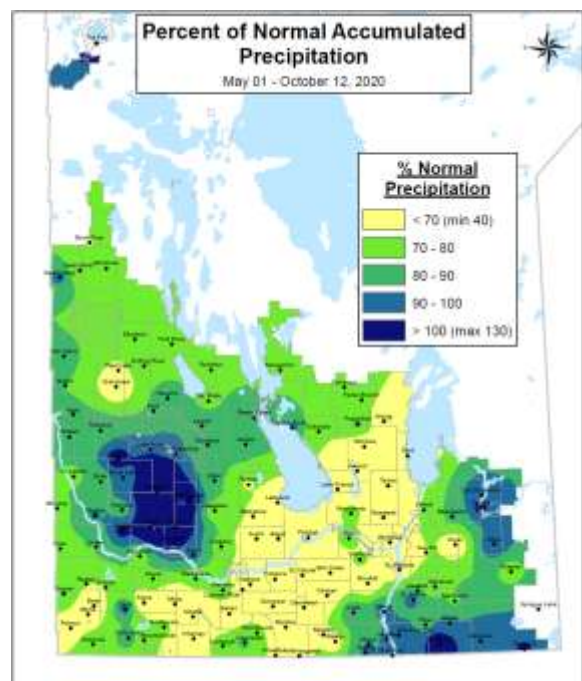


## October Hay Situation and Price Update

*By John McGregor, MFGA Extension Support*

As we move into the middle of October the Manitoba Crop report indicates that for most areas of the province the forage harvest is drawing to a close as producers move to get the last remaining bales of hay and straw off the field and into their winter feeding areas. Pastures for the most part are finished but some areas are reporting cattle being moved to stockpiled grass area or supplementing cattle on pasture.

Greenfeed, corn silage and better than average second cut forage has helped take pressure off anticipated feed shortages in most areas. With winter approaching, there continues to be concern regarding moisture conditions in hay and pasture fields for the coming year. The included map shows large areas of the province that have received less than 70 percent of normal precipitation and some of the areas that are in the 90 to 100 percent range received most of the precipitation during two major rain events in the summer.



## Hay Prices

October continues to see softening of hay prices throughout most of the province. Early reports indicate that prices have dropped a few cents and that there isn't the hay movement that we saw last year.

[Kijiji Manitoba](#) and the [Manitoba Hay Listing](#) have a lot of 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 for October. Presently shortfalls seem to be trending to localized areas rather than an overall provincial trend. Current asking prices may be more reflective of a larger shortage than we are likely to experience.

Alfalfa:	4.5-10 cents/lb
	Dairy Quality 8-12 cents/lb
Alfalfa/grass:	good quality 5.5-9 cents/lb
	Beef quality 4-8 cents/lb
Beef hay (grass):	5-7 cents/lb
Greenfeed:	7 cents/lb
Horse hay:	8-12 cents/lb
Native Hay:	2 cents/lb standing
Straw:	1-1.5 cents/lb
Grass straw	1-1.5 cents/lb
Corn Stover	2.5 cents/lb

The [Wisconsin Hay Report](#) and the [Progressive Forage Market Insight](#) provide some information as to what is happening to the south of us.

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 MARD staff, Pam Iwanchysko and Tim Clark and to Darren Chapman, 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](mailto:john@mfga.net).