

Grain and Related Prices					Oilseeds & Other Prices				
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	19-Aug-16 Year ago
SRW Wheat	Sep	156.90	155.24	183.54	Soybeans	Sep	377.36	367.07	332.63
HRW Wheat	Sep	153.87	152.95	173.06	Soya Meal	Sep	299.36	301.63	296.55
HRS Wheat	Sep	195.02	188.77	184.27	Soya Oil	Sep	752.68	706.17	603.21
CWRS Wheat	Spot	219.10	211.15	223.78	Canola	Nov	469.20	461.40	480.20
CPS Wheat	Spot	163.46	161.84	196.38	Crude Oil(WTI)	Oct	49.08	45.18	40.28
Corn	Sep	131.59	126.17	145.76	Dollar Index	Sep	94.50	95.71	95.00
Ethanol	Sep	39.15	37.38	38.23	DJIA Mini-sized	Sep	18,523	18,526	16,530
Oats	Sep	110.07	108.29	138.92	Wheat	Dec	163.14	161.67	185.19
					Corn	Dec	135.33	131.10	148.52

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

Data in red are 12-month highs, in blue are 12-month lows

**COMMENT:** The wheat market continued to be supported by concerns over the Western European harvest with both quantity and quality at issue. US export sales last week met expectations.

Good export demand for corn was attributed to offset the continued pressure of a big harvest expectation. Increases in crude also probably helped.

Soybeans prices rose with concerns over global vegetable oil supplies. And the Chinese continue to buy US soybeans.

**NEWS:** Prairie province crop reports suggest above average crop conditions but still with some concern over wet weather.

**For MB, as of Aug. 8:** Strong weather systems passed through several areas of Manitoba throughout the week halting harvest and resulted in lodging

**For SK, as of Aug. 17:** Three per cent of the crop had been combined and 7 percent swathed or was ready to straight-cut, on par with the five-year average. Rain showers earlier in the week had caused delays.

**For AB, as of Aug. 16:** Crop conditions did not change from a week ago at 84 per cent good to excellent, compared with the 5-year average of 69 per cent. Three percent of the crop is harvested, slightly behind the 5-year average.

USDA crop progress reports for August 14 indicated corn and soybean crop conditions continue to be well above average. The percentage of good and excellent reports for the corn crop was unchanged at 74 percent, unchanged from last week, compared to 69 percent last year and a five-year average of 58 percent. For a third week 72 percent of reports rate the soybean crop in good or excellent condition, compared to last year's 63 percent and a five-year average of 56 percent. Eighty percent of the US soybean crop has reached pod setting, compared to a five-year average of 75 percent.

The US winter wheat harvest is virtually wrapped up at 97 percent complete. The spring wheat harvest is close to mid point at 47 percent complete compared to a five-year average of 30 percent.

**OPINION:** The stand-off between the influence of favourable US crop development and positive export sales news on prices continues with the demand side of the ledger seeming slightly dominant this week. Weather forecasts and increasingly crop condition reports are viewed as a proxy for changing supply prospects. The USDA's exports sales report act as an indicator for demand. Outstanding - sales made but not shipped, soybean export sales for the new crop have grown very rapidly recently but still lag 2013-14 and 2014-15 when there was greater concern over the supply. Quite what motivates overseas buyers to make purchase commitments for US grains and oilseed before they need to even, if they can and do cancel such purchases, is far from clear. That China dominates these commitments, well beyond actual imports in past years, may provide some indication of the cause.

David Walker, Edmonton, AB, CA

