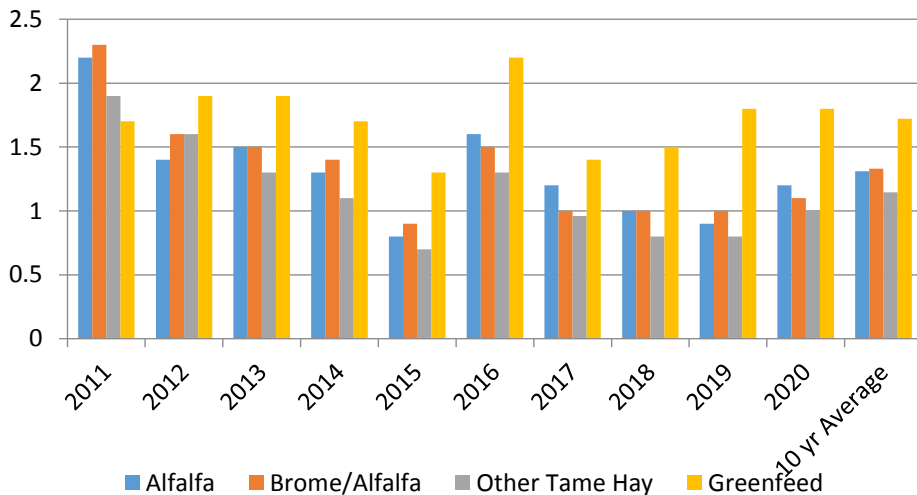




A Snapshot of the Saskatchewan Forage Market Price Survey Fall 2020

Average Saskatchewan Hay Yields (tons/acre) 2011-2020



Hay yields were below the long-term average for Saskatchewan for the fourth time in four years, but higher than the past two years. Greenfeed yields were above average.

Soil moisture at the start of May was adequate to just short nearly province wide. While forages had a start from the moisture an overall lack of heat units slowed perennial growth. Timely moisture helped greenfeed production.

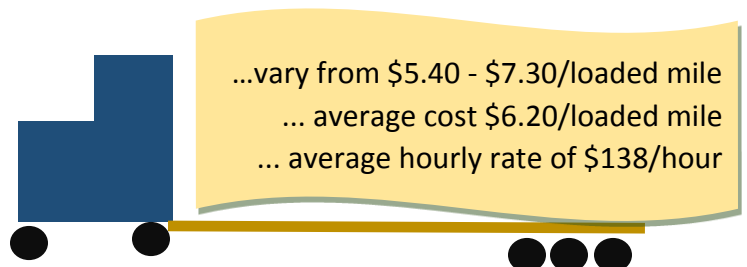
Haying weather was variable. Forages harvested in 2020 are rated as good (65%) to fair (20%) quality across all regions of Saskatchewan. Higher humidity, showers, and rapid maturity were noted as anti-quality factors.

Planned Greenfeed was seeded and harvested across all regions of Saskatchewan. No longer an 'alternative forage', but a relied upon staple for 50-80% of cattle producers. 80% of forage users surveyed indicate they will have a sufficient supply in 2020 compared to 67% last year.

2020 Provincial Forage Yields (tons/acre)

Crop	Dry Land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa Hay	1.2	3.0
Brome/Alfalfa Hay	1.1	2.7
Other Tame Hay	1.0	NA
Wild Hay	1.0	NA
Greenfeed	1.8	2.8

2020 Forage Freight Rates



Forage Type	Weighted Average Price (\$/tonne)
Grass Hay	\$122.48
First Cut Alfalfa	\$141.45
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$178.10
Alfalfa/Grass mix	\$135.35
Greenfeed	\$92.74
Cereal Straw	\$48.28
Pulse Straw	\$73.49

Hay listings have been slow to move in fall 2020. Mixed forages priced around \$100/tonne are resulting in hay sales in 2020. Demand from previous years in the west central and south west areas has been slow resulting in less demand in the overall provincial market.

2020 Silage Values

Silage usage continues to grow with majority of producers relying on custom silage crews for chopping, hauling, and packing pits. Cereal silage yields were variable but solid in 2020. Corn silage yields were hurt by the September 8th killing frost.

Cereal Silage
\$56/wet tonne

Average (weighted) Forage Prices in Saskatchewan from 2013-2020

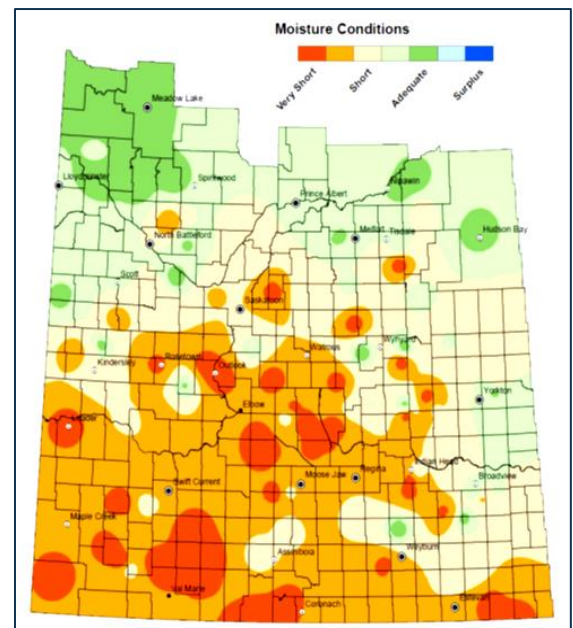
Forage Type	2020 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2019 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2018 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2017 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2016 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2015 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2014 Average Price (\$/Tonne)
Grass Hay	\$122.48	\$100.21	126.63	110.013	\$100.66	\$162.98	\$94.00
First Cut Alfalfa	\$141.45	\$175.98	138.82	153.89	\$97.78	\$197.23	\$98.00
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$178.10	\$181.66	183.72	141.92	\$127.36	\$232.33	\$118.00
Alfalfa/Grass	\$135.35	\$130.74	138.80	127.93	\$97.98	\$177.35	\$86.00
Greenfeed	\$92.74	\$125.40	137.01	120.37	\$94.60	\$140.96	\$83.00
Straw	48.28	65.36	55.63	54.80	\$63.11	\$47.99	\$44.00

Small Square Hay Bales

2020 - \$5.93/bale
2018 - \$7.07/bale
2018 - \$6.52/bale

Drought dominated the summer and fall for all but northern regions. As seen in the Provincial map, at September 16th hay and pasture topsoil moisture conditions were dismal nearly province-wide (Ministry of Ag, 2020). Moisture will be needed in most regions very early in the spring to stimulate any substantial forage growth for 2021.

Producers continue to utilize greenfeed or silage as a primary forage feedstuff over and above previous years. A successful early crop harvest has allowed for a plentiful supply of straw across the province.



The Saskatchewan Forage Council would like to recognize and thank all of the producers, forage purchasers, sellers, and transporters, who share their insight year after year on the forage market in September.

The full version of the Fall 2020 Saskatchewan Forage Market Report, including a review of conditions by region, is available at www.saskforage.ca