



## Montana Direct Hay Report

AMS Livestock, Poultry and Grain Market News  
MT Dept. of Ag Market News

Fri Apr 25, 2025

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### Direct Hay Weighted Average Report for week ending 4/25/2025

Compared to last week: Hay sold fully steady. Producers continue to push to sell as much hay as possible as they try to lower supplies and reduce carryover into the next hay season. Supplies continue to move across the state at a steady pace. Many producers continue to have hay priced to move as they are serious about limiting carryover. Larger hay sales over 500 ton continue to sell with discounts to smaller sales. A few larger old crop hay sales continue to be seen, however most producers have sold through all of their 2023 hay and are working on 2024 hay. Supplies have decreased over the last few weeks. Light to moderate supplies are being reported in most locations. Valley rain and mountain snow continue across the state this week. A cool or wet start to spring has limited grass growth and slowed many ranchers from turning out. This has helped sell some higher quality mixed hay and grass hay as ranchers need quality hay to keep cows from chasing grass. Demand for hay in the eastern portion of the state has improved in recent weeks as dry conditions are beginning to become worrisome for ranchers. Some spring rains finally fell on eastern Montana this week, however rainfall totals were mostly light. Market activity was mostly moderate to active this week. According to the drought monitor 50.22% of the state is in Moderate drought or worse, up 12.29% from last week. 14.02% of the state is in an Severe drought or worse, 3.20% higher than last week. 1.72% of the state is in Extreme drought or worse, unchanged from last week. 0% of the state is in Expectational drought, unchanged from last week. Notably, 74.90% of the state is abnormally dry, up 7.01% from last week.

| Volume       |           |                              |           |
|--------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|
|              | This Week | Last Reported<br>(4/14/2025) | Last Year |
| <b>Tons:</b> |           |                              |           |
| Hay          | 1920      | 2161                         | 3320      |
| Straw        | 100       | 0                            | 0         |
| Total        | 2020      | 2161                         | 3320      |

Please Note: The above volumes (tonnage, acres, and bales) listed on this USDA LPGMN report are for confirmed trades only, it does not include estimated volume (tonnage) for bids or offers to the trade.

| N/A  |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|--|------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Hay (Conventional)                                 |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
| <b>Alfalfa - Good (Trade/Per Ton)</b>              |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|  | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Medium Square 3x3                                  | 50         | 130.00             | 130.00         | F.O.B.             | Covered            | Old Crop        |
| <b>Alfalfa - Fair (Trade/Per Ton)</b>              |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|  | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Large Square 3x4                                   | 650        | 100.00-110.00      | 105.38         | F.O.B.             |                    |                 |
| Large Square 3x4                                   | 600        | 85.00              | 85.00          | F.O.B.             |                    | Old Crop        |
| <b>Alfalfa/Grass Mix - Premium (Trade/Per Ton)</b> |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|  | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Large Square 3x4                                   | 75         | 200.00             | 200.00         | F.O.B.-Stables     |                    |                 |



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|   |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|---|------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Medium Square 3x3                             | 50         | 215.00             | 215.00         | F.O.B.-Stables     |                    |                 |
| Small Square                                  | 50         | 250.00             | 250.00         | F.O.B.-Stables     |                    |                 |
| Alfalfa/Grass Mix - Good (Trade/Per Ton)      |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|   | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Large Square 3x4                              | 60         | 110.00             | 110.00         | F.O.B.             | Weedy              |                 |
| Medium Square 3x3                             | 125        | 170.00             | 170.00         | F.O.B.-Stables     |                    |                 |
| Alfalfa/Grass Mix - Fair/Good (Trade/Per Ton) |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|   | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Medium Square 3x3                             | 50         | 150.00             | 150.00         | F.O.B.-Stables     |                    |                 |
| Timothy Grass - Good (Trade/Per Ton)          |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|   | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Large Square 3x4                              | 60         | 100.00             | 100.00         | F.O.B.             | Bottom Bales       |                 |
| Large Square 3x4                              | 150        | 150.00             | 150.00         | F.O.B.             |                    |                 |

### Straw (Conventional)

|                         |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Wheat - (Trade/Per Ton) |            |                    |                |                    |                    |                 |
|                         | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Price Range</u> | <u>Wtd Avg</u> | <u>Freight/Use</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Crop Age</u> |
| Large Square            | 100        | 30.00              | 30.00          | F.O.B.             | Bottom Bales       |                 |

Click here for more information on Hay Quality Designation Guidelines

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/HayQualityGuidelines.pdf>

Click here for Hay glossary of terms

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/livestock-poultry-and-grain-hay-terms>