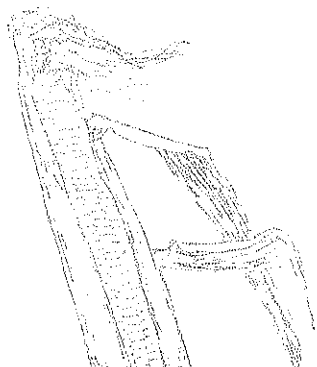




Marinette County

Courthouse  
1926 Hall Avenue  
Marinette, WI 54143  
Phone: 715-732-7510



If you will need any type of accommodation or assistance as you attend any UW-Extension sponsored event, please contact the host county or Scott at the Marinette County office at least two days prior to the event. All requests will be confidential.

Scott Reuss  
715-732-7510  
1-877-884-4408  
cell 715-923-0807  
[scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu)

Sarah Mills-Lloyd  
920-834-6845  
[sarah.mills-lloyd@co.oconto.wi.us](mailto:sarah.mills-lloyd@co.oconto.wi.us)

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Employer, University of Wisconsin-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA requirements.*

## May, 2014 Newsletter (and Alfalfa Alert edition - of sorts)

Weather obviously dictates when and what we can do, and it is certainly holding court this year. If you want to review cropping plans on the fly (if weather patterns create necessary changes for you) - contact me or some of your farm's consultant group to help you get to the best decision for your farm.

Scott Reuss

### Tractor & Machinery Safety Training

Plans are now being formulated for a tractor & machinery safety training course. It will be held in July in the Pound/Coleman area and will cost approximately \$35. The flier will likely be in the June newsletter.

### Implements of Husbandry legislation

One other thing that will be a focus of one of the upcoming newsletters is the brand new Implements of Husbandry laws in WI. There are a few things still uncertain about it, so I decided to wait. In the meantime, make sure you do pay attention to the weight issues, in particular, as they are in effect already. This gives IOH a no-permit exemption for up to 23,000 lbs/axle or 92,000 lbs total weight. But this exemption is not valid during spring thaw!

### Newsletter Table of Contents

Page 2	Marinette County Breakfast on the Farm flier
Pages 3-8	WI Custom Rate Guide
Page 9	Equine Herpesvirus
Page 10	Tickborne Diseases in Wisconsin.
Pages 11/12	First-crop Forage Harvest Planning
Page 12 btm	Soybean establishment & yield tips

### Local program Calendar of Events

May 3 10 am	Harmony Arb.	Potato & Garden Planting Workshop
May 13 6 pm	Oc. Falls library	Growing Tomatoes Workshop
May 14 6:30 pm	Florence NRC	Meat Bird Production Workshop
May 20 6:30 pm	Harmony Arb.	Tree Fruit Pest Management
May 22	First Alfalfa Quality Data collection day (see all the other dates on page 11)	
June 8	Oconto County Breakfast on the Farm - LeeRoy & Diane Kruse (flier in June edition)	
June 30	Marinette County Breakfast on the Farm (see flier - pg 2)	

Sunday, June 29, 2014 ~ 7:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M. ~ Rain or Shine

# Marinette County Breakfast on the Farm

hosted by...

**Keith & Nancy Hartwig, N3077 Hartwig Road, Peshtigo, WI**

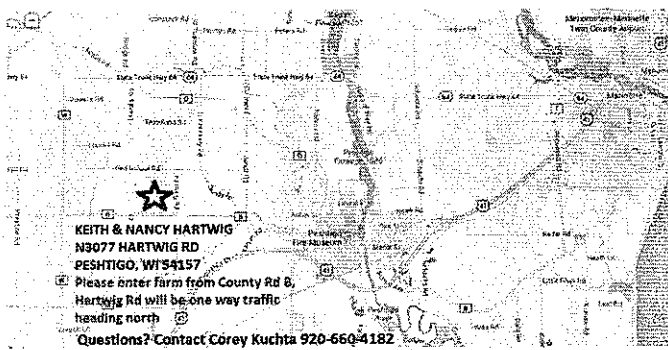
The Hartwig Family Farm is currently owned and operated by Keith and Nancy Hartwig, their son, Kyle, his wife, Kelly and their family. The farm is run smoothly with the assistance of daughters, Stephanie and Katie, along with the hired help, who are like family.

In 1940, Keith's parents, Lester and Viola, bought the 80-acre farm from Nick Butzoh and purchased additional parcels of land, doubling the size of the farm to 160 acres with forty milking cows.

After working all his life on the farm, Keith and his wife Nancy, purchased the farm from his parents in 1985. Over the years,

additional land was purchased and the farm currently owns and rents 510 acres. With the increase in size came improvements over the years, including heifer facilities, free stall barn, manure pit, bunkers, double 8 parallel milking parlor and additional machinery. The land supplies the feed for 160 milk cows, 145 replacement heifers and 140 steers. All the animals are raised on the farm from calf on.

The Hartwigs invite you to join them on Sunday, June 29, 2014 for the Marinette County Breakfast on the Farm.



Thank You to the following businesses for supporting the 2013 Breakfast on the Farm in money or in kind donations:

## PLATINUM

A&C Sawdust Co.  
American Food Group  
Beaver Brook Maple Syrup  
Charter Fuel  
Cornette Farm Supply & Feed  
Greenstone Farm Credit Services  
John Veriha Trucking  
Mark & Dawn Carviou & Family

## GOLD

Abts Bou-matic  
Biehl Construction  
BMO Harris Financial Group  
Coleman Shipping Ass.  
Dan Risner & Son Excavating  
Dan, Sue, Eric & Jamie Van De Walle  
David & Julie Bushmaker & Family  
Jeff & Lisa Fischer  
Jerry & Tricia Zeitler  
Jim & Carla Bushmaker & Family  
Kuchta Farms  
Patz Corporation  
Pelkins Piggly Wiggly  
Petal n' Roots  
Pete Johnson  
Scott & Kay Reuss  
Troy & Katie Van De Walle  
Van De Walle Farms & Families  
Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board  
Wisconsin Public Service

Witts Piggly Wiggly & Ace Hardware

## SILVER

Ag Ventures  
Beaver Machine  
Dennis Graef Trucking  
Eriks Garden Center  
Genex Co-op & Jeff Jahnke  
Holley's Harvest  
Hosking Electrical  
Kotecki Veterinary Service  
Kozlovsky Dairy Equipment  
Land O' Lakes  
Lee's Family Food  
Marinette County Farm Bureau  
Meatski's Meat  
N K S Tire Sales  
Nutrition Service Co. Inc.  
P&D Sales and Service  
Patz Maple & Honey Farm  
Peshtigo Feed Mill  
Peshtigo Times  
Pete's Concrete Co.  
Riesterer & Schnell  
Rural Mutual Ins.  
Saputo Cheese, USA  
Vanderloop Equipment  
Wisconsin Building Supply  
Wisconsin-Michigan Ins Agency

## BRONZE

Animart  
Associated Bank  
Barnstormers  
BayLand Building  
BelGioioso Cheese  
Burger King of Marinette  
Carriveau Insurance  
CenturyLink  
Coleman Floral  
Coleman Ponderosa  
Crittitz Veterinary Clinic  
Dair-Ray Vet Service  
Dairy Farmers of America  
Dairyland Seed & Kevin Naze  
Dan Bieber Equipment LLC  
De Smidt's Golf Course  
Dr. Kevin Pepin  
Dumke Bros.  
Elanco Animal Health  
Equity Livestock Auction  
Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust  
Fuelle Painting & Sand Blasting  
Gendron's Inc.  
Golden Ridge Dairy LLC  
Graef Livestock Trucking  
Graetz Mfg.  
H.J. Dudkiewicz & Sons, Inc.  
Hoida Construction  
Ideal Tent & Party  
Jung Seed Genetics & Kelly  
Katie's Subs

Kaufman Farms  
Maplewood Meats  
Marinette Ford Motor Co.  
Modern Dairy Systems LLC  
North Wood Flooring  
Oconto County Lumber Inc.  
Oconto Electric Coop  
Paul's Portables  
Peshtigo National Bank  
Precision Carts  
Ranks Northern Distributing  
Ranger City Distributing  
Rhodes-Charapata Funeral Homes  
Seefeldt Farms  
Simons Specialty Cheese-Agropur  
Spring Side Cheese  
St. Louis Concrete  
Toby's Spray Painting & Sandblasting  
United Cooperative  
Village Pharmacy, Inc.  
Wagner Sugar Hill  
Wagner-Casper Ins.  
Waldvogel Trucking  
Waste Management  
Witt Ford  
Zeitler Agri-Center  
Zorn Trucking

No  
advanced  
ticket sales.

Adults - \$6  
Kids 6-10 - \$4  
Kids 5 & under  
FREE!

pancakes  
eggs  
sausages  
cheese curds  
maple syrup  
apple sauce  
milk  
coffee  
ice cream

kids comedy act  
petting zoo  
face painting  
balloons  
play area  
music  
&  
viewing of the  
barn and  
cattle



Upper Midwest Region  
Wisconsin Field Office  
P.O. Box 8934 · Madison, WI 53708  
nass-wi@nass.usda.gov  
www.nass.usda.gov  
1-800-789-9277

United States Department of Agriculture - National Agricultural Statistics Service  
Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

# WISCONSIN

## CUSTOM RATE GUIDE 2013

MARCH 2014

### GENERAL:

As part of an on-going cooperative arrangement with the agriculture industry, NASS-Wisconsin Field Office (WI FO) conducts a Custom Rates Survey every three years. This 2013 summary is a result of a mail survey which collected rates paid by farmers for custom work performed in 2013. The figures are based on reports by farmers who hired custom work, custom operators and farmers who performed custom work, and machinery dealers who rented out equipment. There were 889 reports compiled.

Most of the rates in this release include the cost of hiring a machine with fuel and operator, but exclude the cost of any materials. No attempt was made to distinguish between rates charged by custom operators who perform these operations as their main source of income and those who do custom work as a secondary source of income. In general, rates charged by custom operators and implement dealers were more likely to be higher than average. This summary makes no effort to evaluate fairness of rates being charged.

### DATA:

Included in this release are statewide average rates and typical ranges for those averages. The rates and ranges in this release are based on actual reported data and should not be viewed as official estimates. The ranges provided for each custom operation encompass at least 90 percent of the reported values. Rates are typically influenced by fuel costs, soil conditions, topography, field size and shape, traditional practices in an area, and type, age, and availability of equipment. Reports were edited to remove items for which the respondent's figures were widely outside the range of other respondents' replies. Certain items may have appeared on the questionnaire, but were not summarized due to an insufficient number of responses.

Price changes for machinery, fuel, and labor should be taken into account when using this 2013 data for subsequent years.

### DISTRICT AND REGIONAL DATA:

Beyond statewide figures, averages at the regional or district level are included in this release where sufficient data was available. District breakdowns follow the nine Agricultural Statistics districts used routinely by NASS-WI FO (see figure 1). For regional breakdowns, the Agricultural Statistics districts were grouped together based on similar geography and farming practices to form three regions (see figure 2). Please refer to these figures to determine which District or Region your operation falls in.

Figure 1:  
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS

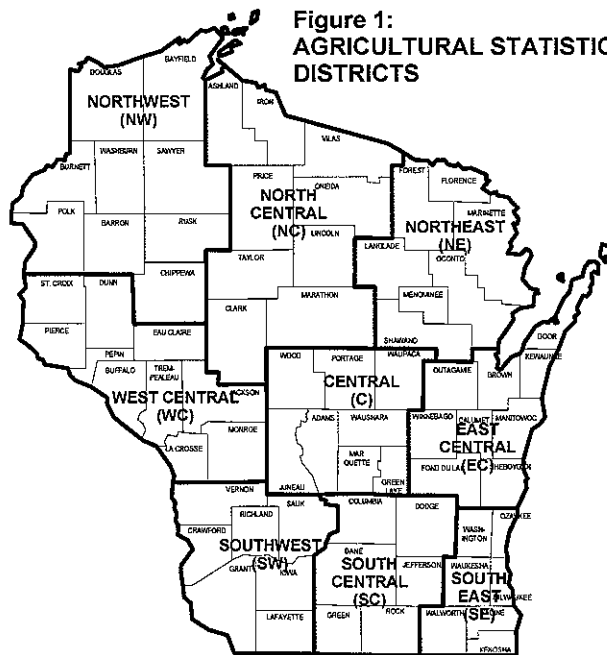
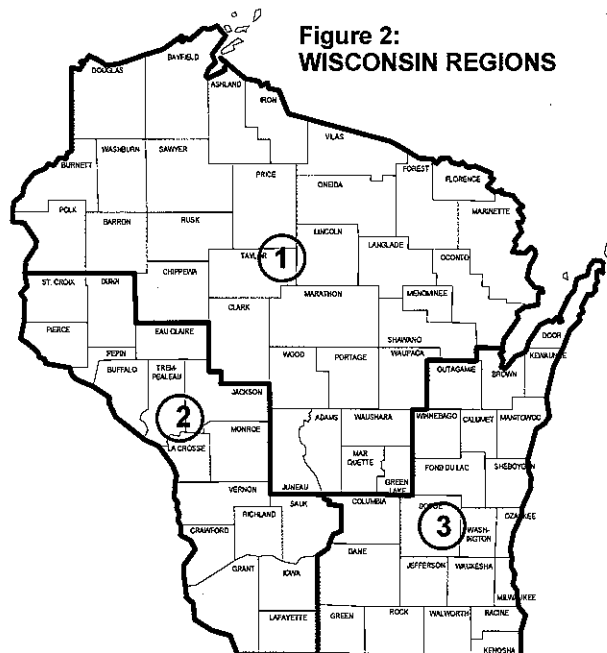


Figure 2:  
WISCONSIN REGIONS



## LAND TILLAGE OPERATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
Chisel plowing	6.00-30.00	17.20	16.30	15.90	18.30	16.50	14.60	19.30	15.90	15.90	19.80	15.70	16.80	18.10
Disk/ripper/ harrow combination	10.00-28.00	17.70	17.90	17.20	17.90	16.60	17.50	18.20	17.30	19.80	18.70	17.00	17.00	18.30
Field Cultivator	5.00-25.00	13.30	14.20	13.00	13.10	14.90	13.40	14.30	12.90	14.20	12.70	13.30	13.00	15.10
Moldboard plowing	10.00-32.00	19.90	19.30	17.90	21.20	18.20	18.70	23.40	19.30	18.90	24.20	15.60	18.10	18.40
Rotary hoe	5.00-15.00	9.20	9.20	9.80	9.00	11.70	-	-	10.20	7.30	8.85	9.25	8.50	10.40
Soil finisher	8.00-25.00	14.50	14.90	13.60	14.90	14.10	14.80	16.70	13.40	14.90	13.00	13.90	15.00	16.80
Strip tillage	10.00-25.00	18.20	19.20	17.30	18.00	21.00	-	-	17.70	16.60	15.30	17.00	17.30	21.70
Subsoiling	10.00-30.00	20.00	20.00	20.10	19.90	17.50	19.80	-	21.90	20.80	22.10	17.90	18.60	20.60
Vertical tillage	9.00-24.00	15.20	14.50	15.10	15.50	11.60	14.50	-	15.30	16.50	15.40	14.40	15.40	15.80
Finishing disk	7.00-24.00	14.50	14.50	15.00	14.40	13.50	16.40	17.30	17.40	-	14.40	-	14.30	15.00
Offset disk	10.00-22.00	15.80	14.80	15.00	16.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disk w/ digger & drag	8.00-23.00	15.30	12.00	15.10	16.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Row cultivator:														
with fertilizer	8.00-22.00	14.00	12.20	15.00	14.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
without fertilizer	7.00-18.00	12.00	10.90	-	12.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## FERTILIZER AND CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013 1/

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
Liquid Fertilizer														
Pull-type	5.00-15.00	9.25	8.40	9.95	9.55	7.60	9.60	8.65	9.85	8.15	9.25	10.10	9.10	11.50
Self propelled	5.00-14.00	8.25	8.60	8.45	8.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dry Fertilizer														
Pull-Type	2.00-13.00	6.25	5.95	6.05	6.65	5.90	7.35	-	6.20	5.45	5.10	5.80	7.15	9.65
Self propelled	2.50-10.00	6.00	5.55	5.95	6.20	5.85	5.20	-	6.85	5.65	6.00	4.35	6.20	6.95
Anhydrous Ammonia														
Pull-type	6.00-18.00	11.40	9.20	13.70	11.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self propelled	6.50-21.00	12.30	-	12.60	12.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spreading lime														
Pull-type	3.00-17.00	8.60	9.50	7.75	8.35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self propelled	4.00-17.00	7.95	8.50	6.75	7.70	9.30	5.15	-	6.75	9.65	-	6.75	8.05	7.20
Spraying Pesticides 2/														
Pull-Type	2.00-15.00	8.50	8.45	8.55	8.45	9.40	6.50	7.85	8.75	8.30	8.10	8.25	7.80	8.40
Self propelled	4.00-18.00	8.65	8.40	9.05	8.50	8.00	8.05	8.65	9.10	9.00	8.70	9.00	8.55	7.95

- Insufficient data. 1/The prices listed reflect application only. Cost of materials is excluded. 2/ Includes fungicides, herbicides, and insecticides.

## PLANTING OPERATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
<b>Corn</b>														
Conventional Till														
Less than 30" Rows	10.00-28.00	19.40	19.00	20.60	18.90	21.00	18.00	18.00	20.00	-	19.90	24.00	17.40	20.30
30" rows and greater	10.00-25.00	17.20	16.70	18.30	16.90	17.30	16.20	16.30	19.80	16.60	17.10	16.70	16.30	19.10
Mulch Till														
Less than 30" Rows	12.00-25.00	20.30	20.60	20.90	19.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30" rows and greater	13.00-28.00	19.70	20.60	20.60	18.50	20.50	20.30	-	21.80	22.00	18.10	18.90	18.10	22.00
No-Till														
Less than 30" Rows	12.00-27.00	20.00	20.20	20.70	19.20	23.00	-	-	21.40	17.50	20.40	19.10	17.10	21.80
30" rows and greater	12.00-28.00	19.20	19.20	19.50	18.90	19.40	19.60	18.80	20.10	18.50	19.00	18.70	18.20	21.80
Strip Tillage														
Less than 30" Rows	12.00-25.00	20.60	20.30	22.70	18.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30" rows and greater	11.00-25.00	19.90	20.10	19.40	20.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Soybeans</b>														
Conventional Till														
Row	10.00-26.00	18.30	17.90	19.60	17.80	18.90	17.10	17.70	21.00	16.70	18.50	16.90	16.60	20.30
Drill	9.00-25.00	16.60	15.50	16.70	17.00	16.90	15.50	15.80	17.70	14.60	17.00	15.60	16.90	17.30
Mulch Till														
Row	12.00-26.00	19.90	21.10	20.50	18.40	21.10	18.00	-	21.80	-	17.40	17.80	17.70	23.30
Drill	10.00-26.00	18.40	19.20	19.00	17.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No-Till														
Row	12.00-26.00	19.20	19.70	19.60	18.80	19.80	21.00	20.00	20.50	18.00	19.50	18.40	18.10	20.60
Drill	9.00-26.00	18.40	19.70	18.70	18.20	19.20	17.80	-	21.10	23.30	18.70	17.10	17.50	18.80
Strip Tillage														
Row	10.00-26.00	20.40	20.20	22.30	18.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Small Grains</b>														
Conventional Till	8.00-26.00	15.90	15.40	16.30	16.10	15.30	15.30	17.10	16.80	13.80	16.40	15.60	15.70	16.50
Mulch Till	10.00-26.00	17.50	21.80	19.10	16.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No-Till	10.00-30.00	17.90	19.80	18.30	17.40	19.80	18.10	-	19.80	20.10	17.90	17.00	16.70	18.00
<b>Alfalfa, Clover, etc.</b>														
Conventional Till	8.00-25.00	16.10	15.60	15.00	16.90	15.80	17.30	16.40	15.70	13.00	17.00	14.10	16.60	18.20
Mulch Till	10.00-26.00	18.30	19.20	19.40	17.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
No-Till	10.00-30.00	18.90	18.50	19.40	18.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## MANURE SERVICES, WISCONSIN, 2013

Cost Per Hour						Cost Per Gallon (Liquid Manure only)					
Diameter	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages			Diameter	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages		
			1	2	3				1	2	3
	Dollars per hour						Dollars per gallon				
Solid Manure											
Loading	25.00-140.00	76.20	59.20	70.00	92.30						
Spreading	30.00-135.00	86.00	81.60	86.70	87.90						
Loading & spreading	20.00-245.00	109.00	95.40	129.00	104.00						
Liquid Manure						Liquid Manure					
Pumping & spreading						Pumping & spreading					
Surface	50.00-210.00	92.40	94.20	79.40	98.60	Surface	0.005-0.020	0.011	0.010	0.012	0.011
Tanker injection	95.00-150.00	124.00	-	-	128.00	Tanker injection	0.007-0.012	0.012	0.013	-	0.011
Drag line injection	240.00-350.00	292.00	-	-	-	Drag line injection	0.005-0.018	0.011	0.010	0.009	0.012
Agitation boat	45.00-200.00	140.00	100.00	210.00	146.00	Agitation boat	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## HAY HARVEST OPERATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
<b>Cost Per Acre</b>	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
Mowing and conditioning	6.00-22.00	13.40	13.00	13.30	13.70	13.60	11.40	13.90	14.10	12.10	13.80	12.20	13.70	13.30
Mowing only	10.00-20.00	13.00	12.00	14.40	12.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raking	3.00-15.00	7.30	6.80	7.30	7.60	7.35	5.20	7.10	7.90	6.90	7.45	6.65	7.60	7.85
Windrow merging	4.00-20.00	9.90	8.75	9.55	10.50	9.00	5.65	-	10.15	9.20	10.00	8.15	10.70	12.40
<b>Cost Per Hour</b>	Dollars per hour		Dollars per hour			Dollars per hour								
Mowing and conditioning	25.00-275.00	113.00	121.00	107.00	115.00	111.00	-	178.00	150.00	84.00	164.00	76.90	87.40	-
Mowing only	40.00-180.00	117.00	120.00	125.00	109.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Raking	25.00-120.00	61.60	55.90	54.50	70.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Windrow merging	40.00-255.00	120.00	127.00	129.00	104.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## HAY BALING, WISCONSIN, 2013

Bale Type	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
<b>Bale Only</b> Square bales 25 - 50 lbs 300-600 lbs 600 lbs & over Round bales Under 1,000 lbs 1,000 lbs & over	Dollars per bale		Dollars per bale			Dollars per bale								
	0.25-2.00	0.84	0.88	0.74	0.85	1.05	0.73	1.00	0.73	0.66	0.70	0.74	0.80	1.20
	3.50-12.00	6.70	7.50	7.00	6.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	6.00-14.00	8.40	8.85	8.35	8.25	8.25	9.45	9.00	8.80	9.10	8.25	7.80	8.30	7.80
	5.00-12.50	8.35	8.30	8.45	8.35	8.50	8.70	7.40	8.70	8.30	8.05	8.15	8.55	8.50
	6.00-15.00	10.30	10.60	10.40	10.00	11.50	10.30	8.65	10.90	9.70	8.55	9.65	10.60	10.70

- Insufficient data.

## HAY BALING AND WRAPPING, WISCONSIN, 2013

Bale and Wrap						Wrap Only					
Bale Type	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages			Bale Type	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages		
			1	2	3				1	2	3
	Dollars per bale						Dollars per bale				
<b>Square bales</b>						<b>Square bales</b>					
300-600 lbs						300-600 lbs					
Line	-	-	-	-	-	Line	2.00-4.80	3.45	-	-	-
600 lbs & over						600 lbs & over					
Individual	6.00-24.00	13.00	14.00	12.80	12.90	Individual	2.50-15.00	7.95	8.00	6.00	9.30
Line	4.00-16.00	10.90	12.00	10.30	10.10	Line	2.00-9.00	4.65	6.35	4.40	4.85
<b>Round bales</b>						<b>Round bales</b>					
Under 1,000 lbs						Under 1,000 lbs					
Individual	5.00-16.00	10.50	10.60	10.50	10.50	Individual	5.00-7.25	6.30	-	-	-
Line	6.00-15.00	12.00	-	-	-	Line	2.00-8.00	5.60	6.00	6.25	4.00
1,000 lbs & over						1,000 lbs & over					
Individual	8.00-18.00	11.60	11.20	11.90	11.70	Individual	5.00-13.50	9.05	9.50	9.85	8.00
Line	11.00-19.00	14.80	-	15.00	13.90	Line	4.00-9.00	6.35	6.40	6.20	6.55

- Insufficient data.

## HAYLAGE HARVEST OPERATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
Cost Per Acre	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
Chopping only														
Pull-type	12.00-80.00	36.10	39.80	35.20	32.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	12.00-75.00	34.60	25.30	23.00	30.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chopping, hauling, & packing bunkers														
Pull-type	25.00-120.00	79.80	-	90.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	25.00-125.00	55.30	-	-	56.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chopping, hauling, & filling upright silo														
Pull-type	40.00-100.00	67.70	63.00	73.30	67.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	40.00-125.00	58.40	55.70	-	71.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost Per Hour	Dollars per hour		Dollars per hour			Dollars per hour								
Chopping only														
Pull-type	52.50-225.00	114.00	109.00	131.00	90.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	125.00-575.00	325.00	286.00	365.00	326.00	308.00	234.00	330.00	413.00	254.00	338.00	289.00	302.00	340.00
Chopping, hauling, & packing bunkers														
Pull-type	100.00-650.00	317.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	250.00-850.00	568.00	457.00	560.00	701.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chopping, hauling, & filling upright silo														
Pull-type	60.00-275.00	152.00	149.00	160.00	148.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	200.00-600.00	422.00	352.00	471.00	466.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Filling and packing Bunker	50.00-200.00	94.30	95.80	79.80	104.00	90.00	91.80	92.80	86.10	108.00	104.00	68.80	103.00	-
Hauling only														
Truck	50.00-120.00	83.30	82.10	75.90	88.40	76.40	-	91.30	74.80	81.70	88.10	79.30	90.30	83.00
Wagon	15.00-95.00	62.10	58.80	64.20	63.40	62.50	52.80	74.30	75.80	-	63.90	54.30	64.70	-

- Insufficient data

## CORN SILAGE HARVEST OPERATIONS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Cost Per Acre						Cost Per Hour					
Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages			Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages		
			1	2	3				1	2	3
	Dollars per acre						Dollars per hour				
Chopping only						Chopping only					
With processor						With processor					
Pull-type	25.00-75.00	53.40	59.80	53.90	-	Pull-type	-	-	-	-	-
Self propelled	37.50-104.00	68.80	70.90	64.30	70.20	Self propelled	110.00-530.00	349.00	314.00	368.00	364.00
Without processor						Without processor					
Pull-type	25.00-83.00	51.90	64.30	-	-	Pull-type	85.00-150.00	114.00	118.00	-	103.00
Self propelled	55.00-90.00	67.50	-	-	60.00	Self propelled	125.00-450.00	304.00	223.00	331.00	319.00
Chopping, hauling, & packing bunkers						Chopping, hauling, & packing bunkers					
With processor						With processor					
Pull-type	44.00-100.00	72.30	-	-	-	Pull-type	100.00-650.00	315.00	-	-	-
Self propelled	60.00-200.00	127.00	71.30	163.00	135.00	Self propelled	365.00-1000.00	645.00	520.00	624.00	779.00
Without processor						Without processor					
Self propelled	-	-	-	-	-	Self propelled	400.00-830.00	642.00	-	-	703.00
Chopping, hauling, & filling upright silo						Chopping, hauling, & filling upright silo					
With processor						With processor					
Pull-type	25.00-200.00	78.80	-	99.30	-	Pull-type	100.00-450.00	254.00	320.00	290.00	-
Self propelled	82.00-180.00	127.00	-	-	172.00	Self propelled	300.00-765.00	506.00	412.00	538.00	541.00
Without processor						Without processor					
Pull-type	-	-	-	-	-	Pull-type	70.00-250.00	165.00	-	137.00	-
Self propelled	-	-	-	-	-	Self propelled	350.00-575.00	465.00	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## CORN SILAGE BUNKER PACKING AND HAULING, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per hour		Dollars per hour			Dollars per hour								
Filling and packing														
Bunker	45.00-200.00	99.40	86.40	85.80	116.00	76.70	94.00	93.80	84.60	86.30	117.10	88.30	113.00	-
Hauling only														
Truck	50.00-120.00	84.20	84.20	73.60	90.10	76.30	88.30	90.80	74.20	83.80	88.30	72.10	90.60	-
Wagon	25.00-95.00	67.60	68.60	65.90	67.90	68.00	66.00	74.00	75.80	-	74.10	54.00	60.40	-

- Insufficient data

## SILAGE BAGGING, WISCONSIN, 2013 1/

Cost of bag included						Cost of bag excluded					
Diameter	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages			Diameter	Range in Rates	Statewide Averages	Regional Averages		
			1	2	3				1	2	3
	Dollars per linear foot						Dollars per linear foot				
8-foot bag	3.20-6.50	4.60	4.65	3.95	4.90	8-foot bag	2.00-4.00	2.75	2.65	2.35	3.20
9-foot bag	3.59-7.00	5.00	4.90	5.10	5.05	9-foot bag	2.00-4.20	2.65	2.00	2.35	3.20
10-foot bag	5.00-9.00	6.70	6.95	6.20	6.85	10-foot bag	2.50-6.00	4.44	4.85	3.75	5.00
12-foot bag	7.00-13.00	9.90	-	-	10.20	12-foot bag	3.50-9.30	6.35	-	-	7.15
14-foot bag	10.00-15.00	13.15	-	-	15.20	14-foot bag	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data. 1/Prices exclude the cost of fuel and labor.



## HARVESTING GRAIN AND CORN STALKS, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
Cost Per Acre	Dollars per acre		Dollars per acre			Dollars per acre								
Corn combining	20.00-45.00	31.30	31.20	31.30	31.30	30.60	31.70	35.10	33.00	29.30	32.10	28.70	30.70	31.20
Soybean combining	20.00-40.00	30.70	29.80	31.20	30.90	30.30	29.60	32.10	33.00	27.70	31.20	28.80	30.50	31.20
Small grain combining	20.00-40.00	30.20	29.40	30.70	30.30	28.80	29.70	31.60	32.40	28.40	30.00	28.20	30.50	30.40
Small grain swathing	7.00-22.00	12.60	12.20	11.80	14.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harvesting or chopping corn stalks (for bedding)														
Pull-type	6.00-28.00	12.60	11.60	13.60	11.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Self-propelled	15.00-60.00	42.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shredding corn stalks	5.00-24.00	13.10	11.30	14.50	12.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost Per Hour	Dollars per hour		Dollars per hour			Dollars per hour								
Corn combining	80.00-250.00	141.00	148.00	140.00	136.00	120.00	172.00	-	140.00	170.00	-	141.00	123.00	169.00
Soybean combining	50.00-250.00	153.00	174.00	134.00	153.00	160.00	189.00	-	116.00	165.00	127.00	145.00	152.00	170.00
Small grain combining	80.00-250.00	139.00	147.00	139.00	133.00	-	168.00	-	125.00	141.00	95.00	146.00	125.00	191.00
Small grain swathing	50.00-90.00	69.20	71.50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Baling corn stalks	Dollars per bale		Dollars per bale			Dollars per bale								
	7.00-16.00	10.20	11.30	10.30	9.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stacking corn stalks	Dollars per 1 ton stack		Dollars per 1 ton stack			Dollars per 1 ton stack								
	10.00-20.00	15.10	-	15.00	15.30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

- Insufficient data.

## GRAIN DRYING, STORAGE AND HAULING, WISCONSIN, 2013

Operation	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars		Dollars			Dollars								
Grain Drying (non-elevator)														
Cost per bushel	0.030-0.500	0.247	0.272	0.228	0.249	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost per bushel per point	0.010-0.090	0.042	0.047	0.042	0.040	0.041	0.063	-	0.043	0.044	0.050	0.041	0.034	0.043
Grain Bin Rental (non-elevator)														
Cost per bushel per month	0.010-0.080	0.037	0.034	0.036	0.040	0.035	0.036	-	0.034	0.025	0.040	0.039	0.042	0.033
Hauling Grain														
Field to farm														
Cost per bushel	0.030-0.250	0.129	0.141	0.136	0.115	0.136	0.170	0.148	0.136	0.111	0.122	0.136	0.106	0.131
Farm to market														
Cost per bushel	0.050-0.400	0.176	0.218	0.183	0.142	0.191	0.247	0.239	0.193	0.200	0.151	0.168	0.124	0.174

- Insufficient data.

**MACHINERY RENTAL, WISCONSIN, 2013**

Equipment	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per machine hour 1/		Dollars per machine hour 1/			Dollars per machine hour 1/								
<b>Tractors</b>														
2 wheel drive or front wheel assist														
Under 75 HP	12.00-70.00	26.50	31.70	25.10	22.90	35.00	30.00	-	26.20	17.30	18.50	23.30	25.00	28.30
75-120 HP	14.00-75.00	31.00	37.10	28.90	29.20	42.80	30.20	40.30	28.50	37.50	28.40	29.60	28.20	33.80
120-150 HP	15.00-70.00	36.20	39.60	35.90	34.80	45.90	30.00	-	35.60	42.50	33.80	36.70	35.20	36.70
Over 150 HP	20.00-80.00	45.20	46.40	46.60	43.70	53.10	46.60	35.00	44.70	39.00	44.80	51.70	39.70	49.40
<b>4-wheel drive</b>														
Under 175 HP	20.00-85.00	46.20	45.40	57.10	41.30	52.50	51.80	-	55.60	34.30	37.80	-	38.00	58.30
175 HP and over	25.00-125.00	56.30	58.30	53.40	57.00	71.40	57.20	62.50	53.70	47.40	53.50	52.50	55.90	78.00
<b>Combines</b>														
4-row and smaller	40.00-125.00	105.00	-	-	122.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6-row and larger	25.00-250.00	119.00	123.00	108.00	130.00	-	123.00	-	107.00	-	114.00	109.00	108.00	169.00
Small grain head	35.00-200.00	106.00	112.00	90.00	83.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Skid steer</b>														
under 2,000 lbs.	18.00-80.00	38.00	37.00	33.60	41.20	31.30	55.00	-	36.40	-	44.20	30.70	40.00	35.00
2,000 lbs. and greater	20.00-90.00	48.60	55.30	48.70	44.80	49.00	65.00	-	51.20	45.00	47.60	44.20	37.20	59.00
	Dollars		Dollars			Dollars								
<b>Roller or hammer mill</b>														
Cost per bushel	0.080-0.250	0.144	0.123	0.142	0.154	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost per hour	40.00-125.00	83.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dollars per hour 2/		Dollars per hour 2/			Dollars per hour 2/								
<b>Miscellaneous services</b>														
Bulldozer use	50.00-175.00	100.00	97.60	106.00	97.00	90.80	98.30	-	100.00	98.80	105.00	111.00	93.00	103.00

- Insufficient data. 1/Rates are for machinery use only. Fuel and operator are provided by the user. 2/Includes the cost of fuel and labor.

**FARM LABOR, WISCONSIN, 2013**

Category	Range in Rates	Statewide Average	Regional Averages			District Averages								
			1	2	3	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE
	Dollars per hour		Dollars per hour			Dollars per hour								
General farm labor	7.25-18.00	11.60	11.20	11.60	11.90	11.70	11.20	10.80	12.00	10.60	11.40	11.10	12.40	11.80
Machine operator	8.00-22.00	14.20	13.30	13.90	14.90	13.20	13.10	14.30	14.40	13.30	14.80	13.30	14.70	16.20
Farm truck driver	8.00-22.00	14.20	13.50	13.50	15.00	13.30	13.60	14.00	13.70	13.80	15.10	13.20	14.70	16.10

- Insufficient data.

**CONTACT:**

Your input is important to us. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding this report, please call 800/789-9277 or write to the USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office, P.O. Box 8934, Madison, WI 53708-8934. E-mail address:

[nass-wi@nass.usda.gov](mailto:nass-wi@nass.usda.gov)

This report may be viewed and printed from the Internet at: [www.nass.usda.gov/wi/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/) under the "More State Features" heading.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

To better determine an appropriate charge in your situation, you are encouraged to obtain Bulletin A3510, titled "Estimating Agricultural Field Machinery Costs" from your county UWEX office or at

<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf/A3510.pdf>

Thank you to all survey participants who provided data for this publication. County extension offices, as well as the Wisconsin Field Office, receive many requests for data on rates charged for custom work throughout the year.



USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field office (608)224-4848  
P.O. Box 8934 <http://www.nass.usda.gov/wi/>  
Madison, WI 53708-8934

Greg Bussler, State Statistician  
Compiled in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and UW Extension. Available on request.

April 10, 2014

## [Equine Herpesvirus-1] J. Liv Sandberg

**UW**  
**Extension**

**UW**  
**Animal Sciences**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) has recently been identified in horses primarily in eastern Minnesota and in N Western Wisconsin. The WI Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) is in communication with WI veterinarians and will continue to update them on the status of the EHV-1 outbreak.

EHV-1 is a contagious virus that can cause respiratory disease, abortion and in some cases neurologic disease. While it is not uncommon to see EHV-1, it isn't typical to see several cases in which the horses show neurologic symptoms from the disease. Common symptoms of the neurologic form of EHV-1 include weakness, lack of coordination and difficulty urinating. If these symptoms are noticed, a horse owner should immediately isolate the horse from other horses on the property and have the horse examined by a veterinarian. The incubation period for EHV-1 is 7-10 days. Horses who have been exposed may develop a fever and be shedding the virus, but may not be showing other symptoms of the disease yet. Thus, monitor your horse's health by taking temperatures 2X day, especially if they may have been exposed to the disease.

EHV-1 is usually spread between horses in close contact with each other via nasal secretions or from the sharing of the same feed or water buckets. Transporting horses to shows, clinics, training sessions, lessons, or other gatherings of horses may increase the risk of exposure to the disease. Thus, restricting or limiting travel to activities where horses will be in contact with other horses provides the most effective way to reduce the spread to the disease. The Wisconsin state veterinarian is recommending that any horse with a fever or horse showing symptoms of disease such as a respiratory infection should be kept at home.

Although humans cannot be infected by the disease, they can aid in spreading it to other horses. People in communication with horses (especially affected horses or horses that may have been exposed) should practice good biosecurity procedures when working with different horses and between horse farms; including farriers, trainers, etc. The virus does not survive long in the environment or on people and can be easily killed by disinfectants and drying. See USDA biosecurity brochure for further details.  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal\\_health/2011/bro\\_keep\\_horses\\_healthy.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/2011/bro_keep_horses_healthy.pdf)

### Limit horse-to-horse contact.

- Limit horse to human to horse contact.
- Avoid use of communal water sources.
- Avoid sharing of equipment unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses.
- Monitor horses for clinical signs of disease and report temperatures over 102°F to a veterinarian

WI DATCP will continue to update veterinarians as the situation evolves. If you have planned horse activities in the near future, please communicate with your local veterinarian to discuss the current EHV-1 status for your area to assess the level of risk associated for that specific activity.

Additional information can be located at these sites.

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/equine\\_herpesvirus\\_brochure\\_2009.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/nahss/equine/ehv/equine_herpesvirus_brochure_2009.pdf)

[http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal\\_Health/pdfs/Equine\\_EHMBrochure.pdf](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/pdfs/Equine_EHMBrochure.pdf)

<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/umec/EHV1info/home.html>

# Characteristics of Tickborne Diseases in Wisconsin



WISCONSIN DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Revised 08/29/2011

Disease	Etiologic agent	Reservoir	Vector	Incubation range (average)	Clinical Symptoms	Available tests	Treatment (IDSA guidelines)
Anaplasmosis (formerly known as HGE)	<i>Anaplasma phagocytophilum</i>	Mammals (white footed mouse, deer)	Ixodes sp. tick (blacklegged/deer tick)	5-21 days (14 days)	Headache, fever, chills, muscle aches, fatigue, nausea, cough, confusion, rash (rare), thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, elevated liver enzymes	IFA, IgG/IgM, PCR, smear, culture, IHC	Antibiotics (doxycycline) usually 10-14 days
Babesiosis	Typically <i>Babesia microti</i> (parasitic)	Small mammals (white footed mouse)	Ixodes sp. tick (blacklegged/deer tick)	Typically 7-21 days	Fever, chills, sweats, headache, body aches, loss of appetite, involuntary weight loss, nausea, fatigue, anemia, thrombocytopenia	Blood smear, PCR, IFA	Combination of two medications: atovaquone + azithromycin, or clindamycin + quinine (at least 7-10 days)
Encephalitis (formerly known as HME)	<i>Ehrlichia chaffeensis</i> , novel <i>Ehrlichia muris-like</i> (EML)	Mammals (white footed mouse, deer)	Amblyomma ticks sp. tick ( <i>E. chaffeensis</i> lone star tick*) (EML - blacklegged tick)	1-14 days (7 days)	Headache, fever, chills, muscle aches, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, cough, joint pain, confusion, occasional rash, thrombocytopenia, leukopenia, elevated liver enzymes	IFA, IgG/IgM, PCR, smear, culture, IHC (PCR is the only commercial test available for EML)	Antibiotics (doxycycline) usually 10-14 days
Lyme	<i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i>	Mammals (white footed mouse, deer)	Ixodes sp. tick (blacklegged/deer tick)	Usually within 3-30 days	Expanding erythema migrans (EM) rash, fatigue, chills, fever, headache, muscle and joint aches, arthritis, nervous system (facial palsy, radiculoneuropathy, lymphocytic meningitis), memory problems, irregular heart rhythm (rare)	EIA/IFA and WB**, PCR, culture	Oral antibiotics (doxycycline, amoxicillin, cefuroxime axetil) usually 14 days
Powassan	Powassan virus (arbovirus group)	Small mammals (woodchucks, groundhogs, white-footed mouse, chipmunks, and squirrels)	Ixodes sp. tick (blacklegged/deer tick)	6-34 days (21 days)	Fever, muscle weakness, headache, nausea, vomiting, stiff neck, blurry vision, confusion, encephalitis, meningitis, seizures, gait imbalance, paralysis, respiratory distress, coma	MAC-ELISA, PRNT (no commercial test available only at CDC)	None (supportive treatment)
Spotted fever group rickettsia, including Rocky mountain spotted fever (RMSF)	<i>Rickettsia rickettsii</i> (reported cases usually associated with travel to an endemic state)	Rodents	<i>Dermacentor</i> sp. tick (American dog tick)	2-14 days	Fever, rash, headache, nausea, vomiting, abdominal and muscle pain, lack of appetite, conjunctival injection (red eyes)	IFA, IHC, PCR	Antibiotics (doxycycline) usually 10-14 days

\* Uncertain if lone star tick ecology is established in WI

\*\* Two-step or two-tier testing should be performed together, see CDC recommendation <http://www.cdc.gov/ym/diagnosis/treatment/LabTest/>

# Planning First-crop Forage Harvest

With our new (& improved) newsletter timing, there is a little more uncertainty in my estimates of timing of first-crop harvest, but here goes. Depending on the next few weeks' weather, there will still probably be an update in the June newsletter.

## Planning Harvest Timing

First, try not to let other people dictate your decision making. Yes, I fully understand the significant role that timing of custom harvesters' availability plays in your decision making, but you need to end up with the type of feed necessary for your farm. So, assuming the sun ever comes out and soil temperatures increase (current long-range forecast is for cooler than normal temperatures through at least May 10), we'll need to start paying attention to alfalfa growth and quality drop probably somewhere between May 20 and May 30.

A normally expected RFQ (Relative Forage Quality) drop per day would be about four or five points. Warm, sunny weather will accelerate maturation such that the RFQ will drop more quickly, as much as 8 or 9 pts/day. It is always a bit risky to plan on any particular number drop, but use the 5 point average as your best guess. Conditions this year make me believe that when we get some sustained warmth, the alfalfa quality is going to drop relatively quickly, as growth could be substantial. See the next page for dates when new alfalfa data will be available, or conduct your own PEAQ analysis for your fields and then plan as best you can.

### What does this mean?

- #1. Harvesting causes at least a 10% quality loss. Thus, you need to harvest fields by the time they reach an RFV of 165 to yield dairy-quality 150 RFQ hay/haylage. You also have to take into account daily drops in RFV and begin early to be able to harvest all of your fields by 165 RFQ, or higher according to your quality goals.
- #2. Use this information to plan around your forage needs.  
Grassy or weedy fields will have lower RFQ values than will pure alfalfa stands, usually by about 10-15%. Your forage needs will dictate your harvesting order. If you only need dairy-quality forage, I would start harvesting the grassy/weedy fields first and leave the pure alfalfa stands for the end, as they should still be in the correct range.  
If you need lower-quality forage feedstuffs, you have some time before you get started.  
If you need a mix of forages, I would strongly consider harvesting pure alfalfa stands first for high-quality forage and leaving the grassy/weedy stands for high-yielding heifer & dry cow or beef hay.
- #3. Red clover stands will hold their feed value longer. These fields can likely be harvested last and will probably still have RFV values in the 150 range.
- #4. Weigh the trade-offs for your operation. Every day you wait to cut, you lose quality, but gain quantity. Decide which is most important for your operation and plan your cutting schedule on those needs.
- #5. If in doubt, ask. First crop is our most critical forage crop, as it usually makes up 40-60% of our total yield for the year, depending on your cutting management. If you are uncertain what the best harvest schedule is for your operation, please call either myself at the UWEX office, 715-732-7518 or 1-877-884-4408 OR call other agronomists, your nutritionist, or other consultants that can help you weigh this very important decision point.
- #6. Be ready to go with any post-harvest treatments, such as fertilization or manure spreading. You really need to get any post-harvest driving on those stands done as fast as possible, so that you minimize the wheel damage, preferably getting everything done within four days of cutting. This is particularly important if you have lower fall dormancy alfalfa cultivars in your fields.
- #7. Do you know what you're doing with your alfalfa acres after harvest? I don't ask this to be rhetorical. There are going to be at least some acres of alfalfa killed and then planted to something else, or inter-seeded immediately after first-crop. Know what you're going to do, so that you have no more delays than necessary.

Of course, nature trumps all our planning some years!

### **Where to get up-to-the-minute forage quality data:**

Option #1. Conduct PEAQ (Predictive Estimated Alfalfa Quality) testing on your own fields. If you need the PEAQ table, it is available all over on the web, including at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/forage/pubs/rfv-peaq.html>. This works very well. My comparison of doing PEAQ and Scissors Clip for many years leads me to believe that PEAQ is actually more accurate than Scissors Clip, especially on less-mature forages.

Option #2. Contact one of the following for our local First Crop Quality Data, updated at least every fourth day: Marinette & Oconto County Scissors Clip Hotline 1-877-884-4408 or 715-732-7518.

e-mail to [scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:scott.reuss@ces.uwex.edu)

Online at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/ag/scissorsclip/> to get data from across the state as well as local data. You can look at how alfalfa quality is progressing further south, and simply click on our region to see our most recent data set.

Scott will be collecting PEAQ data on:

Thursday, May 22	Monday, May 26
Thursday, May 29	Monday, June 2
Thursday, June 5	Monday, June 9

If conditions warrant additional collection dates, these will be listed on the hotline numbers.

By using PEAQ, I am able to collect data from a large number of fields, so I should have data within shouting distance of you, wherever you are located. If you're interested in having one of your fields on the rotation, let me know. The message each time will give the place and the average RFV for each individual site.

**Use of Inoculant** - UW-Extension does recommend use of a Lactobacillus inoculant on first cutting because bacteria levels are naturally low on alfalfa grown under cool weather conditions. The value of added inoculant to chopped forage is increased when cool or outright cold weather occurs in days leading up to harvest. Use of inoculant has been shown to be most beneficial if the forage can be ensiled rapidly; forage left laying in the field for more than two days will likely not benefit from added inoculant. Also, benefit of inoculant use for baleage is doubtful due to inability to get good coverage as forage is being baled.

---

### **Top 5 Recommendations for soybean establishment and Yield**

As written by Shawn Conley - UW/UW-Extension Soybean & Small Grains Agronomist (If you want to view this entire blog article and other such information, visit <http://thesoyreport.blogspot.com/>)

1. Planting date matters for northern soybean growers. Our recent planting date data is very supportive of early planting. Not only have we seen a synergistic yield response with today's genetics to early planting, we also average ~0.36 bu per day cost to delaying planting past the first week of May.
2. Use a fungicide and insecticide seed treatment. Given today's seed input costs and commodity price our data suggests reduced economic risk and increased profitability utilizing these inputs.
3. Plant your soybean seed 1" deep.
4. Conduct minimum tillage, as appropriate. In short....if rotating with corn no tillage is required!
5. Last but certainly not least, invest in a residual herbicide program for your soybean crop. Not only is it an effective tool for herbicide resistance management (remember we have two confirmed (one suspect) glyphosate resistant weed populations in WI) it also widens the application window for glyphosate and it often provides growers with a positive Return on Investment.