



Australian Fodder Industry Association



21 January 2022

HAY REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NATIONAL SUMMARY	
Driving Prices Up	3
Driving Prices Down	3
Local News	3
Regional Commentary	
Atherton Tablelands	4
Darling Downs	4
North Coast NSW	5
Central West NSW	5
Bega Valley	6
Goulburn/Murray Valley	6
Gippsland	6
Southwest Victoria	7
Southeast South Australia	7
Central South Australia	7
Southwest Western Australia	8
Northwest Tasmania	8



The Hay Report is produced for Dairy Australia by the Australian Fodder Industry Association (AFIA) – the national independent voice for the Australian fodder industry which connects the entire supply chain from seed to feed.
For further information: www.afia.org.au

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed within are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect Australian Fodder Industry Association Ltd opinion or policy. To the extent permitted by law, Australian Fodder Industry Association Ltd excludes all liability for loss or damage arising from the use of, or reliance on, the information contained in this publication. It is the readers responsibility to confirm accuracy, reliability, suitability, currency and completeness for private use.

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Driving Prices Up

- Drier conditions in some southern regions are driving interest in locking away some winter feed allotments.
- Quality hay will be in short supply in the coming months.
- Cost of production concerns remain a focus for the season to come.
- The cattle market with restocking and lot feeding circles at close to record levels is being monitored by the fodder industry.

Driving Prices Down

- Hay quality is being affected by the wet conditions.
- Rainfall across much of the eastern seaboard means there is a lot of grass in the paddocks which is slowing trade significantly.
- There is not much demand for feed for feedlot or export cattle being reported.
- According to the Bureau of Meteorology, La Niña continues in the tropical Pacific, but modelling suggests the 2021–22 La Niña is near or at its peak, with a return to neutral El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) likely early in the southern hemisphere autumn. La Niña has delivered above average rainfall across much of northern and eastern Australia this summer.

Local News

- Trade in hay continues to be slow.
- In Queensland, Fall Armyworm monitoring and spraying is well-underway. Summer crops are looking magnificent in the Darling Downs.
- Continued wet conditions throughout NSW mean that there is plenty of grass in the paddocks, and hay production is challenging.
- Lack of rain in Southwest Victoria, and some parts of South Australia and Tasmania are driving some early enquiries from those looking to secure feed allotments for winter.
- Southwest Western Australia is experiencing very hot weather conditions this week.
- [\\$50k grants](#) for November flood-affected farmers in [NSW](#) and [QLD](#) are now available to salvage damaged crops and stock, rebuild fences and replace machinery. The grants are jointly-funded by state and federal governments for those in local government areas which were disaster-declared after the severe flooding.
- According to the Bureau of Meteorology [weekly rainfall update](#), rainfall totals of 10 mm to 50 mm were recorded in northern and southern Queensland, most of New South Wales, eastern and southern parts of Victoria, and a small area of north-west Tasmania.
- Buyers are encouraged to feed test and view fodder before purchasing to be sure of the quality of the feed.

Regional Commentary

Atherton Tablelands

- Hot and humid conditions across the region with light showers predicted most days.
- Spraying underway for Fall Armyworm on corn and peanut crops – with growers taking a more pre-emptive approach this season and closely monitoring for moths.
- Trade continues to be down with good grass in the paddocks and full sheds.
- No change to pricing this week.
- Pasture (Rhodes Grass) hay: +/-0 (\$280 to \$300/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Hay in the Atherton Tablelands is traditionally priced at \$/bale, so it is important to check bale weights for conversion. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Darling Downs

- The last of the harvest has been completed by many across the region.
- Weather has been good for cutting lucerne hay, and the summer crops are looking magnificent.
- A bit of lucerne has been moving. No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$250 to \$270/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$380 to \$420/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$70 to \$90/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$200 to \$240/t) Prices remain steady this week.

Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

North Coast NSW

- The region has had a wet start to the year with a break needed for baling to resume.
- Some silage occurring in the area.
- Trade is very quiet with plenty of grass in the paddocks.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$200 to \$260/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$380 to \$430/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$100 to \$150/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$190 to \$220/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Central West NSW

- The wet weather has continued throughout the past week with plenty of water around.
- Rain has slowed the hay season and will impact product quality.
- Local trade continues to be minimal, with some enquiries for quality hay, and older oaten hay moving.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$180 to \$220/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$300 to \$340/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$60 to \$80/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$160 to \$200/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Bega Valley

- The wet start to the year has continued with almost 150mm received to date this month – compared to 61mm in January last year.
- Silage production continues.
- Trade is quiet.
- No changes to prices this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$270 to \$300/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$480 to \$520/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$200 to \$220/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$330 to \$360/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Goulburn/Murray Valley

- Good rainfall received in some parts of the region over the weekend.
- Some straw baling still occurring.
- No fodder trade this week to mention.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$170 to \$210/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$380 to \$410/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$70 to \$100/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$210 to \$250/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Gippsland

- No significant rain has been received.
- There are some enquiries for vetch and oaten hay with interest in getting in early for the winter allotment before prices rise.
- Slight rise for cereal hay price this week.
- Cereal hay: +20 (\$200 to \$240/t). Slight rise in price this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$530 to \$550/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$80 to \$100/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$90 to \$110/t). Prices remain steady this week.

- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Southwest Victoria

- No rain has been recorded in the region with some turnips and rape crops struggling.
- Some silage and grass hay interest but trade remains minimal, with interest around in protein hay and good quality cereal hay which is hard to find.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$180 to \$220/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$330 to \$380/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$80 to \$100/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$150 to \$180/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Southeast South Australia

- The region continues to experience hot, dry weather.
- Straw baling occurring, and harvest still underway south of Narracoorte.
- Minimal trade occurring as expected at this time of year, but interest is rising. As the hot weather continues, some growers will start to lock in feed available on the market.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/- (\$190 to \$230/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$330 to \$350/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$100 to \$120/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$180 to \$200/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Central South Australia

- No rain occurred in the region this week.
- Straw baling is winding up with pockets of reaping still occurring.
- There has been a bit of trade activity as there is a shortage of hay in most of SA, so people are trying to get in early to secure supply.

- Slight price rise to cereal hay.
- Cereal hay: +20 (\$200 to \$220/t). Slight price rise this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$400 to \$440/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$90 to \$140/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Southwest Western Australia

- No rain recorded in the region over the last week, with hot weather predicted over the coming days.
- Trade is minimal with some last season hay shipped north.
- There are not a lot of beef cattle around needing feed.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$260 to \$290/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$450 to \$490). Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$130 to \$180/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$180 to \$200/t). Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.

Northwest Tasmania

- There has not been much rain in northwest Tasmania.
- A third cut of lucerne is underway for some growers, as well as cuts of Timothy hay. Oaten hay was finished before Christmas for many.
- Trade interest is higher than expected from dairy farmers with little rain and the warm weather burning off a lot of the green around.
- Prices remain steady this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 (\$240 to \$260/t) Prices remain steady this week.
- Lucerne hay: +/-0 (\$300 to \$350/t) Prices remain steady this week.
- Straw: +/-0 (\$150 to \$200/t) Prices remain steady this week.
- Pasture hay: +/-0 (\$190 to \$230/t) Prices remain steady this week.
- Please note: Unless stated otherwise, prices are per tonne, sourced and delivered locally. The price range indicated is for feeds of varying quality with the price range generally indicative of quality of feed. We recommend feed testing and viewing of fodder before purchase to be sure of the quality of feed.