

Crop and Related Prices, Can or US\$/tonne, US\$/l ethanol					Oilseeds & Other Prices, Can or US\$/tonne or index					18-Sep-20
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	
SRW Wheat	Dec	211.28	199.15	177.93	Soybeans	Nov	383.42	365.97	324.36	
HRW Wheat	Dec	185.28	173.16	149.73	Soya Meal	Dec	306.16	281.04	264.07	
HRS Wheat	Dec	202.00	195.57	192.63	Soya Oil	Dec	776.72	727.77	645.54	
CWRS Wheat	Spot	236.62	232.43	215.58	Canola	Nov	531.30	510.00	447.40	
CPS Wheat	Spot	210.91	204.41	185.76	Crude Oil(WTI)	Dec	41.11	38.38	57.97	
Corn	Dec	149.01	145.46	145.96	Dollar Index	Dec	92.89	93.32	97.83	
Ethanol	Dec	35.53	34.66	36.14	S&P 500	cash	3,357	3,332	3,003	
Oats	Dec	183.99	175.40	178.80						

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

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

**COMMENT:** All major farm commodity prices were higher over the week, with some increases in excess of five percent. The main feature of the market this week was, again, continuing reports of US soybean and corn export sales. A weaker US dollar and slightly lower US corn and soybean crop ratings were also supportive.

**NEWS: Prairie provincial crop reports** indicate better harvest progress in the east than the west. MB harvest at 56 percent complete compared to a 63 percent three-year average, with yields variable and canola having suffered from hot weather in August. In SK 62 percent of the crop has been combined up from 43 percent last week and well ahead of the five-year average of 48 percent. Despite less favorable harvest conditions, AB producers combined 12 percent of major crops last week with about 30 per cent now harvested, on par with both 5-year and 10-year averages.

**Canadian Grain Commission data** indicates that farmer deliveries for the last four weeks totalled 6.0 million tonnes, about a third above a three-year average for this period. Movement of crops and products from the country totalled 4.9 million tonnes for the last four weeks, about 20 percent above a three year average. And with country elevator stocks at the highest level at this time of year since 2017, suggesting plenty of business on grain company books, the marketing of the 2020 crop appears to be off to a good start.

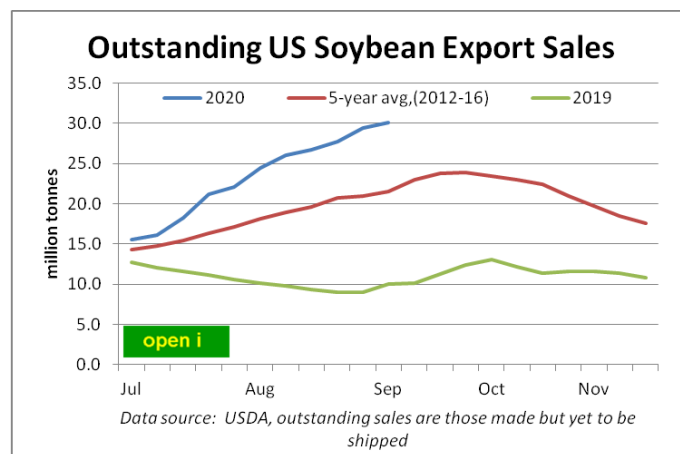
The **USDA's weekly crop progress** report for September 13 continues to show a gradual decline in crop conditions for corn and soybeans. For corn the crop was assessed at 60 percent good or excellent down one percentage point from last week, compared to a five-year average of 65 percent. For soybeans the assessment was at 63 percent good or excellent, down two percentage point from last week, compared to a five-year average of 64 percent. For both crops development is slightly ahead of a five year average.

The US spring wheat harvest was reported 92 percent complete compared to 75 percent last year and on a par with a five-year average. Seeding of the 2020 winter wheat crop was reported 10 percent complete compared with a 8 percent 5-year average.

**US net export sales** of wheat, corn and soybeans for the week ending September 10 were, respectively, 0.34, 1.6 and 2.5 million tonnes. Outstanding sales of soybean at 30.1 million tonnes were for a third successive week above the previous record set in October 2014.

**OPINION:** Outstanding US soybean export sales, those made but not shipped and mainly to China, are running three times year ago levels and 50 percent above average pre US-China trade conflict levels. In view of the continuing growth in the Chinese economy and consumer income, this should probably not come as a surprise. Judging by previous season trends in this trade, it seem likely the increase n outstanding sales will continue for a few more weeks, other things being equal, including most specifically the Trump factor. The prospects for corn markets are probably less certain as the Chinese government is reported to hold very substantial stocks of corn. Against this the condition of the Chinese corn crop has been questioned.

Incidentally the prospect for increased US crop exports may have adverse implications for movement of Canadian crops in the context of the allocation rail equipment.



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