

Weekly Hay Report May 3

First crop hay is now all but harvested in central California. The quality of the crop was good and should fill the nearby needs of the dairies. The cooler weather in parts of Idaho has slowed the early growth of the crop but recent rain in southern Idaho has without a doubt helped the dry land alfalfa crop. These producers at least for now have the potential to harvest a crop. The higher country in the state is in the middle of planting spring crops with the hay just beginning to come out of dormancy. As the temperatures continue to warm we will see the hay crop progress rapidly as it has a way of catching up in most years. This past week we saw premium hay bid between \$180-\$185. The range for good hay was fairly wide between \$155-\$175 and the market for fair quality hay \$145-\$160.

Other feed prices remained high this week which should give the hay market some support. Producers still need to keep in mind that the export market continues to see delays in shipping with many in the trade now feeling that these delays could continue through the end of the year.