

## Hay Prices April 2008

These are hay prices paid at auction in the recent past weeks. Much of the price information is obtained from USDA Hay Market News. Personal contacts of local Iowa hay auctions secured price information for these market outlets.

The USDA Market News group uses the following hay classification designations in their market price reports. Of all hay sold, 1% or less would be designated in the supreme class. There is a general relationship between visual characteristics and forage analyses. If possible, the following Hay test analyses ranges (on dry matter basis) should be used to establish the appropriate quality designation. When feeding livestock, sample all forage lots and use forage analysis information for balancing livestock rations.

	Relative Feed Value RFV ) index	Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF) %	Neutral Detergent Fiber (NDF) %	(Alfalfa*) Crude Protein (CP) %	(Mixed & Grass) Crude Protein (CP) %
Supreme	> 185	< 27	< 34	> 22	**
Premium	70-185	27-29	34-36	20-22	>13
Good	150-170	29-32`	36-40	18-20	9 -13
Fair	130-150	32-35	40-44	16-18	5 - 9
Utility	< 130	> 35	> 44	< 16	<5

-----  
\* Alfalfa & alfalfa with up to 10% grass (USDA)

\*\* The 'Supreme' category is not appropriate for grass hays

Visual hay quality descriptions used in the USDA Hay Market News. (Note: these visual traits do not necessarily equate to the forage analysis ranges listed in the previous chart.)

### Supreme

Very early maturity, pre-bloom, soft, fine stemmed, extra-leafy. Factors indicative of very high nutritive content. Hay is excellent color and free of damage.

### Premium

(dairy quality) pre bloom or very early bloom legumes, grass vegetative, generally green with no rain damage

### Good

(dairy and feedlot quality) early to mid-bloom legumes, grass vegetative or very early head, generally no rain

### Fair

(feedlot or beef quality) mid- to late-bloom legumes, grass headed, coarse/stemmy, may show some rain damage

### Utility

(formerly 'Low') - very late maturity, or very coarse/stemmy, or considerable discoloration or rain damage

This report for mid- to late-April 2008

Fort Atkinson (NE IA) Wednesdays, 1:00PM (Kind and Quality of lots not stated) 1st Cut: SmSq \$75-185/T; LgSq \$85-180/T; LgRd \$40-170/T 2nd Cut: SmSq \$105-170/T; LgSq \$115-255/T; LgRd \$60-150/T 3rd Cut: SmSq \$125-225/T; LgSq \$120-255/T; LgRd \$75-165/T 4th Cut SmSq \$130-220/T; LgSq \$135/T; LgRd \$90/T 5th Cut ( SmSq \$210/T Mar) Oat Hay LgRd \$65- 90/T CRP (LgSq \$120/T Mar)

Straw: SmSq \$120-150/T; LgSq \$75-105/T; LgRd \$50-100/T Cornstalks (SmSq \$85/T; LgSq \$75-80/T Mar); LgRd \$25-60/T

Dyersville (NE IA ) Thursdays 10:30 AM

(Type of hay not stated)

Supreme SmSq \$215/T; (LgSq \$195/T Mar)

Premium: (SmSq \$4.00/bale Mar); LgSq \$162.50-245/T; (LgRd \$125-137.50/T Mar)

Good: (SmSq \$2.00-3.00/bale; \$95/T Mar) ; LgSq \$127.50-210/T; LgRd \$127.50-180/T

Fair: SmSq \$2.50/bale; LgSq \$110-165/T; LgRd \$100-142.50/T

Utility: (LgSq \$70-110/T Mar); LgRd \$70-125/T Mixed Leg/Gr:

Good to Excellent: LgSq \$130-225/T

Good: SmSq \$3.40-4.25/bale; LgRd \$120-155/T

Grass: Good SmSq \$2.80-2.85/b; LgSq \$110-145/T; LgRd \$100-130/T Fair (LgRd \$82.50-95/T Mar)

CRP: LgSq \$130-140/T; LgRd Good \$117.50-120/, (Fair/Poor \$47.50/T Mar) Oat Hay LgRd \$90-

92.50/T Prairie LgRd \$102.50-142.50/T

Straw: (SmSq \$2.40/b Mar); LgSq \$30-42//bale; (LgRd \$25-28/b Mar)

Cornstalks: LgSq \$40/bale; LgRd \$31-42/bale

Riceville (NE IA) 1st & 3rd Fri Sales

Alfalfa: (SmSq \$3.50-4.25/bale; LgSq \$195-245/T Mar); LgRd \$175-225/T Mixed Alf/Gr: SmSq \$3.50-4.00/b; (LgRd \$135-150/T Mar)

Straw: LgSq \$85-100/T

Cornstalks: LgRd \$22-25bale

Forest City (NC IA) (Wed eve. sales)

Alfalfa: SmSq \$3.50-5.00/b; LgSq \$55-70/b Mixed Legume/Gr: SmSq \$3.50-5.00/b; (LgSq \$35-70/b Mar); LgRd \$45-70/T

Grass: SmSq \$2.50-4.00/bale

Straw: SmSq \$2.50-4.00/bale

Cornstalks: SmSq \$2.25/bale

Spencer Livestock Sales (NW IA) (2nd & 4th Tuesdays)

Alfalfa: SmSq \$4.00-6.00/bale; LgSq \$125-160/T; LgRd \$130-150/T

Mixed: (SmSq \$4.00-6.00/bale Mar); LgRd \$130-150/T

Grass: (SmSq \$4.00-6.00/bale Mar); LgRd \$125-140/T

Straw: SmSq \$2.90-3.80/bale

Cornstalks: LgRd \$22.50-35/bale

Rock Valley (NW IA) (Monday & Thursdays 1:00PM) Alfalfa

Supreme: SmSq \$155-157.50/T; LgSq \$150/T

Premium: (SmSq \$125-140/T Mar); LgSq \$112.50-135/T; LgRd \$110-140/T

Good: (LgSq \$95-110/T Mar); LgRd \$82.50-110/T

Fair: LgRd \$70-85/T

Mixed Hay

Premium: SmSq \$127.50/T; LgSq \$125/T; LgRd \$115/T

Good: (LgSq \$100-105/T Mar); LgRd \$105-110/T

Fair: LgSq \$65/T; (LgRd \$77.50-85/T Mar) Grass Hay

Premium: SmSq \$120-180/T; LgSq \$120-125/T; LgRd \$110-142.50/T

Good: SmSq \$117.50/T; LgSq \$95/T; LgRd \$80-107.50/T  
Fair: (LgSq \$72.50/T Mar); LgRd \$60-70/T  
Straw: (SmSq \$2.00-3.00/b Mar); LgSq \$13-23/b, (\$57.50-62.50/T Mar); LgRd \$52.50-77.50/T  
Cornstalks : LgSq \$35/T; LgRd \$25/b, \$50/T

Maurice (NW IA) (Thurs 12:30P)

Alfalfa:

Supreme: SmSq \$150/T; LgSq \$145/T  
Premium: LgSq \$132.50-145/T; LgRd \$117.50-142.50/T  
Good: (SmSq \$95/T; LgSq \$105-115/T Mar); LgRd \$90-112.50/T  
Fair: (LgRd \$80-85/T Mar)

Mixed Legume/Grass:

Premium: LgSq \$120/T; (LgRd \$122.50/T Mar)  
Good: (LgRd \$105/T Mar)

Grass:

Premium: SmSq \$130-250/T; (LgSq \$119/T Mar); LgRd \$117.50-130/T  
Good: SmSq \$90-95/T; LgRd \$95-107.50/T  
Straw: (SmSq \$2.30-2.60/b Mar); LgSq \$80/T; LgRd \$70/T  
Cornstalks: LgSq \$45/T; (LgRd \$48/T Mar)

Denison (WC IA) (Sat 11:00A)

Alfalfa/Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$4.00-7.75/b; LgSq \$80/b; (LgRd \$100/b Mar)  
Grass: SmSq \$5.25/bale  
Straw; (SmSq \$2.70-3.40/b Mar)  
Cornstalks: (SmSq \$1.60/b Mar); LgRd \$30/bale

Stuart (WC IA) Noon Saturdays

Alfalfa: (SmSq \$3.60-4.40/bale Mar)  
Mixed Leg/Gr: (SmSq \$3.20-4.10/bale Mar); LgRd \$67-87/bale Cornstalks" LgRd \$34-37/bale

Perry (Central Iowa) (Sat Noon)

Alfalfa & Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$5.00-7.00/bale; (LgSq \$70/T Mar); LgRd \$70-90/T  
Grass: SmSq \$3.50-7.00/bale; LgRd \$72-75/bale  
Straw: SmSq \$3.00/bale  
Cornstalks: SmSq \$2.00bale; LgRd \$22-24/bale

Private Broker Sales -- Ave. of prices from South Central Iowa (Indianola & Adair); and North Central Iowa, (Hampton) Alfalfa & Mixed Grass/Legume

Supreme: SmSq \$140-165/T; LgSq \$140-165/T  
Premium/Good: SmSq \$125-150/T; LgSq \$125-150/T; LgRd \$100-125/T  
Grass: Premium SmSq \$90-100/T; LgSq \$ 90-100/T

Walcott (EC IA) 2nd Sat Dec-Mar; Noon  
Sales resume in the Fall

Keosauqua (SE IA) Sat 11:30A

Alfalfa: SmSq \$3.50-7.25/bale;  
Grass : SmSq \$2.85-4.00/ale  
Straw: SmSq \$2.10-3.00/bale

Kalona (SE IA) 1st Thurs, Yr-round 11:30AM (& 3rd Thurs Oct-winter) Alfalfa : (LgSq \$220/T Mar)

Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$2.70-4.10/b; (LgSq \$82.50-127.50/T; \$45/bale Mar);  
LgRd \$45-67.50/T

Grass: LgSq \$30/bale  
Straw (SmSq \$3.10/-3.50bale; LgRd \$42.50/b Mar)

Cornstalks: (LgRd \$45-47.50/bale Mar)

Creston (SW IA) 10:30AM Friday

Alfalfa LgRd \$77.50-90/bale

Mixed Leg/GR: SmSq \$4.50-5.75/bale; (LgRd \$90-102.50/T Mar)

Grass: (SmSq \$3.30-5.80/bale; LgRd \$33.50-58/b/bale Mar)

Straw: SmSq \$3.20/bale; (LgRd \$25-35/bale Mar)

Cornstalks: LgRd \$27-28/bale

Shenandoah (SW IA) Monday Sale

Alfalfa & Alf/Grass Mixed: (SmSq \$5.00-5.50/bale Mar)

Grass: SmSq \$4.80/bale

Straw: (SmSq \$3.50/b Mar)

"Missouri Market" (Mid / Late- April 2008 USDA Market Price Report) Alfalfa Supreme (RFV >185):  
SmSq \$160-190/T

Prem (RFV 170-180): \$140-175/T

Good/Fair: (RFV 130-170) SmSq \$90-160/T; LgSq \$90-160/T; LgRd \$80-140/T Mixed Leg/Gr: Good

SmSq \$3.00-6.50/bale LgRd \$40-75/bale Grass :

Good/Prem LgSq \$80-130/T

Good SmSq \$60-120/T

Timothy SmSq \$3.00-4.50/bale

Mixed grass: Fair LgRd \$30-50/bale

Prairie hay: SmSq \$80-125/T; LgRd \$40-75/T Bluestem Good/Fair LgRd \$40/bale Bermudagrass

Good LgRd \$50-65/bale, \$70-80/T Wheat Hay: \$50-70/T

Straw: SmSq \$2.00-3.50/bale

"Northern & Central Illinois (April 2008 USDA Market Report)

Alfalfa

Premium: SmSq \$160-210/T; LgSq \$160-185/T; LgRd \$130-150/T

Good: SmSq \$140-170/T; LgSq \$140-165/T; LgRd \$100-130/T

Fair: SmSq \$120-140/T; LgSq \$120-150/T; LgRd \$80-100/T

Utility: SmSq \$80-105/T; LgSq \$100-120/T; LgRd \$70-80/T

Mixed Leg/Grass

Premium: SmSq \$160-190/T; LgSq \$160-180/T

Good: SmSq \$140-160/T; LgSq \$130-160/T; LgRd \$100-120/T

Fair: SmSq \$120-140/T; LgSq \$120-140/T; LgRd \$80-120/T

Utility: SmSq \$80-100/T; LgSq \$80-100/T; LgRd \$60-80/T

Grass:

Premium: SmSq \$140-180/T; LgSq \$140-160/T; LgRd \$100-130/T

Good : SmSq \$120-140/T; LgSq \$120-150/T; LgRd \$80-100/T

Fair: SmSq \$100-120/T; LgSq \$100-120/T; LgRd \$60-100/T

Utility; SmSq \$80-100/T; LgSq \$80-110/T; LgRd \$50-75/T

Straw: SmSq \$2.00-3.00/b, \$90-120/T; LgSq \$90-120/T; LgRd \$50-60/bale

Wisconsin 'Market'

Waldo WI & Fon du Lac Co WI

Sales resume in the fall

"Minnesota Market"-SW MN (Mid- to late April 2008 USDA Market Report) Alfalfa

Supreme: SmSq \$147.50-175/T; LgSq \$157.50-160/T; LgRd \$150-160/T

Premium: SmSq \$132.50/T; LgSq \$130-160/T; LgRd \$112.50-147.50/T

Good: SmSq \$97.50-112.50/T; LgSq \$102.50/T; LgRd \$90-107.50T

#### Mixed Leg/Gr

Premium: SmSq \$145/T; (LgSq \$140/T Mar); LgRd \$115-152.50/T

Good: LgSq \$97.50-102.50/T Mar); LgRd \$90-110/T

Fair: (LgSq \$85/T; LgRd \$85/T Mar)

#### Grass

Premium: SmSq \$135/-165/T; LgRd \$115-152.50/T

Good: (SmSq \$92.50-95/T Mar); LgSq \$100-102.50/T; LgRd \$90-117.50/T

Fair: (LgSq \$85/T Mar); LgRd \$70-95/T

Utility: (LgRd \$60-72.50/T Mar)

Straw: SmSq \$2.50-3.05/bale; (LgSq \$20/bale Mar); LgRd \$15-28/bale

Cornstalks: LgRd \$16-27/bale

#### Houston County MN Tested Hay Auction 14 March 2008 (2nd Fri, Dec-March)

Sales resume in the fall

"South Dakota Market" (Mid- to Late-April 2008 USDA Market Report) Alfalfa RFV >185 LgSq \$160-205/T RFV >170-185 LgSq \$125-165/T; LgRd \$120-140/T RFV 150-160 LgSq \$95-110/T LgRd \$90-100/T Grinding Hay; LgSq \$90-100/T; LgRd \$90-105/T Mixed Leg/Gr: Good (LgRd \$100/T Mar)

Grass: Prem (LgSq \$100-110/T Mar)

Good LgSq \$100/T; LgRd \$90-100/T

Straw: LgRd \$50-60/T

#### Alcester, SD (SE SD) (Mid- to late April 2008 USDA Report)

##### Alfalfa:

Supreme: SmSq \$180/T, (\$4.60/bale Mar))

Premium (SmSq \$110/T Mar); LgSq \$120/T; LgRd \$110-145/T

Good: SmSq \$100/T; LgRd \$95-107.50/T

Mixed Leg/Gr: Premium SmSq \$135/T; Fair LgRd \$75/T

Grass: Premium SmSq \$125-140/T; LgRd \$115-127.50/T

Good (SmSq \$110/T; LgSq \$107.50/T Mar); LgRd \$102.50/T

Fair: (LgRd \$75-87.50/T Mar)

Straw: SmSq \$2.10/b; (LgRd \$55-60/T Mar)

#### "Nebraska Market" (Mid- to late April 2008 USDA Report) Alfalfa

Premium: (170-185 RFV) SmSq \$125-145/T

'Grinding Hay - ground & delivered' \$115-120/T

#### Internet-based Hay Source possibilities:

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), responded to drought- induced hay and pasture deficit conditions by its establishing a www website - Hay Net - for producers to list information concerning the need for hay or the availability of hay. The WWW link to this site is listed below.

Using the USDA Hay Net page is not as user-friendly as the earlier version. If you want to see the listings 'for sale', In the center-right 'box' on the page, select the line 'Access eHayNet Service'. That will take you to the 2nd page where you must choose either: NEED (hay ads) or HAVE (hay ads). Then a 'state' (the state where the hay is listed,). The 'Select' button will then take you to the listings for that state. Contacts and a limited description of hay available or needed can be found. As with other 'hay list'-type www sites, price and details about sales transactions must be completed between buyer and seller. Note: Not all lots listed for a state are located in that state, approximately half are from other states and Canada

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/hayNet?area=online&subject=landing&topic=han&setflag=welcome>

<<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/hayNet?area=online&subject=landing&topic=han&setflag=welcome>> |

checked this site on 30 April 2008 and found the following # of listings:

State	Listings
Iowa	7
Missouri	25
Illinois	7
Wisconsin	8
Minnesota	3
South Dakota	6
Nebraska	13

#### IOWA HAY & STRAW DIRECTORY

The Marketing Division of the Iowa Dept. of Agriculture and Land Stewardship publishes a Hay & Straw Directory each Autumn. It includes names & contact information for hay sellers, hay brokers, auctions, commercial grinders, hay market associations, etc.,. They are taking new listings anytime and post them on the WWW Hay and Straw Directory site. Clients are encouraged to use the WWW site. A few printed booklets may be available, but may not be as 'up-to-date' as is the WWW site version. Phone 1-800-383-5079 or (515) 281-5993 for information, or their WWW site:

<http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us/hay&straw.asp>

<<http://www.agriculture.state.ia.us/hay%26straw.asp>>

Upper Midwest Haylist

"Electronic Market Service of Buyers and Sellers"

The Upper Midwest Haylist allows sellers to list lots of hay for 30-60 days, free of charge; & for buyers to access it for hay availability. Sellers can include: name, address, Phone/FAX/e-mail, type of hay (>95%alfalfa, Alf/Gr, Clover, >95% Grass etc), type of bale, which cutting ex. 2000 2nd, tons/bales available, quality ex. RFD or CP, asking price per ton.

<http://www.haylist.umn.edu/index.asp>

<<http://www.haylist.umn.edu/index.asp>>

On 30 April 2008 the following was listed.

State	Listings
Iowa	-
Missouri	-
Illinois	-
Wisconsin	4
Minnesota	2
South Dakota	-
Nebraska	-

WWW 'Hay Lists' from other surrounding states....

South Dakota State University Extension Service -- "Feed Finder"

/ Hay List This www site provides opportunity to 'post messages' about hay for sale, 'hay wanted', 'pasture for rent' etc. Use this www address:

<http://sdces.sdstate.edu:8080/FeedFinder/?14@778.2gy9a9EQbao.0@>

<<http://sdces.sdstate.edu:8080/FeedFinder/?14@778.2gy9a9EQbao.0@>>

Wisconsin Extension provides a forage hay-list that it has established Listings are by county. The list can be found at the following www site: <http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu/>

<<http://farmertofarmer.uwex.edu/>> Missouri Hay Market www site.

<http://agebb.missouri.edu/haylst/index.htm>

<<http://agebb.missouri.edu/haylst/index.htm>> Nebraska Alfalfa Marketing Assn www site. Browse through the "Inventory" tab. <http://www.nebraska-alfalfa.com/> <<http://www.nebraska-alfalfa.com/>>

Nebraska Dept. of Agric Hay and Forage 'Hotline' www site  
<http://www.agr.state.ne.us/hayhot/hayhotline.htm>

<<http://www.agr.state.ne.us/hayhot/hayhotline.htm>> Commercial www sites

#### INTERNET HAY EXCHANGE

http <<http://www.hayexchange.com/hay.htm>> :// [www.hayexchange.com/hay.htm](http://www.hayexchange.com/hay.htm)  
<<http://www.hayexchange.com/hay.htm>>

Buyers and sellers can place and find specifics about type of hay, location, quantity, price, quality, delivery options, etc. on this commercial internet site. On 30 April 2008 listings were:

State	Listings
Iowa	42
Missouri	45
Illinois	51
Wisconsin	54
Minnesota	27
South Dakota	23
Nebraska	34

Bid-4-Hay [http://www.bid4hay.com/index.php?a=28&b=142&redirect\\_check=4](http://www.bid4hay.com/index.php?a=28&b=142&redirect_check=4)

<[http://www.bid4hay.com/index.php?a=28&b=142&redirect\\_check=4](http://www.bid4hay.com/index.php?a=28&b=142&redirect_check=4)> Operating in Oklahoma. It is an online hay classifieds and auction listing service. Allows listing and searching for hay. The interactive 'search' engine asks for your Zip Code and the distance range that you would like to search in. On March 28, 2008 there was 1 listing for hay within 300 miles of Ames Iowa.

The 'Hay Barn' <http://www.haybarn.com/reports/showads.asp?category=Hay>  
<<http://www.haybarn.com/reports/showads.asp?category=Hay>>

Hay listings are grouped by state. Sellers list type, description, sometimes price, and telephone number.

#### The Haymarket

<http://www.case-agworld.com/cAw.HM.html> <<http://www.case-agworld.com/cAw.HM.html>> The 'main page' has a lot of information. About 1/4 of the way down the page are some 'www links' to hay-related listings by 'region of the country. This leads to various formats of hay listings.

-----  
If you need to look to a farther distance, Check the Manitoba Canada www Hay & Forage Council site for Hay sellers:

<http://www.mbforagecouncil.mb.ca/foragehaymarketing/provincialhaymarketersandprocessors/default.aspx>

<<http://www.mbforagecouncil.mb.ca/foragehaymarketing/provincialhaymarketersandprocessors/default.aspx>> Provided by:

Stephen K. Barnhart  
Professor of Agronomy - Forages Extension  
2104 Agronomy Hall, 100 Osborn Dr.  
Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011-1010  
Phone (Office) (515) 294-7835  
FAX (Office) (515) 294-9985  
email address [sbarnhar@iastate.edu](mailto:sbarnhar@iastate.edu)