

Grain and Related Prices					Oilseeds & Other Prices				
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago
SRW Wheat	Jul	175.27	189.32	230.48	Soybeans	Jul	343.19	339.61	548.68
HRW Wheat	Jul	183.26	200.81	265.66	Soya Meal	Jul	277.32	275.96	453.80
HRS Wheat	Jul	195.02	208.98	259.60	Soya Oil	Jul	734.83	697.57	848.81
CWRS Wheat	Spot	210.34	218.66	199.77	Canola	Jul	472.80	463.20	458.30
CPS Wheat	Spot	179.97	190.93	155.63	Crude Oil(WTI)	Jun	60.19	59.71	102.760
Corn	Jul	138.38	141.72	183.36	Dollar Index	Jun	96.94	96.27	80.39
Ethanol	Jul	40.42	41.08	59.17	DJIA Mini-sized	Jun	18,006	18,240	16,656
Oats	Jul	151.73	157.24	240.56	New crop Canola	Nov	465.60	454.90	464.90
Data points in red are 12-month highs, in blue are 12-month lows					New crop SRW wheat	Dec	182.62	197.32	242.69
For price specs. go to: www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm					New crop corn	Dec	144.87	148.71	180.11

COMMENT: Most grain market prices declined over the week as Northern Hemisphere crop conditions were seen as favourable and export sales were modest. But oilseed prices lead by soya oil made gains on Friday in response to the US Environment Protection Agency(EPA) recommendation for renewable fuel use which was seen as favourable for demand for bio diesel and hence vegetable oils. This was reflected in canola prices which may also have benefitted from emerging concerns about lack of adequate soil moisture on the Prairies.

NEWS: This week the US winter wheat crop was reported 77 percent headed compared to a 5-year average of 67 percent and 68 percent last year. Crop conditions were one point higher at 45 percent good and excellent, compared to 30 percent last year and a 5-year average of 43. Planting of US spring crops is reaching the wrap up stage earlier than usual. As of May 25 planting of corn, soybean and spring wheat crops were 92, 61 and 96 percent completed, compared to 5-year averages of 67, 55 and 79 and last year's 86, 55 and 70 percent. Crop emergence was also ahead of average with corn, soybean and spring wheat at 74, 32 and 86 percent compared to 62, 25 and 54 for a 5-year average and 56, 23, and 40 last year. The first crop conditions assessments for corn and spring wheat were 74 and 69 percent good or excellent. No comparable data for recent years is available as assessments were not made this early.

Prairie country elevator stocks have declined by almost a third over the last five weeks and the railways appear to be working at about 80 percent of capacity with reduced demand for rail car spotting. Typically farmer deliveries picked up as

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field work demands declines. This year concerns over the dry conditions for the new crop may have an impact on old crop marketing decisions.

OPINION: In contrast to last year and more usual conditions, the US southern Great Plains are suffering a surplus of moisture. So far any adverse consequences have not shown up in crop ratings. While any delay in harvest is not going to mean challenges with frost and short days for drying, hot and moisture conditions may be unfavourable to maintaining crop condition in a manner that does not challenge Prairie harvests. But the likelihood is that things will dry out before southern wheat harvests start in earnest next month and the moisture will be seen as having been beneficial.

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