

Grain Prices, Can or US\$/tonne					Oilseeds & Other Prices, Can or US\$/tonne or index					21-Jul-23
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	
SRW Wheat	Sep	256.29	243.06	278.89	Soybeans	Sep	525.07	514.32	487.78	
HRW Wheat	Sep	316.09	304.61	301.30	Soya Meal	Sep	386.72	375.11	362.23	
HRS Wheat	Sep	325.83	324.91	320.04	Soya Oil	Sep	1,455.54	1,384.77	1,297.03	
CWRS Wheat	Spot	412.33	370.41	420.93	Canola	Nov	823.90	820.80	802.40	
CPS Wheat	Spot	389.01	355.85	376.99	Crude Oil(WTI)	Sep	76.90	75.30	94.83	
Corn	Sep	207.47	199.40	222.13	Dollar Index	Sep	100.78	99.57	106.63	
Oats	Sep	284.33	262.29	293.25	S&P 500	cash	4,548	4,509	3,948	
For price specs. go to: www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm					<i>SRW Wheat</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>263.73</i>	<i>250.13</i>	<i>285.68</i>	
Data in red are 12-month highs, blue 12-month lows, green revised					<i>Corn</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>208.06</i>	<i>202.25</i>	<i>222.13</i>	

COMMENT: All crop market prices were at least temporarily higher this week under the influence of the collapse of the Black Sea grain shipping arrangement and forecast for at least a week of hot dry weather in US Mid West and southern Canadian Prairies. The Chicago soft red winter wheat market which appears to reflect international development most accurately was particularly volatile as Russia with drew for what ever reason from the shipping agreement and targeted Ukrainian port facilities. Apparent weather premiums developed rather rapidly in the corn, soybean, spring wheat and canola markets.

NEWS: For MB, as of July 18: Crop development has slowed due to cooler conditions.

For SK, as of July 17: Drought cconditions are reported in the southwest and west-central. Province-wide cropland topsoil moisture was rated as 15 percent adequate, compared to 60 percent at this time last year and 8 percent in 2021.

For AB, as of July 18: No crop report scheduled.

Canadian Grains Commission (CGC) data indicates that bulk grain exports have not been unduly impacted by the longshoremen's strike. While bulk grain facilities are specifically excluded for the labour contract being negotiated there was always the chance that grain movement would be implicated in the very complex rail systems at Vancouver. Exports for the week ending July 16 were reported to be 783 thousand tonnes compared to an average of 657 thousand tonnes for the five prior weeks. The level of primary elevator stocks at this season has not increased much above year ago level when supplies were restricted by the 2021 drought. Supplies of most crops appear limited except for oats where primary elevator stocks are the highest in over ten years. This exception perhaps proves the rule as farmers generally have little else to market.

AgCan's July Market Outlook for Field Crops adjustments to 2022-23 forecasts generally reflect CGC data. Upward revisions in exports and domestic use for several crops suggest ending stocks close to the very low levels of last summer. The 2023-24 outlook is for a small increase in aggregate ending stocks

As of July 16, the USDA reports rated **US corn, soybeans and spring wheat** in 57, 54 and 51 percent good/excellent condition compared to 64, 61 and 71 percent last year and 5-year averages

of 65, 63 and 61 percent. These ratings were, respectively, up 2, down 1 and up 4 percentage points from a week earlier for corn, soybeans and spring wheat. For corn, 47 percent of reports indicated silking had been or was in progress compared to a 43 percent 5-year average. For soybeans 20 percent of reports indicated pod setting had begun with a 5-year average of 17. For spring wheat 86 percent of the crops was heading compared to a five-year average of 85 percent.

OPINION: The recently discontinued Black Sea shipping arrangement, fragile as it has always seemed to be, has been very beneficial for the two participants. The USDA expects about 95 million tonnes of Russian and Ukrainian wheat and corn to be shipped during the 2022-23 crop year which roughly covers the period during which the arrangement has been in effect. This is well above what was shipped in the five previous years. About half of this was Russian wheat. Ukrainian corn and wheat exports were undoubtedly limited by hostility reduced supplies. Why Russia should want to discontinue the agreement is unclear. Perhaps it feels it can adequately protect its own trade interests while threatening those of the Ukraine. With the Kerch Bridge suffering damage on two occasions and the Russian naval cruiser Moskva sinking, one wonders how safe Russian shipping on the Black Sea will be regarded by insurers. Or perhaps, through a convoluted mix of propaganda and posturing Russia hopes to use any increase in wheat prices to the third world, resulting from an effective embargo on its wheat exports, to its advantage.

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