KSU Agriculture Today Radio Notes

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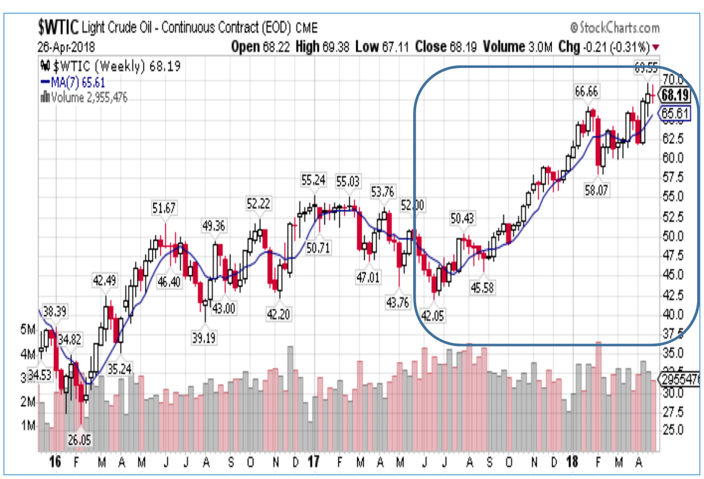
For Radio Program to be aired 10:00-10:15 a.m., Friday, April 27, 2018

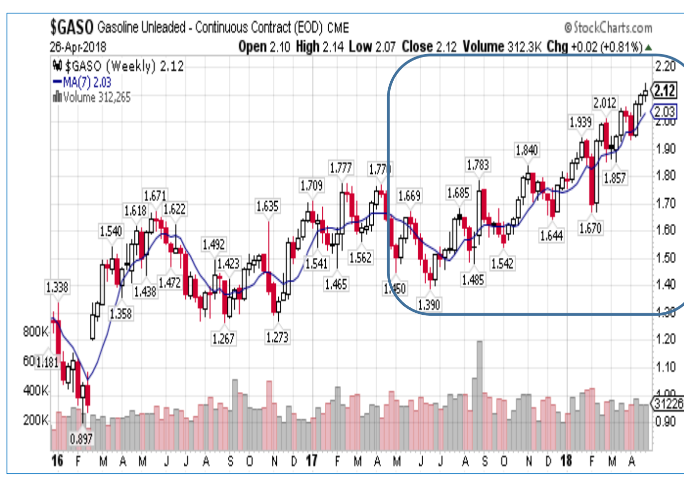
I. Grain Futures Closes, Changes & Carry on Thursday, April 26, 2018

Corn Futures				Soybean Futures				Kansas HRW Wheat Futures			
Month	Close	Change	Carry /mo	Month	Close	Change	Carry /mo	Month	Close	Change	Carry /mo
May 18	**$3.86**	⇩ $0.0050	---	**May 18**	**$10.28**	⇧ $0.0050	---	May 18	$5.01 ¾	⇩ $0.0525	---
July 18	$3.95 ¼	⇩ $0.0050	$\$0.04^{625}$	July 18	$10.39 ½	⇧ $0.0025	$\$0.05^{75}$	**July 18**	**$5.21**	⇩ $0.0550	$\$0.09^{625}$
Sept 18	$4.02 ¼	⇩ $0.0075	$\$0.03^{50}$	Aug 18	$10.41 ½	No Change	$0.02	Sept 18	$5.39 ¼	⇩ $0.0525	$\$0.09^{125}$
Dec 18	**$4.11 ¼**	⇩ $0.01	$0.03	Sept 18	$10.36	⇩ $0.01	No Carry	Dec 18	$5.63 ¼	⇩ $0.0575	$0.08
Mar 19	$4.19 ¼	⇩ $0.0075	$\$0.02^{67}$	**Nov 18**	**$10.33 ¼**	⇩ $0.0150	No Carry	Mar 19	$5.78 ¾	⇩ $0.0625	$\$0.05^{167}$
May 19	$4.23 ¼	⇩ $0.0075	$0.02	Jan 19	$10.36 ¼	⇩ $0.0150	$\$0.01^{50}$	May 19	$5.86 ¼	⇩ $0.0650	$\$0.03^{75}$
July 19	$4.27 ½	⇩ $0.0075	$\$0.02^{125}$	Mar 19	$10.21 ¼	⇩ $0.0150	No Carry	**July 19**	**$5.88 ¾**	⇩ $0.06	$\$0.01^{25}$
Sept 19	$4.11 ½	⇩ $0.0050	No Carry	May 19	$10.18 ½	⇩ $0.0150	No Carry	Sept 19	$5.96 ¾	⇩ $0.0550	$0.04

$\text{Price}^{\text{Soybean\$}}$ / $\text{Price}^{\text{Corn\$}}$ Ratios on April 26, 2018:

- "Current Crop$^{2017/18}$" ⇨ $\$\text{MAY}^{2018}$ Soybeans ÷ $\$\text{MAY}^{2018}$ Corn = $10.28 ÷ $3.86 = 2.66***
- "Next Crop$^{2018/19}$" ⇨ $\$\text{NOV}^{2018}$ Soybeans ÷ $\$\text{DEC}^{2018}$ Corn = $10.33 ¼ ÷ $4.11 ¾ = 2.51





DC_GR112
Dodge City, KS Thu, Apr 26, 2018 USDA-KS Dept of Ag Market News

Central Kansas Terminal and Processor Daily Grain Report

TERMINAL HRW WHEAT ORD US NO 1

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Atchison	4.5675	DN 5.25	-45K	UNCH
Topeka	4.7175	DN 5.25	-30K	UNCH
Concordia	4.6175	DN 5.25	-40K	UNCH
Salina	4.7175	DN 5.25	-30K	UNCH
Great Bend	4.6475	DN 5.25	-37K	UNCH
Newton	4.5075	DN 5.25	-51K	UNCH
Hutchinson	4.5375-4.7175	DN 5.25	-48K to -30K	UNCH
Wichita	4.6875-4.7175	DN 5.25	-33K to -30K	UNCH
Wellington	4.6675-4.7175	DN 5.25	-35K to -30K	UNCH
Arkansas City	4.6175	DN 5.25	-40K	UNCH

TERMINAL HWW WHEAT ORD US NO 2

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Wichita	4.7175	DN 5.25	-30K	UNCH

TERMINAL US NO 2 YELLOW CORN

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Atchison	3.7900	DN 0.5	-7K	UNCH
Topeka	3.7400	DN 0.5	-12K	UNCH
Salina	3.5100	DN 0.5	-35K	UNCH
Newton	3.4300	DN 0.5	-43K	UNCH
Hutchinson	3.5600-3.6100	DN 0.5	-30K to -25K	UNCH
Wellington	3.6600	DN 0.5	-20K	UNCH
Arkansas City	3.5400	DN 0.5	-32K	UNCH

TERMINAL US NO 2 SORGHUM

	Bids	Change (¢/cwt)	Basis	Change
Topeka	5.82	DN 1	-60K	UNCH
Concordia	5.82	DN 1	-60K	UNCH
Salina	6.00-6.09	DN 1	-50K to -45K	UNCH
Hutchinson	6.11-6.39	DN 1	-44K to -28K	UNCH
Wellington	6.05	DN 1	-47K	UNCH
Arkansas City	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH
Great Bend	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH

TERMINAL US NO 2 SOYBEANS

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Atchison	9.8300	UP 0.5	-45K	UNCH
Topeka	9.7800	UP 0.5	-50K	UNCH
Salina	9.3800-9.4300	UP 0.5	-90K to -85K	UNCH
Newton	9.3200	UP 0.5	-96K	UNCH
Hutchinson	9.3200-9.4300	UP 0.5	-96K to -85K	UNCH
Wichita	9.4200	UP 0.5	-86K	UNCH
Wellington	9.3800	UP 0.5	-90K	UNCH
Arkansas City	9.3800	UP 0.5	-90K	UNCH

PROCESSOR US NO 2 YELLOW CORN

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Atchison	3.8300	DN 0.5	-3K	UNCH

PROCESSOR US NO 2 SOYBEANS

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Emporia	9.8800	UP 0.5	-40K	UNCH
Wichita	9.8300	UP 0.5	-45K	UNCH

* All bids are $/bu except Sorghum, which is $/cwt.

Chicago Board of Trade month symbols: F January, G February, H March, J April, K May, M June, N July, Q August, U September, V October, X November, Z December

DC_GR110
Dodge City, KS Thu, Apr 26, 2018 USDA-KS Dept of Ag Market News

Western Kansas Grain Markets

Thursday's closing elevator grain bids:

HRW WHEAT ORD US NO 1

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Dodge City	4.47	DN 5.25	-55K	UNCH
Colby	4.46	DN 5.25	-56K	UNCH
Garden City	4.42-4.47	DN 5.25-DN 0.25	-60K to -55K	UNCH-UP 5
Goodland	4.47	UP 4.75	-55K	UP 10
Protection	4.47	DN 5.25	-55K	UNCH
Scott City	4.37	DN 5.25	-65K	UNCH
Sublette	4.52-5.52	DN 5.25	-50K to 50K	UNCH
Syracuse	4.62	DN 5.25	-40K	UNCH
Ulysses	4.62	DN 5.25	-40K	UNCH

US NO 2 YELLOW CORN

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Dodge City	3.61	DN 0.5	-25K	UNCH
Colby	3.38	DN 0.5	-48K	UNCH
Garden City	3.66-3.68	DN 0.5	-20K to -18K	UNCH
Goodland	3.36	UP 4.5	-50K	UP 5
Protection	3.61	DN 0.5	-25K	UNCH
Scott City	3.54	DN 0.5	-32K	UNCH
Sublette	3.73	DN 0.5	-13K	UNCH
Syracuse	3.66	DN 5.5	-20K	DN 5
Ulysses	3.79	DN 0.5	-7K	UNCH

US NO 2 SORGHUM

	Bids	Change (¢/cwt)	Basis	Change
Dodge City	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH
Colby	5.82	DN 1	-60K	UNCH
Garden City	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH
Goodland	5.73	DN 1	-65K	UNCH
Protection	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH
Scott City	5.82	DN 1	-60K	UNCH
Sublette	6.00	DN 1	-50K	UNCH
Syracuse	5.99	DN 2	-60N	DN 10
Ulysses	5.95	UP 8	-62N	DN 4

US NO 2 YELLOW SOYBEANS

	Bids	Change (¢/bu)	Basis	Change
Dodge City	9.13	UP 0.5	-115K	UNCH
Colby	8.98	UP 0.5	-130K	UNCH
Garden City	9.08-9.13	UP 0.5	-120K to -115K	UNCH
Protection	9.13	UP 0.5	-115K	UNCH
Scott City	9.03	UP 0.5	-125K	UNCH
Sublette	9.03-9.13	UP 0.5	-125K to -115K	UNCH
Ulysses	9.20	UP 17	-120N	UP 5

US NO 2 SORGHUM - FEEDMILL BID

	Bids	Change (¢/cwt)	Basis	Change
Ashland	6.89	DN 1	OptK	UNCH

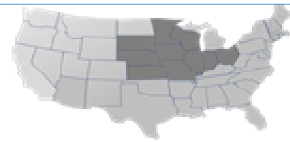
Cotton Grade 41, Leaf 4, Staple 34, West Texas base price 76.50 cents per pound
FOB Railcar or Truck

* All bids are $/bu except Sorghum, which is $/cwt.

Chicago Board of Trade month symbols: F January, G February, H March, J April,
K May, M June, N July, Q August, U September, V October, X November, Z December

Source: USDA-KS Department of Ag Market News Service, Dodge City, KS

USDA Daily Ethanol Report
Agricultural Marketing Service
Livestock, Poultry & Grain Market News



Thu. Apr 26, 2018

US #2 Yellow Corn - dollars/bushel	Cash Bids	Chg	Basis	Avg:	Distillers Grain - dollars/ton: Dried 10%	Chg	Avg:	Modified 50-55%	Chg	Avg:	Wet 65-70%	Chg	Avg:
Iowa-Eastern:	3.5050 - 3.8150	↑	-36K to -5K	-20.50	155.00 - 170.00	=	162.50	70.00 - 80.00	=	75.00	NA	NA	NA
Iowa-Western:	3.4750 - 3.7550	↑	-39K to -11K	-25.00	150.00 - 175.00	=	162.50	60.00 - 80.00	=	70.00	44.00 - 62.00	=	53.00
Illinois:	3.6650 - 3.9050	↑	-20K to 4K	-8.00	170.00 - 177.00	=	173.50	NA	NA	NA	55.00 - 65.00	↑	60.00
Indiana:	3.8750 - 3.9650	↑	1K to 10K	5.50	168.00 - 175.00	=	171.50	80.00	=	80.00	NA	NA	NA
Ohio:	3.8450 - 3.9650	↑	-2K to 10K	4.00	170.00 - 175.00	=	172.50	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Michigan:	3.6150 - 3.9150	↑	-25K to 5K	-10.00	165.00 - 185.00	=	175.00	66.00 - 80.00	=	73.00	NA	NA	NA
Kansas:	3.7950 - 3.9650	↑	-7K to 10K	1.50	160.00 - 175.00	=	167.50	NA	NA	NA	55.00 - 64.00	=	59.50
Minnesota:	3.2650 - 3.5450	↑	-60K to -32K	-46.00	160.00 - 170.00	=	165.00	75.00	=	75.00	40.00 - 55.00	=	47.50
Nebraska:	3.4350 - 3.7850	↑	-43K to -8K	-25.50	160.00 - 180.00	=	170.00	74.00 - 83.00	=	78.50	50.00 - 60.00	=	55.00
Wisconsin:	3.4150 - 3.6050	↑	-45K to -26K	-35.50	160.00 - 175.00	=	167.50	72.00 - 93.00	=	82.50	55.00	=	55.00
South Dakota:	3.4150 - 3.5750	↑	-45K to -29K	-37.00	152.00 - 165.00	=	158.50	71.00 - 80.00	=	75.50	52.00	=	52.00
Missouri:	3.6150 - 3.8150	↑	-25K to -5K	-15.00	165.00 - 175.00	=	170.00	85.00	=	85.00	52.00 - 54.00	=	53.00

Sorghum - dollars/bushel

	Cash Bids	Chg	Basis	Avg:
Kansas:	3.5650 - 3.6150	↑	-30K to -25K	-27.50
Missouri:	NA	NA	NA	NA

Daily Market Review

May corn futures closed 5¢ higher at $3.86, which is the highest since 6/20/2016. Trade is watching China's corn situation as their govt reserves auction at much lower cost. It's believed that China is offering the cheap corn to further avoid imports and much of it may be low quality. Either way, it makes imports from the US unlikely until these reserves are consumed.

Corn Oil - cents/pound

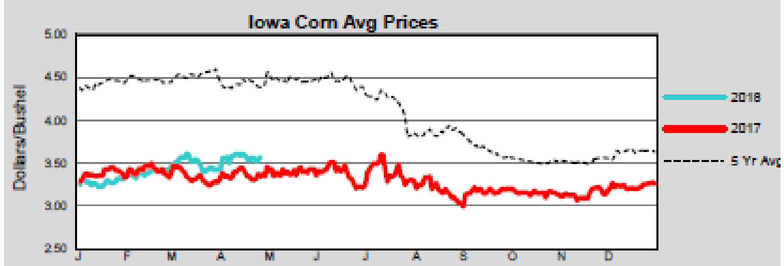
W/E 04/20/18	Range	Chg:	Avg:
Iowa:	22.00 - 25.00	=	23.50
Eastern Cornbelt:	22.00 - 25.00	=	23.50
Nebraska:	22.50 - 24.00	=	23.25
South Dakota:	21.50 - 23.50	=	22.50

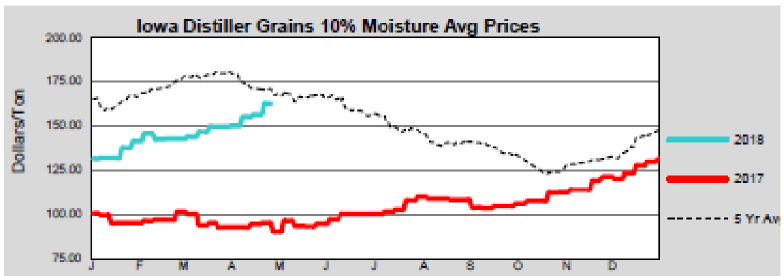
Ethanol - dollars/gallon

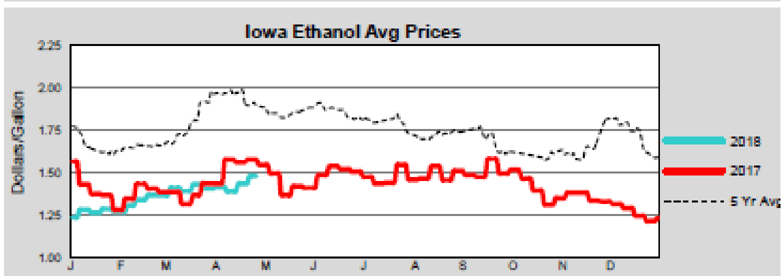
W/E 04/20/18	Range	Chg:	Avg:
Iowa:	1.36 - 1.60	↑	1.48
Eastern Cornbelt	1.47 - 1.50	↓	1.49
Kansas:	1.34 - 1.42	↑	1.38
Minnesota:	1.49 - 1.49	=	1.49
Nebraska:	1.34 - 1.42	↑	1.38
Wisconsin:	NA	NA	NA
South Dakota:	1.51 - 1.51	↑	1.51

Daily Nearby Futures

	Today	Yesterday	Last year
CME group			
Corn ($/bu)	3.8500	3.8650	3.6200
Ethanol ($/gal)	1.4700	1.4720	1.5920
NYMEX:			
RBOB Gasoline ($/gal)	2.1046	2.0897	1.5500
Natural Gas (mmBtu)	2.8210	2.7860	3.2390







BIO-ENERGY REPORT NOTES

Yellow corn : US #2 spot bids at ethanol plants reported as $/per bushel

Distiller grains: Spot bids FOB the ethanol plant reported as $/per ton. Protein content 28-30% for most distiller grains on a dry matter basis.

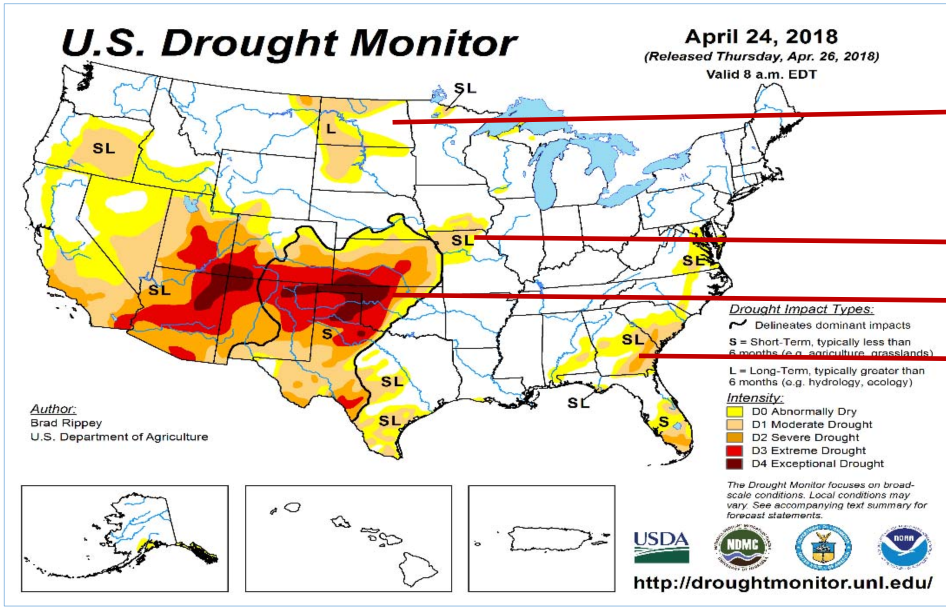
Ethanol: Spot bids FOB the ethanol plant reported as $/gallon.

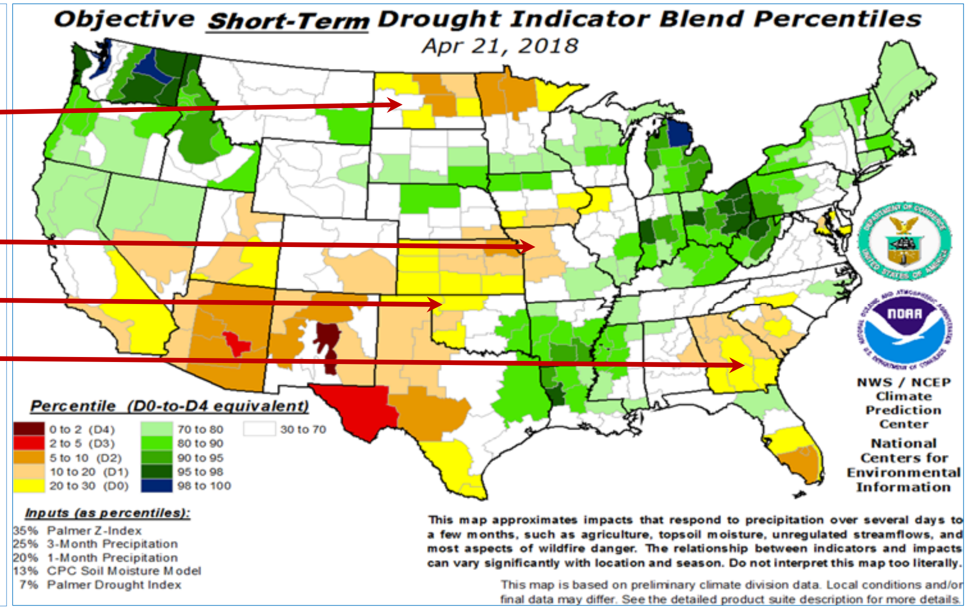
Distiller corn oil: Spot bids FOB the ethanol plant reported as ¢/lb. Distiller corn oil is intended for animal feed or biofuel and is not Generally Regarded As Safe (GRAS) for human consumption. It may also be referred to as inedible crude corn oil or crude corn oil.

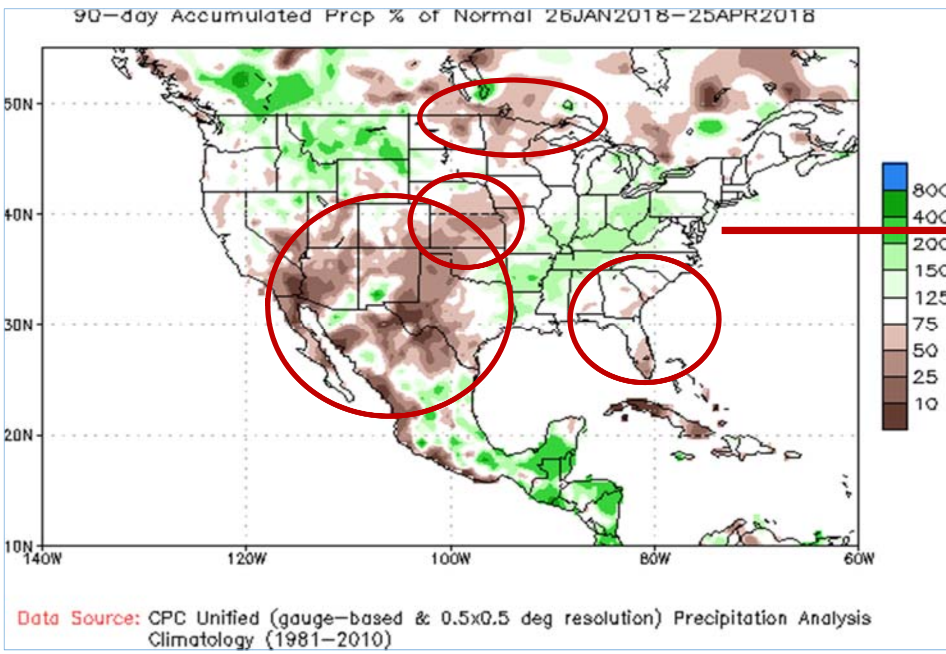
Chicago Board of Trade month symbols: F January, G February, H March, J April, K May, M June, N July, Q August, U September, V October, X November, Z December

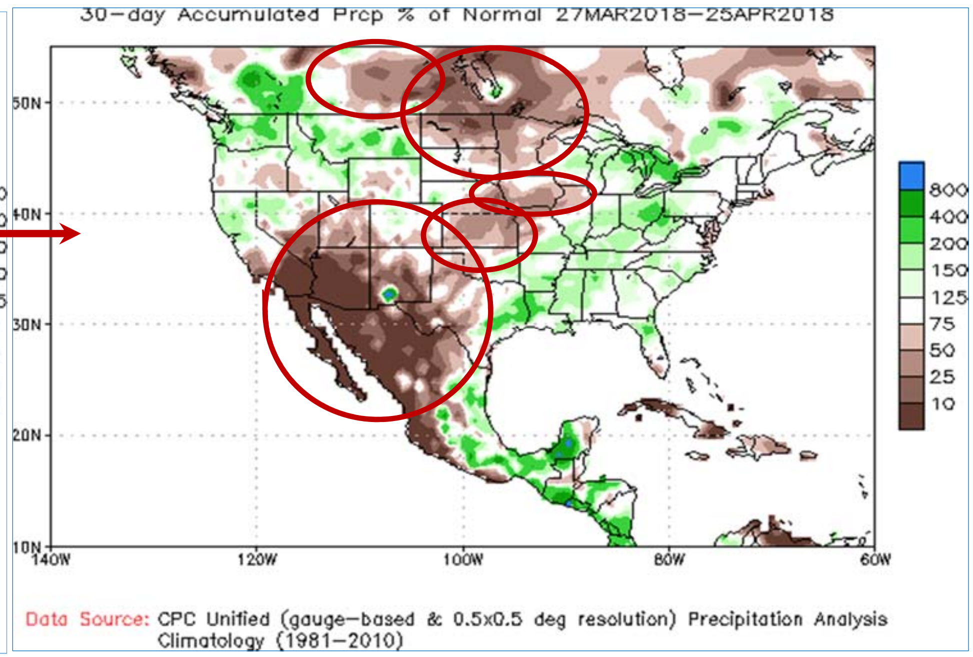
Baldemar Ortiz, Ethanol Market Reporter St. Joseph, MO (816) 676-7000 Email: StJoe.LPGMN@ams.usda.gov Prepared: 26-Apr-18 9:10 AM Central Time

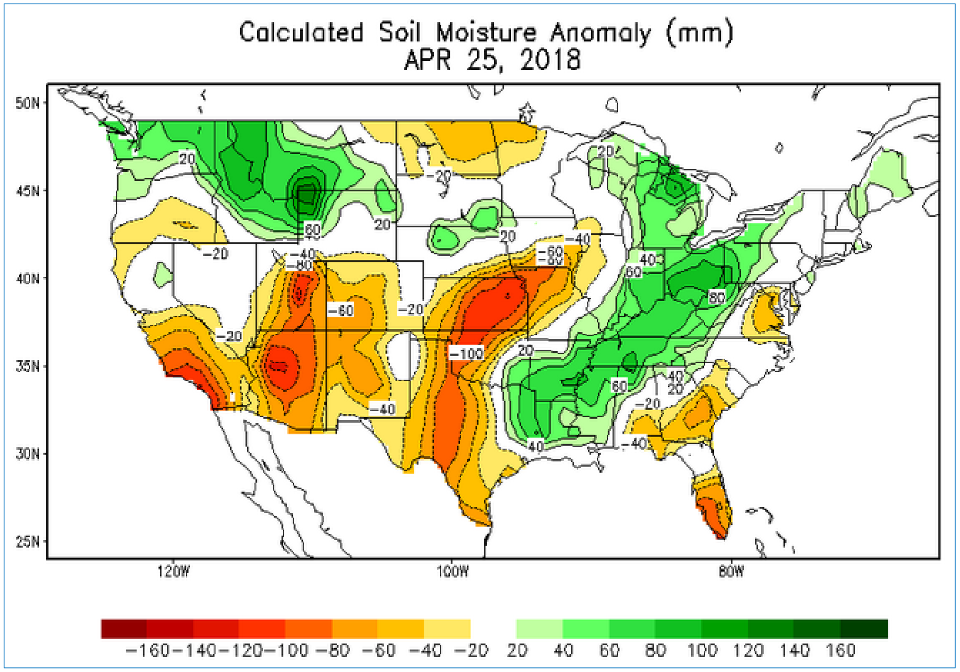
II. U.S. & World Drought Monitor, Moisture Accumulations & Forecasts (Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin)

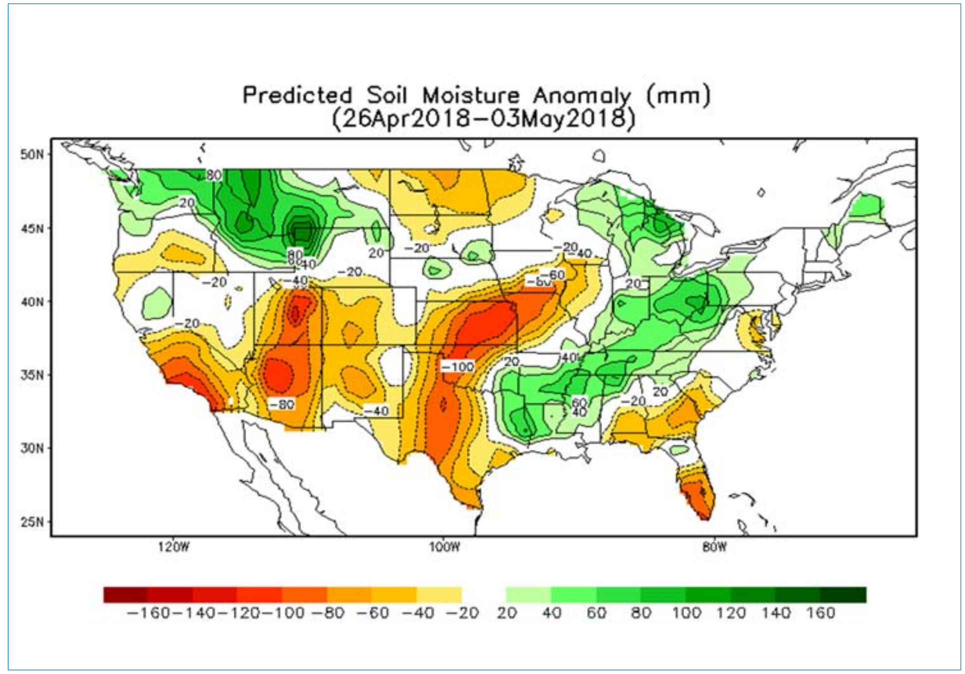


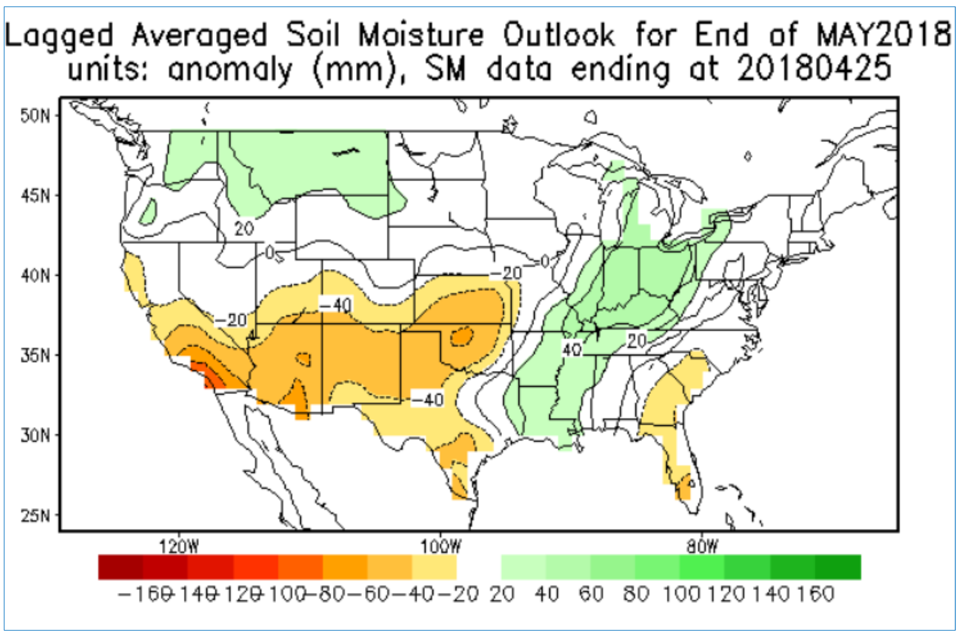


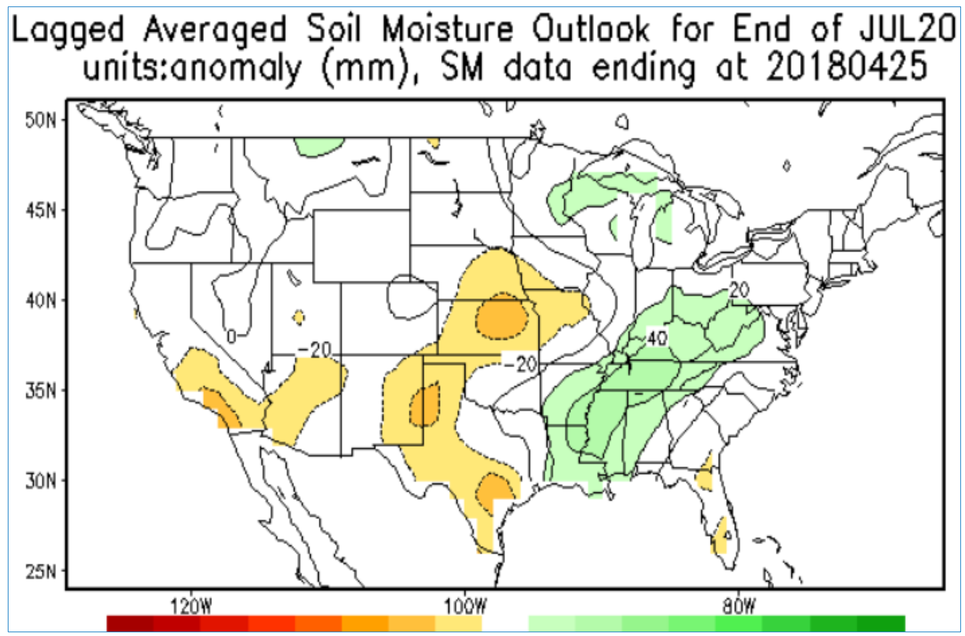


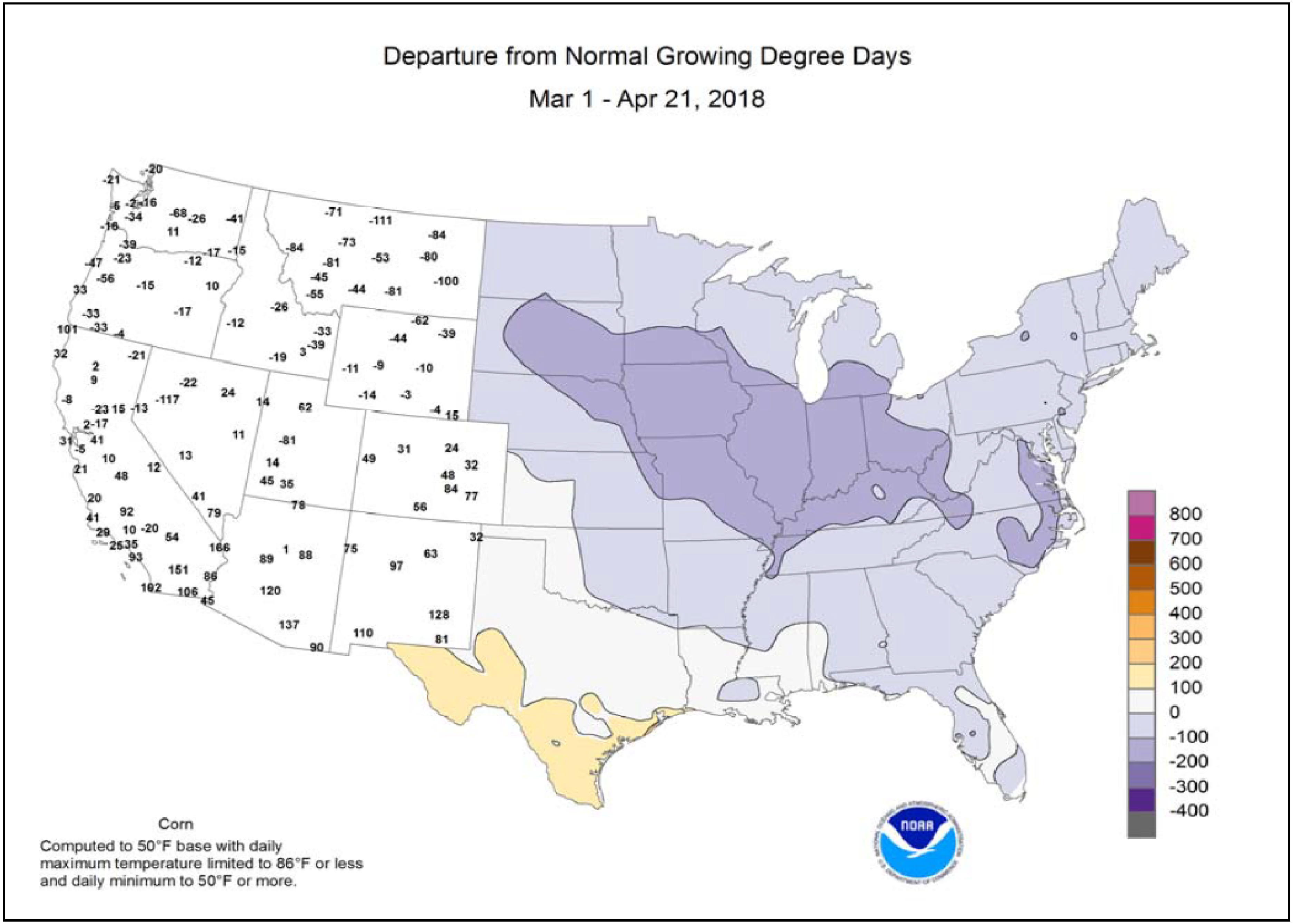



Calculated Soil Moisture Anomaly (mm)
APR 25, 2018
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W
−160 −140 −120 −100 −80 −60 −40 −20 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160


Predicted Soil Moisture Anomaly (mm)
(26Apr2018−03May2018)
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W
−160 −140 −120 −100 −80 −60 −40 −20 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160


Lagged Averaged Soil Moisture Outlook for End of MAY2018
units: anomaly (mm), SM data ending at 20180425
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W
−160 140 120 100 −80 −60 −40 −20 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160


Lagged Averaged Soil Moisture Outlook for End of JUL20
units:anomaly (mm), SM data ending at 20180425
50N
45N
40N
35N
30N
25N
120W
100W
80W


Departure from Normal Growing Degree Days
Mar 1 - Apr 21, 2018
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
-100
-200
-300
-400
Corn
Computed to 50°F base with daily maximum temperature limited to 86°F or less and daily minimum to 50°F or more.
NOAA

National Agricultural Summary

April 16 – 22, 2018

Weekly National Agricultural Summary provided by USDA/NASS

HIGHLIGHTS

The majority of the nation was colder than average during the week ending April 22. Weekly average temperatures were 35°F or below from the Great Lakes region to New England. Along the Iowa-Minnesota border, average temperatures were below 30°F, which was more than 15°F below normal. Temperatures were above average in parts of the Rockies, but no area was more than 5°F above normal. Rain and snow fell in the Atlantic Coast States, with the heaviest precipitation occurring in West Virginia and along the New England coast. Some rain fell in Oklahoma and northern Texas, but drought persisted there and in the Southwest.

Corn: By April 22, producers had planted 5 percent of the nation's corn crop, 10 percentage points behind last year and 9 points behind the 5-year average. All states were at or behind their 5-year average except Texas, which had planted 65 percent—6 percentage points ahead of average.

Soybean: By week's end, 2 percent of the nation's soybean crop was planted, 3 percentage points behind last year but equal to the 5-year average. Mississippi was the most advanced in progress, with 30 percent of the intended 2018 crop planted.

Winter Wheat: By April 22, thirteen percent of the nation's winter wheat had headed, 17 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average. On April 22, thirty-one percent of the 2018 winter wheat crop was reported in good to excellent condition, unchanged from the previous week but 23 percentage points below last year. In Kansas, the largest winter wheat-producing state, 12 percent of the winter wheat crop was rated in good to excellent condition, unchanged from the previous week. In Texas, where the northern portion of the state has been in a winter-long drought, 14 percent of the winter wheat crop was rated good to excellent, an increase of 1 percentage point from the previous week.

Cotton: Nationwide, 9 percent of the cotton crop had been planted by week's end, 2 percentage points behind last year and 1 point behind the 5-year average.

Sorghum: Twenty-four percent of the nation's sorghum was planted by April 22, equal to the previous year but 1 percentage point ahead of the 5-year average. Texas had planted 78 percent of its intended sorghum acreage by week's end, 14 percentage points ahead of last year and 21 points ahead of the 5-year average.

Rice: By week's end, producers had seeded 49 percent of the 2018 rice crop, eighteen percentage points behind the previous year but 3 points ahead of the 5-year average. Producers in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Missouri planted more than 20 percent of their rice acreage during the week. By April 22, twenty-one percent of the nation's rice acreage had emerged, 21 percentage points behind last year and six percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Small Grains: Nationally, oat producers had seeded 31 percent of this year's crop by April 22, twenty-four percentage points behind both the previous year and the 5-year average. Oat planting progress was behind the 5-year average in all estimating states except Texas, which had already completed seeding by the beginning of April. Twenty-six percent of the nation's oat crop had emerged by April 22, ten percentage points behind the previous year and 9 points behind the 5-year average.

Eleven percent of the nation's barley was planted by week's end, 14 percentage points behind last year and 22 points behind the 5-year average. Planting progress was behind the historical pace in all estimating states. Washington was the furthest behind with only 14 percent planted by week's end, compared to the 5-year average of 49 percent. By April 22, two percent of the nation's barley crop had emerged, 4 percentage points behind last year and 6 points behind the 5-year average.

By April 22, three percent of the spring wheat crop was seeded, 18 percentage points behind last year and 22 points behind the 5-year average. Spring wheat planting progress was behind the 5-year average pace in all 6 estimating states, and planting had not yet begun across much of the northern Plains.

Other Crops: Nationally, peanut producers had planted 3 percent of this year's peanut crop by week's end, equal to both last year and the 5-year average. Planting was most advanced in Florida, at 12 percent complete, 6 percentage points ahead of the 5-year average.

By week's end, 12 percent of the sugarbeet crop was planted, 22 percentage points behind last year and 25 percentage points behind the 5-year average.

Crop Progress and Condition

Week Ending April 22, 2018

Weekly U.S. Progress and Condition Data provided by USDA/NASS

Corn Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
CO	7	0	2	5
IL	30	0	4	20
IN	13	0	1	5
IA	7	0	0	11
KS	19	6	15	24
KY	28	3	10	21
MI	1	0	0	1
MN	5	0	0	13
MO	42	4	16	35
NE	15	1	2	9
NC	59	30	48	57
ND	1	0	0	2
OH	8	0	0	3
PA	5	0	0	4
SD	3	0	0	4
TN	42	11	30	34
TX	67	60	65	59
WI	1	0	0	2
18 Sts	15	3	5	14

These 18 States planted 92% of last year's corn acreage.

Soybeans Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
AR	37	10	21	16
IL	3	NA	0	1
IN	3	NA	0	1
IA	0	NA	0	0
KS	0	NA	0	0
KY	2	NA	0	1
LA	56	16	26	31
MI	0	NA	0	0
MN	0	NA	0	0
MS	58	18	30	28
MO	2	NA	1	1
NE	3	NA	1	1
NC	1	NA	1	0
ND	0	NA	0	0
OH	1	NA	0	0
SD	1	NA	0	0
TN	3	NA	1	1
WI	0	NA	0	0
18 Sts	5	NA	2	2

These 18 States planted 96% of last year's soybean acreage.

Cotton Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
AL	3	1	3	6
AZ	51	37	45	56
AR	6	0	0	3
CA	47	0	0	62
GA	6	1	4	3
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	34	0	0	9
MS	10	0	1	4
MO	12	0	0	5
NC	1	0	0	2
OK	5	0	2	2
SC	2	0	1	4
TN	3	0	0	1
TX	12	13	14	11
VA	6	0	3	2
15 Sts	11	8	9	10

These 15 States planted 99% of last year's cotton acreage.

Sorghum Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
AR	44	1	9	29
CO	0	0	0	0
IL	1	0	0	1
KS	0	0	0	0
LA	75	35	40	69
MO	10	0	1	5
NE	0	0	0	0
NM	0	1	2	2
OK	15	5	9	9
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	64	64	78	57
11 Sts	24	20	24	23

These 11 States planted 99% of last year's sorghum acreage.

Winter Wheat Percent Headed

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
AR	95	32	44	41
CA	86	5	9	78
CO	0	0	0	0
ID	0	0	1	1
IL	24	3	4	6
IN	16	0	2	4
KS	23	0	0	11
MI	0	0	0	0
MO	51	1	2	14
MT	0	0	0	0
NE	0	0	0	0
NC	54	6	20	27
OH	1	0	0	0
OK	61	15	23	38
OR	0	0	0	1
SD	0	0	0	0
TX	65	40	56	48
WA	0	0	0	1
18 Sts	30	9	13	19

These 18 States planted 90% of last year's winter wheat acreage.

Winter Wheat Condition by Percent

	VP	P	F	G	EX
AR	2	8	35	49	6
CA	0	0	5	25	70
CO	11	18	35	34	2
ID	1	1	34	49	15
IL	1	6	37	49	7
IN	2	6	32	50	10
KS	16	33	39	11	1
MI	1	4	21	65	9
MO	3	8	40	45	4
MT	1	8	34	31	26
NE	1	6	37	46	10
NC	0	2	22	67	9
OH	1	2	25	59	13
OK	30	34	28	7	1
OR	2	3	12	72	11
SD	2	17	61	20	0
TX	33	31	22	13	1
WA	0	2	21	61	16
18 Sts	15	22	32	25	6
Prev Wk	15	22	32	26	5
Prev Yr	3	10	33	45	9

Sugarbeets Percent Planted

	Prev Year	Prev Week	Apr 22 2018	5-Yr Avg
ID	73	47	66	73
MI	6	1	1	15
MN	30	0	0	34
ND	27	0	0	28
4 Sts	34	9	12	37

These 4 States planted 84% of last year's sugarbeet acreage.

INTERNATIONAL CROP AND WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS
USDA/WAOB Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

April 24, 2018

EUROPE – Highlight: Increasing Warmth Erased Most Developmental Delays

- Much warmer weather eased or erased lingering wheat and rapeseed developmental delays from **England** and **France into eastern Europe**.
- Occasional showers mixed with periods of sun favored reproductive to filling winter grains in **Spain**.

NORTHWEST AFRICA – Highlight: Winter Grain Prospects Remained Excellent

- Sunny skies maintained excellent prospects for reproductive to filling wheat and barley in **Morocco and Algeria**, while showers were beneficial for reproductive winter grains in **Tunisia**.

MIDDLE EAST – Highlight: Warm With Additional Showers

- Warm, showery weather favored wheat and barley development from **Turkey into Iran**. Winter grains have entered the reproductive stages of development two to four weeks ahead of average.

FSU – Highlight: Warm Weather Promoted Wheat Development

- Warm, mostly sunny weather promoted winter wheat development in **Moldova**, **Ukraine**, and **Russia**. Lingering developmental delays are most pronounced from **eastern Ukraine into west-central Russia**.

SOUTH ASIA – Highlight: Seasonal Heat In India And Pakistan

- Seasonally hot weather continued across interior **India** and **Pakistan**, as wheat, rapeseed, and other rabi (winter) crop harvesting progressed.

EAST ASIA – Highlight: Unseasonably Warm

- Unseasonably warm weather continued to advance reproductive wheat and rapeseed development in **eastern China** and increase water demands.

SOUTHEAST ASIA – Highlight: Favorable Rainfall In Indonesia And The Philippines

- Pre-monsoon showers in **Thailand and environs** boosted soil moisture and reservoir levels as field preparations continued for wet-season rice sowing.
- Somewhat drier weather in the **northern Philippines** aided field preparations for summer rice sowing.
- Late-season showers continued to maintain good moisture conditions for rice in **Indonesia** while improving soil moisture for oil palm in **western Malaysia**.

AUSTRALIA – Highlight: Scattered Showers

- In the **northeast**, scattered showers likely slowed local cotton and sorghum harvesting but may have triggered some early winter wheat planting, especially in **central Queensland**.

SOUTH AMERICA – Highlight: Seasonal Rainfall Continued In Brazil's Center-West Region

- Showers maintained favorable conditions for corn and cotton in **major production areas of central Brazil**. However, showers receded from the **northeastern interior** and **parts of the south**.
- Wet weather slowed summer crop harvesting in **central Argentina**.

SOUTH AFRICA – Highlight: Mild And Sunny For Late Summer Crop Development

- Mostly dry, sunny weather favored development of filling to maturing corn.

MEXICO – Highlight: Mostly Dry Weather Prevailed

- Additional rain was needed for planting corn and other rain-fed summer crops.

International Weather and Crop Summary

April 15-21, 2018

International Weather and Crop Highlights and Summaries provided by USDA/WAOB

HIGHLIGHTS

EUROPE: Increasingly warm weather eased or erased lingering crop developmental delays over much of northern and eastern Europe.

WESTERN FSU: Warm, mostly sunny weather promoted wheat development in key southern crop areas.

MIDDLE EAST: Above-normal temperatures maintained a faster-than-normal crop development pace in western and central portions of the region.

NORTHWESTERN AFRICA: Sunny, mild weather benefited wheat and barley development in the west, while showers maintained good crop conditions in Tunisia.

EASTERN ASIA: Unseasonably warm weather continued to advance development of winter crops and increase water demands.

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Early-season showers in Indochina provided a beneficial boost to soil moisture and irrigation supplies, as preparations continued for summer (wet-season) rice sowing.

AUSTRALIA: In the northeast, scattered showers likely slowed local summer crop harvesting but may have triggered early winter wheat planting.

SOUTH AFRICA: Warm, sunny weather favored corn and other filling to maturing summer crops.

ARGENTINA: Heavy showers lingered over central Argentina, slowing fieldwork while increasing moisture for the upcoming winter grain season.

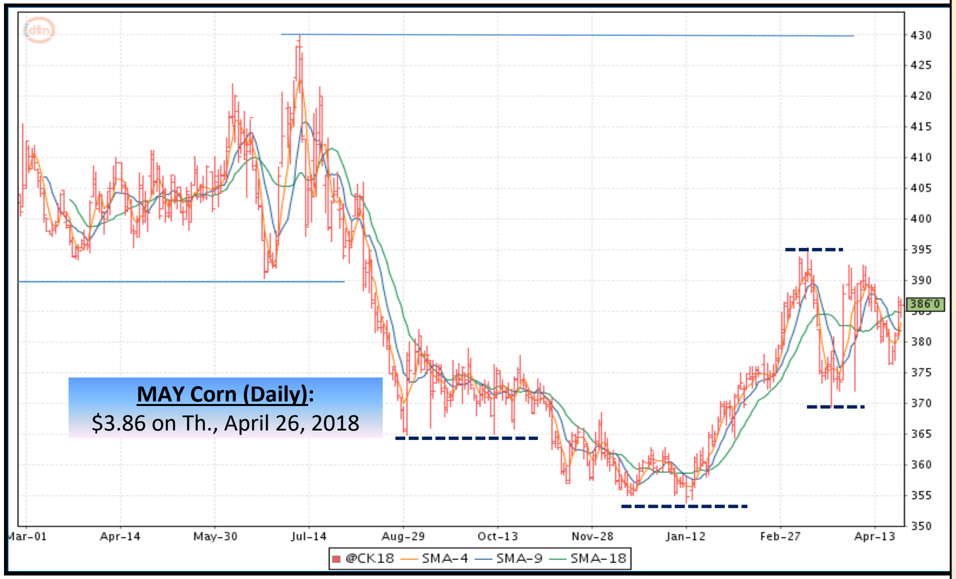
BRAZIL: Showers continued over corn and cotton areas of west-central Brazil, but drier weather prevailed elsewhere.

MEXICO: Dry weather dominated the region, limiting opportunities for planting summer crops.

For additional information contact: mbrusberg@oce.usda.gov

IV. Corn & Grain Sorghum Market Information

Daily CME MAY 2018 Corn Futures



Key Corn & Grain Sorghum Supply-Demand Factors:

U.S. Corn Exports: "*Bullish*" short-term "*Old Crop*" MY 2017/18 U.S. corn shipments with "*positive*" long-term sales

- Weekly Export Shipments week of 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 70.0 mb *(Bullish)* vs 56.1 mb/wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 2.225 bb exports
- Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 1.159 bb i.e., 52.1% of 2.225 bb USDA projn with 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks)
- Total sales through 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 1.968 bb *(Positive)* i.e., 88.4% of 2.225 bb USDA projn w. 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks)

U.S. Grain Sorghum Exports: "*Bullish*" short-term "*Old Crop*" MY 2017/18 sorghum shipments & "*Positive*" long-term sales

- Weekly Export Shipments week of 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 4.9 mb *(Bullish)* vs 3.4 mb/wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 245 mb exports
- Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 180.5 mb i.e., 73.7% of 245 mb USDA projn with 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks)
- Total new sales through 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 206.7 mb i.e., 84.4% of 245 mb USDA projn w. 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks) *(Positive)*

World & U.S. Corn Supply-Demand Fundamentals

Mktg Yr	World % S/U	U.S. % S/U	U.S. $/bu	U.S. Crop
2009/10	17.2% S/U	13.1% S/U	$3.55 /bu	13.067 bln bu
2010/11	14.3% S/U	8.7% S/U	$5.18 /bu	12.425 bln bu
2011/12	14.7% S/U	7.9% S/U	$6.22 /bu	12.314 bln bu
2012/13	15.2% S/U	7.4% S/U	$6.89 /bu	10.755 bln bu
2013/14	18.4% S/U	9.2% S/U	$4.46 /bu	13.829 bln bu
2014/15	21.6% S/U	12.6% S/U	$3.70 /bu	14.216 bln bu
2015/16	22.1% S/U	12.7% S/U	$3.61 /bu	13.602 bln bu
2016/17	21.8% S/U	15.7% S/U	$3.36 /bu	15.148 bln bu
2017/18USDA	**18.5% S/U**	**14.8% S/U**	**$3.35 /bu**	**14.604 bln bu**
2018/19USDA	**-------------**	**14.1% S/U**	**$3.40 /bu**	**14.390 bln bu**

❖ U.S. Grain Sorghum Supply-Demand Fundamentals

2015/16	8.459 mln ac.	6.4% S/U	$3.31 /bu	597 mln bu
2016/17	6.690 mln ac.	6.8% S/U	$2.79 /bu	480 mln bu
2017/18USDA	**5.626 mln ac.**	**7.8% S/U**	**$3.20 /bu**	**364 mln bu**
2018/19USDA	**6.700 mln ac.**	**9.5% S/U**	**$3.30 /bu**	**384 mln bu**

IGC raises forecast for 2018/19 global corn crop - Reuters New

26-Apr-2018 07:57:14 AM LONDON, April 26 (Reuters)-

Wheat stocks seen falling for first time in six seasons
Soy output falls this season, seen recovering in 2018/19

Global Corn: The International Grains Council (IGC) on Thursday made a slight increase to its forecast for **201 corn (maize) production** although **a drawdown in stocks is still anticipated for a second successive sea** inter-governmental body, in a monthly report, increased its forecast for the 2018/19 corn crop by two million to **1.054 billion tonnes**, still shy of **consumption** which was seen at **1.099 billion**.

Global Wheat: The IGC trimmed its forecast for **global wheat production in 2018/19** by two million tonnes to tonnes while **consumption** was projected at **745 million**. "*A projected 51 million tonne drop in total grains inv includes declines of 45 million for maize and six million for wheat, the latter contracting for the first time in six s* the IGC said.

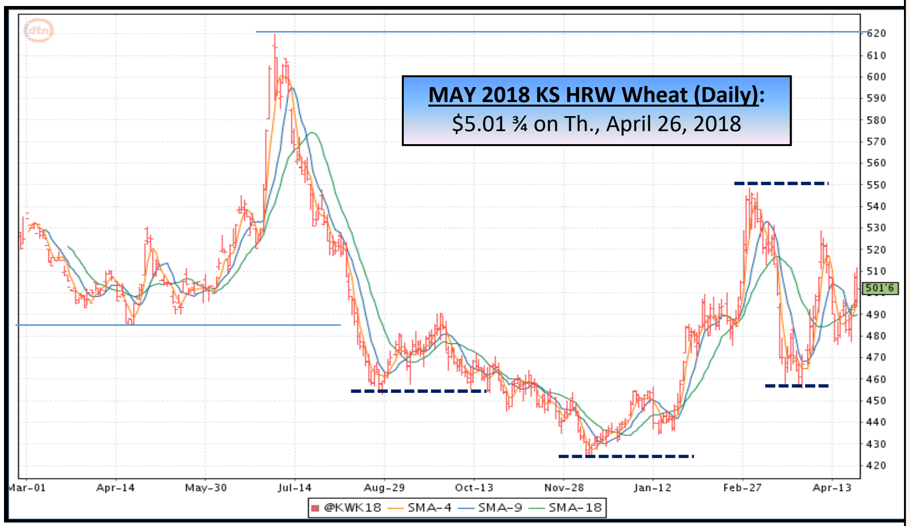
Global Soybeans: The IGC raised slightly its forecast for **global soybean production in 2018/19** by one millior **355 million** but reduced its estimate for the prior season by two million to 339 million, with **a cut in Argentina partially offset by an upgrade for Brazil**. Argentina's soybean crop is expected to decline to **38 million tonr** following hot & dry weather this year, IGC senior economist Darren Cooper told **a U.N. Commodities Conf. or Wednesday**. "*Due to tentative expectations for area gains in leading producers, **world production** may reco 2018/19*," the IGC said in Thursday's report, adding that **rising consumption** could still mean that stocks wou marginally. (Reporting by Nigel Hunt; editing by David Evans) ((nigel.hunt@thomsonreuters.com ; +44 20 7542 8421; Reuters Messaging: nigel.hunt.thomsonreuters.com@reu

GRAIN SORGHUMS - UNMILLED — MARKETING YEAR 09/01 - 08/31
OUTSTANDING EXPORT SALES AND EXPORTS BY COUNTRY, REGION AND MARKETING YEAR
1000 METRIC TONS AS OF APRIL 19, 2018

DESTINATION	CURRENT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: THIS WEEK	CURRENT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: YR AGO	CURRENT MARKETING YEAR: ACCUMULATED EXPORTS: THIS WEEK	CURRENT MARKETING YEAR: ACCUMULATED EXPORTS: YR AGO	NEXT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: SECOND YR	NEXT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: THIRD YR
JAPAN	65.5	64.1	110.4	126.2	0.0	0.0
TAIWAN	0.5	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0
CHINA	326.6	273.7	4449.0	2918.7	0.0	0.0
OTHER ASIA AND OCEANIA	0.0	0.7	0.4	6.3	0.0	0.0
INDNSIA	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0
KOR REP	0.0	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.0	0.0
AFRICA	0.0	0.0	0.0	64.2	0.0	0.0
NIGERIA	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	0.0	0.0
REP SAF	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.0	0.0	0.0
WESTERN HEMISPHERE	48.2	134.4	25.3	192.9	0.0	0.0
CANADA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
MEXICO	48.2	134.4	25.3	192.9	0.0	0.0
TOTAL KNOWN	440.8	473.0	4585.1	3309.4	0.0	0.0
TOTAL UNKNOWN	223.6	367.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL KNOWN & UNKNOWN	664.4	840.5	4585.1	3309.4	0.0	0.0
EXPORTS FOR OWN ACCT	-	-	0.0	0.0	-	-
OPTIONAL ORIGIN	0.0	0.0	-	-	0.0	0.0

V. Wheat Market Outlook

Daily MAY 2018 KS HRW Wheat



Monthly Kansas HRW Wheat eFutures

Wheat Export Situation:

U.S. All Wheat Exports: "*Negative*" short-term Export Shipments with "*Neutral*" **long-term** export prospects in "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 total sales

- Weekly Export Shipments wk of 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 21.6 mb (Negative) vs 29.4 mb /wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 925 mb exports
- Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 748.4 mb i.e., 80.9% of 925 mb USDA projn with 88.5% of MY complete (46/52 weeks)
- Total shipments + new sales thru 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 855.0 mb i.e., 92.4% of 925 mb USDA projn with 88.5% of MY complete (46/52 weeks) (Neutral)

U.S. Hard Red Winter (HRW) Wheat Exports: "*Bearish*" short-term Shipments with "*Neutral*" **long-term** prospects in "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 total sales

- Weekly Export Shipments wk of 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 6.7 mb (Bearish) vs 9.6 mb /wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 370 mb HRW wheat exports
- Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 312.2 mb i.e., 84.3% of 370 mb USDA HRW wheat exports with 88.5% of MY complete (46/52 weeks)
- Total shipments + new sales thru 4/19/2018 for "old crop" MY 2017/18 = 336.5 mb i.e., 91.0% of 370 mb for HRW wheat w. 88.5% of MY complete (46/52 weeks) (Neutral)

"Negative" World & U.S. Wheat S/D Fundamentals

Mktg Yr	World % S/U	World Crop	U.S. % S/U	U.S. $/bu	U.S. Exports
2007/08	20.9% S/U	611.9 mmt	13.2% S/U	$6.48 /bu	1,263 mln bu
2008/09	26.6% S/U	684.0 mmt	28.7% S/U	$6.78 /bu	1,015 mln bu
2009/10	31.4% S/U	687.4 mmt	48.6% S/U	$4.87 /bu	879 mln bu
2010/11	30.5% S/U	649.6 mmt	36.4% S/U	$5.70 /bu	1,291 mln bu
2011/12	28.9% S/U	697.3 mmt	33.4% S/U	$7.24 /bu	1,051 mln bu
2012/13	25.9% S/U	658.7 mmt	29.9% S/U	$7.77 /bu	1,012 mln bu
2013/14	28.2% S/U	715.1 mmt	24.2% S/U	$6.87 /bu	1,176 mln bu
2014/15	31.1% S/U	728.2 mmt	37.3% S/U	$5.99 /bu	864 mln bu
2015/16	34.1% S/U	735.2 mmt	50.0% S/U	$4.89 /bu	778 mln bu
2016/17	34.5% S/U	750.7 mmt	53.2% S/U	$3.89 /bu	1,055 mln bu
2017/18 USDA	**36.5% S/U**	**759.8 mmt**	**52.9% S/U**	**$4.65 /bu**	925 mln bu
2018/19 USDA	--------------	--------------	**46.6% S/U**	**$4.60 /bu**	950 mln bu

Russia's Grain Exports Could Exceed 50 MMT IF Better-Than-Expected Pace of Shipments Continues For The Next 2.5 Months. Apr 18, 10:09 am | AgResource Plus |

Summary: Russian grain exports (wheat, barley and corn) are running at a record pace and are poised to exceed the USDA's projection of 48.02 MMT. In eight-out-of-the-last-nine months, grain exports set new monthly records. Shipments to-date for April suggest that this month's exports will be about 4.8 MMT (nearly double the previous record for April exports – – set a year ago). In order to make the USDA's projection, Russia's 3-Grain exports in the rest of the marketing year (May-Jun) will only need to be 3.12 MMT. That's is 1.5 MMT (32%) **less than** last year's May-Jun exports (which was a record). If shipments continue at a stronger-than-expected pace, total exports could exceed 50 MMT (2 MMT above USDA's latest projection). In their April WASDE, USDA raised their projections for Russia's three top grain exports (wheat, barley, & corn) by 1.2 MMT. While the trade years don't match exactly for all the three crops, we estimate that the USDA's projections imply that Russia will export 48.02 MMT during the Jul-Jun period. That is a record, up 11.8 MMT (32%) from last year's record exports.

WHEAT - HARD RED WINTER **MARKETING YEAR 06/01 - 05/31**

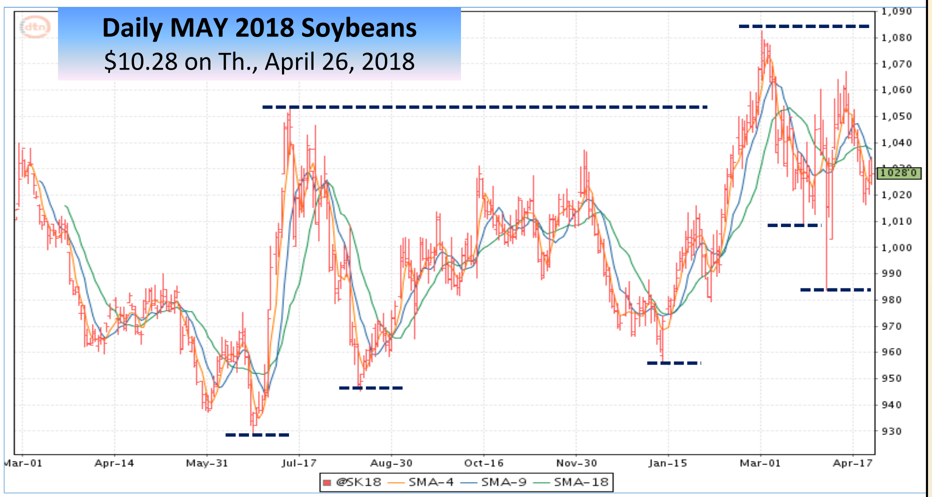
OUTSTANDING EXPORT SALES AND EXPORTS BY COUNTRY, REGION AND MARKETING YEAR

1000 METRIC TONS AS OF APRIL 19, 2018

DESTINATION	CURRENT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: THIS WEEK	OUTSTANDING SALES: YR AGO	ACCUMULATED EXPORTS: THIS WEEK	ACCUMULATED EXPORTS: YR AGO	NEXT MARKETING YEAR: OUTSTANDING SALES: SECOND YR	OUTSTANDING SALES: THIRD YR
JAPAN	**191.5**	**148.5**	**803.6**	**784.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**
TAIWAN	**36.6**	**17.1**	**305.3**	**324.3**	**13.2**	**0.0**
CHINA	0.0	0.0	48.9	276.6	0.0	0.0
OTHER ASIA AND OCEANIA	36.0	321.6	1887.4	991.8	91.1	0.0
BANGLADH	0.0	0.0	105.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
INDNSIA	**0.0**	**70.0**	**516.6**	**470.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**
IRAQ	**0.0**	**0.0**	**620.4**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**
ISRAEL	0.0	0.0	73.9	119.3	0.0	0.0
JORDAN	0.0	0.0	48.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
KOR REP	**36.0**	**30.3**	**231.3**	**207.4**	**62.6**	**0.0**
MALAYSA	0.0	0.0	2.6	9.4	0.0	0.0
PHIL	0.0	0.0	97.9	32.1	3.0	0.0
S ARAB	0.0	180.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
THAILND	**0.0**	**39.3**	**141.1**	**119.6**	**25.5**	**0.0**
VIETNAM	0.0	2.0	49.6	33.4	0.0	0.0
AFRICA	44.0	297.0	1912.7	2592.5	40.0	0.0
ALGERIA	**0.0**	**120.0**	**458.1**	**364.6**	**0.0**	**0.0**
ANGOLA	0.0	0.0	27.5	0.1	0.0	0.0
CONGO DR	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
EGYPT	0.0	0.0	115.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
KENYA	0.0	0.0	41.1	88.0	0.0	0.0
LIBERIA	0.0	0.0	20.6	36.9	0.0	0.0
MOROCCO	**0.0**	**0.0**	**332.0**	**842.5**	**0.0**	**0.0**
MOZAMBQ	0.0	0.0	0.0	45.8	0.0	0.0
NIGERIA	**44.0**	**177.0**	**816.2**	**937.2**	**40.0**	**0.0**
REP SAF	0.0	0.0	82.1	183.3	0.0	0.0
SUDAN	0.0	0.0	0.0	51.4	0.0	0.0
TNZANIA	0.0	0.0	0.0	42.5	0.0	0.0
WESTERN HEMISPHERE	221.8	465.5	3538.7	4917.7	133.6	0.0
BELIZE	0.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0
BRAZIL	0.0	30.0	72.9	1114.0	0.0	0.0
C RICA	7.5	20.8	36.1	29.7	5.3	0.0
CANADA	0.1	0.0	4.9	3.8	0.0	0.0
CHILE	0.0	19.5	125.3	392.5	0.0	0.0
COLOMB	**0.0**	**65.6**	**392.0**	**518.3**	**0.0**	**0.0**
DOM REP	8.1	7.9	127.1	129.4	12.6	0.0
ECUADOR	0.0	0.0	116.4	92.0	0.0	0.0
F W IND	9.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
GUATMAL	**10.1**	**20.8**	**220.4**	**199.9**	**24.5**	**0.0**
GUYANA	0.0	0.0	4.7	4.1	0.0	0.0
HAITI	0.0	0.0	91.7	85.5	0.0	0.0
HONDURA	10.5	11.8	33.9	27.0	4.0	0.0
MEXICO	**130.5**	**263.4**	**1813.6**	**1657.6**	**74.3**	**0.0**
NICARAG	0.0	0.0	0.0	31.7	0.0	0.0
PANAMA	0.0	0.0	30.5	23.9	9.0	0.0
PERU	0.0	0.0	121.9	417.0	0.0	0.0
SALVADR	16.1	18.8	114.0	71.4	2.0	0.0
SURINAM	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	0.0
TRINID	0.0	7.0	21.5	17.3	0.0	0.0
VENEZ	**30.0**	**0.0**	**210.0**	**101.8**	**0.0**	**0.0**
TOTAL KNOWN	**530.0**	**1249.7**	**8496.5**	**9887.6**	**277.8**	**0.0**
TOTAL UNKNOWN	132.5	428.0	0.0	0.0	22.7	0.0
TOTAL KNOWN & UNKNOWN	**662.4**	**1677.7**	**8496.5**	**9887.6**	**300.5**	**0.0**
EXPORTS FOR OWN ACCT	-	-	0.0	0.0	-	-
OPTIONAL ORIGIN	0.0	0.0	-	-	0.0	0.0

VI. Soybean Market Outlook

Daily MAY 2018 Soybean Futures



Monthly Soybean eFutures

Key Soybean Supply-Demand Issues:

- **U.S. Soybean Exports: "*Bearish*" short-term export shipments in "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 and "*neutral-positive*" long-term total sales**
  - Weekly Export Shipments week of 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 16.4 mb *(Bearish)* vs 25.8 mb/wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 2.065 bb exports
  - Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for MY 2017/18 = 1.574 bb i.e., 76.2% of 2.065 bb USDA projn with 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks)
  - Total sales through 4/19/2018 for "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 = 1.999 bb i.e., 96.8% of 2.065 bb USDA projn w. 63.5% of MY complete (33/52 weeks) *(Neutral-Positive)*

- **U.S. Soybean Meal Exports: "*Bullish*" short-term export shipments in "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 and "*Bullish*" long-term total sales**
  - Export Shipments for week of 4/19/2018 for "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 = 268,900 mt (Bullish) vs 208,309 mt/wk needed to meet USDA's April 10th projn of 11.250 mmt exports
  - Total shipments through 4/19/2018 for "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 = 6.549 mmt i.e., 57.75% of 11.340 mmt USDA projn with 55.8% of MY complete (29/52 weeks)
  - Total shipments & new sales (4/19/2018) for "Old Crop" MY 2017/18 = 9.815 mmt i.e., 86.6% of 11.340 mmt USDA projn with 55.8% of MY complete (29/52 wks) (Bullish)

- **World & U.S. Soybean Supply-Demand Fundamentals**

Mktg Yr	World % S/U	World Crop	U.S. % S/U	U.S. $/bu	U.S. Exports
2009/10	25.1% S/U	260.8 mmt	4.5% S/U	$ 9.59 /bu	1.499 bln bu
2010/11	27.7% S/U	264.4 mmt	6.6% S/U	$11.30 /bu	1.505 bln bu
2011/12	20.7% S/U	240.4 mmt	5.4% S/U	$12.50 /bu	1.365 bln bu
2012/13	21.2% S/U	268.5 mmt	4.5% S/U	$14.40 /bu	1.328 bln bu
2013/14	22.6% S/U	282.8 mmt	2.6% S/U	$13.00 /bu	1.638 bln bu
2014/15	25.7% S/U	320.0 mmt	4.9% S/U	$10.10 /bu	1.842 bln bu
2015/16	25.0% S/U	313.8 mmt	5.0% S/U	$ 8.95 /bu	1.942 bln bu
2016/17	29.4% S/U	350.8 mmt	7.2% S/U	$ 9.47 /bu	2.174 bln bu
2017/18 USDA	**26.6% S/U**	**334.8 mmt**	**13.2% S/U**	**$ 9.30 /bu**	2.065 bln bu
2018/19 USDA	-------------	-------------	**11.0% S/U**	**$ 9.40 /bu**	2.325 bln bu

China's Premier Li says open to negotiating trade
U.S. – Reuters 26-Apr-2018 06:44:21 AM

BEIJING, April 26 (Reuters) - China is open to negotiating with the United States on trade ar
countries should manage their conflicts through dialogue, Premier Li Keqiang was quoted as
by state media on Thursday.

Li made the remarks at a meeting with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Elaine Zhao, accord
China Central Television.

(Reporting by Beijing Monitoring Desk; Editing by Nick Macfie)

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US-China trade spat: Trump says 'good chance' of deal –

Daily News (Lebanon) 25-Apr-2018 05:45:03 AM

China and the United States have a good chance of ending their ongoing trade spat, US President D
Trump believes. "*We have a very good chance of making a deal*," Trump said ahead of a press conf
with French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday. He added the US is now in trade talks with th
European Union, and also discussing the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) with Mex
Canada.

The trip to China will be the first for Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, who has been in office sinc
2017. In contrast, his predecessors typically went to China during their first months in the role.

The recent trade dispute has led to a series of tit-for-tat trade barriers being imposed by Washington
Beijing. In April, the US announced 25 percent tariffs on $50 billion in Chinese imports. China respon
similar trade barriers. **If Beijing and Washington fail to reach a deal, American tariffs would take
after a May 15 public hearing.**

The spat intensified last week after Washington banned American firms from selling parts and softwa
Chinese tech company ZTE Corp for seven years. US suppliers provide up to 30 percent of the com
used in ZTE's equipment and the move could disrupt China's plan to build the world's largest 5G net
the end of this decade.

In response, China slapped a 179 percent tariff on **American sorghum imports**. Sorghum is a crop
feed livestock and can be made into a liquor known as maotai, which is popular in China.

Trump has vowed to cut the US trade deficit with China, which stood at $375 billion last year. The pr
this figure is that many of the imported goods are in fact products made for American manufacturers
due to cheaper labor. But when the goods are shipped back to the US, they are considered imports i
balance.