

TENBURY FODDER SALE REPORT - 7th FEBRUARY 2019

Nick Champion auctioneer reports an entry in excess of 12,000 bales of hay, haylage and straw on farms in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire was offered at the collective auction held at The Fountain Inn, Tenbury Wells on Thursday 7th February 2019.

The saleroom was again packed but mainly with local farmers with many fewer dealers in attendance as the high prices for hay before Christmas and the open and dry winter has reduced demand. The **hay trade** was firm enough with round bales selling well locally and some square bales into the trade with little demand for conventional. Round bales topped at £39 from E H Handley & Sons, Tenbury Wells, square bales sold to £53 from Kyre Green Farming, Tenbury Wells and conventional at £4 from E G Holloway & Co, Bromyard.

Haylage met with a steady demand with very strong competition for the entry from J B Lewis & Son, Ludlow which sold at £45.50 per bale whilst all other lots were from £25 to £30.

Straw sold at a better clearance rate than in November albeit at lower prices as vendors have had to lower their expectations. The best dealer demand was for the largest bales which topped at £30 for 245 x 120 x 90 winter barley from H C Sanders, Worcester. Wheat straw topped at £28.50 for 245 x 120 x 130 from Jethawk, Bromyard. Local farmer interest was mainly for round bales which all sold from £11 to £14 and there was no demand for conventional bales at the price required.

The clearance rate on hay was 52%, haylage 84% and straw 54%.

| Average bale size | Meadow Hay | | Seeds Hay | | Haylage | | Barley | | Wheat | | Oat | | Rape | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------|-----------|-------|---------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Max | Av | Max | Av | Max | Av | Max | Av | Max | Av | Max | Av | Max | Av |
| Conventional | 4.00 | 4.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Round 1.2/1.37m | 39.00 | 36.12 | 34.00 | 34.00 | 30.00 | 28.86 | | | 14.00 | 12.98 | 13.00 | 13.00 | | |
| Square 4 string 1.2 x 80 x 70 | | | | | 26.00 | 26.00 | | | | | | | | |
| Square 4 string 2.4 x 80 x 70 | 28.00 | 28.00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Square 4 string 1.5 x 80 x 88/90 | | | | | 45.50 | 36.42 | | | | | | | | |
| Square 4 string 2.4 x 80 x 88/90 | 36.50 | 35.15 | | | | | 16.00 | 15.47 | 20.00 | 14.55 | 15.00 | 15.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 |
| Square 6 string 2.4 x 120 x 70 | 45.00 | 44.21 | | | | | | | 19.50 | 18.29 | | | | |
| Square 6 string 2.4 x 120 x 88/90 | 53.00 | 50.95 | | | | | 30.00 | 30.00 | 25.00 | 25.00 | | | | |
| Square 6 string 2.45 x 120 x 130 | | | | | | | | | 28.50 | 28.50 | | | | |