



December Hay Situation and Price Update

By John McGregor, MFGA Extension Support

As we move into December, the hay situation throughout the province hasn't changed much from November. Presently it seems to indicate that forage supplies are still adequate to above. All areas of the province are reporting that forage quality is below normal and that producers may need to supplement rations this winter to meet livestock needs. Some areas are reporting feed grains being brought in to boost the energy values of rations. With the delayed snow fall and the open fall and early winter, cattle have been taking advantage of standing and swathed forage. As well the milder conditions have enabled cattle to maintain body condition on the lower quality feed. Once cooler conditions are encountered cows may not be able to maintain condition on some of the poorer feedstuff. Producers are being encouraged to have their feed tested to determine if their inventories will meet the nutrient requirements of their livestock.

Hay Prices

With forage supplies adequate to above, prices have stayed fairly steady from last month's update. Supplies of beef quality hay are in a surplus situation and dairy quality supplies seem to be adequate but sales are limited. Straw supplies are limited.

Alfalfa:	5-7 cents/lb
	Dairy Quality 10 cents/lb
Alfalfa/Grass:	Good Quality 5-7cents/lb
	Beef Quality 2.5-4 cents/lb
Beef Hay (grass):	2.5-5 cents/lb
Horse Hay:	5-7 cents/lb
Straw:	1-2.2 cents/lb

Movement of hay at this point seems to be very limited with little local or outside demand. Looking at hay prices to the south I am seeing dairy quality hay in the 5-8.5 cent range, good quality hay in the 4.5-7 cent range and beef hay at 2-5.5 cents/lb. You can get a better idea of their prices by going to: [Wisconsin Hay Report](#)

[Kijiji Manitoba](#) has more listings for hay for sale this month as does the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) site.

Special thanks to Mb Ag staff, Pam Iwanchysko, Tim Clarke, Shawn Cabak and Peter Petrash, and to 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.