

| 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  | Dec   | 301.85    | 302.40    | 219.18   | Soybeans  | Jan   | 460.31    | 464.17    | 437.90   |
| HRW Wheat  | Dec   | 314.34    | 306.72    | 206.32   | Soya Meal   | Jan   | 314.56    | 337.28    | 359.50   |
| HRS Wheat  | Dec   | 381.95    | 371.21    | 202.37   | Soya Oil  | Jan   | 1,298.13  | 1,282.25  | 838.45   |
| CWRS Wheat   | Spot  | 476.19    | 470.74    | 250.72   | Canola  | Jan   | 1,039.80  | 1,005.60  | 583.00   |
| CPS Wheat  | Spot  | 432.06    | 436.19    | 229.31   | Crude Oil(WTI)                                      | Jan   | 68.17     | 76.11     | 45.52    |
| Corn   | Dec   | 230.99    | 224.69    | 167.51   | Dollar Index  | Dec   | 96.10     | 96.04     | 91.80    |
| Ethanol  | Dec n | 58.30     | 58.30     | 36.19    | S&P 500   | cash  | 4,595     | 4,702     | 3,638    |
| Oats   | Dec   | 489.56    | 495.39    | 187.07   |   |       |           |           |          |

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:** Prices of almost all commodities were volatile this week as markets dealt with the reality of a further covid variant and the potential for economic implications. Further rain interruptions of the Australian harvest and relative poor ratings for the US winter crop were supportive for wheat prices. The StatsCan wheat crop estimate was regarded as neutral.

For corn and soybeans most eyes seem to be focused on South America where, as yet, conditions seem to be favourable for crop development. The US Environmental Protection Agency has been scheduled to make an announcement concerning ethanol blending. The delay is no doubt political. There has been a steady stream of US soybean export sales but the pace still lags that of a year ago. StatsCan's canola crop estimate seem to have little impact on prices.

**NEWS:** The Stats Can November estimate of production, for the 17 field crops reported on, totalled 69.7 million tonnes, about 30 percent below the 2020 crop and 26 percent below a five-year average. With the exception of durum, peas and lentils, the survey based estimates were within 10 percent of the September's model based estimates.

### Nov 2021 Production Estimates

|                | 000 tonnes | % of 2020 | % of Sept est. |
|----------------|------------|-----------|----------------|
| Spring Wheat   | 16,009     | 62        | 104            |
| Durum          | 2,654      | 40        | 75             |
| Winter wheat   | 2,989      | 108       | 105            |
| Canola         | 12,595     | 65        | 99             |
| Corn for Grain | 13,984     | 103       | 97             |
| Barley         | 6,948      | 65        | 97             |
| Soybeans       | 6,272      | 99        | 107            |
| Dry Field peas | 2,258      | 49        | 89             |
| Oats           | 2,606      | 57        | 101            |
| Lentils        | 1,606      | 56        | 89             |
| Flaxseed       | 346        | 60        | 91             |

Data source: Statistics Canada

Estimates were towards the top end of, or above, the range of pre report expectations for all wheat, oats, barley, canola and

flax and at the bottom end or lower for durum, peas and lentils. Production of crops grown predominantly in eastern Canada are above year ago levels.

The USDA final fall rating of the US winter wheat crop indicated good/excellent percentage rating unchanged at 44 percent, compared to last year's last fall call of 46 and the five-year average of 52. The next weekly USDA crop progress report will be released on Monday, April 4, 2022.

**OPINION:** The StatsCan November estimate of crop production were generally better than expected. The September model based estimates of yield were close to the more recent surveys estimates for most major crops except durum and dry peas. Where the surprise came was in the estimates of harvested area. In its earlier estimates StatsCan had used an average of prior years abandonment and forage use to derive a 2021 harvested area estimate. It was expected that in view of the drought, the November survey would indicate there had been above average loss of crop area between seeding and harvesting. This turned out not to be the case with losses very close to the five-year averages. One would suppose that with generally favourable prices farmers were more inclined to combine crops that would otherwise be abandoned before combining.

David Walker,  
Edmonton, AB, CA

