

August Hay Situation & Price Update

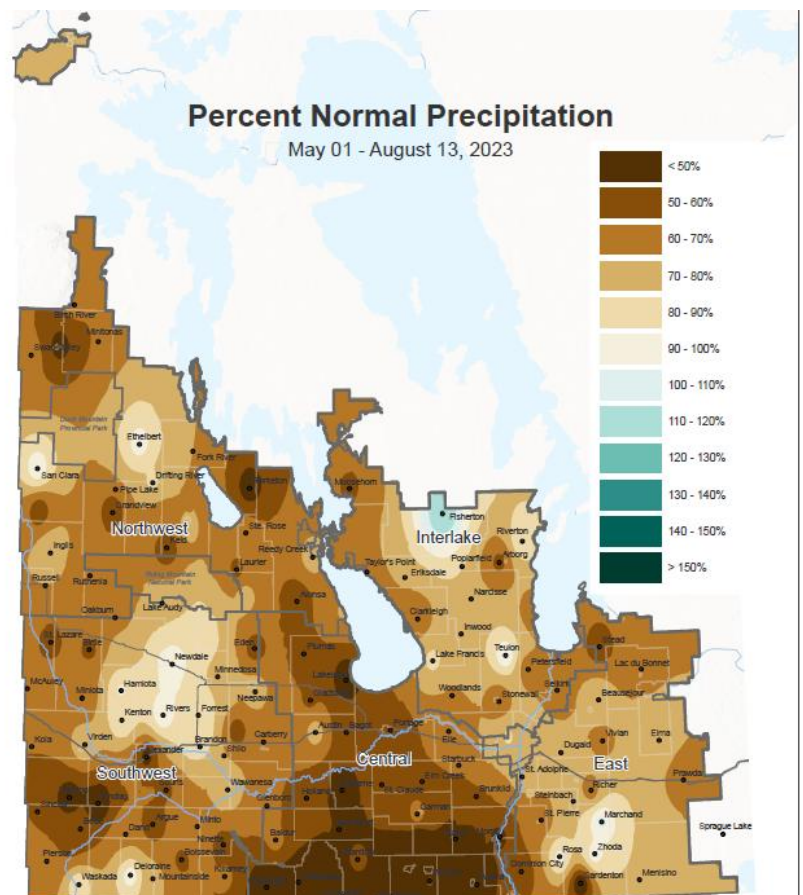
By John McGregor, MFGA Extension Support

Rains this past week, although welcome, have done little to alleviate the moisture situation affecting hay and pasture fields.

Second cut on alfalfa fields has wrapped up with reports across Manitoba as being below average in quantity. With very slow re-growth third cut, if it takes place shouldn't likely happen until after the Critical Harvest Period.

For a lot of the area across Manitoba there will be little if any second cut of grass hay. Although quite variable many areas are reporting yields of grass and grass/alfalfa as well below average (50 percent).

In some of the dryer areas pasture conditions are very poor and some producers have begun to feed hay on pasture. The recent rains have some pastures starting to green up but those that have already browned off likely won't produce much new forage and if grazed too short may suffer next year.



Hay Prices

Although early, we are starting to see an upward trend in hay prices from last winter. Wide swings in moisture across Manitoba has resulted in some areas receiving 60 to 70 percent normal precipitation while others are well below 50 percent.

The 2022 forage crop was reported as average to above and going into the fall. 2023 has some producers are reporting yields of 50 to 60 percent of normal. With the present situation in Saskatchewan there is the potential that hay could be coming out of

Manitoba to meet some of the demand there, causing prices to increase later this fall or make securing feed more difficult.

[Kijiji Manitoba](#) and the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) have numerous 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.

Alfalfa:	6-10 cents/lb
	Dairy Quality 10-12 cents/lb
Alfalfa/grass:	Good Quality 6.5-8 cents/lb
	Beef Quality 5-10 cents/lb
Beef hay (grass):	6-9.5 cents/lb
Greenfeed:	N/A
Horse hay:	N/A
Native Hay:	N/A
Straw: cereal:	N/A

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 Darnell Plett, Bill and Isabel Acheson and Darren 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.