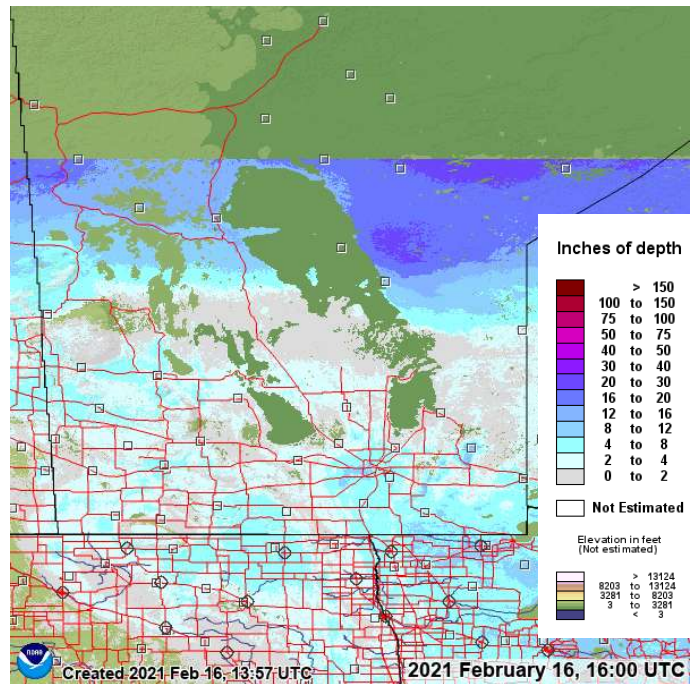


February Hay Situation and Price Update

By John McGregor, MFGA Extension Support

Hay supplies throughout Manitoba are reported as adequate to a slight surplus situation as we move into spring. Above normal temperatures thru December and January have stretched feed supplies and although February has seen well below normal temperatures it's likely - even with the extra feed requirements over the past two weeks - that producers with normal or slightly above normal forage supplies will have enough inventory to see them thru to spring.

Below normal precipitation continues to be a concern. Having gone into the winter of 2020-21 with dry soil conditions across most of the province and below normal amounts of snowfall, a large part of Manitoba is setting itself up for very dry conditions going into spring.



Hay Prices

February continues to see some price softening and tightening of price ranges as the potential for a forage shortage diminishes. There continues to be limited movement of hay throughout most of the province. There is some increased interest for hay outside of Manitoba and looking at the conditions to the south we see that dry conditions extend well beyond Manitoba. Presently hay seems to be available and producers may have the opportunity to replenish inventories for future hay shortages.

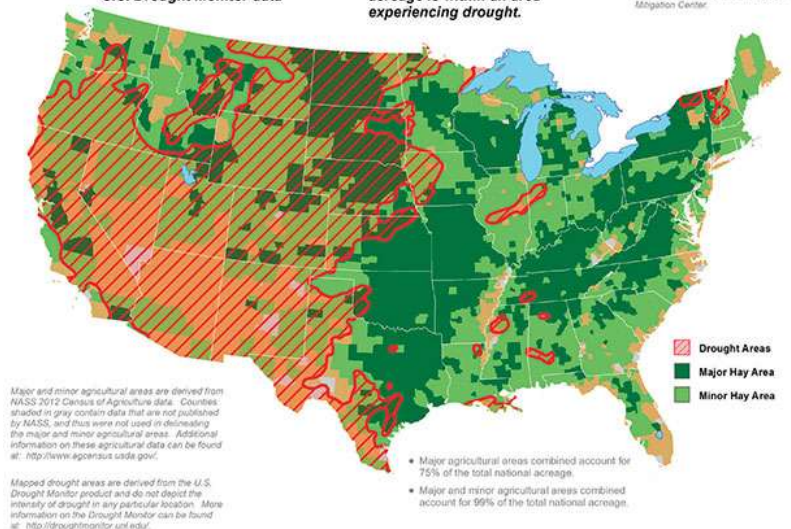
FIGURE 1 Hay drought

U.S. Hay Areas Experiencing Drought

Reflects February 2, 2021
U.S. Drought Monitor data

Approximately 33% of hay
acreage is within an area
experiencing drought.

USDA NDMC
This product is prepared jointly by the
USDA World Agricultural Outlook
Board and the U.S. National Drought
Mitigation Center.



[Kijiji Manitoba](#) and the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) have a lot of new listings this month. The Face book group **Manitoba Hay and Feed For Buy/sell** is another site that has a number of new listings for January. Although there is a slight decrease in some prices from the last report, the asking price range seems to be tightening as present demand decreases.

Alfalfa:	5-7.5 cents/lb
	Dairy Quality 8-12 cents/lb
Alfalfa/grass:	good quality 5-8 cents/lb
	Beef quality 4-6 cents/lb
Beef hay (grass):	5-7 cents/lb
Greenfeed:	5.5-6 cents/lb
Horse hay:	5-9 cents/lb
Native Hay:	4.5 cents/lb
Straw:	1-2 cents/lb
Grass straw	1-3 cents/lb
Corn Stover	2.5 cents/lb

The [Wisconsin Hay Report](#) and the [Progressive Forage Market Insight](#) provide some information as to what is happening to the south of us.

Producers wanting to make use of the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) service should call Manitoba Agriculture Resource Development toll-free at **1-84-GROW-MB-AG (1-844-769-6224)** and the department will call them back within 30 minutes to capture information.

Special thanks to MARD staff, Pam Iwanchysko and to Darren Chapman, Darnell Plett, and Bill and Isabel Acheson for their assistance in collecting and compiling this information.

If you are interested in assisting the Manitoba Forage and Grassland Association in providing information for our monthly **Hay Situation and Price Update**, please contact John McGregor at john@mfga.net.