Hay Quality Sensory Evaluation Form – Cereal (≤10% legume)

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Entry no. _____ Class/intended use _____ Cutting _____ Bale size/type _____
(Dairy, TMR, feeder, horse, feed store, export, etc.) Probe moisture % _____

Evaluation purpose ___ Nutritional value ___ Economic value

Characteristic	Points	Score	Notes
1. Package functionality (max. 10)			
A. Bale tie effectiveness/spacing	5-0		
B. Bale shape/density/transportability	5-0		
2. Odor (max. 20)			
A. New-mown/sweet to neutral	20-10		
B. Preservative-treated or fermented	20-0		
C. Caramelized/heat-damaged	14-0		
D. Musty to moldy, other objectionable	14-0		
3. Maturity stage (max. 15)			
A.Vegetative (uncommon) or jointing to boot	15-13		
B. Head emergence; early to late	12-8		
C. Bloom; early to late	7-2		
D. Seed; milky to mature/shattering	1-0		
4. Foreign material, dust, soil, rocks, stubble, weeds, & non-crop species (max. 15)			
A. Clean	15-12		
B. 1–5% &/or dusty (from soil or mold)	11-6		
C. >5% &/or injurious	5-0		
**Also see noxious/poisonous/injurious in No. 7*			
5. Forage texture & condition (max. 30)			
A. Texture; soft/pliable to tough/brittle	5-0		
B. Awns; absent/harmless to objectionable (see 7B)	5-0		
C. Leaf concentration; leafy to leafless	5-0		
D. Stem diameter; fine to coarse	5-0		
E. Leaf attachment; retained to detached	5-0		
F. Leaf & flake integrity; intact/cohesive to pulverized/loose	5-0		
**Moldy/weathered/spoiled (penalty)*	*-1 to -30*	-	
6. Color & uniformity (max. 10)			
A. Natural green of crop	10-8		
B. Light green to bleached to yellow	7-4		
C. Orange to brown to black/grey/white (moldy)	3-0		
**Non-uniform; streaked/blotchy/brownleaf (penalty)*	*-1 to -4*	-	
7. Penalties (max. -100)			
A. *Noxious weeds/seeds, poisonous plants*	*-10 to -100*	-	
B. *Injurious awns*	*-1 to -50*	-	
C. *Moisture % >18 (small), >16 (large) if untreated*	*-1 to -100*	-	
D. *Injurious/objectionable not noted above*	*-1 to -100*	-	
Total score	100		