

*Table 1. Ash content of standing (Stand), post-cut (Cut), post-raked (Rake) and post-baled or chopped (Bale) alfalfa hay after first and a subsequent cutting in Minnesota, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin in 2015. Hay was raked with a hay merger (Merger), rotary rake (Rotary), sidebar rake (Sidebar) or wheel rake (Wheel).*

		Stand	Mow	Rake
First Cutting				
Minnesota	Merger			11.1 <sup>b</sup>
	Rotary	11.2 <sup>†</sup>	12.8 <sup>†</sup>	13.6 <sup>a</sup>
	Sidebar			13.5 <sup>a</sup>
	Wheel			15.3 <sup>a</sup>
Pennsylvania	Merger			9.8 <sup>b</sup>
	Rotary	9.8 <sup>†</sup>	10.2 <sup>†</sup>	9.9 <sup>b</sup>
	Sidebar			9.5 <sup>b</sup>
	Wheel			10.6 <sup>a</sup>
Wisconsin	Merger			9.0
	Rotary	9.4 <sup>†</sup>	9.4 <sup>†</sup>	9.7
	Sidebar			9.1
	Wheel			10.3

**Double Check  
Adjustments**

<sup>a-b</sup>Within each column, location and cutting, means without a common superscript differ. No superscript indicates no differences were observed. <sup>†</sup>Values represent the mean of samples (n=16) collected across the field.