

Hay Quality Sensory Evaluation Form – Mixed Grass/Alfalfa (>10% of each)

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Entry no. _____ Class/intended use _____ Cutting _____ Bale size/type _____
 (Dairy, TMR, feeder, horse, feed store, export, etc.) Grass % Legume %

Evaluation purpose _____ Nutritional value _____ Economic value _____ Probe Moisture % _____

Characteristic	Points	Score	Notes
1. Package functionality (max. 10)			
A. Bale tie effectiveness/spacing	5-0		
B. Bale shape/density/transportability	5-0		
2. Odor (max. 20)			
A. New-mown/sweet to neutral	20-10		
B. Preservative-treated or fermented	20-0		
C. Caramelized/heat-damaged	14-0		
D. Musty to moldy, other objectionable	14-0		
3. Maturity stage (max. 15)			
	Grass		Legume
	1st cut	Regrowth	Score
A. Vegetative	15	15	A. Pre-bud, vegetative
B. Jointing to boot	14-13	14-8	B. Bud; E to L*
C. Heading; E to L*	12-8	7-4	C. Bloom; E to L
D. Bloom; E to L	7-2	3-1	D. Seed; green to ripe
E. Seed; green to ripe	1-0	0	
*Early to late		Weighted mean for grass:legume ratio (top of form)	
4. Foreign material, dust, soil, rocks, stubble, weeds, & non-crop species (max. 15)			
A. Clean	15-12		
B. 1–5% &/or dusty (from soil or mold)	11-6		
C. >5% &/or injurious	5-0		
<i>*Also see noxious/poisonous/injurious in No. 7</i>			
5. Forage texture & condition (max. 30)			
A. Texture; soft/pliable to tough/brittle	6-0		
B. Leaf concentration; leafy to leafless	6-0		
C. Stem diameter; fine to coarse	6-0		
D. Leaf attachment; retained to detached	6-0		
E. Leaf & flake integrity; intact/cohesive to pulverized/loose	6-0		
<i>*Moldy/weathered/spoiled (penalty)</i>	<i>-1 to -30</i>	-	
6. Color & uniformity (max. 10)			
A. Natural green of crop	10-8		
B. Light green to bleached to yellow	7-4		
C. Orange to brown to black/grey/white (moldy)	3-0		
<i>*Non-uniform; streaked/blotchy/brownleaf (penalty)</i>	<i>-1 to -4</i>	-	
7. Penalties (max. -100)			
<i>A. Noxious weeds/seeds, poisonous plants</i>	<i>-10 to -100</i>	-	
<i>B. Moisture % >18 (small), >16 (large) if untreated</i>	<i>-1 to -100</i>	-	
<i>C. Injurious/objectionable not noted above</i>	<i>-1 to -100</i>	-	
Total score	100		