

Storage tips for large round bales

Although large round bales reduce labor requirement when putting up hay, storage losses with large round bales are generally much higher than with small rectangular bales, particularly when stored outdoors. This indicates that a lot of large round bales might have some nutrient loss from precipitation combined with air temperature and humidity. Much of the dry matter loss with outdoor storage is associated with microbial respiration under optimal moisture, temperature, and nutrient condition for microbes. Let's look at ways to minimize large round bale loss stored outside. One of the most important ways to reduce round bale loss is to tighten the outer layer of bale. If the bale is not tight enough, microbes are going to use oxygen to break down the bale using moisture and nutrients. If you can depress the surface more than an inch, the round bale could experience significant loss when placed outside and unprotected. It's recommended to have a minimum density of 10 lbs of hay per cubic ft. Round bales stored outside and covered with either plastic or canvas

Views with Van Keith VanSkike, Extension Director



generally experience much less deterioration than unprotected bales. Weathering can reduce forage quality of round bale hay, particularly digestibility. Plastic wrap, net wrap, reusable tarps, or plastic twine can be used to prevent the loss from weathering. Plastic wrap or net wrap will result in less loss compared to twine. Selecting a good storage site is another important consideration in reducing bale loss with little cost involvement. First of all, the storage site should not be shaded and should have good air circulation, which will enhance drying conditions. The storage site also should be well-drained to reduce moisture absorption into the bottom side of the round bales. A well-drained, 4 to 6 inch coarse rock base would help minimize bottom spoilage of a large round

bale. Bale storage loss can be reduced by elevating the bales rather than placing them on the ground. Ground contact can account for over half of the total dry matter loss. To elevate the bales from the ground use racks, fence posts, discarded pallets, railroad ties, used tires, or a layer of crushed rock about 4 to 6 inches deep to have good drainage. It's recommended to stack large round bales in rows, butt end-to-end, give three feet between rows, and orient the rows in a north-south direction. This will allow the area to dry faster after a snow or rain by having good sunlight as the earth rotates. Vegetation between rows should be mowed to allow good air flow. Storage loss coincides with precipitation amount. Storage loss in eastern Kansas is much greater than in western Kansas. Bales can be stored outside in western Kansas for a couple of years before much significant loss will occur. Rarely would indoor storage pay for itself in western Kansas, but storing high quality/high value forage might justify the expense of storing hay under cover in some instances.

HONOR ROLL

Student of the Month
Norton Community High School



For the Month of November
Student : Alissa Otter
Parents : Greg and Tammy Otter
Grade: Senior
Nominating Staff Member: Mrs. Lindsey Bailey
Comment from nominating Staff Members:
"She is an amazing student aide. She does an excellent job copying papers like they are supposed to be and making sure that the recyclables are taken care of daily. She also does a great job in making sure an absent student's homework makes

it to the office!!
Factoids about Alissa
Favorite Class : English
Favorite Drink : Water
Favorite Color : Pink
Favorite Food : Cheese Pizza
Favorite Movie : Cinderella
Favorite Saying : "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
Favorite Song : Monster by Eminem.
Favorite Hangout: My house..
Personal Hero : My mom.
Future Plans : Graduating high school, college and be a photographer.

Student: Christopher Richard



Parents: Floyd and Kathy Richard
Grade: Senior
Nominating Staff Member: Mr. Don Burge
Comment from nominating Staff Member:
"I don't have Chris for any classes, but he does study in my room some mornings. He is always engaging and polite, and uses his time efficiently. I think Chris probably has to work hard to earn his grades. In keeping with the holiday spirit, recently I have seen a couple of unsolicited acts of random kindness on Chris' part."

Factoids about Chris
Favorite Class : Drafting
Favorite Drink : Dr. Pepper
Favorite Color : Blue
Favorite Food : Wingstreet Wings
Favorite Movie : Courageous
Favorite Saying : "That what you get for doing your own thing."
Favorite Song : I Can Only Imagine
Favorite Hang out : None
Personal Hero : Nick Scott
Future Plans : Study Engineering and design my own custom wheelchair..

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NCHS
Monday, Jan. 13
Prom decorating committee meeting, A.P.
MCL BB tournament: Girls Quarterfinal game at Phillipsburg, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.
MCL BB tournament: Boys Quarterfinal at Plainville, 6 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15
FCCLA Board meeting, 7:45 a.m.
SADD, A.P.
Thursday, Jan. 16
Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.
A.P. moved to end of day, 3:10 p.m.
FFA Ag Sales/Job interviews, 3:30 p.m.
MCL BB tournament: Backside games at Stockton, TBA
Friday, Jan. 17
Faculty meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Varsity wrestling at Newton, 9 a.m.
Jazz Band, A.P.
Junior varsity wrestling at Elm Creek Invitational, 2:30

p.m.
MCL BB tournament: Semi-final games at FHSU, TBA
Saturday-Monday, Jan. 18-20
FFA to Denver Stockshow
Saturday, Jan. 18
Varsity wrestling at Newton, 9 a.m.
MCL BB tournament: Finals at FHSU, TBA
Sunday, Jan. 19
Java Jive; NJHS Gym, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.
NJHS
Wednesday, Jan 15
Faculty meeting, 7:45 a.m.
Thursday, Jan. 16
MCEL "A" BB tournament: Finals at Plainville, TBA
EES
Monday, Jan. 13
CBMs
Grade level meeting, 3:40 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
CBMs
Wednesday, Jan. 15
CBMs
Northern Valley
Monday, Jan. 13

Board of Education Meeting at Almena, 7:30 p.m.
NVHS BB (Girls) WKLL Tournament vs. Western Plains at Grinnell, 5 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
NVHS BB (Boys) WKLL Tournament at Grainfield, 4:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15
Forensics Meeting in HS conference room, 7:45 a.m.
Phillips County Youth Entrepreneurial Event (6th-8th grade), 9 a.m.
Phillips County Youth Entrepreneurial Event (9th-12th grade), 10:45 a.m.
Fort Hays representative, A.P.
Thursday, Jan. 16
FFA job interview contests at Norton, 3 p.m.
NVJH BB vs. Pike Valley at Courtland, 4 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17
NVHS WKLL BB Tournament at Colby, TBA
Saturday, Jan. 18
NVHS WKLL BB Tournament at Colby, TBA

Hay harvesting permits are available

Hay harvesting on right of way along state and federal highways without a permit is trespassing, according to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). Haying permit applications are available at KDOT district and area offices and are valid for one year or a specific haying season. KDOT has updated their hay permit form to reflect the following key changes:
The hay permit will expire September 30 annually. KDOT maintenance crews begin mowing out the highway right of way starting on October 1.
No harvesting is to be permitted on the interstate highway

right of way.
No equipment shall be left on the right of way any longer than 10 days.
KDOT has dropped the required County Noxious Weed Director signature.
KDOT reserves the right to retain up to 20% of the bales harvested from the right of way as part of the permit agreement.
The updated KDOT hay permit form can be found online at: www.ksdot.org/offtransinfo/Form317.pdf.
Haying permit applications will be accepted after January 1 for that year's mowing season. Adjacent landowners will be given permit priority until

March 31 of a given year. After March 31, permits will be issued in the order they are received.
Permits can be canceled at any time by either party and all operations shall be in accord with requirements and guidelines set by KDOT. Any person, firm or corporation wanting to mow or bale hay will need to submit a permit application to the KDOT office in their area.
For additional information, contact your local KDOT Northwest Kansas office listed below, or call the KDOT Bureau of Maintenance in Topeka at (785) 296-3576.
Norton Office: (785) 877-3315

SCHOOL MENU

NCHS-NJHS
Monday, Jan 13
Breakfast-Breakfast Tornado, fruit, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Roast beef and cheddar roll-up, corn, carrots, pears and milk.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
Breakfast-Pancakes, syrup, sausage links, Mandarin oranges, orange juice and milk.
Lunch-Chicken wrap, onions and green peppers, lettuce and chopped tomatoes, strawberry, banana fruit cup and milk.
Wednesday, Jan. 15
Breakfast-Assorted cereal, toast w/margarine, fruit, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Chili Frito, carrots and celery stick, rosy applesauce and milk.
Thursday, Jan. 16
Breakfast-French toast sticks, syrup, strawberries and bananas, apple juice and milk.
Lunch-Chicken patty, whipped potatoes, rolls w/margarine, broccoli and cauliflower, Mandarin oranges/peaches and milk.
Friday, Jan. 17
Breakfast-Apple Frudel, fruit, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Stuffed crust cheese pizza, combo salad, pork and beans, applesauce and milk.
EES Menu
Monday, Jan. 13
Breakfast-Pumpkin chocolate chip muffin, whole grain cereal, oranges, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Chicken fry, whipped potatoes, gravy, broccoli salad, mixed veggies, fruit cocktail and milk.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
Breakfast-Sausage pancake stick, warm syrup, hash brown patty, apple juice and milk.
Lunch-Western bean bake, cheese stick, corn, pears, cornbread and milk.
Wednesday, Jan. 15

Breakfast-Chilled yogurt, strawberries, toast with jelly, orange juice and milk.
Lunch-Pigs in a blanket, sweet potato french fries, dill spear, baby carrots, rosy applesauce and milk.
Thursday, Jan. 16
Breakfast-Biscuit breakfast sandwich, pears, grape juice and milk.
Lunch-Hamburger gravy, whipped potatoes, warm peas, peaches, peanut butter twist and milk.
Friday, Jan. 17
Breakfast-Breakfast burrito, peaches, apple juice and milk.
Lunch-Cavatini, tossed salad, pineapple chunks, garlic bread and milk.
Northern Valley
Monday, Jan. 13
Breakfast-Oatmeal with toppings and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Chicken quesadilla,

tossed salad w/dressing, seasoned corn and fruit cup.
Tuesday, Jan. 14
Breakfast-Sausage in a blanket and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Cavatini, tossed salad w/dressing, seasoned peas and Mandarin oranges.
Wednesday, Jan. 15
Breakfast-Ham-n-cheese biscuit and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Sloppy Joe's/bun, ranch wedges, seasoned broccoli and pineapple chunks.
Thursday, Jan. 16
Breakfast-Cinnamon coffee-cake and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Beef stew, crackers, relish plate, apricots and cinnamon twist.
Friday, Jan. 17
Breakfast-Blueberry muffin and assorted cold cereal.
Lunch-Submarine sandwich, french fries, baked beans and sliced peaches.



As a new year begins make sure your family is protected. We all have goals for our children but what would happen if you weren't there to provide for them? Fredrickson Insurance Agency can assist you with all of your life insurance needs.



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I want to thank everyone who remembered me on my 99th birthday through cards, calls and all the wonderful treats I received. It really means a lot to me. Special thanks to the Norton Senior Center, its staff and customers.
Veryl VanDerWege

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