 36 percent harvested compared to the 5-year average of 71 percent. Baling dry hay has been nearly impossible with the frequent rains, and cuttings have reportedly been rained on several times where they are lying in fields. The first crop was reportedly good quantity, but middling in quality where it's been taken off. Pastures continued to improve and were rated at 0% very poor; 2% poor; 14% fair; 57% good; and 27% excellent.

Straw prices in the Midwest averaged \$2.90 per small square bale (range of \$1.85 to \$5.00); \$39.25 per large square bale (range of \$25.00 to \$61.88); and \$68.33 per large round bale (range of \$60.00 to \$80.00). Compared to the previous week, straw prices for small square bales were 14% lower. For large square bales, prices were 35% lower. For large round bales, prices were 15% higher.

Hay Price Summary

Hay Grade	Bale type	----- Price (\$/ton) -----		
		Average	Minimum	Maximum
Prime (> 151 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	271.25	205.00	350.00
	Large Square	271.56	165.00	330.00
	Large Round	247.99	150.00	350.00
Grade 1 (125 to 150 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	120.00	120.00	120.00
	Large Square	220.00	185.00	255.00
	Large Round	180.31	145.00	220.00
Grade 2 (103 to 124 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	124.71	75.00	185.00
	Large Round	140.00	100.00	155.00
Grade 3 (87 to 102 RFV/RFQ)	Small Square	No reported sales		
	Large Square	No reported sales		
	Large Round	110.00	110.00	110.00

The next Weekly Hay Market Demand and Price Report for the Upper Midwest will be posted on July 1.

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/. 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 Sheboygan County hay auction at Waldo is back. Results can be found at <http://sheboygan.uwex.edu/2012-2013-sheboygan-county-hay-auctions/>.

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/>.