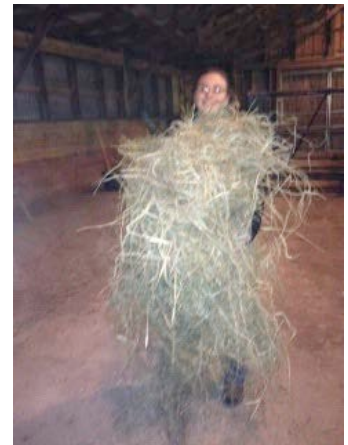


Haying

A horse should consume at least 1% of its body weight each day. This generally means about 10 lbs of hay spread throughout the day.

Haying Inside:

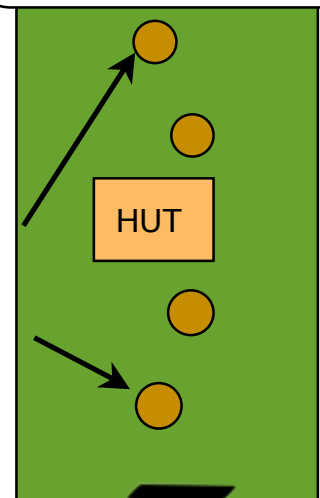
- In the morning before graining, each horse should get a comfortable single arm-full of hay (about 1.5 lbs), less than they get at night and in their paddocks, but enough so that they don't run out before they get grain.
- When you clean a horse's stall you should leave hay in the stall as well. They need enough to last the night so a "bear hug" sized arm-full is what they need (about 3 lbs). It will end up being about as much hay as you can carry with two arms.



Haying Outside:

- When filling the outside paddocks with hay in the morning or at noon-check you will need to add the same "bear hug" sized load as you do for the stalls at night.
- Each horse will get their pile of hay separated into two smaller piles and the piles should be placed far away from each other. Even if the paired horses get along and like to share their piles you still need to separate the piles.
- All piles of hay should be placed roughly along the center of the paddocks, away from fences. Hay should be placed at the bottom of the hill in the "L" Shaped paddock for this reason.
- You may also use the hay cart to hay outside.

Paddock Layout for Hay
(2 Horses)



Hay in Winter:

- In the colder months when the horses use energy to stay warm they will need more hay, so as the temperature decreases the amount of hay put in the paddocks and put in their stalls at night may increase.
- It is also important not to waste hay. We only have a fixed amount stored in the Quonset hut which has to last all year.

How to measure hay amounts if unsure :

- The blue bins that are designed to load into the Kubota can fit hay enough for three horses if filled properly.
- The proper way to fill the blue bins is by packing down the hay until you cannot fit any more and the bins are overflowing.
- A filled bin should weigh at least 9 lbs if packed properly.



Round Bale Notes :

- **Always check for pieces of baling twine and other foreign objects in the hay before giving it to a horse.** (Foreign objects can be buried deep in hay and are not always obvious.)
- Only one bale should be used at a time. If there is already a bale open please do not open a second bale until the first is finished.
- When you finish a bale the dusty leftover hay on the floor should be swept up and dumped outside.
- When you open a new bale do not cut the baling twine. Each bale has two strands which are unwound starting from the top or bottom. This prevents pieces of the twine from getting mixed in with the hay that we give to the horses.
- Do not leave baling twine lying around
- **Watch out for moldy hay.** The best clue is white clouds coming from the hay like smoke. This is because the mold tends to be white, and releases white spores through the bale. Mold spores are respiratory allergens, and chronic exposure can cause respiratory problems in humans and horses (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease). Wear a mask if you suspect a bale is moldy. Call Dr Causey if you find a moldy bale. He will go through it to separate the good from moldy hay.
- As you unroll the round bale, you can then roll-up each horse's hay ration into a ball to compress it. This makes it easier to remove and stack in the cart or hay buckets. You can have two rolled up portions on the bottom and one on top in each bucket, and several in the hay cart.

Look for inedible objects in the hay!





Moldy hay in a round bale. Note the white flakes.



You can roll up hay into a tight ball



Loading the hay cart and/or hay bins with rolled up hay makes it easier to pull it out and feed it.



Don't leave string in untidy piles in the barn. Immediately put it in the trash. This will help prevent it being fed to the horses.