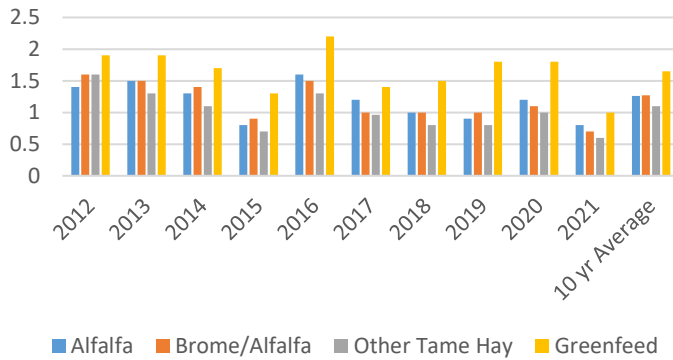




A Snapshot of the Saskatchewan Forage Market Price Survey Fall 2021

Average Saskatchewan Hay Yields
(tons/acre) 2012-2021



Hay yields and greenfield yields were the lowest seen for all classes for the past 10 years. The northeast and southeast regions fared better than the rest of the province, but were still lower than usual. Little carryover was available this spring. Poor-yielding crops left many producers scrambling to secure a variety of alternative feed sources for winter.

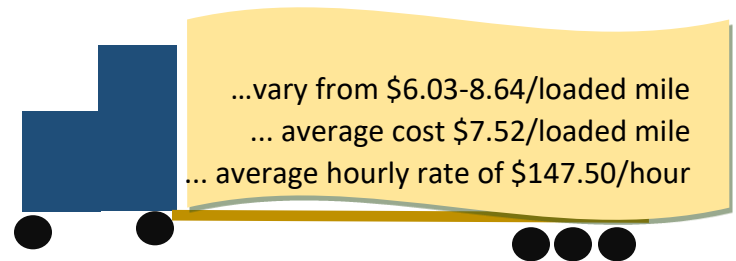
Soil moisture at the start of May was short to barely adequate province-wide. Forages had a slow start in the spring and prolonged unseasonal temperatures in June in the 30-40°C range were devastating to forage and field crops. High winds and high temperatures in the growing season depleted soil moisture quickly.

Haying weather was variable. Forages harvested in 2021 are rated as excellent (4%), good (40%), fair (34%) & poor (22%) quality across all regions of Saskatchewan. Heat leading to rapid maturity, strong winds, hail, grasshoppers took their toll on hay crops.

Planned Greenfeed was seeded and harvested across all regions of Saskatchewan. No longer an 'alternative forage', but a relied upon staple for at least 75% of cattle producers. 80% of forage users surveyed indicate they will have a sufficient supply in 2020 compared to 67% last year.

2021 Provincial Forage Yields (tons/acre)		
Crop	Dry Land	Irrigated Land
Alfalfa Hay	0.8	1.3
Brome/Alfalfa Hay	0.7	1.8
Other Tame Hay	0.6	2.0
Wild Hay	0.6	1.8
Greenfeed	1.0	2.2

2021 Forage Freight Rates



Forage Type	Simple Average Price (\$/tonne)
Grass Hay	\$230.38
First Cut Alfalfa	\$244.97
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$277.48
Alfalfa/Grass mix	\$241.69
Greenfeed	\$213.38
Cereal Straw	\$91.88
Pulse Straw	\$139.32

Hay listings have been quick to move in fall 2021. Prices ranged from \$67-\$108/tonne above 2020 prices. Reasonably priced (although much higher than last year) forages sold quickly while cattle producers scrambled to secure enough for the winter. Higher priced listings moved a bit slower as cattle producers had to make the difficult decision to purchase the expensive feed or reduce livestock numbers.

2021 Silage Values

Cereal and corn silage yield was generally disappointing this year. 12000 less acres of corn silage was seeded this year due to limited moisture. Haylage continues to be an option with costs with custom wrapping costs at \$22-24/bale.

**Cereal Silage
\$86/wet tonne**

Average (weighted) Forage Prices in Saskatchewan from 2015-2021

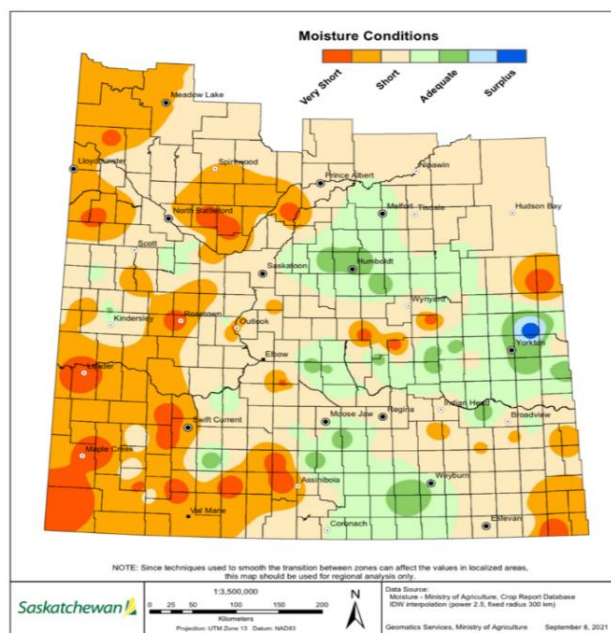
Forage Type	2021 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2020 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2019 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2018 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2017 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2016 Average Price (\$/Tonne)	2015 Average Price (\$/Tonne)
Grass Hay	\$230.38~	\$122.48	\$100.21	126.63	110.013	\$100.66	\$162.98
First Cut Alfalfa	\$244.97~	\$141.45	\$175.98	138.82	153.89	\$97.78	\$197.23
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$277.48~	\$178.10	\$181.66	183.72	141.92	\$127.36	\$232.33
Alfalfa/Grass	\$251.15	\$135.35	\$130.74	138.80	127.93	\$97.98	\$177.35
Greenfeed	\$237.88	\$92.74	\$125.40	137.01	120.37	\$94.60	\$140.96
Straw	\$115.60~	48.28	65.36	55.63	54.80	\$63.11	\$47.99

Small Square Hay Bales

2021 - \$8.72/bale
2020- \$5.93/bale
2019 - \$7.07/bale

Drought dominated the summer and fall for all but northern regions. As seen in the Provincial map, at September 6th hay and pasture topsoil moisture conditions were dismal, nearly province-wide (Ministry of Ag, 2021). Moisture will be needed in most regions very early in the spring to stimulate any substantial forage growth for 2022.

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 2021 Saskatchewan Forage Market Report, including a review of conditions by region, is available at www.saskforage.ca