

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	299.37	284.77	230.38	Soybeans	Jan	489.43	472.25	464.26
HRW Wheat	Mar	300.11	297.63	216.42	Soya Meal	Jan	368.39	344.26	378.06
HRS Wheat	Mar	379.38	375.52	214.13	Soya Oil	Jan	1,222.29	1,187.89	922.45
CWRS Wheat	Spot	n/a	474.35	n/a	Canola	Jan	1,009.70	1,014.30	630.90
CPS Wheat	Spot	n/a	426.25	n/a	Crude Oil(WTI)	Mar	73.40	70.78	48.42
Corn	Mar	238.47	233.65	177.55	Dollar Index	Mar	95.99	96.57	90.25
Oats	Mar	458.43	455.35	217.54	S&P 500	cash	4,704	4,647	3,703
					Canola	Nov	765.30	765.20	533.50
					SRW Wheat	Dec	296.43	284.58	229.56
					Corn	Dec	217.11	215.15	167.12

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

**COMMENT:** With the approach of Christmas in a holiday shortened week, trade was seen to be winding down. The weather, of course, does not take a holiday. Lack of soil moisture and limit rain in forecasts were emerging concerns in certain areas in Brazil and Argentina for developing corn and soybean crops and closer to home with winter wheat in the US Great Plains. These were cited as supportive of prices. US export sales were lower this week but this was generally anticipated in the lead up to the holiday. Canola has relatively consistently been cited as being overpriced relative to other oilseeds. But one wonders whether the premium attributed to the quality for canola oil is only now in the context of shortage being reflected.

**NEWS:** Ag Canada's December revisions to its Canadian crop supply and use forecasts published last Friday included relatively minor adjustments resulting from the Statistics Canada November estimate of crop production. After two model-based estimates, the November survey based estimate resulted in only minor adjustments on the supply side for most crops. The ending stock level was raised by less than one percent and remains well below anything seen in the last 30 years. The only two crops for which any significant increase in supply resulted were wheat and soybean – grown mainly in Eastern Canada. For wheat the extra supplies are expected to be absorbed easily by the export market. For soybeans an upward revision in yields, ending stocks were raised by 80 percent, 53 percent below beginning stocks but still 14 percent below a five-year average. The most significant cut in supply estimate was for durum with the export forecast cut by 25 percent to the lowest level since the 1992-93 crop year. With the single exception of soybeans, record prices are forecast for all crops. These prices, however, would not

appear so exceptional when adjusted for inflation, or cost of production, and particularly so in the context with what might be anticipated for the 2022 crop.

**OPINION:** The summer of 2021 could have been worse. June rain was disappointing, lack of rain in July was disastrous, while above average temperatures through the summer added to the woes. So how could things have been worse. The adoption of minimum tillage and glyphosate technology over the last 20 or so years meant that much more was made of the moisture that was available than would have been possible before that. The question then is whether the availability and use of such environmentally positive technology can keep up with the demands that may be made of food production with a changing environment in the future.

Wishing everybody the best at Christmas and a better 2022.

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