

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	19-Nov-21 Year ago
SRW Wheat	Dec	302.40	300.20	218.99	Soybeans	Jan	464.17	457.10	434.50
HRW Wheat	Dec	306.72	306.08	202.55	Soya Meal	Jan	337.28	323.49	356.06
HRS Wheat	Dec	371.21	385.81	201.36	Soya Oil	Jan	1,282.25	1,296.80	838.45
CWRS Wheat	Spot	455.13	457.04	249.27	Canola	Jan	1,005.60	1,025.30	577.00
CPS Wheat	Spot	413.99	412.84	230.91	Crude Oil(WTI)	Dec	76.11	80.91	42.17
Corn	Dec	224.69	227.25	166.72	Dollar Index	Dec	96.04	95.11	92.37
Ethanol	Dec n	58.30	58.30	36.98	S&P 500	cash	4,702	4,676	3,566
Oats	Dec	495.39	475.94	192.58					

For price specs. go to: www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm Data in red are 12-month highs, blue are 12-month lows, green revised

COMMENT: Crop futures have held on to most of last week's gains, but reports of favourable early conditions for South American corn and soybean crops tended to cap further advances. US winter wheat prices were stronger with concerns over emerging crop conditions – too wet for some and too dry in others. Prairie canola prices undoubtedly suffered adversely to the railroad challenges in lower mainland BC.

NEWS: The weekly **Canadian Grain Commission data** published today relates to the week ending Sunday November 14, the day when the most direct access to the port of Vancouver was cut off by mud slides and such in the Frazer Canyon. In the past the railways have been remarkably resilient in meeting challenges in keeping the wheels rolling in such situations. This one appears massive and will surely result in something of an unaccustomed pause in the grain business.

It will create major head acres for almost everyone from those attempting to meet vessel loading at Vancouver to meeting commitments to farmers to receive grain in the country. For farmers, if it had to happen, the timing could have been a lot worse. Rail capacity is not likely to be an issue for the crop years as a whole and everybody has had the opportunity to deliver some new crop.

Primary elevator stocks are likely to rise, movement out of the country to fall and the pace of exports to fall. The best advice to farmers is stay clear of your country elevators unless you get a phone call and until things return to normal.

As an indication of what was normal prior to the interruptions rather than indicator of the future, country elevator stocks at 3.8 million tonnes are about 10 percent below year ago levels with more wheat and canola and less barley, peas and oats. Movement of crops for the five previous weeks averaged 1.1 million tonnes, 22 percent below the same period a year ago. West Coast terminal elevator stocks were at 0.930 million tonnes compared to 0.995 million tonnes a year earlier.

OPINION: Every year the USDA publishes long term, 10 year, agricultural projections - just tables in the fall, with further commentary the following February. It does this for the benefit of their policy makers and they are referred to as **Base Line Projections**. Based on a multitude of assumptions with the base line reflecting situation between August and October of the year of the projections. They also assume no change to US government programs.

In the short term they soon become dated as was the case this year with the unanticipated rise in energy and fertilizer prices this fall. This will surely result in a larger area of lower cost of production soybeans at the expense of corn than expected.

But for the longer term they probably provide as good an indication as is available with positive developments averaging out the with negative. This year areas of the major US crops are not expected to be very different 10 years hence. But what may be a little disconcerting is a 30 percent increase in US Crop Revenue Protection program area suggesting a decline profitability.

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