

Crop and Related Prices, Can or US\$/tonne, US\$/l ethanol					Oilseeds & Other Prices, Can or US\$/tonne or index				
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago
SRW Wheat	Mar	210.73	209.62	191.07	Soybeans	Mar	331.43	341.63	339.97
HRW Wheat	Mar	178.58	181.61	187.21	Soya Meal	Mar	270.60	272.69	284.76
HRS Wheat	Mar	201.21	205.77	211.19	Soya Oil	Mar	705.94	735.27	662.07
CWRS Wheat	Spot	243.54	239.52	262.62	Canola	Jan	469.50	481.00	488.50
CPS Wheat	Spot	218.07	215.45	237.06	Crude Oil(WTI)	Mar	54.21	58.63	53.62
Corn	Mar	152.45	153.24	149.70	Dollar Index	Mar	97.64	97.37	95.55
Ethanol	Mar	35.35	36.53	34.10	S&P 500	cash	3,287	3,325	2,664
Oats	Mar	196.63	202.14	188.69	Canola, new crop	Nov	490.00	497.80	498.00
Data in red are 12-month highs, blue are 12-month lows, green revised					Wheat SRW, new crop	Dec	215.41	213.12	206.04
For price specs. go to: www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm					Corn, new crop	Dec	156.78	158.55	158.65

COMMENT: Farm commodity prices generally declined this week as a surge in demand has not followed the signing of the Phase One US-China trade agreement. The approach of the Chinese New Year holiday and an outbreak of a new coronavirus in China may have been distractions. Oilseed prices appear to have been further pressured by a seemingly unrelated decline in vegetable oil values and expectations for a record Brazilian soybean harvest. US export sales were at the low end of trade expectation last week, but the Canadian December canola crush was a record. US corn prices declined with lower soybean and crude oil prices, but weekly US export sales were above pre-report expectations. Wheat prices were mixed with export sales at the high end of pre-report expectation. It seems that the strength in soft red winter wheat prices is of domestic origin as little wheat of this class is currently being exported.

NEWS: Ag Canada January Outlook for Principal Field Crops with its first preliminary perspective for the 2020-21 crop year was published on Thursday. Some minor trade related revisions were made to its December outlook for 2019-20. Export projections for barley were raised and for wheat were lowered but the revisions were offset by adjustments in domestic use. Looking ahead to the 2020-21, Ag Canada sees farmers increasing total seeded area by less than one percent with quite limited adjustments between crops. With crop yields in aggregate up about one percent output is up a little more than two percent. But with opening stocks seen lower next year than this, total supply is expected to be up just one percent. Very early use forecasts see exports up but domestic use down and ending stocks 5 percent above this year's current forecast and 6 percent above a five-year average. Weather and/or international trade developments could change this abruptly and dramatically. But if these forecasts do bear out, it will be the fifth year of relatively stable overall crop supply and demand conditions. Increases in seeded area are seen for - flax 18 percent, durum 15 percent, and oats 9 percent. For other crops adjustments are 3 percent or less. After accounting for yield projections flax

supplies are forecasts to rise by 24 percent from the relatively low levels of this year. After some recovery in use ending stocks of flax are still expected to be relatively low in an historic context. An increase in production of **durum** is largely offset by lower beginning stocks and, with no major adjustments in use, ending stocks will increase but only to a level 21 percent below a five-year average. For **oats** most of the 10 percent increase in supplies, with little change in use, is expected to result in a 40 percent increase in ending stocks to the highest level since 2016. For **other crops** adjustments in ending stocks seem to reflect adjustments made this year and carried forward. For instance a forecast 14 percent reduction in **canola** ending stocks reflects 15 percent cut in supplies which in turn reflects a 14 percent cut in anticipated beginning stocks.

OPINION: It was so cold on the Prairies last week that both producer car loading and elevator deliveries were down 44 percent on the previous week. The cold weather even slowed the railways – elevator shipments were down 18 percent on the previous week. With warmer weather this week movement will almost certainly increase.

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