8/25/2025

Futures Price Changes

Corn up 4 (Sept) @ 3.92 Corn up 3 (Dec) @ 4.14

Soybeans up 1 (Nov) @ 10.59 Soybeans unchanged (Jan) @ 10.77

Wheat up 2 (Sept) @ 5.07 Wheat up 3 (Dec) @ 5.30



Perdue Grains Commentary



Good morning. Corn Futures are showing some moderately strong pep this morning, with the December contract currently up 3 1/2 cents to \$4.15. That's an impressive 23-cent bounce off the August 12 low of \$3.92. That was USDA report day and I have to admit that after seeing their yield of 188.8, I wouldn't have projected that kind of bounce over the next 13 days. I, like many others, did think that would be the highest yield we'd see this year and nothing has happened with the weather to steer me away from that thought. The Pro Farmer Tour found some issues to be concerned with but they also found

better overall potential than a year ago. So, I think it's pretty safe to say that the final yield will end up somewhere between the final 2024 yield of 179.3 and 188.8. Halfway in between would be 184, which is at the bottom of my narrow range. The top is 186.4 but in order for that one to come to fruition, the disease pressure needs to be less than a year ago. That might happen here in the eastern Belt but it could be worse out west, particularly in Iowa. The next two weeks will be cooler-than-normal across the entire Belt, which could be just what the doctor ordered.

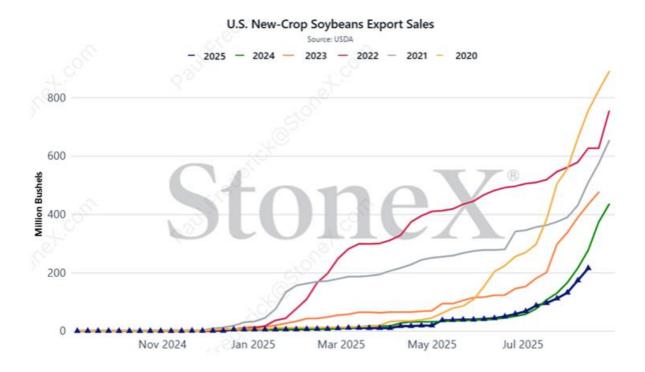
A year ago, the December futures contract bottomed at \$3.85, before bouncing to \$4.34 on October 2. I'm not sure whether we can match that 49-cent bounce this time around, given the 1.9 million-acre increase. Unlike the yield a year ago, those acres won't be going away. I do believe there's potentially more price improvement ahead but when looking back at last year's pattern, it should be noted that futures eventually fell back to \$3.99 on October 17. At the very least, we're going to be hit with a wall

of corn in a month and there could be an extra billion bushels that needs to find a home this coming fall. Exports have been sensational but we will at some point need to deal with a record South American crop that could be getting bigger.



Soybean futures are trying to follow the lead of corn this morning, with the November contract currently up a half-cent to \$10.59. As with corn, we've seen a very respectable bounce off the summer low of \$9.81 1/4. The ongoing positive impact of bio-diesel has combined with a 2.4 million reduction in harvested acreage, which has drastically altered the ending carryout projection. Many are suggesting that the USDA's current yield projecting of 53.6 bu/ac is the highest we'll see and given the dry finish here in the eastern Belt, they could be right. I'm not quite there yet and the sharp increase in pod counts

found by the Tour would back that up. I think it's safe to say that we're going to finish out this growing season better than we did a year ago, with the biggest exception being southern Illinois. That's no small matter however, and it could be enough to keep the final yield number under 54.0. A good portion of last year's yield collapse was the huge number of beans harvested under 9% moisture and I have to think we won't see a repeat of that. With China still missing from the export market, we have to reward this rally with some additional sales.





Wheat futures are following along nicely with corn this morning, with the September contact currently up 3 1/4 cents to \$5.08. The only comfortable prediction I have at this point with wheat is that it won't go far in the coming weeks without some help from corn. And given that the corn rally will likely stall out as we get into harvest, I don't see a lot of potential for wheat in the coming weeks.



The equity markets got excited in a big way on Friday and it was all due to some supportive words from Fed Chairman Powell. He wasn't overly blatant about it but it does appear likely that the Fed will be cutting its benchmark rate next month. The biggest question now is whether it will be by a quarter or half point. The latter would spark concerns of inflation re-igniting, so I'm leaning toward the 1/4-point cut. Some of that decision could rest on where the labor numbers come in on September 5.



Energy futures are mostly quiet this morning, which has become more of the norm than not. There simply isn't much out there at the current time to get either the bears or bulls excited. If I had to lean one way or the other, I'd lean toward a retest of the spring lows (\$57 crude).



The national radar map is mostly quiet again this morning, with the only exception being a cluster of showers in southern Kansas. That's not an insignificant event for that state, which still has the potential to take out its existing corn and soybean yield records. Kansas is a state that often gets overlooked for its impact on the national corn yield. Their 2025 planted acreage number of 6.75 million acres is bigger than both South Dakota and Indiana. The seven-day projected precipitation map is keeping the majority of the Belt on the dry side, while the extended maps are

keeping temperatures well-below normal for the majority of the country.

That's all for this morning. I hope your day and weekend go exceptionally well.

John

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