

Crop and Related Prices, Can or US\$/tonne, US\$/ 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	Dec	266.85	264.01	202.18	Soybeans	Nov	474.73	499.53	355.68
HRW Wheat	Dec	268.23	261.71	173.62	Soya Meal	Dec	310.02	321.36	288.02
HRS Wheat	Dec	335.20	344.11	199.70	Soya Oil	Dec	1,300.77	1,351.48	725.13
CWRS Wheat	Spot	389.42	392.85	234.70	Canola	Nov	886.20	911.70	503.70
CPS Wheat	Spot	339.11	330.70	204.86	Crude Oil(WTI)	Oct	69.29	68.72	40.48
Corn	Dec	206.58	219.67	140.94	Dollar Index	Dec	92.02	93.53	92.78
Ethanol	Dec n	58.30	58.65	34.66	S&P 500	cash	4,535	4,508	3,415
Oats	Dec	330.53	335.88	175.07					

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, blue are 12-month lows, green revised

**COMMENT:** Feed grain and oilseed prices were pressured by general rains on the Prairies and the US Mid West, but probably these may too late to be of benefit to 2021 crops. Damage caused by Hurricane Ida to vessel loading facilities at the mouth of the Mississippi may also pressure US futures price which are for Chicago Switching District delivery. But this may be short lived as the loading facilities get back on line and any back log is cleared.

As an indication of the very unusual grain market conditions this year, Ontario wheat was received at Thunder Bay destined for feeding at a Manitoba feedlot

**NEWS:** Stats Can’s July Estimates for 2021 Canadian crop production placed total output of 14 crops estimated at 73.7 million tonnes, about 74 percent of the estimate for these same crops last July. If production of winter wheat, corn and soybeans grown mainly in Eastern Canada is excluded, the estimate for the Prairie harvest is 66 percent of last July’s.

July 2021 Production Estimates  
 Million tonnes    % of 2019 final est.    % of 2020 July est.

Spring wheat	16,102	62	62
Durum	3,998	61	58
Winter wheat	2,847	103	99
Canola	14,749	76	76
Corn	13,677	101	98
Barley	7,836	73	74
Soybeans	5,823	92	98
Field peas	2,627	57	53
Oats	3,070	67	68
Lentils	1,979	69	71
Flaxseed	416	72	75

Prairie harvest progress is ahead of average even though rain interruptions have been widespread.

The USDA’s excellent and good crop condition ratings for their corn and soybean crops, as of Aug 29, were unchanged from a week earlier. They were respectively 60 and 56, compared to last year’s 62 and 66, and five-year averages of 64 and 64.

**OPINION:** While Stats Can’s first estimate of crop production was much anticipated, it did not provide a very clear indication of the likely size of harvest. It was published on August 30 but beyond the title of “July Estimates” there was no indication of the time frame that the estimates were intended to represent. With crop conditions deteriorating rapidly during July and early August this year, this emission has created more than usual uncertainty.

A second challenge resulted from Stats Can’s decision for a second year to use modeling including satellite technology, as opposed old fashioned surveys to make its July estimates. The challenge here was that the satellite(s) did not pick up on crop abandoned or crop cut for green feed. Five-year averages were therefore used for this component of the estimate. And 2021 has been anything but an average year in this respect. While Stats Can will be repeating the modeling exercise in September it will not be until their November survey that we will get an accurate take on this.

Further one perceived advantage of a modeled estimate is that once the input information is collected, the output is almost instantly available. Quite why there was a month’s delay in publication was not indicated.

David Walker,  
 Edmonton, AB, CA

