

| Grain Prices, Can or US\$/tonne                                                                      |       |           |           |          | Oilseeds & Other Prices, Can or US\$/tonne or index |            |           |           |          | 5-Jan-24 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Commodity                                                                                            | Month | This week | Last week | Year ago | Commodity                                           | Month      | This week | Last week | Year ago |          |
| SRW Wheat                                                                                            | Mar   | 226.43    | 230.75    | 273.19   | Soybeans                                            | Mar        | 461.87    | 476.94    | 548.40   |          |
| HRW Wheat                                                                                            | Mar   | 230.84    | 236.26    | 305.71   | Soya Meal                                           | Mar        | 335.19    | 350.16    | 433.26   |          |
| HRS Wheat                                                                                            | Mar   | 261.89    | 266.03    | 331.34   | Soya Oil                                            | Mar        | 1,048.78  | 1,062.22  | 1,392.71 |          |
| CWRS Wheat                                                                                           | Spot  | 335.21    | n/a       | 434.60   | Canola                                              | Mar        | 618.90    | 653.40    | 861.80   |          |
| CPS Wheat                                                                                            | Spot  | 291.96    | n/a       | 406.50   | Crude Oil(WTI)                                      | Mar        | 73.79     | 71.68     | 78.57    |          |
| Corn                                                                                                 | Mar   | 181.88    | 185.62    | 257.47   | Dollar Index                                        | Mar        | 102.06    | 101.40    | 103.65   |          |
| Oats                                                                                                 | Mar   | 234.89    | 250.13    | 223.22   | S&P 500                                             | cash       | 4,688     | 4,771     | 3,895    |          |
| For price specs. go to: <a href="http://www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm">www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm</a> |       |           |           |          | <i>SRW wheat</i>                                    | <i>Dec</i> | 241.96    | 245.82    | 285.50   |          |
| Data in red are 12-month highs, blue 12-month lows, green revised                                    |       |           |           |          | <i>Corn</i>                                         | <i>Dec</i> | 194.48    | 198.22    | 257.47   |          |
|                                                                                                      |       |           |           |          | <i>Canola</i>                                       | <i>Nov</i> | 632.70    | 663.70    | 835.90   |          |

**COMMENT:** Wheat prices were lower over the holiday shortened week with improved US winter wheat conditions and lower than anticipated weekly export sales. Oft forecast but now reality, beneficial rains have arrived in the drier areas of Brazil pressuring corn and soybean prices. A stronger US dollar has more generally pressured US crop prices.

**NEWS:** Canadian Grain Commission’s Statistics Weekly for the week ending December 31, 2023, week 22 of the crop year, reported cumulative total farmers’ marketings 7 percent behind a year ago, exports 7 percent behind, but domestic disappearance about 4 percent ahead. This data reflects a blend of some improvement in Prairie supplies prior to harvest and lower new crop supplies thereafter. Country elevator stocks are 18 percent below a year ago with canola stocks down 22 percent, other crops mostly down by lesser amounts but with oats and peas higher.

**USDA Foreign Agricultural Service** weekly data on exports and export sales over the holiday period were at season lows as might be expected in view of the Christmas holiday. Cumulative outstanding export sales – sales made but yet to be shipped, are running at 137, 148 and 87 percent of a year ago for wheat, corn and soybeans, respectively. Cumulative export shipments are 88, 124 and 82 percent of a year ago. The sum of export sales and export shipments are 102, 137 and 84 percent of a year ago and USDA’s December projections for the full crop year exports are 96, 126 and 88 percent of last year. These rough measurements suggest the USDA December export expectations are a little low for wheat and corn and a little high for soybeans. But there is much of the crop year left for a change in prospects.

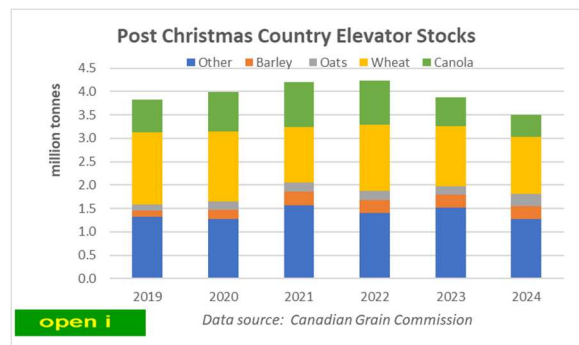
Kansas, the largest winter wheat producing US state together with several others quantify the condition of often dormant **US winter wheat crops**. Kansas, as of January 3, rated its crop 43 percent good or excellent, compared to 19 percent last year, a 35 percent 5-year average and the previous assessment of 32 percent five weeks ago. This is likely fairly typical of conditions in the

southern US Great Plains where soil moisture has been improved by beneficial rain.

On Friday January 12 USDA publishes its estimates of Dec 1 Grain Stocks, final 2023 crop production, 2024 winter wheat and canola areas, with the implication of these reports and other developments summarized in its January Supply and Demand forecasts published the same day. Ag Canada will be publishing the first of its 2023-24 outlook forecasts on January 22.

**OPINION:** During the era of the Canadian Wheat Board grain company costs of holding board grains were born fairly directly by farmers through the price pooling system. Since there has been an incentive for grain companies to move grain through the systems promptly. This means delivery of crops for which there is limit immediate demand are discouraged and stocks of these crops are reduced. Conversely where there is immediate demand stocks are built up. At the present time it would seem there is limited immediate demand for canola but oats and peas are needed. After the 2021 drought the demand for almost any crop was immediate. Hence the higher level of country elevator stocks.

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