

Grass and Legume Seed Market Update – June 7, 2011

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.

With the completion of seeding of cereals and oilseed crops in most parts of the province, the grass and legume seeding took off with earnest this past spring. Grass and legume seed processors are reporting very strong spring movement of retail seed lots, destined for seeding into pastures and hay fields. However, despite this good retail season, the quotes for grass and legume seed haven't moved on the wholesale side of things. Offers to growers for seed have remained sideways.

Creeping red fescue quotes remain in the 35 to 40 ¢/lb. On processor is reporting good demand for certified Boreal destined for Europe, with premiums of 10 to 15 ¢/lb. Concern is still out for the amount of acres to be combined this upcoming year, and there's also been reports of cutworms in some fescue fields affecting growth. Although movement of the forage grasses has been good, price quotes remain unchanged from a month ago.

Common smooth brome grass seed quotes are still quoted in the 60 to 70 ¢/lb range, with certified Carlton in the 70 - 80 ¢/lb range. Meadow brome grass quotes are in the 75 - 85 ¢/lb range for common, while certified Fleet meadow brome has been quoted in the \$1.00 to \$1.15/lb range. Timothy seed quotes remain in at 45 ¢/lb. Climax has been quoted in the 55 to 65 ¢/lb range.

Common alfalfa seed quotes have moved up to the \$1.30 to \$1.45/lb range, while Red clover quotes remain in the 60-70 ¢/lb range. Demand for Alsike clover has picked up, pushing quotes into the 75 – 95 ¢/lb range. Sweet clover, if anyone has any, is in the 65 to 85 ¢/lb range. As always, good quality seed will sell.

Inventories of all grass and legume seed stocks have been bitten into, and carryout will undoubtedly be lower. But the supply - demand balance for the upcoming year remains uncertain. We're entering a lull in the marketplace for the next couple months. It will be interesting to see how the US's turf seed movement was this past spring, as it will be what determines fescue quotes this upcoming fall.

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
	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Cert #1	Com #1	Com #1	Com #1	Com #1
5-Jan	40	45	35-40	40-45	80-120	120-140	28-30	40	110-145	50-70	35-45	30-40
2-Feb	35-40	40-45	35-40	40-45	70-110	120-130	25-30	40	115-140	50-70	35-45	30-40
2-Mar	35-40	40-45	35-40	40-45	70-110	120-130	25-30	40	125-140	50-70	35-45	30-40
7-Apr	35-40	40-42	35-40	40-45	70-110	120-130	25-30	40	120-145	50-70	35-45	30-40
4-May	35-38	40-42	35-40	40-45	70-100	100-120	25-30	40	120-145	50-65	35-45	30-40
31-May	35-38	40-42	35-40	40-45	70-100	100-120	25-30	40	120-145	50-65	35-45	30-40
5-Jul	35-38	40-42	35-40	40-45	70-100	100-120	25-30	40	120-145	50-65	35-45	30-40
3-Aug	32-35	35-37	35-40	40-45	60-80	80-110	25-35	40-45	100-140	50-60	35-45	30-40
31-Aug	32-35	35-37	35-40	40-45	60-80	80-110	32-40	40-45	120-140	50-60	35-45	40-50
5-Oct	30-32	35	35-40	40-45	60-80	80-110	35-40	40-45	120-140	55-60	50-60	50-60
Nov 2	30-32	35	35-40	60-70	60-80	80-120	40	42-45	120-140	55-65	60-70	60-75
Nov 30	30-32	35	40-45	60-80	60-80	80-100	40	45-50	120-140	55-65	60-75	70-85
Jan 4-11	30-32	35	50-60	60-80	60-80	80-100	40	55-60	120-140	60-70	60-85	70-100
Feb 1	30-32	35	50-60	60-80	60-80	80-100	40	55-60	120-140	60-70	60-85	70-100
Mar 1	32-34	37	55-65	75-90	60-80	80-100	40-42	55-60	120-140	65-75	60-85	80-110
Mar 29	35	40-48	55-65	75-90	60-80	80-100	40-42	55-60	120-140	65-75	60-85	80-110
Apr 26	35-40	45-48	60-70	70-80	75-85	100-115	45	55-65	125-145	65-70	75-95	65-85
June 7	35-38	45-50	60-70	70-85	75-85	100-115	45	55-65	130-145	65-70	75-95	65-85

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

