

Wisconsin Hay Stocks Up

Stocks of all dry hay stored on Wisconsin farms totaled 950,000 tons on May 1, 2009, a 20 percent increase from the 790,000 tons stored on May 1, 2008. Higher December 1 stocks, moderate snowfall and less snow cover after the first of the year helped the stocks to rebound. During the period December 1, 2008-May 1, 2009, the state's livestock and dairy producers fed 2.65 million tons of hay compared to 2.68 million tons during the same period a year earlier.

Nationally, all hay stored on farms May 1, 2009, totaled 22.1 million tons, up 2 percent from the previous year. Disappearance of hay from December 1, 2008-May 1, 2009, totaled 81.6 million tons, 1 percent less than the disappearance of 82.5 million tons for the same period a year ago.

Hay stocks decreased from last year across most of the Great Plains and Rocky Mountain States. In the eastern United States, higher production, milder winter weather, increased precipitation, and lower cattle inventories contributed to higher stocks on May 1. Stocks in the western United States were also higher than a year ago as lower demand was noted in California, Oregon, and Washington.

Hay Stocks on Farms, May 1, 2009

State	2007	2008	2009
	1,000 tons		
WI	1,308	790	950
IL	325	210	300
IA	684	640	750
KS	600	1,100	1,350
MI	350	320	450
MN	740	535	790
MO	625	900	2,050
MT	760	1,025	590
NE	840	990	935
ND	609	1,260	700
SD	1,150	1,930	1,900
US	14,990	21,585	22,065

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO