

NEWS RELEASE

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Pricing Standing Hay

Each year, the Manitowoc County UW-Extension Office receives many calls from individuals wanting to either sell or purchase hay directly off the field. This hay crop is commonly referred to as “standing hay.”

The value of standing hay is dependent on a number of factors, including the quality of the stand, estimated yield per acre, number of acres available, field conditions, travel distance, and current regional feed supplies to name a few.

Following are some assumptions that I commonly use based on Manitowoc County growing conditions and historical hay yields per acre.

Assumptions:

- Hay yield is as follows:
 - 1st cutting – 2 tons dry hay per acre
 - 2nd cutting – 1 ton dry hay per acre
 - 3rd cutting – 1 ton dry hay per acre
- All three cuttings equal 4 tons of dry hay per acre.
- “Standing hay” is worth one-half the value of baled hay.

If all 3 crops are sold off the field as standing hay, and baled hay is selling for \$75 per ton, the value of standing hay is approximately \$150 per acre. i.e. $2+1+1=4$ tons of dry hay per acre times \$75 per ton if in the bale equals \$300 per acre divided by 2 = \$150 per acre for standing hay.

As indicated earlier, the value of standing hay depends on total yield per acre and stand quality as measured in terms of Relative Feed Value and Crude Protein content. Demand also influences the value of standing hay. Therefore, it is recommended that individuals negotiating a price determine the value of tested hay. This information can be obtained from quality tested hay auctions and/or the Manitowoc County UW-Extension office.

2004 Manitowoc County Agricultural Clean Sweep Scheduled

The following information is courtesy of the Manitowoc County Public Works Department.

Manitowoc County is again offering a Clean Sweep Hazardous Waste Collection Program to residents, businesses and farms. Funds for collecting hazardous waste are provided by Manitowoc County and grants from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

Residents and farmers may bring their materials to a collection site at no cost. Businesses that generate ag chemicals, or which are very small quantity generators (VSQGs) are eligible for reduced or subsidized disposal cost.

Agricultural participants are asked to keep individual materials in their original or separate containers. DO NOT MIX! When transporting to the collection site, place materials in a cardboard box. Materials must be brought in containers that can be left at the collection site.

The Agriculture Clean Sweep (This includes agricultural and VSQGs) is scheduled for Friday, May 14th, 8 – 10 a.m. at the Manitowoc County Expo Grounds, 5201 Vista Road, Manitowoc, WI 54220. Participants must pre-register by calling (920) 683-4333.

Breakfast on the Farm Slated for June 6th

Dairy enthusiasts, young and older, farm and non-farm, are encouraged to mark your calendars for the 2004 Dairy Breakfast on the Farm. This year's event is scheduled for Sunday, June 6th from 8 a.m. until Noon. Our hosts are the Steve and Kim Fischer family located at 4907 Clover Road, Manitowoc. The Fischers own and operate Clover View Dairy, which is located just south and west of Manitowoc.

Prices are \$5.00 for adults; \$3.00 for children ages 5 to 10 with children 4 and under admitted free. There will be musical entertainment for the kids, free pictures for any children who want to pose with a Holstein calf, the John Deere Two Cylinder Club exhibit and guided tours of the farm and much more. Obviously you can get your fill of a dairy omelet, cheese, milk and ice cream.

This annual event is sponsored by the Manitowoc County Dairy Promotion Committee and Manitowoc County Dairy Promotion Committee and Manitowoc County Farm Bureau.

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