

Grain Prices, Can or US\$/tonne					Oilseeds & Other Prices,Can or US\$/tonne or index				6-Jan-23
Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago	Commodity	Month	This week	Last week	Year ago
SRW Wheat	Mar	273.19	291.01	278.70	Soybeans	Jan	548.22	558.23	518.18
HRW Wheat	Mar	305.71	323.35	284.77	Soya Meal	Jan	433.26	433.85	385.54
HRS Wheat	Mar	331.34	345.03	339.42	Soya Oil	Jan	1,392.71	1,406.82	1,295.92
CWRS Wheat	Spot	434.60	n/a	442.16	Canola	Jan	861.80	858.40	1,043.20
CPS Wheat	Spot	406.50	n/a	410.92	Crude Oil(WTI)	Mar	74.10	80.41	78.55
Corn	Mar	257.47	267.11	238.87	Dollar Index	Mar	103.65	103.27	95.75
Oats	Mar	223.22	238.13	433.31	S&P 500	cash	3,900	3,805	4,685
					SRW Wheat	Dec	285.50	301.58	280.72
For price specs. go to: www.open-i.ca/PriceSpec.htm					Corn	Dec	232.66	240.44	219.58
Data in red are 12-month highs, blue 12-month lows, green revised					Canola	Nov	835.90	829.60	796.00

COMMENT: All US crop futures were lower. For wheat weekly export data and reports of a record wheat crop pressured. Weekly corn export data exceeded expectation while soybeans met them. South American crop conditions continue mixed.

NEWS: Grain Statistics Weekly for the week ending January 1, 2023, week 22 of the crop year, reported cumulative farmers' marketing 25 percent above a year ago, exports 34 percent ahead and domestic disappearance about one precent ahead. This data represents a blend of very tight supplies prior to harvest and a recovery in supplies thereafter. Compared to 2020-2021 cumulative farmers' marketings lag by 8 percent and exports by 15 percent. Domestic disappearance leads that year by about one percent ahead.

Against expectations country elevator stocks are currently below year ago levels when farm supplies were limited by a drought reduced harvest. And further year ago stocks were in turn above those of the previous year when farm supplies were not limited by a short harvest.

One would suppose that grain companies do not encourage farmer deliveries when export prospects are limited. Hence, the level of crops in country elevators may reflect fairly immediate export prospects rather than on farm supplies. If this is the case, canola elevator stocks lower than a year ago may suggest prospects may be less favourable.

Caution on reading too much into **USDA Foreign Agricultural Service** data on exports and export sales over the holiday period is necessary. But cumulative crop year data provide an indication of conditions.

Outstanding export sales – sales made, but yet to be shipped, are running at 89, 45 and 141 percent of a year ago for wheat, corn and soybeans, respectively. Cumulative export shipments are 97, 68 and 92 percent of a year ago. The sum of export shipments and export sales are 94, 59 and 105 percent of a year ago and USDA's December projections for full crop year exports are 85, 97 and 91 percent of last year. These rough measurements suggest the USDA December export expectations are close to being on track for wheat and soybeans

but not for corn. Or alternatively the USDA has room to reduce its January corn export projection.

Kansas, the largest winter wheat producing state together with several others quantify often dormant **US winter wheat crop conditions.** Kansas, as of January 4, rated its crop 19 percent good or excellent, compared to 33 percent last year and a 40 percent 5-year average. This is likely fairly typical of conditions in the southern US Great Plains where soil moisture continues to be a concern.

On Thursday January 12 we get USDA estimates of their Dec 1 Grain Stocks, final 2021 crop production, winter wheat area, and January Supply and Demand forecasts. Ag Canada will be publishing the first of its 2023-24 forecasts on January 20.

OPINION: Canadian Grain Commission's (CGC) data is accurate. That it very rarely needs revising is proof of this.

When using CGC data, however, in attempting to understand what is happening in the market, the challenge is interpreting the data. CGC data is administrative data collected in meeting Canada Grain Act licensing requirements elevator company bonding and grain inspection and grading. Paradoxically it is often more reliable than data collected to assist in assessing crop market conditions.

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