

Call of the Land for Dec 3 - 2008

Grass and Legume Seed Market update

Note: prices provided are normally given as grower prices, quoted by processors to growers after cleaning and dockage. However, with quotes now not being offered by many companies, last quotes may be provided.

The Canadian Grass and Legume Seed Marketplace is not immune to the happenings in the Global world financial and stock markets. Since the fall, with the ever-broadening world stock and financial crisis, grass seed processors have found a lot of time on their hands. In other words, the grass and legume seed marketplace is very slow, with very little grass seed movement being reported. Pre-bought orders are not being asked to be delivered, while any semblance of new business generally includes only partial orders of this and that, enough to fill a container, maybe. The marketplace is so slow, that price quotes for many species are not even being offered. Most buyers and growers are aware that under normal situations, we are basically in a shortage position for many of our grass and legume seed supplies. But with no buyers, price quotes are not very good because no one knows the actual value of that crop. Once we get out of these dismal economic times, everyone is hopeful movement and buying will resume again, possibly in the spring. Until then, it's wait time.

With very few new seed orders, price quotes have backed off. No one is buying right now. Some major companies not even quoting Creeping red fescue prices. The last quotes being have common creeping red fescue around the 60 – 62 ¢/lb range, with certified 10 ¢/lb higher.

The same holds for the forage grass seed sector, most prices are starting to be pressured due to a lack of demand. Smooth brome grass, with good inventories in North America, remain down in the 55 to 65 ¢/lb range, with certified Carlton in the 65 – 70 ¢/lb range. Meadow brome grass is the \$1.50-\$1.70/lb range. Certified Fleet meadow brome quotes are anywhere from \$1.70 to \$1.90. Common timothy quotes and are at the 45 to 50 ¢/lb mark. Certified Climax timothy is quoted at a 10 to 20 ¢/lb premium.

On the legume side of thing, Sweet clover quotes are in the 40 to 50 ¢/lb range, but demand is limited. Alsike clover quotes are around 50 - ¢/lb range. Red clover continues to be strong, \$1.00 to \$1.15/lb. Common alfalfa seed prices have moved back up to the \$1.20 to \$1.40/lb range, depending on the variety initially grown.

Grass and Legume Seed Prices												
Commodity	Creeping Red Fescue	Boreal C R Fescue	Smooth Brome grass	Carlton Smooth Brome grass	Meadow Brome grass	Fleet Meadow Brome grass	Timothy	Climax Timothy	Alfalfa	Red Clover	Alsike Clover	Sweet Clover
	Common #1 - Min 97% Pure, 85% Germ	Certified #1	Common #1	Certified #1	Common #1	Certified #1	Common #1	Certified #1	Common #1	Common #1	Common #1	Common #1
Jan 8-07	45	47	110 - 115	140-145	120 - 130	150 - 160	20-25	40 - 45	90 - 95	65 - 70	25 - 30	25 - 30
Feb 2	45	45 - 47	110 - 120	130 - 135	120 - 125	150 - 155	20 - 30	40 - 45	90 - 95	65 - 75	25 - 35	20 - 30
Mar 2	45	45-52	115-130	135-140	120-150	150-160	20-25	45-50	90-95	65-75	25-35	20-30
April 2	46-47	47-50	130	155-160	160-165	185-190	25-30	45-55	90-100	65-75	25-30	20-25
May 4	48-50	50-55	120-130	150-160	160-165	180-190	25-30	45-55	90-100	65-75	25-30	20-25
May 28	46-47	49-52	120-130	150-160	160-165	180-190	25-30	45-50	90-105	65-75	25-30	20-25
June 22	45-46	47-50	120-130	150-160	160-165	180-190	30	45-50	90-105	65-75	25-30	20-25
July 13	45-46	47-50	120-130	150-160	160-165	180-190	30	45-50	90-105	65-75	25-30	20-25

Aug 13	42-45	45-50	100-130	150-160	150-165	170-190	25-30	45-50	100-110	65-75	25-30	25-30
Sept 7	45	50	100-130	150-160	150-165	170-190	25-30	45-55	105-110	65-80	25-35	25-30
Oct 3	45	50	110-130	150-160	150-165	170-190	25-35	45-55	105-115	65-80	25-35	25-30
Nov 7	45	55-60	110	140-155	150-165	180-195	25-35	50-55	120-125	70-80	25-30	25-30
Dec 5	45-46	60+	130	140-155	150-165	180-195	25-35	50-55	120-125	75-85	25-30	25-30
Dec 31	0.50	75	130-150	140-155	150-165	180-195	25-35	50-55	120-125	75-85	25-30	25-30
Feb 5-08	50	60	130-140	140-150	160-170	190	35+	55-60	120-130	85-100	35	25-30
Mar 11	52-55	60	130-140	140-150	160-170	190	35-40	55-60	120-130	85-100	35-37	25-30
Apr 1	55	60-70	130-140	140-150	160-170	190	35-40	55-60	120-130	85-100	35-37	25-30
May 6	60	65-75	120-135	140-150	160 - 170	170-190	45-50	55-65	115-130	85-100	23-40	25-30
June 3	62-65	70-75	120-130	130-145	160-170	170-190	50	60-65	100-120	85-100	35-45	30
July 8	62-65	65 - 70	100-120	110-120	150-160	170-190	50	60-65	100-125	85-100	35-45	30
Aug 5	65-68	80-90	85-110	110-120	150-160	170-190	50	65-70	100-125	85-100	35-45	30
Sept 2	65-68	80-85	55-65	65-70	150-170	170 -190	50-55	65-75	100-125	90-110	45-50	45-55
Sept 29	65	80	55-60	65-70	165-170	170-190	50	65-70	120-140	100-110	50-60	40-50
Nov 4	62-65	75-80	55-60	65-70	165-170	170-190	45-50	65-70	120-130	100-115	45-50	40-50
Dec 2	60-62	70-75	55-60	65-70	150-170	170-190	45-50	55-70	120-140	100-115	45-50	40-50

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

- prices in ¢/lb

last updated: Dec 2, 08