

Crop and Related Prices					Oilseeds & Other Prices					27-Jul-18			
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago				
SRW Wheat	Sep	194.93	189.60	176.74	Soybeans	Sep	321.60	312.23	369.64				
HRW Wheat	Sep	195.66	186.84	176.74	Soya Meal	Sep	300.99	296.55	293.28				
HRS Wheat	Sep	217.71	203.38	272.04	Soya Oil	Sep	632.09	622.17	765.25				
CWRS Wheat	Spot	234.70	234.70	273.45	Canola	Nov	493.60	490.30	510.30				
CPS Wheat	Spot	205.86	205.86	188.32	Crude Oil(WTI)	Sep	68.75	68.14	49.59				
Corn	Sep	142.51	139.85	147.33	Dollar Index	Sep	94.45	94.24	93.22				
Ethanol	Sep	37.96	37.70	41.11	DJIA Mini-sized	Sep	25,391	25,025	21,748				
Oats	Sep	150.43	151.24	188.20	SRW Wheat - New Crop	Dec	202.09	195.85	185.92				
For price specs. go to: <a href="http://www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm">www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm</a>					Corn - New Crop					Dec	148.22	145.27	152.75
Data in red are 12-month highs, in blue are 12-month lows													

**COMMENT:** US crop futures were higher again this week generally recouping losses sustained earlier in July. US weather conditions and forecasts continue generally to favour spring crop development. That the US and the EU were able to reach agreement on some trade issues was seen as being positive. The market implication of the announcement of a US farm support program to offset the impact of the Chinese soybean tariff was not clear.

Wheat markets continue to be supported by prospects of weather reduced crops in Europe, the Black Sea region and Australia. Export demand for US corn remains brisk and US soybean export business has not come to a grinding halt even with China not featuring.

**NEWS:** Prairie provincial crop reports indicate further deterioration of harvest prospects.

**For MB, as of July 23:** An early harvest is expected with moisture stress evident on lighter soils.

**For SK, as of July 23:** Many southern and central areas remain very dry, and are in need of significant rain. Overall cropland topsoil is 51 percent adequate compared to 35 percent in 2017 and 80 percent in 2016.

**For AB, as of July 24:** Crop condition ratings dropped over 7 points from last week to 64 percent good or excellent, compared to 60 percent last year and a 67 percent five-year average. Northern regions saw little change, while the South and Central have been most affected by hot dry conditions. The first dryland yield estimates are six percent below the 5-crop 5-year average.

As of July 22 the USDA reports rated **US corn, soybeans and spring wheat** in 72, 70 and 79 percent good/excellent condition compared to 58, 59 and 31 percent last year and 5-year averages of 60, 60 and 65 percent. Ratings for corn, soybeans and spring wheat were respectively unchanged, up 1 and down 1 percentage points.

For corn, 81 percent of reports indicated silking had been or was in progress compared to a 62 percent 5-year average. For soybeans 44 percent of reports indicated pod setting had begun with a 5-year average of 23.

US winter wheat harvest was 81 percent complete slightly ahead of the 5-year average of 79. It is approaching or in the wrap up stage everywhere except the Pacific Northwest where it is just getting underway.

We do not know the implication of early silking as opposed to late silking with its bad news yields implications. Nor could comment on this be found on the internet. One would suppose that providing tussling, the other half of the pollination process is also early, at worst it does not have adverse implications.

**OPINION:** With below average Prairie precipitation since last September –yellow areas on the map, sub soil moisture over much of southern SK and AB likely remains depleted after last year's drought conditions. The implication of this is that crops are likely particularly dependent on regular rainfall over the final stages of maturation.

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