

Call of the Land for March 31, 2009  
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.

Now that we're past March 21<sup>st</sup>, we can officially call the "grass and legume seed winter doldrums" the "spring doldrums". Grass and legume seed markets continue to be quiet, with few, if any, new orders coming in. Processors wait with full warehouses, hoping new business comes soon. However, with seed not moving, price quotes are last quotes or have been adjusted lower for slower movement.

In the turf grass sector, companies that are quoting Creeping red fescue are quoting in the 45 to 50 ¢/lb range, but most companies simply are not quoting a price. Data out of the USA shows their fall movement of turf grass seed out of Oregon down 30% from last year.

The forage grass seed sector also remains quiet. Most prices have been pressured due to a lack of demand. Smooth brome grass quotes are in the 45 to 50 ¢/lb range, with Certified Carlton in the 55-65 ¢/lb range. Meadow brome grass seed quotes continue to be strong, with grower price quotes in the \$1.50-\$1.65/lb range. Common timothy seed quotes have moved down into the 40-45 ¢/lb range. Certified Climax timothy is quoted at a 10 to 15 ¢/lb premium.

On the legume side of thing, common alfalfa seed prices are in the \$1.20 to \$1.30/lb range, depending on the variety initially grown. Alsike clover quotes have softened to the 35-45 ¢/lb range. Red clover quotes have fallen to the 80 ¢ to \$1.10 /lb range. Sweet clover quotes are similar to alsike quotes, 35 to 45 ¢/lb, but with very limited demand.

The grass and legume seed sector has not seen a "dead" season like this in quite some time, if ever. If seed doesn't start moving over the next 60 days, you can expect prices to crash and storage of seed to become widespread. However, everyone's hoping business starts to pick up. We'll see in the next couple of months.

Grass and Legume Seed Quotes

	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	Cert #1	Common #1	Cert #1	Common #1	Cert #1	Common #1	Cert #1	Common #1	Common #1	Common #1	Common #1
Feb 5-2008	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	160-170	170-190	45-50	55-70	120-140	100-115	45-50	40-50
Jan 5-2009	60-62	65-75	45-60	60-70	160-170	170-190	40-50	50-65	120-150	110-125	40-50	35-50
Feb 3	55-60	65-75	45-60	60-70	160-165	170-190	40-45	50-65	120-150	115-125	40-50	35-50
Mar 3	50-60	60-70	45-55	55-65	155-165	170-180	40-50	55-60	120-140	105-115	40-50	35-50
Mar 31	45-50	50-60	45-50	55-65	155-165	170-180	40-45	45-55	120-130	80-110	35-40	35-40

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

- prices in ¢/lb

last updated: Mar 31-09