

Grass and Legume Seed Market Update – Nov 6, 2012

Grass and legume seed prices have stabilized, at least for now. But this could change by tomorrow, as this past weekend was the annual meeting of the North American grass and legume seed trade in Kansas City. With local processors still finding their way back home, it is hoped that these meetings have resulted in trade being conducted and price direction given for the various grass and legume seed species. However, with smaller than normal supplies, and very little excess inventory to move, it is not expected that prices will be greatly altered, one direction or another.... at least for now.

Limited demand continues to hold creeping red fescue quotes around the 50 ¢/lb. mark, with certified creeping red fescue quoted up to 10 ¢/lb. higher. Although US fine fescue prices are up compared to year ago bids, so are our local bids. Demand and our dollar exchange have kept our local prices at bay.

The brome grasses and timothy seed quotes continue to hover well above long-term price quotes. Common Timothy seed quotes have moved up to the 75 to 85 ¢/lb. range, while Certified Climax timothy is in the 95 ¢/lb. to \$1.10/lb. range.

With low inventory levels, Smooth brome grass seed quotes continue to hover in the \$1.70 to \$1.90 /lb. range. Certified Carlton is quoted at 25 to 30 ¢/lb. higher. Meadow brome grass quotes are in the \$1.15 to \$1.40 range, with Certified Fleet meadow brome 15 to 25 ¢/lb. higher. With these low inventories, even firmer prices may be forthcoming.

On the legume side of things, Red clover quotes are now in the 70 to 85 ¢/lb. range, but alsike clover quotes have improved to the \$1.10 to \$1.20/lb. range. Sweet clover seed have seen its quotes remain in the 50 to 70 ¢/lb. range. This past year's US drought may result in lower clover seed usage, as shortened rotations may push US farmers to not use legumes between crops.

With low inventories, most price quotes remain at historically high levels. Prices should remain very firm for this winter, with the potential for better price improvement. Actual winter sales will now dictate the direction of price movements.

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	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
July 5-11	40-45	50-55	60-75	70-85	75-85	100-115	45-50	55-65	130-145	65-70	75-95	50-80
Aug 2	42-45	50-55	60-78	70-90	75-90	100-120	50-55	55-70	130-145	65-75	75-95	50-80
Aug 30	45	50-55	70-85	90-100	80-95	100-130	60-70	80+	130-145	70-80	85-100	60-85
Sept 20	45	55	90-125	120-135	90-110	120-130	65-75	80-90	130-145	75-90	85-110	60-85
Oct 25	50	55	100-130	135-140	90-120	130-140	70-75	80-100	130-145	80-90	100-110	60-85
Dec 6	45-48	55	110-140	140-150	90-110	120-130	70-75	80-100	150-165	80-90	100-115	60-85
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
Jan 30	46-48	55	110-125	140-150	110-125	120-140	70-75	85-95	150-165	65-80	100-115	70-80
Mar 12	46-50	55	125-145	160-165	120-125	135-140	70-75	85-90	160-170	65-75	100-110	70-80
Apr 10	48-50	55-60	130-155	160-165	120-125	135-145	70-75	85-90	160-170	65-70	100-110	60-80
May 8	48-50	55-60	140-165	160-170	105-115	130-140	70-75	85-90	160-180	65-70	100-120	60-80
June 4	50	55-60	140-165	160-175	105 - 115	130-140	70-75	80-90	165-180	65-75	100-125	65-75
July 3	50	55-60	140-165	160-175	105 - 115	130-140	70-75	80-90	165-180	65-75	100	65-75
Aug 1	50	55-60	140-165	160-175	105 - 115	130-140	70-75	80-90	165-180	65-75	100	50-70
Sept 4	50	55-60	170-185	190-205	115-135	140-155	80-82	95-110	165-180	65-75	100-110	50-70
Oct 2	50	55-60	170-190	190-205	115-140	145-160	80-85	95-110	165-180	65-80	110-120	50-70
Nov 6	50	55-60	170-190	190-205	115-140	145-160	75-85	95-110	165-180	75-85	110-120	50-70

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