

Grass and Legume Seed Market Update – Nov 5, 2013

The first weekend in November traditionally have the worlds' grass and legume seed trade people meeting in Kansas City, not only to attend the various meetings, but, hopefully to meet with counterparts, and trade. As these meetings just completed the past few days, local grass and legume seed trade people are just trickling home. Although the winter months are ahead, it is hoped that a clearer direction for the grass and legume seed trade and markets has been set. It's too early to predict, but with low inventories and average production this past summer, there may be room for better bids..... But don't expect this for all crops.

Creeping red fescue pricing has settled in at 65 ¢/lb., but New Year quotes are 5 ¢/lb. stronger. Quotes for certified seed is commanding a 5 to 10 ¢/lb. premium.

Forage grass seed prices haven't moved lately. Smooth brome grass and meadow brome grass seed were last quoted in the \$1.10 to \$1.35/lb. range for smooth, with meadow brome grass quotes in the \$1.10 to \$1.40/lb. range. Timothy seed quotes continue to be quoted between 70 to 80 ¢/lb. Certified timothy should command a 10 ¢/lb. premium.

Legume seed prices continue to move sideways as well. Alsike quotes remain in the \$1.00 to \$1.20/lb. range, although demand may increase in the near future. Red clover seed quotes are in the 65 to 80 ¢/lb. range, but word in the trade is that there are adequate supplies. Alfalfa seed quotes are reported to be in the \$1.60 to \$1.85/lb. range.

The latest Canadian trade data showed almost all grass and legume seed crops average export value increasing to the upper end of long term pricing. There is money to be made in this agriculture sector, but the big question is: "will better pricing entice more acres to go into the ground"? Other cropping choices remain profitable.

Grass and Legume Seed Quotes (quotes in ¢ / lb)												
	Creeping Red Fescue	Boreal C R Fescue	Smooth Brome grass	Carlton Smooth Brome grass	Meadow Brome grass	Flest Meadow Brome grass	Timothy	Climax Timothy	Alfalfa	Red Clover	Alsike Clover	Sweet Clover
	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Com #1	Com #1	Com #1
Jan 3-12	45-48	55-60	110-130	140-150	100-130	120-140	70-75	80-100	150-165	75-90	100-115	60-85
Apr 10-12	48-50	55-60	130-155	160-165	120-125	135-145	70-75	85-90	160-170	65-70	100-110	60-80
Jun 4-12	50	55-60	140-165	160-175	105 - 115	130-140	70-75	80-90	165-180	65-75	100-125	65-75
Aug 1-12	50	55-60	140-165	160-175	105 - 115	130-140	70-75	80-90	165-180	65-75	100	50-70
Oct 2-12	50	55-60	170-190	190-205	115-140	145-160	80-85	95-110	165-180	65-80	110-120	50-70
Dec 4-12	55	60-65	175-200	200-220	115-140	145-160	75-85	95-110	165-180	75-85	110-125	50-70
May 1-13	58-60	63-65	170-220	200-240	130-175	170-200	75-80	95-110	165-180	75-80	110-120	60-70
Jun 4-13	60	65	200-220	220-260	130-175	170-200	75-80	95-110	165-180	75-80	110-120	60-70
Jul 2-13	65	65-70	180-220	200-260	130-175	170-200	75-80	85-100	165-180	78-80	110-120	60-70
Aug 6-13	65	65-70	110-130	120-150	100-130	120-150	70-75	80-100	160-180	65-80	100-120	50-70
Sept 2-13	65	70	100-130	120-150	100-140	130-160	70-80	90-100	160-190	65-80	100-120	50-70
Oct 1-13	65	65-70	110-135	120-150	110-140	130-160	70-80	90-100	160-190	65-80	100-120	50-70
Nov 5-13	65	65-70	110-135	120-150	110-140	130-160	70-80	90-100	160-190	65-80	100-120	50-70

Prices are quotes only, until actual orders come in, that's when firm pricing is established