

# Innovative Method of Drying Hay

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Edward Shaw's varied career has seen him as a farmer, an agriculture equipment representative in both service and sales in Western Canada, Africa, the Middle East and South America, a post secondary educator, a consultant, and an international business owner. He is currently the Sales Director for Agrigreen Enterprises Inc, the manufacturer of the Maximizer Hay Dryer. He was born and raised on a farm in Alberta, Canada, and during his 51-year career he has had many different jobs, all in agriculture production, education, and marketing, taking him to eighty-one countries varying from developing countries to fully developed countries. In the last 22 years he has been involved in alfalfa and forage production, processing, and marketing to and from these countries. He has been a speaker in Australia, the Middle East, Asia, South America, USA, and Canada. His experiences have enabled him to see most of the challenges of putting up and keeping high quality forage in most regions of the world (eastern and western Canada, USA, UK, Ireland, Poland, Germany, Spain, Egypt, Argentina, Australia, South Africa, China, and many other countries).

Most forages start with high quality and the challenge of putting it up as a high-quality forage is controlled by Mother Nature. She can be both extremely helpful and/or a barrier in production. Forage is grown in all types of weather conditions, from deserts to high rainfall and high humidity areas. All these conditions can create challenges that range from hay being baled too dry and leaf retention issues, to taking so long to dry that the forage deteriorates in quality, quantity, and aesthetics. Over the years several types of hay dryers have been used to help deal with these challenges. These range from drum dryers and green chopping of high moisture hay to bed dryers and barn dryers. Now there are new forage dryers on the market that put one more tool in the toolbox to assist and enable producers to overcome some of the weather challenges. Edward Shaw will give an overview of the benefits of utilizing these hay dryers to maintain much of the quality that the plant produces, increase the quantity of hay that is available and keep much of the aesthetics that the plant produces.