Hay stocks on farms: All hay stored on United States farms as of May 1, 2018 totaled 15.7 million tons, down 36 percent from the previous May. Disappearance from December 1, 2017 - May 1, 2018 totaled 70.6 million tons, compared with 71.4 million tons for the same period a year earlier.

Lower production in 2017, coupled with a higher cattle inventory as of January 1, 2018, has reduced the available hay stocks on May 1, 2018 compared to the same time last year. April snow in the Northern Plains, and dry pasture conditions stretching from the Southwest to the Southern Plains, have extended supplemental feeding, further reducing available hay stocks.

May 1 hay stocks levels were record-lows in California, Illinois, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.