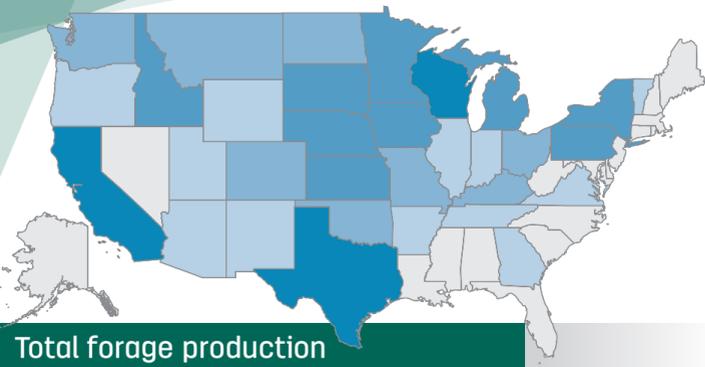


2025 U.S. forage statistics

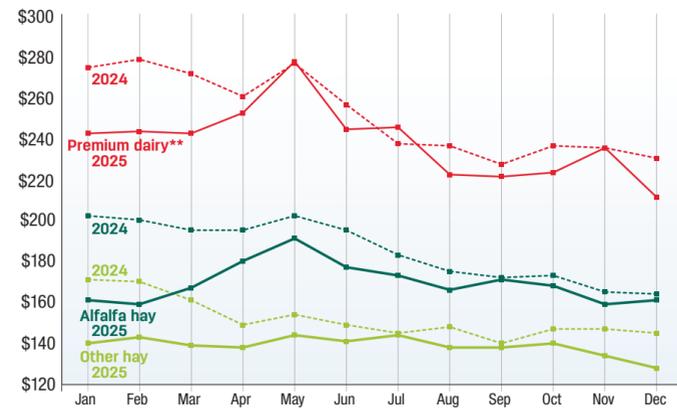


Total forage production

- More than 15,000 thousand tons
- 10,000 to 15,000 thousand tons
- 5,000 to 10,000 thousand tons
- 2,000 to 5,000 thousand tons
- 0 to 2,000 thousand tons

Total forage production is represented by the total of alfalfa, other hay, silage and greenchop production.

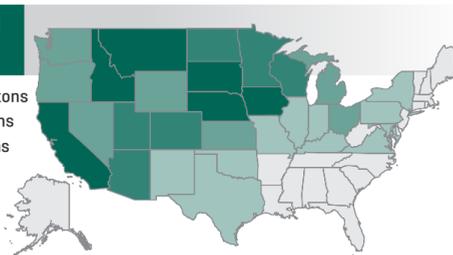
U.S. monthly average* prices, alfalfa, other and Premium dairy hay 2024-25 (dollars per ton)



* Average prices paid in 27 major hay-producing states
 ** Weighted average price for Premium/Supreme alfalfa hay in the five largest milk-producing states: California, Idaho, New York, Texas and Wisconsin.
 Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service
 For market reports updated monthly, visit progressiveforage.com

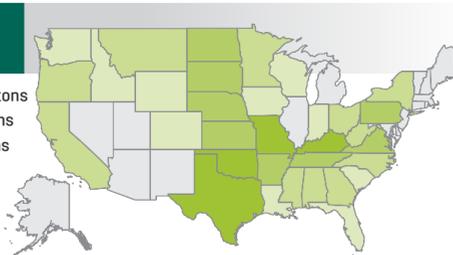
Total alfalfa hay production

- More than 3,000 thousand tons
- 2,000 to 3,000 thousand tons
- 1,000 to 2,000 thousand tons
- 100 to 1,000 thousand tons
- 0 to 100 thousand tons



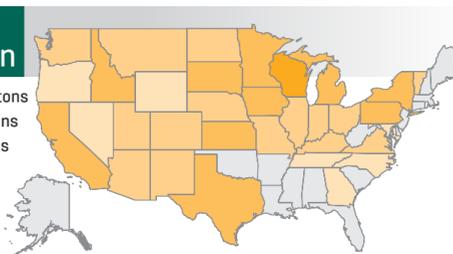
Total other hay production

- More than 5,000 thousand tons
- 2,000 to 5,000 thousand tons
- 1,000 to 2,000 thousand tons
- 500 to 1,000 thousand tons
- 0 to 500 thousand tons



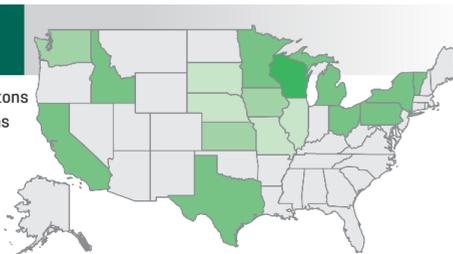
Total corn silage production

- More than 10,000 thousand tons
- 5,000 to 10,000 thousand tons
- 1,000 to 5,000 thousand tons
- 500 to 1,000 thousand tons
- 0 to 500 thousand tons



Total greenchop production

- More than 4,000 thousand tons
- 1,000 to 4,000 thousand tons
- 500 to 1,000 thousand tons
- 1 to 500 thousand tons
- 0 tons



2025 National forage review



High yields, lower feed demand and better weather combine to steady the nation's forage supply

Progressive Forage Managing Editor Marian Viney

Prices

Early 2025 opened on a firmer footing in hay markets, breaking the steady softening that defined most of 2024. Alfalfa prices in many regions started the year several dollars above December levels, supported by tighter winter supplies, higher fuel and freight costs, and renewed export interest.

In the West, premium and export quality alfalfa commonly traded in the low to mid \$300s per ton, with top lots edging higher when export buyers stepped in. Midwest and Plains markets generally held between \$220 and \$280 depending on quality, buoyed by dry winter conditions and limited carryover. Grass and mixed hay showed similar strength, typically running \$10 to \$20 per ton above late 2024, with fair to good quality grass often bringing \$180 to \$240. Even lower quality hay moved steadily amid tight inventories, setting a firmer tone heading into spring.

Production

Steady moisture across much of the country and strong 2024 carryover supported another year of stable forage production in 2025. National totals showed modest gains, with yield improvements offsetting acreage shifts.

All dry hay: Production reached 123.03 million tons, up 0.5% from 2024. Harvested area held nearly steady at 49.56 million acres. Kansas posted the largest increase at 57%, followed by North Dakota (31%) and Ohio (27%). Texas saw the sharpest decline at 20%, with additional 10% to 20% decreases in Louisiana, Maryland, Montana, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures: Production totaled 50.21 million tons, up just under 1%. South Dakota (3.576 million tons) and Idaho (3.567 million tons) remained the top producers, followed by Nebraska, California and Montana. North Dakota recorded the largest year-over-year gain at 34%. Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan and Kansas also increased. Declines occurred in Idaho (-7%), Nebraska, New Mexico, Wisconsin and Oklahoma due to heat stress, irrigation

limits or stand losses.

Production of all other hay held steady to slightly higher, with gains in the central and northern Plains offsetting reductions in the South.

All other hay: Production was just more than 73 million tons, slightly above 2024. Harvested area remained near 34.9 million acres, and average yield stayed just above 2.09 tons per acre. Gains were concentrated in the northern Plains and upper Midwest. Declines were most common in the South and Southwest – Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico – and parts of the Pacific Northwest.

Total forage: The USDA's 17-state forage program estimated total forage at just more than 82 million tons, slightly above 2024. Alfalfa and mixtures accounted for about 40 million tons. Haylage and greenchop were harvested from 3.72 million acres, producing about 28.8 million tons. Consistent moisture in Wisconsin, Idaho, South Dakota and Minnesota supported reliable cutting schedules.

Corn silage: Production was about 124 million tons, slightly above 2024. Harvested area remained near 6.1 million acres, with average yield around 20.3 tons per acre. Late-season heat trimmed yields in Kansas, Nebraska and parts of the southern Corn Belt, but national supplies remained adequate.

Sorghum silage: Production reached about 4.15 million tons, slightly above 2024. Harvested area increased to roughly 318,000 acres as drought-prone regions leaned on sorghum's heat and moisture tolerance. Average yield was about 13.1 tons per acre, with wide regional variation.

New alfalfa seedings: New seedings rose for the fourth straight year to about 1.89 million acres, up roughly 2% from 2024. Major dairy regions accounted for about 1.48 million acres (78% of total), with most gains in the northern dairy belt.

Hay stocks: May 1 hay stocks totaled about 22 million

tons, supported by the large 2024 crop and a mild winter. Dec. 1, 2025, stocks were just less than 83 million tons – the highest since 2020.

Forage disappearance from May 1 to Dec. 1 was about 62.5 million tons, slightly above 2024. December inventories in major dairy states were up about 12%, with continued strength in the Southwest and tighter supplies in parts of the eastern Corn Belt.

Exports

Through November 2025, alfalfa hay exports totaled just under 1.95 million metric tons, slightly below the previous year. China accounted for about 45% of shipments, though demand softened late in the year.

Exports of other hay totaled more than 960,000 metric tons through November, modestly above 2024. Japan led with about 55% of shipments, followed by South Korea at 27%. Full-year totals were published once December data became available, which occurred after our press deadline.

Weather and drought

Drought remained entrenched across much of the West and northern Plains entering 2025. Early April maps showed about 39% of hay acreage and 48% of alfalfa acreage under moderate or more severe drought. The most significant early-season dryness persisted in Arizona, South Dakota, Nebraska and New Mexico, with pockets of severe to extreme drought in California and the central Plains.

As the year progressed, drought shifted but remained widespread. Much of the West began and ended 2025 in drought, with persistent dryness across the Mountain West, Southwest and northern Rockies. Drought expanded at times in the Upper Missouri River Basin, Northeast, Midwest, Southeast and the southern Plains. By late summer, conditions eased in parts of the East but reemerged in the Northeast and expanded across the central U.S.

Note: Monthly average prices calculated by the USDA are across all hay qualities. Among major hay-producing states, the range of monthly prices can vary by \$100 per ton or more.

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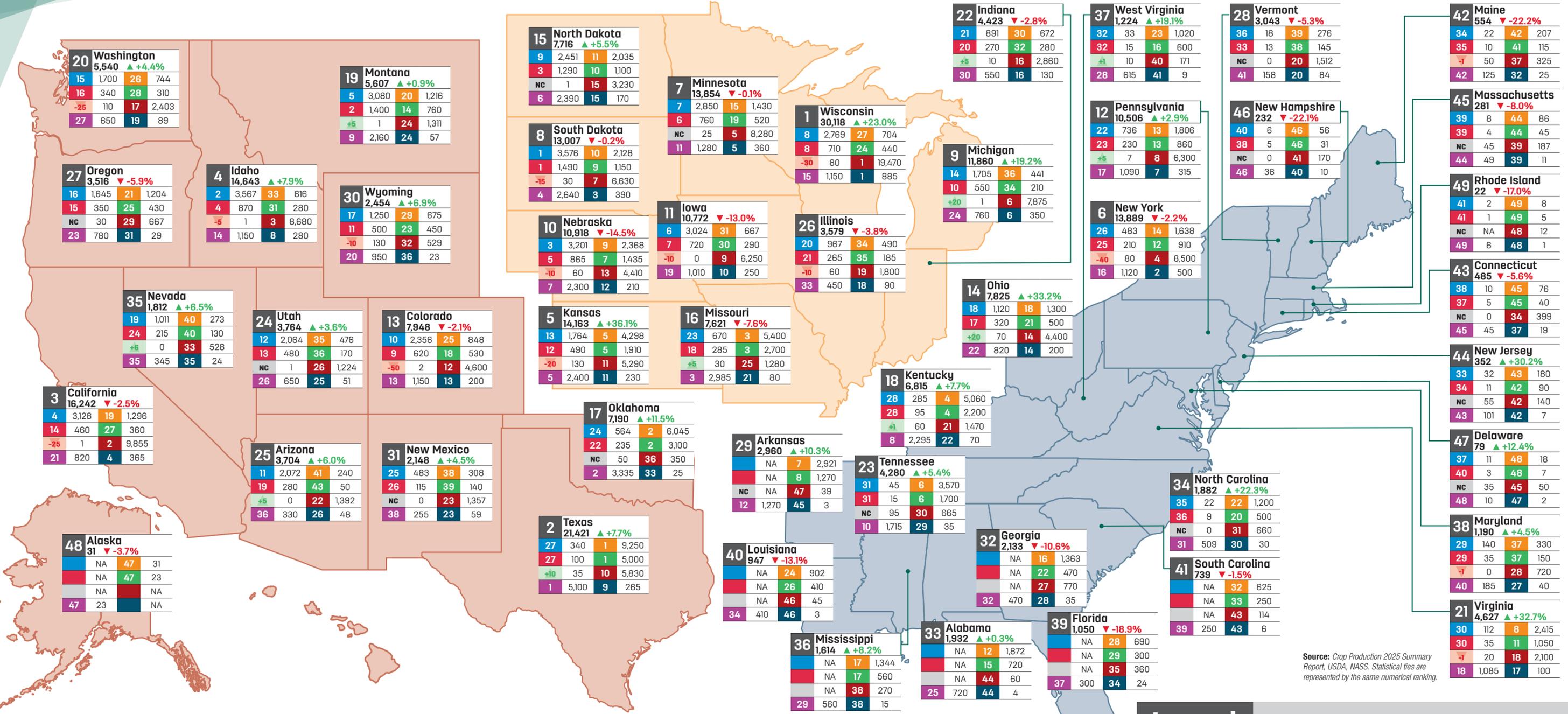
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2025 U.S. forage statistics



Source: Crop Production 2025 Summary Report, USDA, NASS. Statistical ties are represented by the same numerical ranking.



Total U.S. forage acres
in thousands of acres

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------|
| Other hay | 34,881 | ▲+103 |
| Alfalfa | 14,676 | ▲+64 |
| Silage | 6,208 | ▲+1 |
| Greenchop | 3,552 | ▼-140 |
| Sorghum | 448 | ▲+142 |
| Combined total | 59,765 | |



Total U.S. tons harvested
in thousands of tons

| | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|---------|
| Silage | 21.8 tons/acre | 135,540 | ▲+7.3% |
| Other hay | 2.1 tons/acre | 72,818 | ▲+0.2% |
| Alfalfa | 3.4 tons/acre | 50,213 | ▲+0.7% |
| Greenchop | 7.6 tons/acre | 26,816 | ▼-2.0% |
| Sorghum | 16.4 tons/acre | 7,325 | ▲+19.0% |
| Combined total | | 292,712 | |

United States
292,712 ▲+5.23%

| | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| 49,840 | ▲+0.03% | 72,686 | NC |
| 14,612 | NC | 34,778 | NC |
| 1,850 | NC | 125,590 | ▼-2.03% |
| 49,390 | NC | 6,207 | ▼-1.75% |

Legend

| | | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|---|---|
| State ranking - total forage production | 11 | Iowa | 10,772 | ▼-13.0% | Percentage increase/decrease in forage production 2024-25 | |
| All forage production (in thousands of tons) | | | | | State ranking - other hay yield | |
| State ranking - alfalfa yield | 6 | | 3,024 | 31 | 667 | Other hay yield (in thousands of tons) |
| Alfalfa yield (in thousands of tons) | | | | | | State ranking - other hay acres |
| State ranking - alfalfa acres | 7 | | 720 | 30 | 290 | Other hay acres (in thousands of acres) |
| Alfalfa acres (in thousands of acres) | | | | | | State ranking - corn silage yield |
| Change in acres of new alfalfa plantings (in thousands of acres) | -10 | | 0 | 9 | 6,250 | Other hay yield (in thousands of tons) |
| Alfalfa new plantings (in thousands of acres) | | | | | | State ranking - total hay acres |
| State ranking - total hay acres | 19 | | 1,010 | 10 | 250 | Corn silage yield (in thousands of tons) |
| Total hay acres (in thousands of acres) | | | | | | State ranking - corn silage acres |
| | | | | | | Corn silage acres (in thousands of acres) |



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