

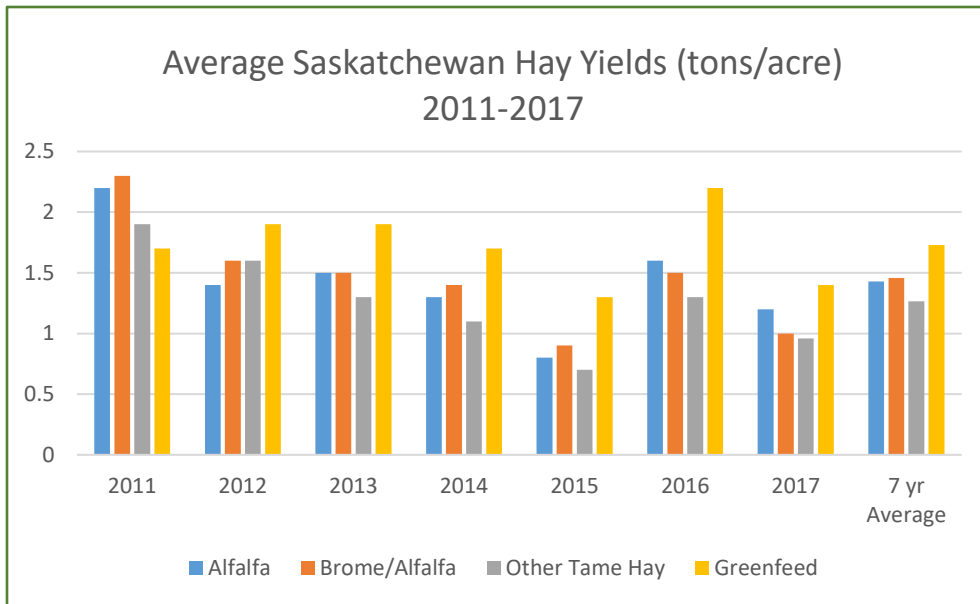


A Snapshot of the Saskatchewan Forage Market Price Survey September 2017

Hay yields were visibly below the long-term average for Saskatchewan for the second time in three years.

Soil moisture conditions were ideal across Saskatchewan at the start of the growing season. Although the growing season started early, plants were slow to take off and grow. Widespread frost mid May injured forages, setting back yield potentials. A widespread lack of precipitation followed, except for north west parts of the province which experienced

fairly moist growing conditions. Average hay yields for crops are displayed below.

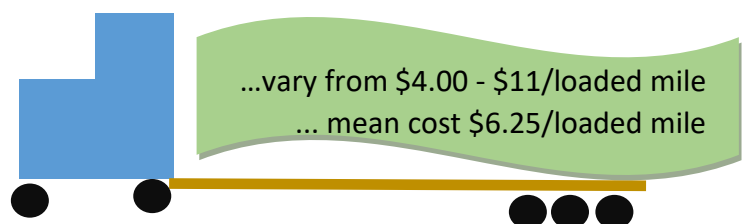


Haying weather was hot and dry across Saskatchewan. Haying was completed in a decent timeframe with very little rain showers. Hay quality is superb across the province. Greenfeed and straw quality will also be high if it was baled before mid and late September rains.

Pests and disease were not a common issue in forages in 2017. Producers should be mindful that pockets of alfalfa weevil infestations are found throughout the province and can cause serious damage to alfalfa crops. Scout fields frequently in June.

2017 Provincial Forage Yields (tons/acre)		
Crop	Dry Land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa Hay	1.2	1.9
Brome/Alfalfa Hay	1.0	2.0
Other Tame Hay	0.96	2.2
Wild Hay	0.9	0.6
Greenfeed	1.4	1.8

2017 Forage Freight Rates



Forage Type	Weighted Average Price (\$/tonne)
Grass Hay	\$110.01
First Cut Alfalfa	\$153.89
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$141.92
Alfalfa/Grass mix	\$127.93
Greenfeed	\$120.37
Cereal Straw	\$54.80
Pulse Straw	\$71.66

Hay listings are turning into hay sales in 2017. The majority of listings of average priced forages sold in under a week during September, 2017. As fall and winter progresses and producers can see how on-farm supplies are holding up the price of forages will fluctuate accordingly.

Cereal \$43.50/wet tonne

2017 Silage Values
Many producers are turning to silage as a viable forage option.

Corn \$50/wet tonne

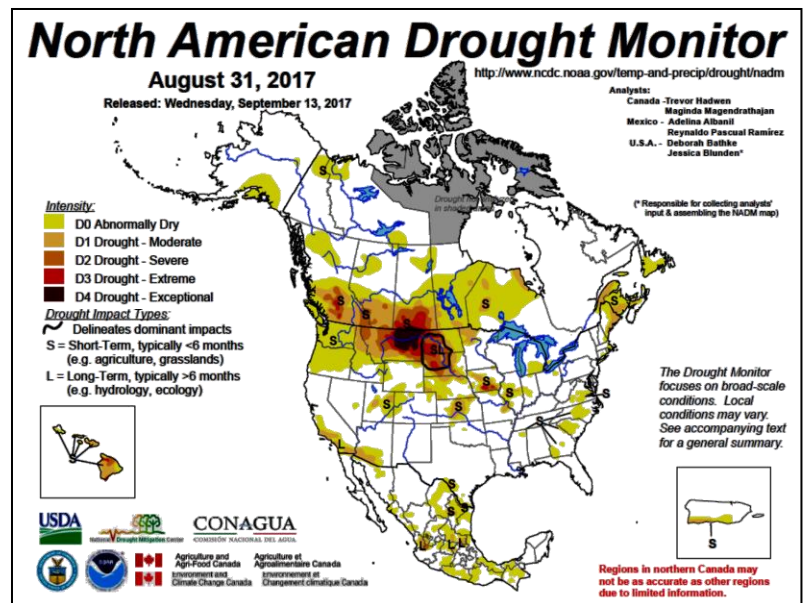
Average Forage Prices in Saskatchewan from 2013-2017

Forage Type	2017 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2016 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2015 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2014 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2013 Average Price (\$/Tonne)
Grass Hay	110.013	\$100.66	\$162.98	\$94	\$82
First Cut Alfalfa	153.89	\$97.78	\$197.23	\$98	\$98
Second Cut Alfalfa	141.92	\$127.36	\$232.33	\$118	\$111
Alfalfa/Grass Mix	127.93	\$97.98	\$177.35	\$86	\$81
Greenfeed	120.37	\$94.60	\$140.96	\$83	\$79
Straw	54.80	\$63.11	\$47.99	\$44	\$46
Yellow Sweet Clover	87.87	-	192.90	-	-

Small Square Hay Bales

2017 - \$6.20/bale
2016 - \$4.89/bale
2015 - \$7.17/bale

Drought is impacting forage production and the demand for forage in a wide band from the Pacific Coast to Hudson Bay and into the Northern United States. Producers impacted are managing by: reducing cow numbers; selling all calves including heifers early in the fall; selling bred heifers instead of retaining them; having cattle custom fed elsewhere; using straw and pellets or grain for feed; purchasing feed at a premium; and/or baling additional greenfeed or straw where possible.



The Saskatchewan Forage Council would like to recognize all of the producers, forage purchasers, sellers, and transporters, who shared their insight on the forage market in September. We truly appreciate your assistance.

The full version of the September 2017 Saskatchewan Forage Market Report, including a review of conditions by region, is available at www.saskforage.ca