Tayler & Fletcher

HAY & STRAW AUCTION
STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, Gloucestershire
23rd October 2026 Report



Strong Demand for Quality Hay Underpins Successful Sale

The latest Hay & Straw Sale held at **Stow Rugby Club** saw a positive trade overall, with particularly strong demand for quality hay and encouraging signs for the forage market.

Bidding for hay opened well and resulted in a strong clearance rate, reflecting continued confidence amongst buyers seeking quality winter forage supplies. Whilst a small number of lots were held back due to higher vendor expectations, but the auctioneers were pleased with the prices achieved across the board. The excellent quality of the hay on offer was clearly recognised by purchasers, resulting in competitive bidding throughout the sale. The availability of hay remains tight, in our opinion.

The straw trade demonstrated a more two-tier market. Wheat straw remains readily available thus demand has been somewhat tempered by the exceptionally mild and dry autumn, allowing livestock to remain outdoors on grazing for longer than usual and reducing immediate bedding requirements.

In contrast, spring barley straw attracted stronger interest. Widely regarded as a preferred feeding straw, it achieved a premium of approximately £20 per bale equivalent over wheat straw values, highlighting continued demand for quality feeding material.

Auctioneers were also delighted to see the next generation of buyers actively participating in the marketplace and helping to maintain a long-standing rural tradition. A special mention goes to Mr Harry Judge, who made the most of his half-term break and demonstrated some excellent bidding skills, becoming one of the youngest bidders seen at the sale.

The table below summarises the average bale prices:

	Size	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 0r 0.6m x 0.9m 2.4m	ROUND	Conventional	Average	Min	Max	Clearance on big bales
	Example	Claas 3300, MF187	Quadrant	D1010 MF185	D800/D1000			On Square bales			
	Unit	£/bale	£/bale	£/bale	£/bale	£/bale	£/bale	£/t *	£/t *	£/t *	%
STRAW	W WHEAT	38	-	29	20	-	-	95	80	155	55
	W BARLEY	46	35	-	-	-		110	98	125	100%
	Sp BARLEY	50	35	-	20	2.75		118	108	144	100%
	W OATS	-	-	-	20	-	-	80	80	80	100%
HAY	SEEDS	-	-	54	-	-	-	195	160	225	66%
	MEADOW	77	59	57	46	50	4.50	177	90	300	75%
	MIXTURE	-	-	52	-	-	5.25	148	148	148	100%
SILAGE/HAYLAGE	4ft length	-	-	-	-	-	-	127	125	130	100%

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

The next Hay and Straw Sales for 2026-27 season at Stow-on-the-Wold are on
27th November 2026,
8th January 2027 (74th Annual sale),
12th February 2027,
Friday 12th March 2027

We welcome further entries

Catalogues, entry forms and further details from Adrian Cannon or Lydia Gardner

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