

Settlement Prices for Selected Commodities in US or Can.\$ / tonne for week ending Friday:					23-Aug-13				
Grains					Oilseeds & Others				
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago
SRW Wheat	Sep	233.14	234.24	318.75	Soybeans	Sep	501.64	471.51	638.41
SRW Wheat	Dec	237.37	236.45	n/a	Soybeans	Nov	487.95	462.69	n/a
HRW Wheat	Sep	255.37	256.56	322.70	Soya Meal	Sep	393.02	370.84	587.99
HRS Wheat	Sep	263.82	270.80	337.49	Soya Oil	Sep	940.08	943.83	1,239.92
Corn	Sep	195.07	186.51	294.77	Canola	Nov	515.10	498.90	633.60
Corn	Dec	185.03	182.47	n/a	Crude Oil(WTI)	Sep	106.35	107.40	96.68
Ethanol	Sep	64.48	58.73	68.71	Dollar Index	Sep	81.39	81.34	81.61
Oats	Sep	235.38	244.78	251.91	DJIA	Sep	14,965	15,050	13,160

Data points in red are new previous 12-month highs, in blue are new previous 12-month lows

COMMENT: US corn prices were higher over the week on concerns over new crop yields, warmer and dry weather forecasts and continued keen demand for old crop supplies. Early harvested new corn was reported as being barged north to augment old crop supplies where harvests are later. US wheat is reported to be uncompetitive in Middle East and North African markets. Soybean prices were again supported by hot and dry weather forecasts which are seen as compromising yield prospects.

NEWS: The Statistics Canada's July estimates of the main Canadian crop production were as follows:

	Production ,000 tonne	Percent of 20125-yr.Avg.	
All wheat	26,095	113	125
Spring Wheat	18,119	117	129
Durum	4,549	111	123
Winter wheat	3,427	97	108
Barley	8,892	112	125
Oats	3,038	112	124
Corn for Grain	11,224	101	112
Canola	13,002	111	124
Soybeans	4,056	99	110
Flaxseed	620	126	140
Dry Field peas	3,060	117	130
Lentils	1,253	107	119
Total	97,336	111	123

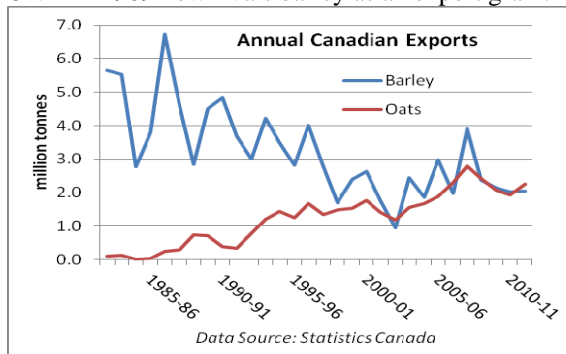
Production of all major crops are expected to increase from a year ago except winter wheat and soybeans. Clearly the Prairies have generally been blessed with clement weather. And while there is always the chance of an early frost or such - as canola suffered last year, weather since the StatsCan survey suggests that that we may see upward revisions in subsequent production estimates. Prairie provincial crop reports still indicate favourable crop conditions.

For MB, as of Aug. 16: Above normal temperatures improved crop development throughout Manitoba with harvest of spring wheat, oats and barley started

in some area with good yields and quality. Thunderstorms have caused localized crop damage. **For SK, as of Aug. 19:** Warm weather with very little rain has helped speed crop development with harvesting beginning in many areas. Less than 1% has been combined and 4% has been swathed or is ready to straight combine, compared to the 5-year average of 7% combined and 9% swathed or ready. **For AB, as of Aug. 13:** Crop conditions have not changed from two weeks ago and remain good to excellent in most areas of the province.

While crop ratings for **US corn and soybeans** declined last week, they are still close to 5-year averages. Soybean podding is less than a week behind normal and spring wheat harvesting about 10 days behind.

OPINION: Evidently farmers were not afraid of seeding wheat and barley following their experiences with marketing these crops without the *insistence* of the Canadian Wheat Board over the winter months. The increase in production of the old board grains over the previous five-year average exceeded that for canola, for many years the growth commodity. This should not be a surprise – oats left for dead by the CWB in 1989 now rivals barley as an export grain.



David Walker, Edmonton, AB, CA