

Grain and Related Prices					Oilseeds & Other Prices				
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	19-Dec-14 Year ago
SRW Wheat	Mar	232.31	222.85	225.42	Soybeans	Jan	378.65	384.80	491.99
HRW Wheat	Mar	244.72	233.05	241.50	Soya Meal	Jan	329.75	332.93	405.27
HRS Wheat	Mar	236.45	228.09	239.02	Soya Oil	Jan	704.84	713.44	869.53
CWRS Wheat	Spot	233.28	225.67	168.12	Canola	Jan	442.40	439.80	443.60
CPS Wheat	Spot	193.31	180.05	140.54	Crude Oil(WTI)	Mar	57.48	58.41	99.07
Corn	Mar	161.61	160.42	170.56	Dollar Index	Mar	89.84	88.60	80.75
Ethanol	Mar	41.45	42.37	44.91	DJIA	Mar	17,761	17,191	16,225
Oats	Mar	201.33	202.63	226.14					

Data points in red are/were 12-month highs, in blue are 12-month lows

For price specs. go to: [www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm](http://www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm)

**COMMENT:** US wheat markets moved sharply higher as the Russian ruble plunged, necessitating export restriction to avoid the possibility of domestic supply shortages. Some of the gains were lost on Friday as it became apparent the impact on prevailing international prices might not be as widespread as previously anticipated.

While corn prices were supported by the wheat market price advances were more modest. Thursday's export sales report was disappointing, prospects for ethanol use with lower crude oil prices were a concern and Chinese stocks were reported at record levels.

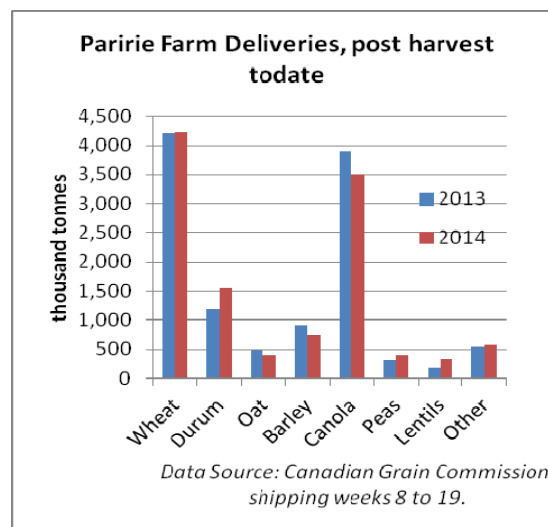
Soya complex values were lower over the week with favourable crop development conditions in South America weighing on prices. Export demand continues supportive with early sales for the 2015-16. Canola prices, however, were higher over the week with limited farm sales supporting values.

**NEWS:** Canadian Grain Commission data indicates post harvest – late September/shipping week 8, to date – mid December/shipping week 19, Prairie farm deliveries of the major Canadian grains at 11.7M tonnes, about two percent above year earlier levels. Durum and the pulses are ahead of last year with demand almost certainly the driver. Canola uptake has suffered with a domestic crusher out of action. And there has probably been less supply side pressure for feed grain sales, a disproportional amount of which was not under cover last fall.

**OPINION:** The strength of oilseed prices in recent months, in review of increasingly certain record year end world supplies has been described as “impressive” which might suggest that it is not sustainable. The USDA projects year end world stocks of oilseeds at 104.1M tonnes, over 20 percent above a year earlier and the previous record level for ending stocks. Continuing support for prices has been the seemingly insatiable Chinese demand. What may yet to be weighing on the market as it might is South American soybean supply. The main South American harvest is still several months away but reports of favourable weather for its development continue. The market place tends to focus on North American supplies prior to the Christmas holiday and South American supplies in the New Year. It is well within the realm of possibility that the prospect of record global ending stocks will begin to be reflected in the market moving into January.



David Walker, Edmonton, AB, CA



While every reasonable effort is made to ensure this information is accurate, the author is unable to provide any guarantee over accuracy, or to be liable for the consequences of action taken on the basis of any information which proves to be inaccurate.