



Wisconsin - Hay Stocks

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Wisconsin Hay Stocks Down From May 2011

Stocks of all dry hay stored on Wisconsin farms totaled 925,000 tons on May 1, 2012, an 18 percent decrease from the 1.12 million tons stored on May 1, 2011. During the period December 1, 2011 to May 1, 2012, Wisconsin's livestock and dairy producers fed 1.73 million tons of hay, compared with 2.16 million tons during the same period a year earlier.

Nationally, all hay stored on farms on May 1, 2012 totaled 21.4 million tons, down 4 percent from a year ago. Disappearance from December 1, 2011 to May 1, 2012 totaled 69.3 million tons, compared with 79.9 million tons for the same period a year ago. This is the smallest disappearance since 1985.

Compared with last year, hay stocks as a percent of production increased across much of the Northern Tier and in many eastern states. Mild temperatures coupled with limited snowpack left many pastures and ranges accessible to livestock herds for longer periods during the winter, allowing producers to feed less hay. Similarly, beneficial rainfall throughout much of the spring and summer boosted pasture growth in many Atlantic Coast states, delaying the need for supplemental feedstuffs as winter approached. Elsewhere, on-farm stocks declined from last year in a number Great Plains states, as prolonged drought conditions hampered pasture growth and forced many livestock producers to feed an increased amount of hay to their herds.

Hay Stocks on Farms, May 1, 2012, Top 10 States

State	2011	2012
	1,000 tons	
SD	1,850	2,400
ND	1,250	1,700
MT	1,300	1,550
NE	1,335	1,070
MO	1,325	1,025
TX	2,500	950
WI	1,122	925
MN	810	900
VA	402	900
KY	799	775
U.S.	22,217	21,381

Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO