

Grain Prices, Can or US\$/tonne					Oilseeds & Other Prices, Can or US\$/tonne or index					6-Apr-23
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	
SRW Wheat	May	248.21	254.36	386.18	Soybeans	May	548.40	553.73	620.06	
HRW Wheat	May	317.65	322.15	406.76	Soya Meal	May	412.12	422.46	424.18	
HRS Wheat	May	320.41	329.13	414.38	Soya Oil	May	1,202.22	1,222.95	1,656.83	
CWRS Wheat	Spot	404.39	415.77	497.82	Canola	May	771.40	769.50	1,162.30	
CPS Wheat	Spot	395.09	396.98	457.41	Crude Oil(WTI)	May	80.70	74.37	98.00	
Corn	May	253.33	267.70	302.84	Dollar Index	Jun	101.52	102.23	99.86	
Oats	May	220.62	240.56	512.74	S&P 500	cash	4,105	4,088	4,503	
					SRW Wheat	Dec	264.37	269.88	386.55	
					Corn	Dec	219.18	223.02	281.87	
					Canola	Nov	715.10	721.10	1000.60	

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

COMMENT: Major crop prices finished the week lower after a positive start to the Easter Holiday shortened trading week. Last weekend OPEC unexpectedly cut oil production quotas. Further the USDA's first nation-wide crop progress report confirmed the extremely poor conditions of the US hard red winter wheat crop. Gains early in the week prompted by the biodiesel link to vegetable oils were not sustained. The confirmation of the poor condition of hard red winter wheats was, in contrast to the POEC action, almost certainly largely anticipated as evident in the premium for this class of wheat. The surge in Chinese purchases of US corn appear to have subsided with US weekly corn export sales reverting to a level not atypical for this time of year. US wheat and soybeans and export sales for last week were disappointing. South American spring crop estimates are now being based on harvest yields and it is no clear how these are relative to expectations which are favourable for Brazil and unfavourable for Argentina.

NEWS: The USDA's April 3 crop report, the first of the 2023 season, indicated winter wheat conditions as of April 2 at 28 percent good or excellent, 2 points below a year ago, but 19 points below a five-year average of 47 percent, and 6 percentage points below the final rating last fall. This rating, indicating well below average crop development, was probably not a surprise as state winter crop reports had forewarned of this. A week earlier the Kansas state assessment placed the good to excellent at 19 percent three points above this week and well below a five-year average of 38 for late March assessments. By way of contrast crop conditions in soft red winter wheat growing areas, east of the Mississippi river, are in relatively normal. Those over large areas to the west of the river are in undeniably poor condition.

Next Tuesday's USDA April supply and demand forecast revisions, the last to focus on the 2021-22 crop year, before the first monthly revisions for 2022-23 in May. The 2021-22

forecasts will take account of last week's grain stocks report and ongoing exports and domestic use data.

OPINION: US oat stocks were not featured in last week's review of the USDA's Grain Stock report. But they may be of significance in the context of the recovery of demand from the prior year's drought reduced supplies. In 2021-22 US supplies were 15 percent lower than the previous year as imports from Canada were not available to offset reduced domestic supplies. The USDA suggests that adjustment occurred almost entirely with a 31 percent, 19 million bushel, cut in farm use – feed, seed and residual. Off-farm, milling, human use of oats was estimated to have held up. The March 1 2023 USDA stocks report indicate US farm supplies 27 percent above a year earlier and farm disposition including off farm sales up 30 percent, 12 million bushels. This suggests that the recovery in farm use, and feed in particular, will not be complete. This might not be a surprise as the major feed components of oats can be duplicated by compounding competitive feed sources and the specific value of oats as a horse feed appears to be based on reputation rather than research.

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