

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, Gloucestershire

24th October 2025 Report

PHENOMENAL HAY PRICES AT FIRST SALE OF SEASON SHOWS LACK OF AVAILABILITY OF HAY IN THE MARKETPLACE

With consistent conversations about what the prices are likely to be this winter after the summer drought, we considered that there was enough interest in having an earlier sale this year. Whilst there was good interest from farmers buying at the auction whose yields were low due to the drought, there was very strong interest from dealers as they struggle to find product for their regular customers. Although there has been some late season fodder made, there is a distinct lack of hay in the market. The quality offered was superb and this reflects the high average prices achieved.

Our first lot of the sale was some quality good green hay imported from France by Philip Judge (International) which achieved £265/t (with delivery within 50 miles). Hay was phenomenal with exceptional quality offered. One must remember that some of our buyers are processors or the equine market so our figures don't necessarily reflect farmer buyers. Best meadow hay made £120/bale.

Straw was strong at £110/t for wheat and £125/t for barley with bale prices being very dependent on the expected bale weight.

The season seems to set to continue, but with an open warm autumn will these prices hold up? we expect so, although cashflow as farmers have low profitability will remain to be a challenge. We look forward to our 21st November sale for which entries are warmly invited.

The table below summarises the average bale prices:

	Size Example Unit	0.9m x 1.2m x 2.4m	0.7m x 1.2m x 2.4m	0.8m x 0.9m x 2.4m	0.7m x 0.8m Or 0.6m x 0.9m 2.4m	ROUND	Conventional	Average	Min	Max	Clearance on big bales
		Claas 3300, MF187	Quadrant	D1010 MF185	D800/D1000	£/bale	£/bale	On Square bales			
		£/bale	£/bale	£/bale	£/bale			£/t *	£/t *	£/t *	%
STRAW	W WHEAT	51	34	30	32	-	-	117	109	118	75
	W BARLEY	51	-	-	-	-	-	120	118	122	100
	Sp BARLEY	56	44	-	-	-	-	126	112	136	100
	W OATS	54	30	-	25	-	-				
	PEA	50	-	-	-	-	-	118	118	118	100
HAY	SEEDS	-	-	-	76	-	-	286	240	332	65
	MEADOW	91	120	-	100	42	-	210	126	400	99
	MIXTURE	145	78	-	42	-	-	205	129	190	100
SILAGE/HAYLAGE	4ft length	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

* PLEASE NOTE OUR CALCULATIONS BASED ON OUR BEST ESTIMATES OF BALE WEIGHTS

**The next Hay and Straw Sales for 2025-26 season at Stow-on-the-Wold is on 21st November 2025,
9th January 2026 (73rd Annual sale), 13th February 2026, Friday 20th March 2026**

Catalogues, entry forms and further details from Adrian Cannon, London House, Bourton-on-the-Water, Cheltenham, GL54 2AP Tel. 01451 820913 or on line at: