

HOW WE PRODUCE & MARKET ALFALFA HAY

Clayton Geraldts

Geraldts Farms

Hart County, KY

In association with my son Christopher, we run a commercial hay farm in Hart County near Munfordville, Kentucky. Our total farm size is 560 acres, 300 of which are leased. The focus of our operation is producing small square bales for the horse market. We currently grow a range of forage species including 400 acres of alfalfa and alfalfa/orchardgrass and 150 acres of timothy, orchardgrass, and teff. On average we put up 70,000 small square bales a year. In this presentation I will discuss equipment requirements for establishing, maintaining, and harvesting top quality horse hay. In addition, I will provide an overview of our expectations for yield and quality of the product as well as proper input and storage requirements.