

## DRY HAY

New England's dry hay production totaled 1.05 million tons in 2005, seven percent under the previous year's total. The growing season got off to a slow start. The month of May was one of the coldest in history and extended periods of rain made it one of the wettest. A mix of sun, rain and warm temperatures aided the growth of hay during June and by month's end the dry hay harvest was on pace with the five year average. Sunny days with scattered rain showers were the norm for most of July. By the end of the month, first and second cuttings of dry hay were slightly below five year averages. Hot and dry conditions dominated New England during August and relief

did not arrive until remnants of Hurricane Katrina brought heavy rains to the region. There were 609,000 acres cut for dry hay during 2005 in New England, a slight increase from the previous year. Dry hay yields averaged 1.72 tons per acre in 2005 compared with 1.87 tons per acre in 2004. Together, prices for dry alfalfa and all other dry hay averaged \$145 per ton in 2005, an increase of eleven dollars per ton from the previous year the highest New England all hay price on record. The total value of the 2005 hay crop was estimated at \$152 million.

## DRY HAY: Acreage, Yield and Production, 1996 – 2005

State and Year	Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures				All Other Hay				All Hay				
	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton	Value of Production
	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>Connecticut</b>													
1996	15	2.50	38	143	65	1.90	124	120	80	2.03	162	124	20,314
1997	12	2.40	29	164	60	1.80	108	131	72	1.90	137	139	18,904
1998	8	2.20	18	160	55	2.00	110	130	63	2.03	128	134	17,180
1999	11	1.70	19	157	50	1.50	75	133	61	1.54	94	138	12,958
2000	12	2.20	26	165	53	2.10	111	136	65	2.11	137	142	19,386
2001	8	2.30	18	177	55	1.80	99	142	63	1.86	117	147	17,244
2002	9	2.40	22	169	53	1.90	101	136	62	1.98	123	143	17,454
2003	8	2.90	23	170	55	2.10	116	140	63	2.21	139	145	20,150
2004	7	2.70	19	192	59	2.10	124	150	66	2.17	143	156	22,248
2005	8	2.40	19	190	55	1.80	99	157	63	1.87	118	162	19,153
<b>Maine</b>													
1996	10	3.00	30	110	175	1.75	306	85	185	1.82	336	86	29,310
1997	10	2.00	20	143	155	1.50	233	113	165	1.53	253	114	29,189
1998	13	2.50	33	145	145	1.70	247	109	158	1.77	280	113	31,708
1999	12	1.70	20	125	150	1.40	210	98	162	1.42	230	100	23,080
2000	12	2.20	26	134	135	1.80	243	103	147	1.83	269	106	28,513
2001	10	2.20	22	139	135	1.50	203	104	145	1.55	225	108	24,170
2002	12	2.00	24	141	145	1.70	247	106	157	1.73	271	109	29,566
2003	9	2.30	21	145	135	1.80	243	106	144	1.83	264	110	28,803
2004	10	2.00	20	160	145	1.90	276	119	155	1.91	296	122	36,044
2005	11	2.70	30	166	140	1.50	210	135	151	1.59	240	139	33,330
<b>Massachusetts</b>													
1996	15	2.00	30	136	75	2.00	150	114	90	2.00	180	118	21,180
1997	17	2.30	39	167	75	1.70	128	137	92	1.82	167	144	24,049
1998	18	1.80	32	158	85	2.00	170	137	103	1.96	202	140	28,346
1999	17	1.90	32	164	90	1.50	135	134	107	1.56	167	140	23,338
2000	16	2.30	37	164	80	2.00	160	135	96	2.05	197	143	27,668
2001	17	2.30	39	173	80	1.80	144	138	97	1.89	183	146	26,619
2002	16	2.40	38	169	70	1.90	133	140	86	1.99	171	147	25,042
2003	14	2.40	34	175	65	1.80	117	140	79	1.91	151	147	22,330
2004	13	2.40	31	185	75	2.00	150	145	88	2.06	181	152	27,458
2005	14	2.20	31	180	75	2.10	158	152	89	2.12	189	157	29,596

See footnotes after the New England table.

## DRY HAY: Acreage, Yield and Production, 1996 - 2005

State and Year	Alfalfa and Alfalfa Mixtures				All Other Hay				All Hay				
	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton	Area Harvested	Yield per Acre	Production	Price per Ton <sup>1/</sup>	Value of Production <sup>2/</sup>
	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Acres	Tons	1,000 Tons	Dollars	1,000 Dollars
<b>New Hampshire</b>													
1996	12	1.95	23	133	55	1.70	94	110	67	1.75	117	114	13,399
1997	8	2.00	16	167	54	1.65	89	131	62	1.69	105	137	14,331
1998	8	3.00	24	153	48	1.85	89	141	56	2.02	113	144	16,221
1999	7	2.20	15	153	55	1.70	94	126	62	1.76	109	130	14,139
2000	8	2.00	16	156	50	1.70	85	123	58	1.74	101	128	12,951
2001	7	2.00	14	163	50	1.70	85	126	57	1.74	99	131	12,992
2002	8	2.30	18	170	46	1.80	83	133	54	1.87	101	139	14,099
2003	8	2.40	19	170	44	2.00	88	135	52	2.06	107	140	15,110
2004	7	2.10	15	185	50	1.80	90	145	57	1.84	105	151	15,825
2005	8	2.10	17	194	49	1.80	88	162	57	1.04	105	167	17,554
<b>Rhode Island</b>													
1996	2	2.90	6	148	6	2.20	13	125	8	2.38	19	131	2,513
1997	2	2.40	5	168	6	1.80	11	133	8	2.00	16	146	2,303
1998	2	3.00	6	163	8	2.00	16	145	10	2.20	22	150	3,298
1999	2	1.80	4	162	7	1.80	13	139	9	1.89	17	142	2,455
2000	2	2.50	5	168	8	2.10	17	138	10	2.20	22	143	3,186
2001	2	2.20	4	177	7	1.70	12	140	9	1.78	16	145	2,388
2002	2	2.20	4	171	6	2.20	13	139	8	2.13	17	143	2,491
2003	2	2.50	5	175	7	2.00	14	140	9	2.11	19	145	2,835
2004	2	2.30	5	188	7	2.20	15	149	9	2.22	20	159	3,175
2005	2	3.00	6	185	7	2.00	14	156	9	2.22	20	165	3,294
<b>Vermont</b>													
1996	65	2.10	137	116	185	2.00	370	91	250	2.03	507	98	49,562
1997	45	2.30	104	155	220	1.90	418	125	265	1.97	522	131	68,370
1998	45	2.30	104	140	200	2.00	400	115	245	2.06	504	120	60,560
1999	45	1.70	77	127	200	1.70	340	100	245	1.70	417	105	43,779
2000	50	2.00	100	132	180	1.70	306	102	230	1.77	406	109	44,412
2001	40	2.00	80	140	200	1.60	320	104	240	1.67	400	111	44,480
2002	45	2.00	90	140	195	2.00	390	105	240	2.00	480	112	53,550
2003	40	2.00	80	140	195	2.00	390	105	235	2.00	470	111	52,150
2004	40	2.00	80	153	190	1.60	304	114	230	1.67	384	122	46,896
2005	45	1.80	81	158	195	1.50	293	123	240	1.56	374	131	48,837
<b>New England</b>													
1996	119	2.22	264	124	561	1.88	1,057	98	680	1.94	1,321	103	136,278
1997	94	2.27	213	159	570	1.73	987	125	664	1.81	1,200	131	157,146
1998	94	2.31	217	147	541	1.91	1,032	121	635	1.97	1,249	126	157,313
1999	94	1.78	167	140	552	1.57	867	111	646	1.60	1,034	116	119,749
2000	100	2.10	210	145	506	1.82	922	115	606	1.87	1,132	120	136,116
2001	84	2.11	177	154	527	1.64	863	117	611	1.70	1,040	123	127,893
2002	92	2.13	196	152	515	1.88	967	116	607	1.92	1,163	122	142,202
2003	81	2.25	182	155	501	1.93	968	117	582	1.98	1,150	123	141,378
2004	79	2.15	170	168	526	1.82	959	128	605	1.87	1,129	134	151,673
2005	88	2.09	184	171	521	1.65	862	140	609	1.72	1,046	145	151,764

<sup>1/</sup> All Hay Price per Ton equals the Value of Production ÷ Production, rounded to the nearest dollar.<sup>2/</sup> All Hay Value of Production equals (Alfalfa Production x Alfalfa Price) + (Other Hay Production x Other Hay Price).