

## USDA Hay Test Guideline (used with visual appearance of hay)

**\*\*\*Values Based On 100% Dry Matter\*\*\***

### Alfalfa Guidelines (Not More Than 10% Grass)

	Hay Quality					
	Utility	Fair	Good	Premium	Supreme	
CP Crude Protein%	<16-	16-18	18-20	20-22	>22+	CP
ADF Acid Detergent Fiber%	>35+	35-32	32-29	29-27	<27-	ADF
NDF Neutral Detergent Fiber%	>44+	44-40	40-36	36-34	<34-	NDF
TDN Total Digestible Nutrients% 100%DM	<56-	56-58	58-60	60.5-62	>62+	TDN 100%DM
TDN Total Digestible Nutrients% 90%DM	<50.5-	50.5-52.5	52.5-54.5	54.5-55.9	>55.9+	TDN 90%DM
RFV Relative Feed Value	<100-	130-150	150-170	170-185	>185+	RFV

### Alfalfa/Alfalfa Mix Guidelines

	Hay Quality					
	Utility	Fair	Good	Premium	Supreme	
ADF Acid Detergent Fiber%	>35+	35-32	32-30	30-27	<27-	ADF
RFV Relative Feed Value	<100-	100-125	125-150	150-180	>180+	RFV

### Grass Guidelines

	Hay Quality					
	Utility	Fair	Good	Premium	Supreme	
CP Crude Protein%	<5-	5-9	9-13	>13+	N/A	CP

### Hay Quality Designation's physical descriptions:

----Supreme: Very early maturity, pre bloom, soft fine stemmed, extra leafy. Factors indicative of very high nutritive content. Hay is excellent color and free of damage.

----Premium: Early maturity, i.e., pre-bloom in legumes and pre head in grass hays, extra leafy and fine stemmed-factors indicative of a high nutritive content. Hay is green and free of damage.

----Good: Early to average maturity, i.e., early to mid-bloom in legumes and early head in grass hays, leafy, fine to medium stemmed, free of damage other than slight discoloration.

----Fair: Late maturity, i.e., mid to late-bloom in legumes, head-in grass hays, moderate or below leaf content, and generally coarse stemmed. Hay may show light damage.

----Utility: Hay in very late maturity, such as mature seed pods in legumes or mature head in grass hays, coarse stemmed. This category could include hay discounted due to excessive damage and heavy weed content or mold. Defects will be identified in market reports when using this category.