

Hay Quality Sensory Evaluation Form – Alfalfa ($\leq 10\%$ grass)

T.C. Griggs, Utah State University; S.C. Fransen, Washington State University; and M.G. Bohle, Oregon State University

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

Evaluation purpose ___ Nutritional value ___ Economic value

Characteristic	Points	Score	Notes
1. Package functionality (max. 10)			
A. Bale tie effectiveness/spacing/tension	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)			
A. Pre-bud; vegetative	15		
B. Bud; early to late	14-12		
C. Bloom; early to late	11-5		
D. Seed; green to ripe/shattering	4-0		
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	7-5		
C. Yellow to brown to black/grey/white (moldy)	4-0		
<i>*Non-uniform; streaked/blotchy/brownleaf (penalty)</i>	<i>-1 to -4</i>	-	
7. Penalties (max. -100)			
A. <i>Noxious weeds/seeds, poisonous plants</i>	<i>-10 to -100</i>	-	
B. <i>Moisture % >18 (small), >16 (large) if untreated</i>	<i>-1 to -100</i>	-	
C. <i>Injurious/objectionable not noted above</i>	<i>-1 to -100</i>	-	
Total score	100		