



# Winter Forage Market Price Discovery

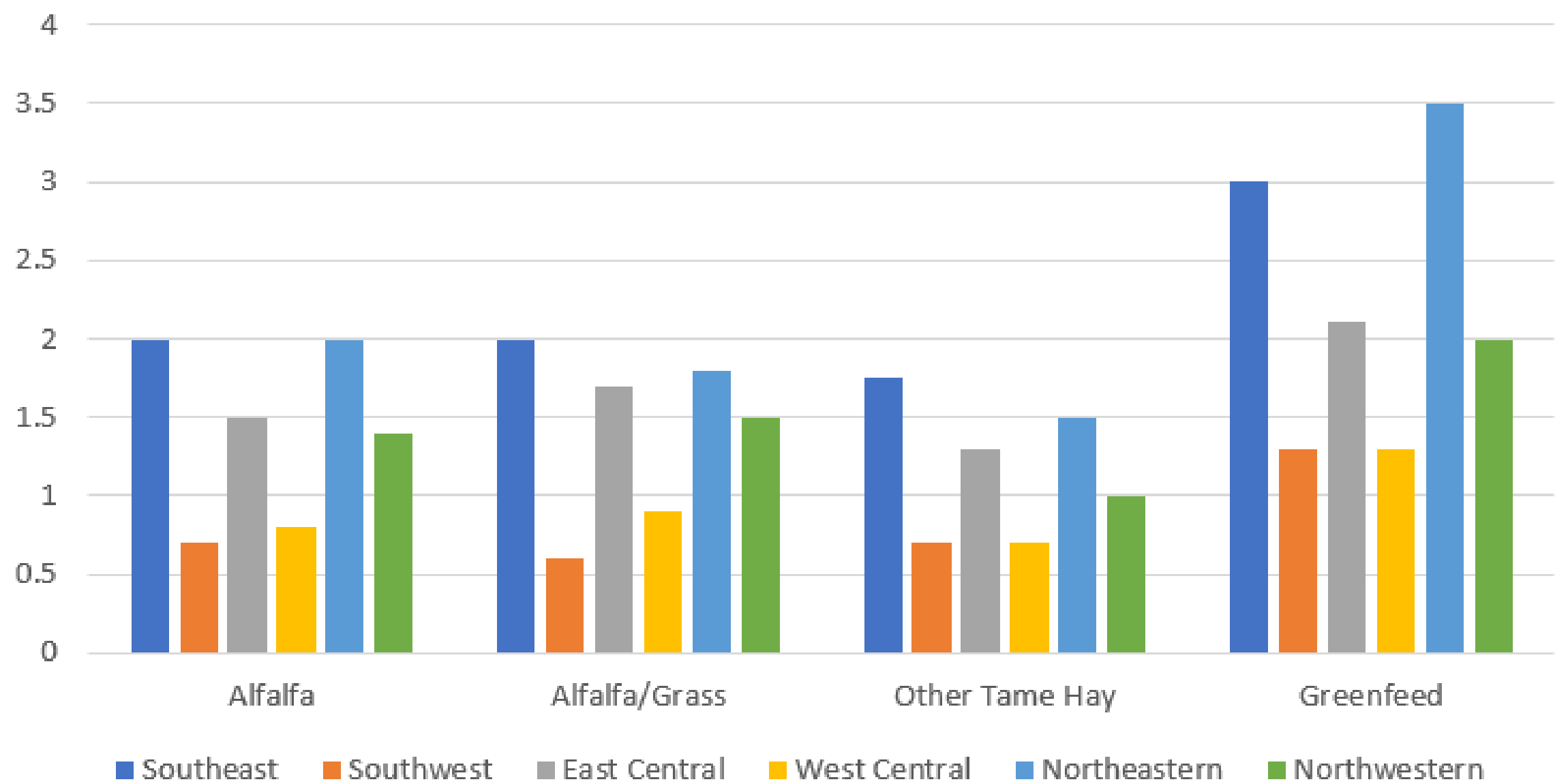
## January 2023 Snapshot

### Hay Yields

Provincial hay yields were improved year-over-year across much of the province.

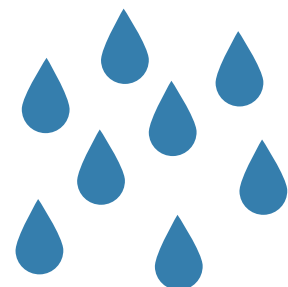
Average dry land hay yields for the province were: **1.4 tons/acre** for alfalfa, **1.4 tons per acre** for alfalfa/brome, **1.1 tons per acre** for other tame hay, **1.0** for wild hay and **2 tons per acre** for greenfeed

2022 Saskatchewan Dryland Hay Yield Reported (tons/acre)



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture Crop Report, October 17, 20221

### Growing Conditions



The Southwest and West-Central regions saw persistent drought challenges, made worse by infestations of grasshoppers and gophers.

Other areas of Saskatchewan had more favourable growing conditions.

### Saskatchewan hay and pasture land topsoil moisture conditions heading into winter

**16% Adequate**  
**37% Short**  
**47% Very Short**



Source: Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture Crop Report, October 17, 20221

### Freight Rates

Higher fuel prices, combined with increased costs for parts, labour and repair led to a steep climb in operating costs for truckers in 2022.

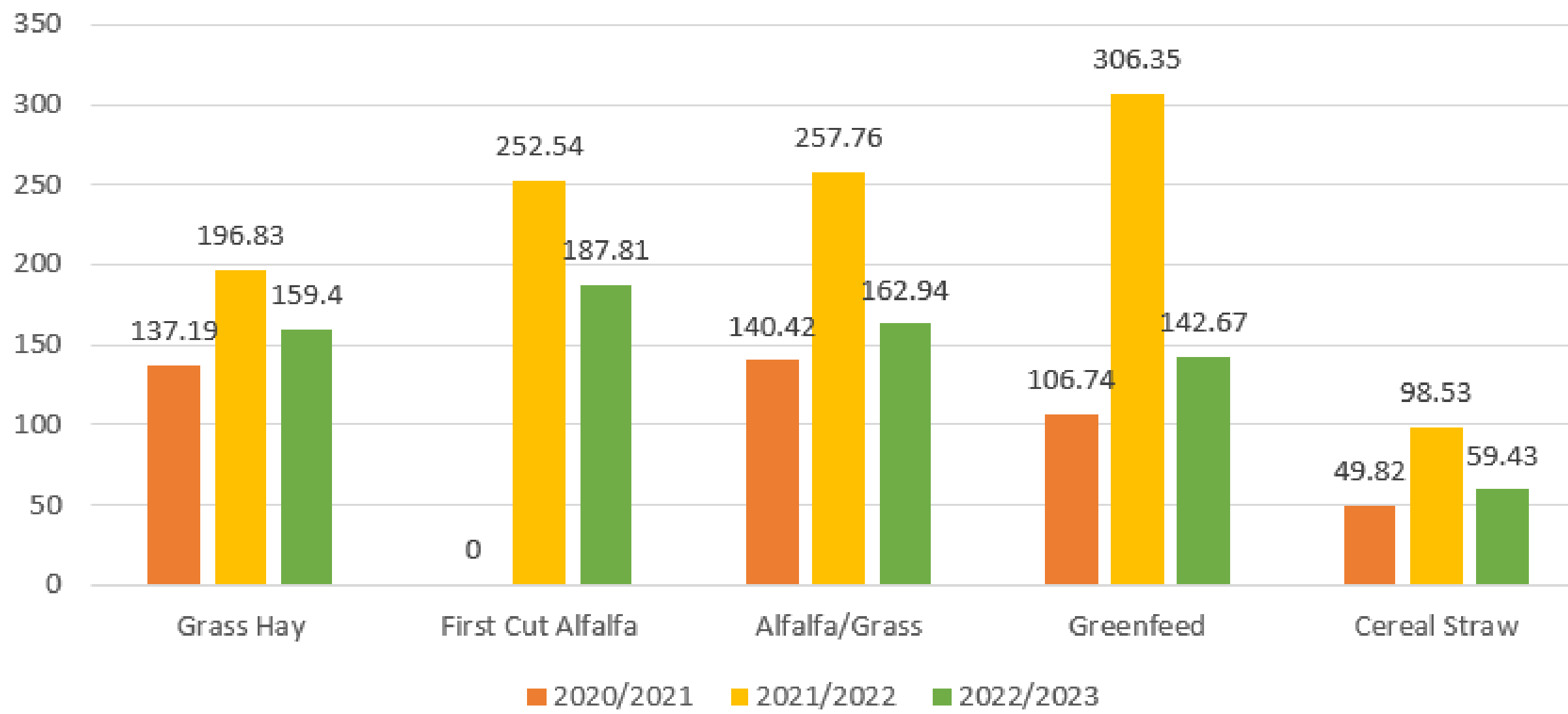
**Short Haul rates ranged from \$4-5 per bale for loading and averaged 50 cents/bale/mile**

**Long Haul rates averaged \$9-11/loaded mile or about 25-32 cents per bale/mile**

There were also variable rates based on:

- Length of haul
- Delays during loading/unloading
- Deadhead distances to bales and back to destinations
- Who supplied loading equipment

## December-January Forage Price Three-Year Comparison (weighted averages, \$/tonne)



## Pricing

Hay prices have normalized somewhat after rising in 2021 when drought conditions dominated most growing regions of Saskatchewan.

There is a relatively strong correlation between baled perennial forage prices and location in the province. Much of the hay being sold was grown in the east and trucked to the west.

### In January 2023:

**Average small square bale asking prices (\$ per bale):**

Alfalfa \$9.67

Alfalfa/Grass \$7.13

Grass \$7.38

Greenfeed \$9

Straw \$4.65

### Alfalfa Pellets

**Averaged \$400-420/Tonne**

### Silage prices

Western Saskatchewan  
\$95-120/wet tonne

Eastern Saskatchewan  
\$73-105/wet tonne

### Average Asking Forage Prices in Saskatchewan as at January 11, 2023

Forage Type	Simple Average Price (\$/Tonne)	Weighted Average Price (\$/Tonne)	High (\$/Tonne)	Low (\$/Tonne)	# of Trades Simple/Weighted	Weighted Average Price January 2022*	Weighted Average Price January 2021
Grass Hay	\$150.68	\$159.40	\$220.46	\$88.18	10/8	\$196.83	\$137.19
First Cut Alfalfa	\$168.15	\$187.81	\$264.55	\$78.74	7/6	\$252.54	n/a
Second Cut Alfalfa	\$140.55	n/a	\$155.14	\$125.98	2/0	\$323.14	n/a
Alfalfa/Grass Mix	\$161.75	\$162.94	\$308.64	\$110.23	34/24	\$257.76	\$140.42
Greenfeed	\$139.92	\$142.67	\$190.05	\$110.23	10/10	\$306.35	\$106.74
Clover	\$119.78	\$119.93	\$128.60	\$106.43	4/3	n/a	n/a
Cereal Straw	\$70.55	\$59.43	\$110.23	\$55.12	14/7	\$98.53	\$49.82
Pulse Straw	\$125.66	n/a	\$125.66	\$125.66	1/0	\$92.76	n/a

Thank you!

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 for our winter price discovery report.

The full version of the Winter 2023 Saskatchewan Forage Market Report, including alternative feedstuff prices, forage seed prices and detailed conditions by region is available at [www.saskforage.ca](http://www.saskforage.ca)