



January Hay Situation and Price Update

By John McGregor, MFGA Extension Support

Since our December update, the hay situation across Manitoba has continued to tighten. Hay marketers are reporting they are sold out but are still getting calls from producers looking for hay/straw.

A quick search of the sites listed below indicates there are some supplies still available but limited. **There are also reports of hay coming into Manitoba from Montana.**

On a more positive note, I am continuing to hear that in some cases local hays, due to the lack of rain, have been put up in excellent condition (no rain) and feed tests are showing TDN's slightly higher than normal and producers are finding that this is extending their hay supplies. I am also hearing that producers with adequate supplies may have surplus hay available later in the winter if this winter continues to be mild and short.

With the hay situation that we are presently experience here in Manitoba, the Manitoba Hay Disaster Benefit fund is providing some relief to hay farmers after the especially poor 2018 harvest triggered a payout.

[Read the full Brandon Sun article.](#)

[Read the full MASC media release on the Manitoba Hay Disaster Benefit Fund here.](#)

Hay Prices

Looking at prices that I received this month, prices are slightly higher than the December report.

Alfalfa:	8-12 cents/lb
	Dairy Quality 10.5-17 cents/lb (high end 200+ rfv)
Alfalfa/grass:	good quality 6- 10 cents/lb
	Beef quality 5-7 cents/lb
Beef hay (grass):	4-7 cents/lb
Greenfeed	5-7 cents/lb
Horse hay:	6-12.5
Straw:	2.5-5.5 cents/lb

I have received a report of corn stover being offered at \$30/bale and old silage at 7.6-9.1 cents/lb DM.

[Kijiji Manitoba](#) has a number of hay for sale listings this month. The [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) site has a number of listing for both hay and straw but limited information on price. The [Wisconsin Hay Report](#) indicates that there continues to be a strong demand for good quality hay and it looks like prices are up from last month. The [Hay Market Report](#) gives some indication on the hay situation and prices in the US.

Producers wanting to make use of the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) service should call Manitoba Agriculture 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 Mb Ag staff, Jane Thornton, producers Darren Chapman, Bill and Isabel Acheson, Darnell Plett and Adrian Siemens and industry rep Curt Bossuyt 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.