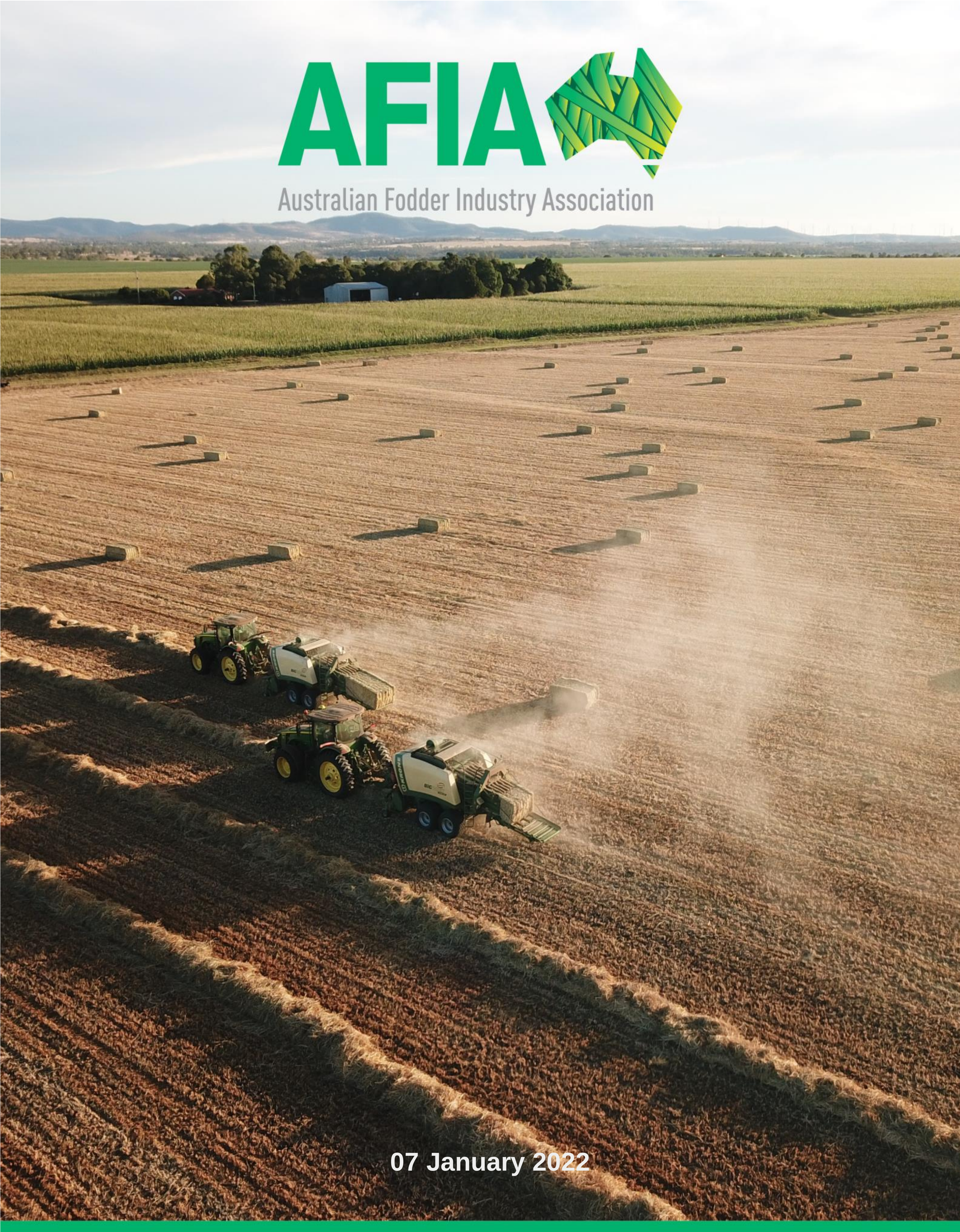
AFIA
Australian Fodder Industry Association



07 January 2022

HAY REPORT

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AFIA Australian Fodder Industry Association

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

NATIONAL SUMMARY

Driving Prices Up

- Growers and farmers are considering their 2022 planting options. Costs including fertiliser, freight and strong grain prices will factor into decision-making.
- Good quality cereal hay will be in short demand following two wet springs in many States during 2020 and 2021, as well as reduced plantings.
- Good rainfall is expected in some areas of the country over the coming days, adding to existing ground moisture.
- Farmers continue to monitor cattle price movements and the potential impact on fodder.

Driving Prices Down

- Available fodder on the market is varied in quality due to the impact of rain events on new season hay across most States.
- Good irrigation stores that have built up over the past year from timely rainfall, as well as affordable temporary water, mean many farmers can continue to water feed over the coming summer months.
- Milder conditions and regular rainfall have seen paddock feed continue to do well, alleviating the need for farmers to supplement feed.
- The La Niña event has increased the chance of above average rainfall across much of northern and eastern Australia during summer which will further reduce the need for farmers to purchase extra feed during the season.

Local News

- Trade in hay continues to be significantly down.
- Rain and thunderstorm activity is predicated across areas of the east coast in the coming days.
- In the north, patchy rain has been received in the Atherton Tablelands. In the Darling Downs further rain has been received and water supply remains strong.
- Should the current rain predictions materialise, areas of Central West New South Wales may see flooding again. In the north of the State, rain has continued leaving a good supply of grass.
- In Southwest Victoria, some areas have experienced an extremely dry December with less than 10mm of rain. While in South Australia, despite a slow start, areas of the State have reported good quality and yields.
- Buyers are encouraged to feed test and view fodder before purchasing to be sure of the quality of the feed.

Regional Commentary

Atherton Tablelands

- Patchy rain has been received across the region – 20-120mm.
- Fall Armyworm remains an issue for corn growers. Trials are underway to gain further management knowledge. Cost and time of management, with 2-4+ sprays required, remains a concern for growers.
- Fertiliser prices also remain a consideration for farmers. With many hay sheds full in the region, farmers with flexibility in farming systems may opt for alternate crops such as peanuts or sugarcane.
- Farmers are selling weaning stock with ongoing good market prices rather than carry them through.
- Trade continues to be down. Many sheds are well stocked with hay.
- 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

- Rain has been received, leaving areas green. The past week has seen hot temperatures.
- River levels remain high.
- Cotton production will again increase this season with many growers now concentrating on this instead of crops such as sorghum while prices continue to be high.
- 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

- Rain has continued in the region, resulting in six weeks of rain events, leaving some areas very wet. Grass is growing well.
- Cereal crops are still being harvested on some farms as a result of both green crops and the wet conditions.
- The wet conditions are also delivering challenging conditions to make hay.
- Trade continues to be low after the good season.
- Cereal hay, straw, and lucerne prices quoted are for supplies to be carted into the region.
- 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.
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Central West NSW

- Rain is due in the region over the coming days. The predicted rain will cause the river to rise again and may result in further flooding.
- As a result of the rain received, most of the countryside is looking green.
- Local trade continues to be minimal, with a small demand for horse hay. There remains a significant amount of carry over hay of varied quality from last season stored in the region.
- 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.
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Bega Valley

- No rain has been received although it is expected to arrive soon and continue for up to ten days.
- Farmers have been focussed on baling lucerne hay before the arrival of the rain event.
- Trade continues to be low.
- 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.
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Goulburn/Murray Valley

- No significant rain has been received in the region.
- The majority of hay has been baled across the Goulburn/Murray Valley. Growing conditions have been good enabling growers to take second cuts of grass for silage and pasture hay.
- Milder conditions and late spring rain have allowed feed to keep growing without farmers and growers having to utilise irrigation.
- 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.
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Gippsland

- No significant rain has been received.
- Growers are continuing to make silage and hay. Silage has been reduced around South Gippsland due to wet conditions.
- There is a small amount of enquiry and trade for dry cow feed.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 ($180 to $220/t). Prices remain steady 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

- Areas of the Southwest remain dry, with less than 10mm of rain recorded in some areas for the month of December. Some farmers around Warrnambool are noting that it is the driest December in over 20 years.
- Trade remains minimal.
- 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.
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Southeast South Australia

- Cereal stubble is still getting baled but not much cereal hay in the region.
- Minimal trade occurring although some enquiries for lucerne hay are being received, with growers indicating this may be a result of reduced Vetch hay from Victoria.
- 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

- In some areas farmers are still finalising grain harvest.
- A small amount of enquiry/trade for hay has occurred. Some held off due to the promise of a wet summer which has not materialised.
- For 2022, hay plantings remain uncertain, while grain prices remain high.

- No changes to prices this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 ($180 to $220/t). Prices remain steady 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

- A strong beef market looks to continue with amble pasture and hay supplies for the coming months.
- Some demand for export hay as a result of dry conditions in the USA and Canada.
- 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.
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Northwest Tasmania

- Conditions have not been ideal for those trying to bale hay with small curing windows. Quality is down this season on silage and hay due to weather damage and not being able to get onto paddocks in time.
- A shortage of fodder remains a challenge and in 2022 feed may be in high demand should the region experience a cold, rather than milder, winter.
- No changes to pricing this week.
- Cereal hay: +/-0 ($220 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.