

THE BROCK REPORT

America's Most Complete Commodity Marketing Service

TIME TO SHIFT GEARS

It has been a very interesting week. I spent most of it in western New York touring cropland. I was there to give a speech at the annual meeting sponsored by Western New York Energy, a very successful ethanol plant. I've been on their program now for 15 years. This one was different.

Why? I don't believe I can ever remember seeing a corn crop that is in worse shape than from Lake Ontario to over 100 miles south and 100-150 miles to the east. That is a fairly wide area. Their spring was cold and wet, which delayed planting and then for the next month they only received a quarter of an inch of rain. Corn was yellow. Many stalks didn't have ears on them. It is doubtful that many producers will have 50% of a normal crop. Some of the corn that was planted to be shelled and not put up as silage is going to be chopped anyway. The producers in that area have my sympathy, hope and prayers. It is truly going to be a financial challenge for many people. Crop insurance companies will be writing some big checks in that area.

Looking at the corn crop as a whole, western New York is not a major player. As big as New York State is, even on a good year, their corn production doesn't rank in the top 18 states in the United States. Obviously, it's very important for the producers who are there but, outside of that area, the impact overall on prices will be marginal.

Locally, the current corn basis is already 65 over the board and they are not buying any corn. Ethanol plants and poultry companies all need corn. Corn is currently being railed in from

western Illinois already. This will change once harvest gets underway. There is no question that New York is going to be a corn deficit area but Pennsylvania, just to the south, has an excellent crop coming on and for the first time in many years, Pennsylvania will likely become a corn exporter. To the north, Ontario also has a good crop coming on, which will relieve some of the pressure, and buyers of corn may not have to be railing corn in from western Illinois. Basis levels will soften but will still be positive, in my estimate, at least through year end and probably through the first quarter of 2026.

Producers will also be tight holders of corn at harvest. Bins will be packed full and storage bags in big demand.

In the case of soybeans, price swings are going to be large. Just look at a chart in November beans. Since March, the zigs and the zags have been tremendous, many significant moves and many times in opposite directions where the market was a month earlier. This is not a market we prefer to participate in on the futures side in the near term. We exited short hedges the day of the report. The market has been favorable to us all year. Let's not try to squeeze too much blood out of this turnip.

TREND REVERSAL

But the big news of the last two weeks has been the sharp price rally in both soybeans and corn. Wheat also had a key reversal up on Wednesday. All the grain markets technically have made bottoms. A far different story than what we were having to deal with prior to the release of the August crop report.

CROP OUTLOOK

Reports from this week's Pro Farmer crop tour confirmed that a very large crop, or at least the potential for a very large one, is in Midwest fields. But whether it can match the lofty estimates set by USDA last week remains in doubt.

Crops in Iowa and Minnesota, in particular, look very strong, with crop tour scouts reporting record tour yields for corn, and record soybean pod counts, in both states. Crops to the east, in Illinois and Indiana, were not as impressive, overall.

Our own view is one of skepticism in USDA's estimates, particularly the 188.8 bushel-per-acre national corn yield. This is no doubt a strong crop, but to get a national yield that high requires excellence across the board. Clients in Illinois, in particular, are telling us the crop doesn't meet that standard.

This doesn't mean the crop is shaping up to be a disappointment, only that our bias from here is that any further USDA crop revisions will be to the downside. If that's the case, further downside in prices should be limited.



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"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you."

-B.B.King

TIME TO SHIFT GEARS ...(continued)

Consider the following:

1. Following the August crop report there was a significant downward price move in corn that day. But since then, there has been absolutely no follow-through to the downside, thus giving a strong indication that the bearish news of this report is built into the market.

2. Soybean futures gave an immediate buy signal the day of the August crop report and have since rallied nearly 70 cents per bushel.

3. Export sales of corn have been strong, as you can see on page 7 and below. The laws of economics have not been repealed. Cheap corn prices bring on more buying. Export demand is picking up rapidly and bookings would seem to indicate it is stronger than what has been built into the balance sheet by USDA. The August crop report will likely be the most bearish balance sheet we're going to see for the coming marketing year. Usage numbers are going up and supply numbers are likely to go down for corn.

4. As shown below the trend in the dollar is down, making all Ag exports even more competitive.

5. The Pro Farmer crop tour did confirm strong corn yields but, while a final estimate is not in as of this writing, it is likely to come in lower than what USDA predicted in the August crop report.

In Summary: Markets bottom on bearish news. As of right now, this appears to be a classic case. Attitudes are negative. Seasonality's are pointing to a bottom in August. The news came in more bearish than anyone expected. This is exactly what the market needed to turn around.

How high can this market go? On Thursday, November soybeans broke out of a triangle consolidation area. If this consolidation area is halfway up from the lows established on August 6, the upside objective is \$10.95. That's

approximately another 40 cents higher than where the market closed on Thursday.

In March corn futures, the same pattern does not exist. But after rallying through resistance on Thursday, the next resistance area is \$4.40, and prices should have the momentum to go to \$4.50 on this move. Considering the situation after the release of the crop report when March futures were at \$4.10, this is a big relief.

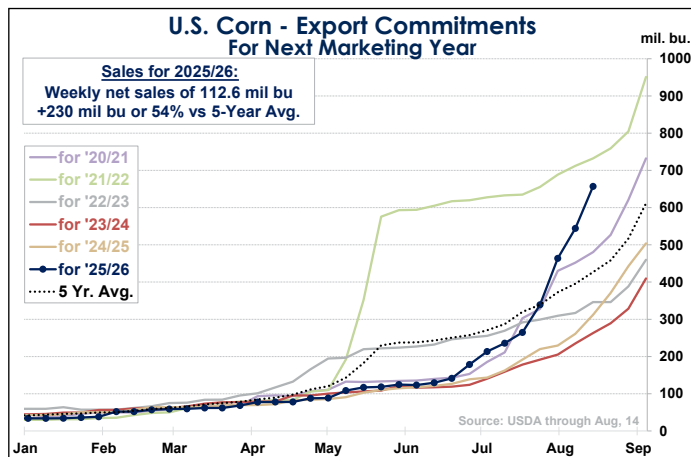
STRATEGIES

We were very fortunate. The day of the crop report we advised lifting all short soybean hedges and since then, the market has rallied sharply. On Thursday, we lifted our 10% March corn hedge. We still have the option strategies on in corn that we may lighten up or take off soon. It's difficult to walk away from a corn option strategy that has an established floor of approximately \$4.70. But we may very soon either lift the hedge, or put on a strategy against it, to protect the profits that we have. All told, this is looking like a much better financial situation than what the market was facing four weeks ago.

Even in the wheat market, which has been the dog of the grains complex all along, futures prices on Wednesday established a key reversal up and then closed slightly higher on Thursday. As we said two weeks ago, wheat prices look like a market ready to make a bottom. Now we believe that it has been confirmed.

Once again, these are markets in which one needed to move quickly. As we've stated many times, as Mark Twain said, "If you have to swallow a frog, don't look at it very long." This has been a frog-swallowing week.

This has also been a week where livestock feeders and buyers of corn and soybean meal need to pick it up. Prices are cheap still and feed buyers need to be more aggressive. More on that later.



COMMENTARY

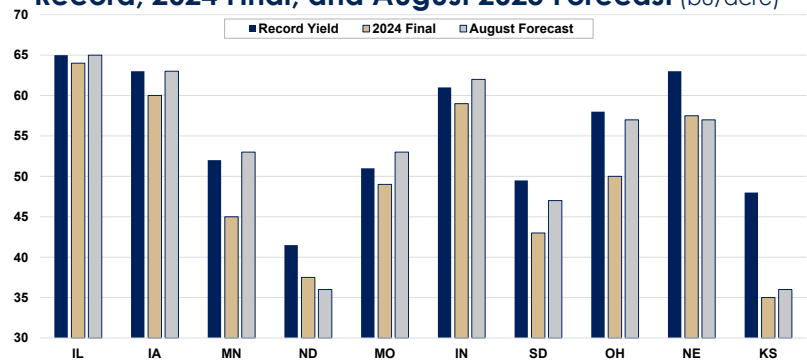
USDA's Aug. 12 Crop Report pegged the U.S. soybean yield at 53.6 bushels per acre, which would be a record high, surpassing the 2016 level of 51.9 bushels. The August yield estimate was 1.1 bushels above USDA's July trend-line forecast. However, that negative news was more than offset by the surprising drop of 2.431 million acres, or nearly 3%, in harvested soybean area versus what was estimated in USDA's June 30 Crop Acreage report. As a result, USDA lowered its 2025 U.S. crop forecast from July by 43 million bushels. Harvested soybean acres are now expected to be down 5.946 million, or 6.9% from 2024.

Looking at soybean yields by state, 10 of the 18 states that USDA reports on in its weekly Crop Progress report are projected to match or exceed their previous record high average yields, led by five of the six states with the largest harvested area - Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota and Missouri. However, estimated harvested area declined versus the June estimates in Illinois, Iowa and Missouri by a combined total of 500,000 acres. Overall, harvested acres were lowered from June in 13 of the top 18 states producing states. Michigan was the only one of those states where acreage was higher in August than in June.

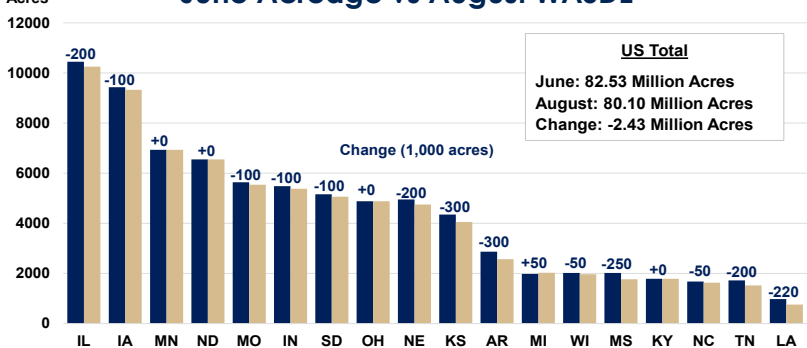
Reports of high soybean pod counts from this week's Midwest crop tour support the potential for a record U.S. yield. Of course, whether that potential is realized will still depend heavily on weather conditions during late August and September when much of the crop will be filling pods. The lower acreage estimate has boosted market anxiety about yield reductions. History does suggest USDA's yield and crop forecasts could fall at least slightly from the August level, although the historical tendency for the soybean yield estimate to decline is not as strong as it is for the corn yield. Since 2000, USDA has raised its U.S. soybean yield estimate 10 times in August and in seven of those years, the final yield wound up below the August forecast by anywhere from 0.2% to 6.4%, with the declines averaging 3.6%. The other three times, in 2014, 2015 and 2016, the final yield came in higher than the August estimate by 2.4%, 4.6% and 6.1%, respectively.

An average yield drop from August of 3.6% would mean a final yield of only 51.7 bushels, 1.0 bushel above last year and a crop of just 4.141 billion bushels, down 151 million from USDA's current estimate, which would mean very tight soybean supplies. A modest yield increase of 2.4% would mean a final yield of 54.9 bushels and a crop of 4.398 billion bushels, 106 million above USDA's current estimate. Using regression analysis, an index of U.S. crop conditions, based on USDA's August 17 crop ratings implies a big U.S. average yield 5% above the 20-year linear trend of 52.7 bushels. That would put the U.S. yield at 55.35 bushels per acre, but the correlation between the crop ratings and final soybean yields is not very strong.

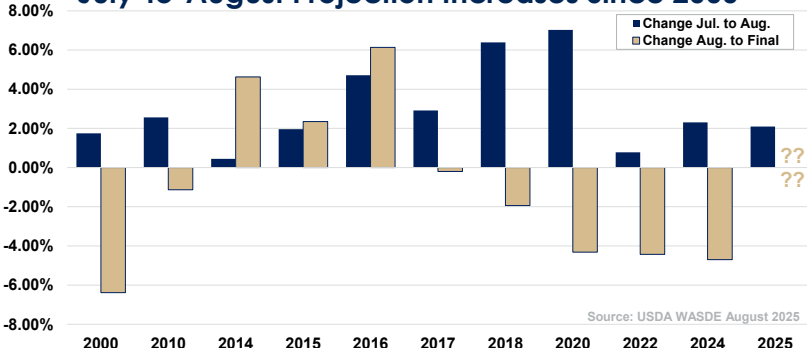
Soybean Yield Comparison Top Acreage States: Record, 2024 Final, and August 2025 Forecast (bu/acre)



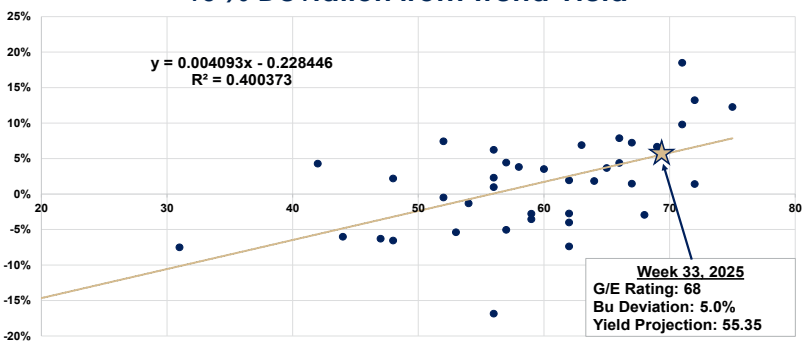
2025 Expected Soybean Harvested Acres June Acreage vs August WASDE



Soybean Yield Deviation in Years with July-to-August Projection Increases Since 2000



Soybean Crop Conditions Week 33 vs % Deviation from Trend Yield



BRAZIL SOY MORATORIUM PROBE

In a ruling handed down on Monday, Brazil's economic competition watchdog gave grain exporters 10 days to shut down the country's "soy moratorium" or face big fines, saying it represents a potential breach of the country's competition law. The general superintendent of Brazil's Administrative Council for Economic Defense (CADE) called for a full investigation of associations and companies that belong to the Soy Working group, signers of the moratorium.

The two-decade-old soy moratorium is a voluntary private pact between grain traders in which they agreed not to buy soybeans grown on land in the Amazon region that was cleared after July 2008 in an effort to reduce deforestation. Signers include Brazilian oilseed processors association ABIOVE, grain exporters association ANEC and international trading giants ADM, Bunge and Cargill.

The CADE ruling was applauded by farm groups, which have been seeking an end to the moratorium. Farmer group Aprosoja Mato Grosso called the ruling "historic." "For years, a private agreement without legal support has been imposing unfair trade barriers on farmers... preventing the sale of crops grown in regular and licensed areas," it said in a statement. However, ANEC called CADE's stance on the moratorium "extremely worrisome" and said it will be appealed. The program should stand as it is "a multi-sector pact" backed by civil society, the environment ministry and Brazil's environment agency Ibama, ANEC added in a statement.

ARGENTINE SOYMEAL DIVERTED

The first-ever cargo of Argentine soymeal destined for China has apparently been diverted to another destination. An initial report from Bloomberg News said the cargo had been diverted due to concerns it would not meet Chinese quality standards. However, Bunge, which shipped the meal, later told Reuters the cargo had been diverted for "commercial reasons." Gustavo Idigoras, the president of Argentina's CIARA-CEC grains exporting and crushing chamber, told Reuters the diverted shipment was now destined for Vietnam.

CHINA BUYS AUSTRALIAN CANOLA

China's state-run trading firm COFCO has booked a cargo of about 50,000 metric tons of new-crop Australian canola, two traders told Reuters, just days after Beijing imposed temporary anti-dumping duties on top supplier Canada. This would represent China's first purchase of Australian canola since 2020, when it implemented phytosanitary restrictions on imports to prevent spread of the blackleg fungal disease. COFCO has purchased the cargo for November-December shipment and is negotiating for more deals, according to the two sources with direct knowledge of the deal.

In a related development, Scott Moe, premier of Canada's major grain-growing province of Saskatchewan, said on Thursday he will travel to China soon for talks to persuade Beijing to drop the new tariffs on Canadian canola. China hit Canadian canola seed imports with preliminary 75.8% anti-dumping duties last week, escalating a year-long trade dispute that began when Canada levied 100% anti-dumping duties on imports of electric vehicles from China.

RUSSIAN EXPORTS STILL LAGGING

Russia's new-crop wheat exports continue to lag expectations, despite rising estimates of the country's 2025 production. Exports have been limited by a number of factors, including a late start to harvest, crop losses in the country's Southern Region, slow farmer selling and new security restrictions on ships entering Russian ports. Moscow-based analyst SovEcon estimates Russia's August wheat exports will total 3.8 million metric tons (MMT) down from August 2024 exports of 5.7 MMT.

SovEcon this week raised its estimate of Russia's 2025 wheat crop to 85.4 MMT, 1.9 MMT above USDA's current estimate, citing strong yields in Siberia and the Urals. However, the firm warned grain from those inland regions would take time to reach ports "complicating Russia's export program over the next few months." Production in Russia's Southern Region, which is much nearer to Black and Sea of Azov ports is down due to dry weather. Meanwhile, new security measures are slowing the flow of vessels through Russian ports. Foreign vessels require permission from port authorities and Russia's FSB security service to enter the country's ports, according to a July decree by President Vladimir Putin.

Reuters reported on Tuesday that exports from the Black Sea port of Kavkaz, which shipped about 25% of Russia's seaborne exports last year, have been significantly hampered. Since the start of August, around 350,000 tons of grain have been shipped through Kavkaz, one source told Reuters. Last August, shipments totaled 1.492 MMT. At the start of last week, more than 120 ships were waiting to pass through the port, and freight rates for coastal vessels were rising, another source said, adding that terminals were overflowing with grain and had effectively stopped accepting more. Russia's July seaborne grain exports were down 40.6% versus a year earlier.

WORLD WEATHER HOTSPOTS

Mild temperatures over the next week along with adequate to favorable subsoil moisture should support favorable conditions for crop development and very high yield potentials across most of the U.S. Midwest while the region dries down. Yield declines are likely in areas from southeastern Missouri to southern Illinois and western Kentucky, where soil moisture is already short. The dryness will primarily hurt soybeans as most corn is too far advanced to suffer much yield loss.

A large section of Europe dried down further over the past week. Rainfall will be welcome where it occurs through the latter part of next week but will generally be too light to fix dryness in southeastern Europe, France, and neighboring locations. Coarse grains and oilseeds will likely continue to develop unevenly or poorly in the driest fields. FranceAgriMer rated corn conditions in France 62% good/excellent as of Aug. 18, down from 65% a week earlier, and 76% last year.

Mexico's summer crop output should vary greatly but will be much improved over 2024 when drought gripped the nation. June was one of the wettest months in many years in southern and eastern Mexico. Another short-term bout of improved rainfall is expected next week that may extend into early September, which will be important with La Niña favored to return this fall, possibly limiting precipitation.

JOB CUTS AT DEERE AS INDUSTRY EQUIPMENT SALES SLUMP

Days after cutting its 2025 profit outlook amid a weak farm economy and pressure from tariffs, Deere & Co. announced it would be laying off more than 200 employees and Midwest manufacturing facilities.

The company said it would lay off 71 employees in Waterloo, Iowa this month, and 167 at two facilities in the Moline, Ill. area due to soft demand and lower order volumes. "This is a challenging time for many farmers, growers and producers, and directly impacts our business in the near term," the company said in a statement.

U.S. equipment manufacturers are facing increased costs due to tariffs, while low grain prices are driving sales down. Deere is not alone: The Association of Equipment Manufacturers this week said that sales of all tractors were down 4.9% in July, and down 9.9% for the year. While sales of tractors with between 40 and 100 horsepower are up, all other categories are weaker. Tractors with horsepower of more than 100 were down 29.3% in July, while four-wheel drive tractors were down 40.2%. And combine sales were down 43.7% in July.

FAKE MEAT BUSINESS FACES REAL PROBLEMS, LOOKS TO PIVOT

The plant-based "meat" industry is looking a lot like a fad these days, and one of the leaders in this space is fighting off rumors that it is poised to declare bankruptcy. Beyond Meat, the only publicly traded faux meat company, denied a report in the past week that it was filing for bankruptcy, but analysts say the company's future is still murky.

Beyond Meat, founded in 2009 and publicly traded since its 2019 IPO, after which its market cap topped \$10 billion, is now worth less than \$200 million. Meanwhile, rival Impossible Foods, a private company that has the backing of Bill Gates, told the Wall Street Journal that profitability is still years away.

Faux meat enjoyed a surge in popularity amid the pandemic, as many restaurants, including chains such as Burger King, added it to their menu. But plant-based meat retail sales were down 7% in 2024 according to the Good Food Institute. And while historically tight cattle supplies and record-high beef prices might seem like an opportunity to win back market share, various estimates have faux meat costing anywhere from 50% to 80% more than the real thing.

Beyond Meat and Impossible Foods appear to be taking very different strategies from here. Impossible CEO Peter McGuinness told the Journal that the industry has not marketed itself well, offending meat-eaters by treating them

like "Neanderthals." And he suggested the company might actually try blending beef into their burgers.

Beyond Meat, meanwhile, is rebranding as just "Beyond," and is de-emphasizing its resemblance to meat. CEO Ethan Brown has said the company, which largely relies on fava beans as a base, will focus less on meat and more on "protein."

FAVORABLE WEATHER, BUT STILL SOME UNCERTAINTY ON CROPS

August dryness in the Midwest is starting to get more attention, particularly for its potential impact on soybeans. But with subsoil moisture good in most of the region and temperatures becoming cooler through the end of the month, crop stress should be limited, World Weather Inc. says. Meanwhile, the extended forecast from NOAA out on Thursday points to a smooth harvest season.

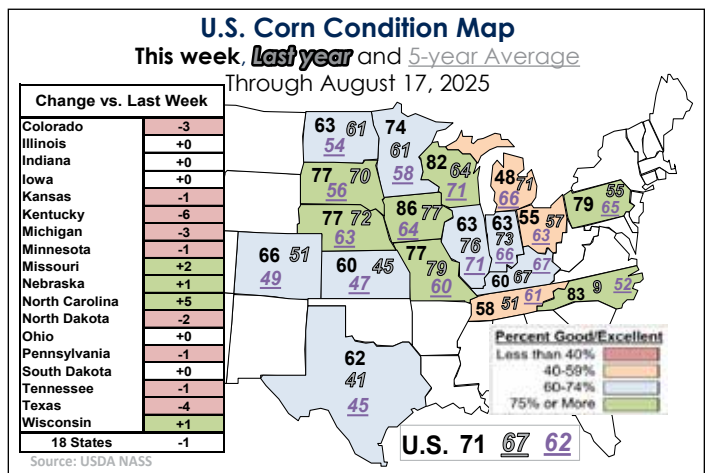
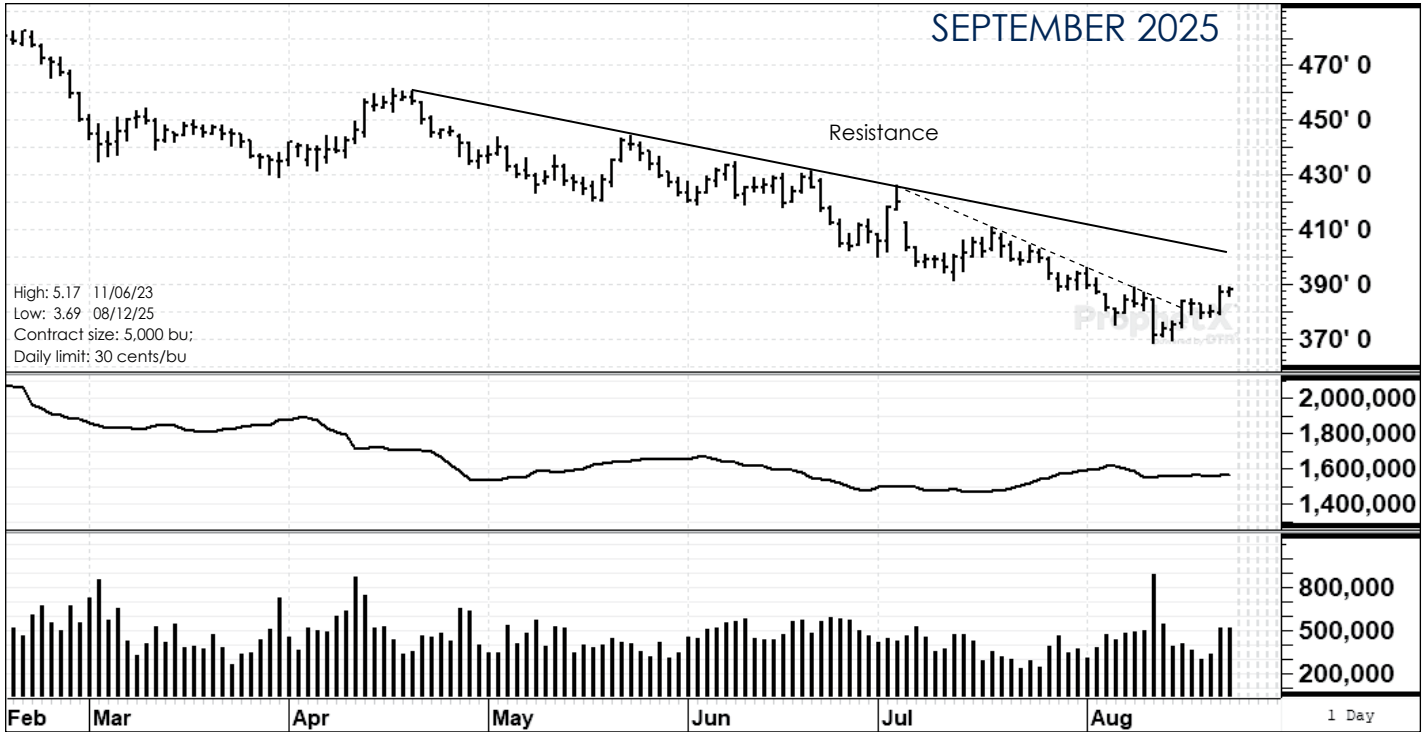
Cold air is creeping down from Canada and is expected to last through Aug. 31 according to NOAA's extended outlook. The main area of concern right now is the lower Midwest, with crop stress expected to rise from southeast Missouri through southern Illinois and into western Kentucky according to World Weather. The latest weekly U.S. Drought Monitor out Thursday showed 21.2% of the Midwest as being "abnormally dry" or worse, which is still a modest percentage overall, but up from 15.6% the prior week. And the biggest area of dryness is across the aforementioned areas of the lower Midwest.

Late on Friday, Pro Farmer issued crop estimates following its annual crop tour. The tour itself doesn't include states such as Kentucky, Wisconsin and North Dakota, but it does play a big role in informing the estimates. For corn, Pro Farmer's crop estimate of 16.204 billion bushels on a yield of 182.7 bushels per acre was well below USDA's estimate last week of 16.742 billion on 188.8 bushels/acre. The soybean estimate was also lower than USDA, but less significantly. It sees the soybean crop at 4.246 billion bushels on a yield of 53.0 bushels per acre, versus USDA's estimates of 4.292 and 53.6.



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CORN



COMMENTARY

Fortunately, the laws of economics have not been repealed. Keep any commodity price low enough for long enough and someone will find a way to use more of it. Corn is a prime example. Export bookings we believe are increasing more rapidly than are being reported. As of now, we're sticking with our estimate of 2.875 billion bushels but, in reality, we believe that number is low. It could well exceed 3.0 billion. The expected carryover supply on the balance sheet right now that we have at 2.239 billion is too high. These are the most bearish numbers we will likely see this year.

Markets bottom on bearish news. After one day down on the bearish USDA crop report last week, the market has kept working higher. This is a classic bottom. It does not necessarily mean that prices are going to skyrocket any time soon, but the lows have likely been established. Could very well go into a base-building phase as of now. But with the way soybeans are acting, prices will likely continue to rally near-term. The December 2025 - July 2026 corn spread also appears to be making a bottom. Look for the spreads to narrow.

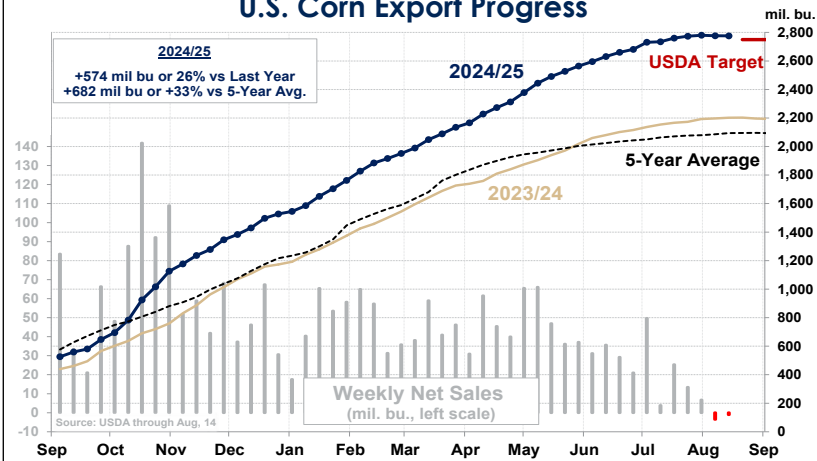
The first resistance on a bar chart in March corn futures is at \$4.40. If any crop delays occur, that will be the target.

With the exception of the eastern Corn Belt, storage is going to be tight. At this price level, producers will move the majority of new-crop corn in the storage rather than sell it. Only sell what you have to.

Cash-only marketers' strategy: We have not made a sales recommendation for quite some time and don't plan on doing one any time soon. Going into this bear market a couple of months ago, everyone was 35% contracted. Continue to sit at that level.

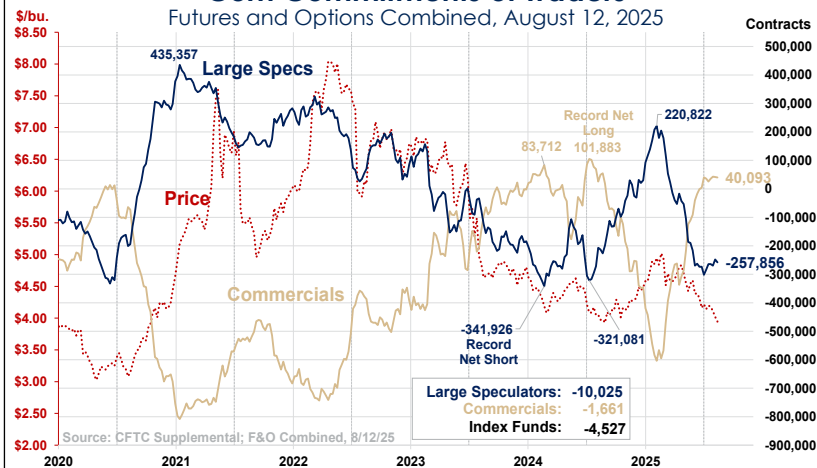
Hedgers' strategy: Thirty percent has been cash contracted long ago. In the futures, we lifted short March futures this week covering 10% of the crop. Ten percent is covered with a December option strategy of long December \$4.70 puts/short (2) December \$5.40 calls establishing a floor of approximately \$4.70. The other option strategy is also a 10% in the July contract. Long July \$4.70 puts/short (2) July 2026 \$5.40 calls, also establishing a floor of approximately \$4.70. We may very soon put a protective option strategy on just to lock in the profits on that hedge. As of right now, to have a floor of \$4.70 on 20% of the crop is a comfortable place to be.

U.S. Corn Export Progress



Corn Commitments of Traders

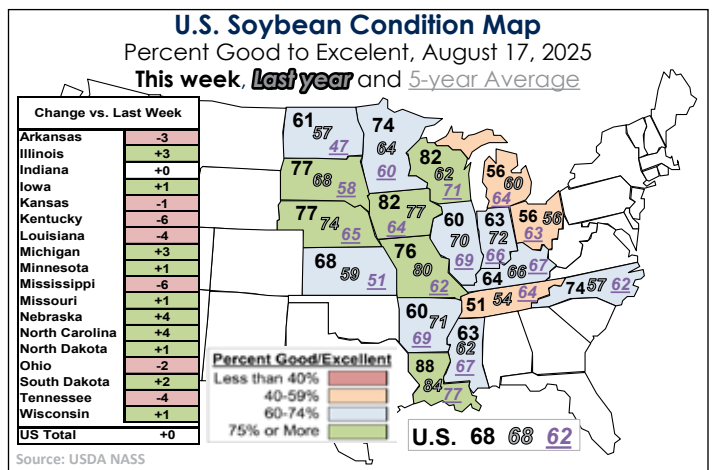
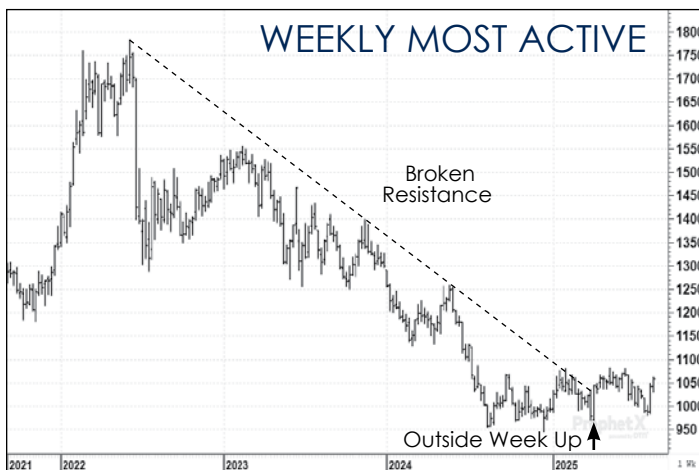
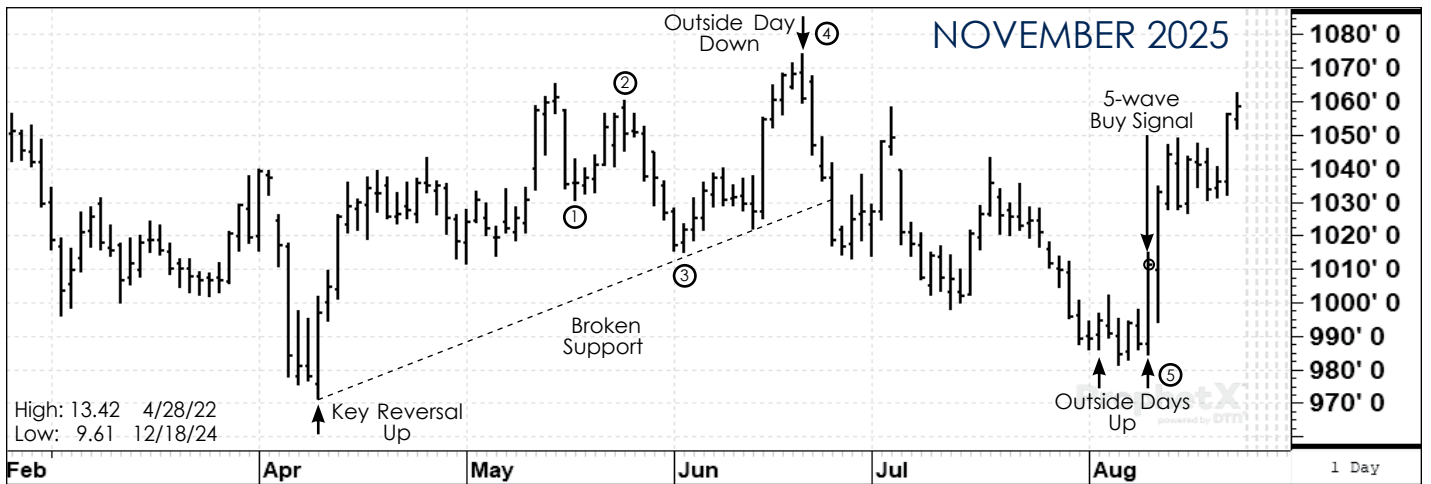
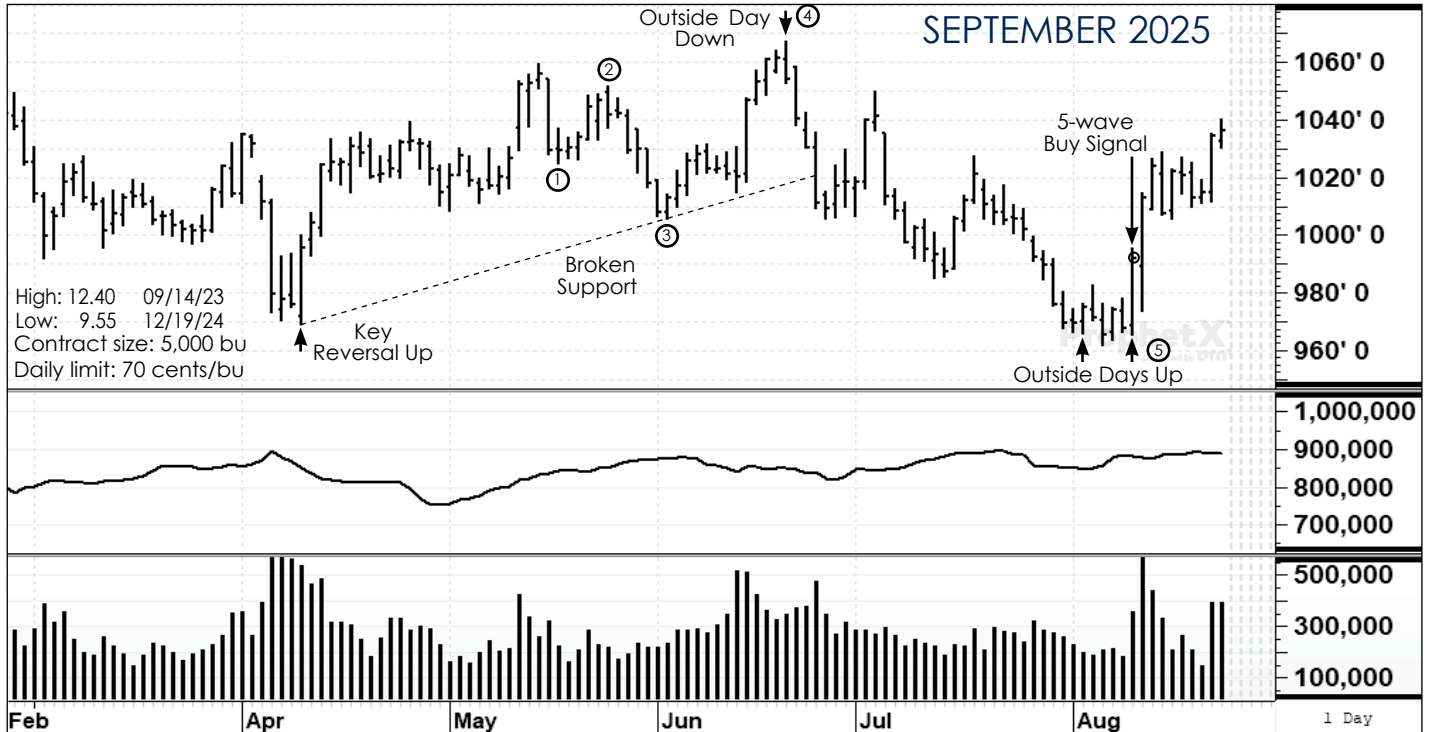
Futures and Options Combined, August 12, 2025



U.S. SUPPLY & DEMAND

	USDA		Brock	
Marketing year begins Sept 1	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
ACREAGE (mil acres)				
Planted Area	90.6	97.3	90.6	97.3
Harvested Area	82.9	88.7	82.9	88.7
Yield	179.3	188.8	179.3	189.0
SUPPLY (mil bu)				
Beg. Stocks	1,763	1,305	1,763	1,305
Production	14,867	16,742	14,867	16,764
Imports	25	25	25	25
Total Supply	16,655	18,072	16,655	18,094
USAGE (mil bu)				
Feed & Residual	5,675	6,100	5,675	6,000
Food/Seed/Ind	6,855	6,980	6,855	6,980
Ethanol & By-Products	5,470	5,600	5,470	5,600
Domestic use	12,530	13,080	12,530	12,980
Exports	2,820	2,875	2,750	2,875
Total use	15,350	15,955	15,280	15,855
ENDING STOCKS (Aug 31)				
Stocks/use	8.5%	13.3%	9.0%	14.1%
Farm Price (\$/bu)	\$4.30	\$3.90	\$4.10-4.30	\$3.80-4.20

SOYBEANS



COMMENTARY

It's now possible to get a reasonable upside objective, as on Thursday, soybean futures broke out of a bull pennant. The top of the pennant is \$10.49 and the bottom is \$10.20. Add those two numbers together and subtract \$9.81, which was the low on August 7, and the upside objective is \$10.95. Sounds ridiculously high at this point but the fundamentals have changed enough that we believe that objective is reasonable. That will be the target for anyone who needs to make catch-up sales or cannot store everything at harvest time to start making sales.

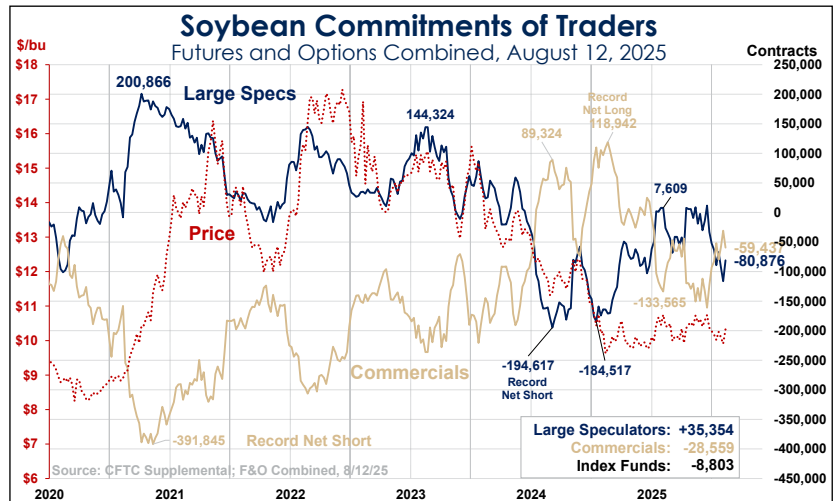
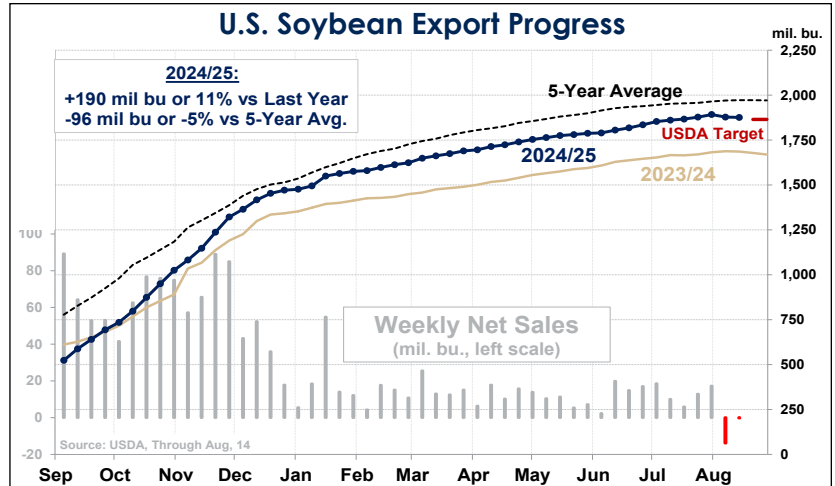
The other occurrence this week was a dramatic shift in the November 2025 soybean futures and July 2026 soybean futures relationship. Two weeks ago the spread bottomed out at -61 cents and it's now rallied back to only a 49-cent difference. This spread is going to continue to narrow.

The fundamental news has been mostly bearish. It's going to start turning more bullish. Yields will not likely be as high as forecast in the last USDA crop report, where they estimated the national average at 53.6. Knock that down to 52.5 bushels per acre, increase the export number and, all of a sudden, the carryover drops to well under 300 million bushels and the expected average price will move up near \$11.00. This market is still below that level.

Soybean meal futures have also rallied sharply over the last three weeks and are going to continue to move higher. In the soybean oil market, prices exploded to the upside on Thursday after attempting to fill the gap left in the charts on June 16. Soybean oil futures will now likely challenge the contract highs in the December contract at 57 cents.

Cash only marketers' strategy: Thirty percent of the production was contracted months ago. We haven't made a sale in the last few months. Do not be anxious. Use \$10.95 in the November futures as a target for catch-up sales or to sell any soybeans that you don't have storage for.

Hedgers' strategy: Same cash advice as above. Fortunately, we took off all short soybean hedges a week and a half ago just as the explosion to the upside started. Stand on the sidelines.



U.S. SUPPLY & DEMAND

	USDA		Brock	
Marketing year begins Sept 1	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
ACREAGE (mil acres)				
Planted Acres	87.1	80.9	87.1	81.0
Harvested Acres	86.1	80.1	86.1	80.2
Yield	50.7	53.6	50.7	54.0
SUPPLY (mil bu)				
Beg. Stocks	342	330	342	328
Production	4,366	4,292	4,365	4,331
Imports	25	20	25	25
Total Supply	4,734	4,642	4,732	4,684
USAGE (mil bu)				
Crush	2,430	2,540	2,430	2,520
Exports	1,875	1,705	1,875	1,750
Seed	70	73	70	73
Residual	29	34	29	34
Total Use	4,404	4,352	4,404	4,377
ENDING STOCKS (Aug 31)				
Stocks/Use	330	290	328	307
Farm Price (\$/Bu)	7.5%	6.7%	7.5%	7.0%
	\$10.00	\$10.10	\$10.00-10.75	\$10.00-10.75

EPA MOVE ON ETHANOL HARDSHIP WAIVERS MET WITH RELIEF, OPTIMISM

The EPA on Friday cleared a backlog of 175 requests from small oil refineries asking to be excused from blending ethanol and other biofuels into gasoline and diesel under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS). The “Small Refinery Exemptions” (SREs) date back as far as 2016, and have been hanging over the ethanol industry and the corn market throughout this year.

EPA said it was granting 63 full exemptions and 77 partial exemptions, while denying 28, and ruling 7 ineligible. The news did not have much of a market impact on corn on Friday, although it appears to be at least slightly bearish in the short-term.

EPA said it will continue granting partial exemptions when a refinery shows “partial hardship,” rather than denying them outright. The agency also clarified how it will handle RINs, the credits used to demonstrate compliance with the RFS. It said older credits can’t be used to meet future fuel-blending requirements. This is a win for corn growers and the ethanol industry, as it protects future demand. Just as importantly, the announcement today appears to provide some certainty for the industry going forward.

That this overall is a positive for the industry was clear by the Renewable Fuels Association’s response today. While the industry objects to the existence of waivers at all, it said that how the EPA is handling them “should not disrupt the marketplace or reduce actual renewable fuel consumption.” A huge increase in RFS “hardship” waivers during President Trump’s first term was blamed for costing ethanol producers billions of gallons in demand.

Said RFA CEO Geoff Cooper: “We appreciate that EPA is focused on an approach that maintains stability in the marketplace and ensures finalized annual volumes under the RFS are maintained.”

FRUSTRATION OVER TARIFFS GROWS FOR CORN, SOYBEAN PRODUCERS

U.S. farm groups are becoming a little more vocal in their dissatisfaction with President Trump’s trade policies as low crop prices drive a gloomy profit outlook. This week the head of the American Soybean Association sent a letter to Trump and administration officials urging an end to the trade war with China in particular.

Caleb Ragland, head of the association and a Kentucky farmer, noted that U.S. soybeans currently face a tariff 20%

higher than what is faced by Brazilian soybeans, putting U.S. farmers at an “untimely competitive disadvantage.” China has still not made any new-crop soybean purchases. “The further into the autumn we get without reaching an agreement with China on soybeans, the worse the impacts will be on U.S. soybean farmers,” Ragland said. “Soybean farmers are under extreme financial stress.”

Although corn growers aren’t nearly as dependent on China and, in fact, recent exports have been strong overall, they are also starting to speak up. Politico recently reported that the National Corn Growers and 25 state corn grower groups recently sent a letter to various administration officials.

The issue for corn growers is not the tariffs being slapped on their crop, but on the tariffs being slapped on their inputs. “Unfortunately, the combination of the low corn prices, trade uncertainty, and consistently high costs for fertilizers and inputs, including relevant countervailing duties, have resulted in a calamitous environment for farmers who are trying to plan for harvest and next season,” the groups wrote in a letter. Along with fertilizers, other inputs such as insecticides and herbicides are also being hit with new tariffs.

ADMINISTRATION SAYS NO MORE HELP FOR SOLAR ON FARMS

USDA will no longer provide any taxpayer support for solar and wind energy projects on productive farmland, Secretary Brooke Rollins announced this week. “Our prime farmland should not be wasted and replaced with green new deal subsidized solar panels,” she said, saying it is “disheartening” to see farmland displaced by solar projects in rural areas with a strong ag heritage.

“One of the largest barriers of entry for new and young farmers is access to land,” Rollins added. “Subsidized solar farms have made it more difficult for farmers to access farmland by making it more expensive and less available.”

USDA said solar panels on farmland have increased nearly 50% nationally since 2012. Proponents of conversion to solar note that it can provide a big financial boost to farmers who continue to farm on other land, and that it doesn’t take the land out of production permanently. Solar leases are typically for 30 years. Rollins said companies have been offering as much as \$1,500 per acre for solar farms. She called the federal government’s support of solar farms “perhaps one of the greatest moral crimes of the past administration.”

At an event in Tennessee to announce the policy, Rollins also emphasized that the Trump administration would not support use of solar panels from “foreign adversaries,” in this case China.

We made no new recommendations in the cash grain markets this week.

Corn basis was largely unchanged on the week, with those locations that did adjust bids doing so to the downside, but none worse by more than a 4-cent widening. Futures were up just 2-3 cents for the week as of this writing, making for a stable cash market as buyers patiently wait for harvest to commence. All were still quoted basis September futures, which will change over the next week or so to December. Be sure to check when any Sep. basis contracts get rolled as the September/December spread is a whopping \$.24 and any basis contracts rolled to December will be adjusted accordingly.

Soybean basis was a very different story as river bids once again went south by anywhere from \$.20 to \$.30 cents. Burlington, Iowa, Quincy, Ill., Kansas City, Mo., Memphis, Tenn. and the NOLA gulf bid were wider. Mitchell, S.D. also weakened by \$.20 with Brewster, Minn., the sole bright spot, narrower by \$.10, to -.20. Granted, another \$.17 rally in futures this week on top of last week's \$.54 gain will often be accompanied by adjustments in basis, resulting in a flatter cash market than you might expect. Just another example of why we regularly advise booking basis that is favorable when futures are depressed and waiting to price futures after futures strengthen.

Basis Bids as of August 21

Corn	Delivery period		
	August	September	Oct '25
Cedar Rapids, IA	-2 U	-5 U	-23 Z
Burlington, IA	-12 U	-20 U	-35 Z
Peoria, IL	-3 U	-27 Z	-18 Z
Decatur, IL	+15 U		-20 Z
Lafayette, IN	+25 U		-15 Z
Lincoln, NE	-10 U	-10 U	-35 Z
Marshall, MN	-7 U	+0 U	-30 Z
Dalhart, TX	+70 U		
Memphis, TN	+8 U	+5 U	
Mitchell, SD	-30 U	-30 U	-50 Z
U.S Gulf, NOLA	+78 U	+89 U	+87 Z
Soybeans	Delivery period		
	August	September	Oct '25
Cedar Rapids, IA	-45 X	-50 X	-50 X
Burlington, IA	-64 X	-70 X	-75 X
Quincy, IL	-35 X	-36 X	-40 X
Champaign, IL	-38 X		-38 X
Decatur, IN	-18 X	-10 X	-30 X
Kansas City, MO	-75 X		
Brewster, MN	-20 X	-55 X	-65 X
Lincoln, NE	-40 X	-40 X	-40 X
Grand Island, NE	-75 X	-75 X	-75 X
Mitchell, SD	-95 X		-100 X
Memphis, TN	-38 X	-40 X	-40 X
U.S Gulf, NOLA	+40 X	+48 X	+52 X

Sources: USDA AMS, DTN ProphetX, DJ Newswires

Chicago and Kansas City wheat futures charted a key reversal up on Wednesday after testing long term support on the weekly chart. We would like to have seen a little more enthusiastic follow through (especially in the KC contracts) the balance of the week, particularly with a perkier corn market, but holders of wheat should remain patient as we monitor further market developments. Competitively-priced U.S. wheat is feeling pressure from Russian harvest supplies and keeping prices capped for now.

We have discussed getting a start on cotton marketings with a recovery back to the \$.69 futures level. After charting exactly 68 cents in three of the previous six sessions, December futures broke through Friday and was trading very near horizontal resistance from a few weeks ago and, more importantly, trendline resistance back to April 30. USDA's August WASDE has not yet put a charge into this market despite lopping 1 million bales off of estimated carryout. We will be watching this market closely this coming week to see whether it hesitates here, bounces off and trades back into its recent range or convincingly breaks through this trendline. Either of the first two scenarios could motivate us to make our first sale.

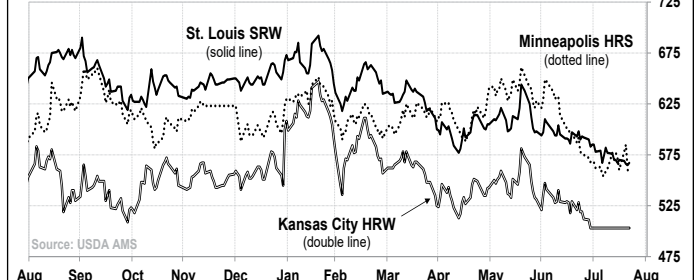
Central Illinois Cash Corn



Central Illinois Cash Soybeans



Cash Wheat



BRAZIL ENERGY COMPANY EYEING CORN ETHANOL AMID BOOM

Brazil's state-controlled energy company Petrobras, which exited the ethanol business nearly a decade ago, is looking at a return – but with corn-based ethanol, not sugar. Reuters reported this week that the company is “leaning toward corn as the raw material for a renewed foray” into ethanol, citing unnamed sources.

When Petrobras exited ethanol in 2016, Brazil's industry was dominated by sugarcane. The first corn-based ethanol plant in Brazil wasn't even built until 2017 but, over the past five years, corn-based ethanol has exploded as the nation's corn production grew and the government took steps to protect the industry.

The Reuters report did include a statement from Petrobras denying an earlier report from a Brazilian publication claiming that the company was looking at investing in Raizen, a joint venture between Brazil's Cosan and Shell Co. that is focused on sugarcane-based ethanol. Increased corn production, particularly in northern Brazil where ethanol output is currently low, is attractive to the company.

While sugarcane is still the dominant feedstock for Brazilian ethanol, corn has been gaining fast. Corn ethanol output has jumped from 37 million gallons in 2015/16 to 2.17 billion gallons in 2024/25, accounting for 22% of Brazilian ethanol production according to Brazil's CONAB and the University of Illinois. That percentage is expected to reach one third of total ethanol production in the 2025/26 marketing year. The first standalone corn ethanol plant built in 2017 was a joint venture involving Iowa-based Summit Agricultural Group.

NEW LEADER AS SUMMIT TRIES TO CLOSE THE DEAL ON PIPELINE

Speaking of Summit, it has appointed a new CEO of its Summit Carbon Solutions business, as it tries to set a new tone and approach for the company's \$9 billion carbon-capture pipeline project. Joe Griffin, a veteran of nearly

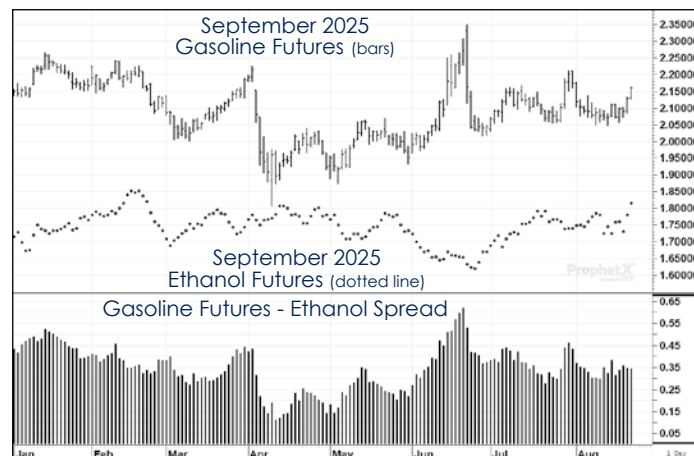
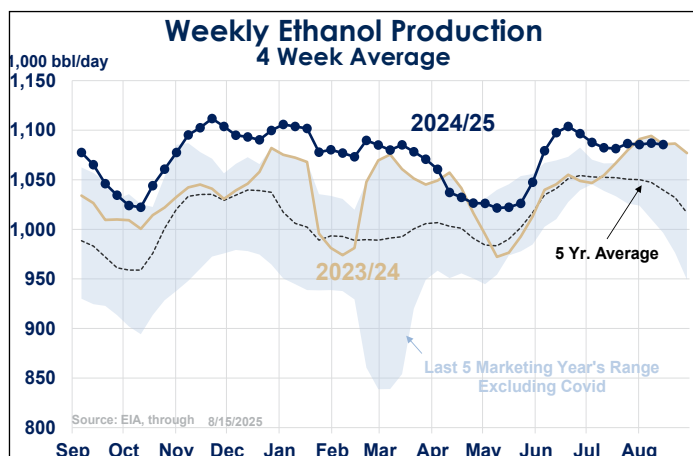
four decades in energy infrastructure, succeeds Lee Blank and is seeking to build trust with landowners who have resisted the project. Within days of stepping into the role in early August, he sent letters across the Midwest, thanking those who had already signed easements, and promising revised right-of-way proposals to those who had not. He emphasized “partnership and respect” and suggested forthcoming updates to Summit's business plan that could expand market opportunities and community benefits.

The company's success with regulators up to this point has been a mixed bag, which isn't enough to bring the 2,500-mile project to fruition yet. Summit has secured key permits in North Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa, giving it a pathway forward in those states. But South Dakota has proven far more difficult: lawmakers there banned the use of eminent domain for CO₂ pipelines after Summit filed more than 150 lawsuits against unwilling landowners. Griffin's outreach reflects an effort to ease tensions and keep the multistate pipeline viable, while navigating resistance from property rights advocates and environmental groups who are skeptical about the project's scale and impact.

ETHANOL EXPORTS REMAIN STRONG; CRUDE SUPPLIES CONTRACT

Ethanol output of 1.072 million barrels per day in the week ended Aug. 20 was down from 1.093 million the prior week. The four-week average is down 0.1% from a year ago. Ethanol stockpiles of 22.7 million barrels were up slightly from 22.6 million the prior week, and down 3.8% from a year ago. Ethanol exports for the week averaged 172,000 barrels per day, up from 123,000 the prior week. The four-week average of 141,000 is up from 105,000 a year ago.

Gasoline demand of 8.842 million barrels per day was down from 9.000 million the prior week, and the four-week average is down 1.2% from a year ago. Crude oil stockpiles contracted by 6 million barrels from last week, to 426.7 million, and are down 1.3% from a year ago. Analysts were expecting a more modest draw of 1.8 million barrels.



COMMENTARY

This has always been a challenging market to trade. As outlined earlier this month in the Brock Report, however, both Chicago and Kansas City futures gave a five-wave buy signal. Then prices broke into new lows nullifying the signal, but as frequently happens, the market held the initial lows that were established just under contract lows. Then on Wednesday, futures prices established a key reversal up. This market has a bottom.

How high is high? In looking at the March contract, the last leg down started at approximately \$5.80, which is 34 cents above where the market is trading now. That would be the first objective, and a very feasible one. In the Kansas City market, the objective for the March contract would be \$5.80 which is 37 cents above the current market level.

Wheat prices will also benefit from the corn market which we believe has made a significant bottom. The two will move together.

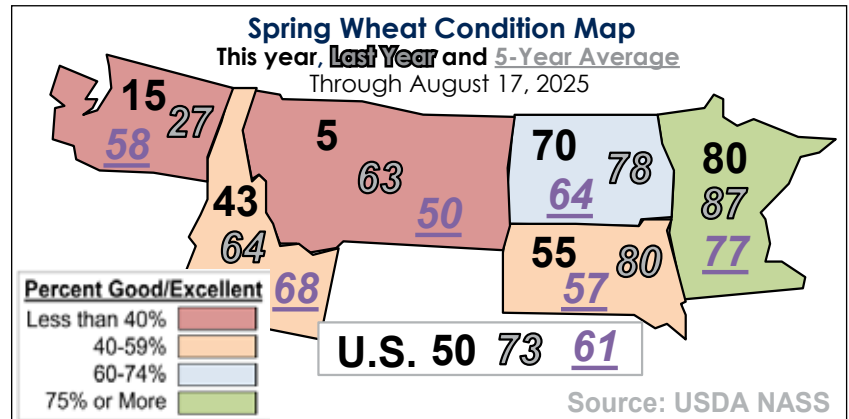
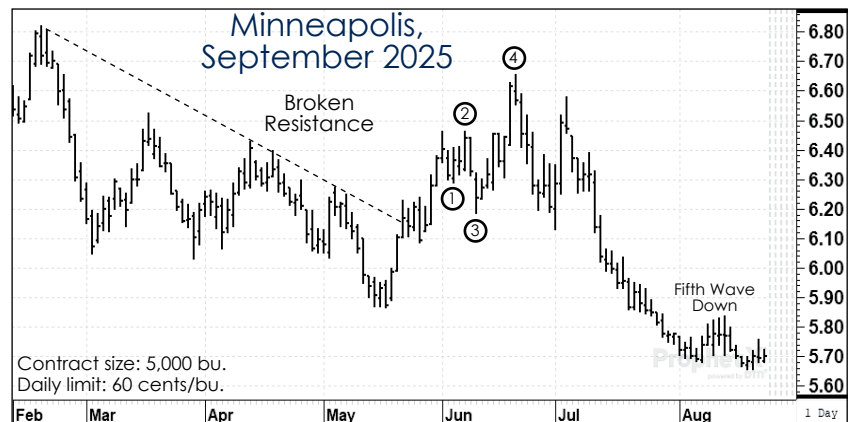
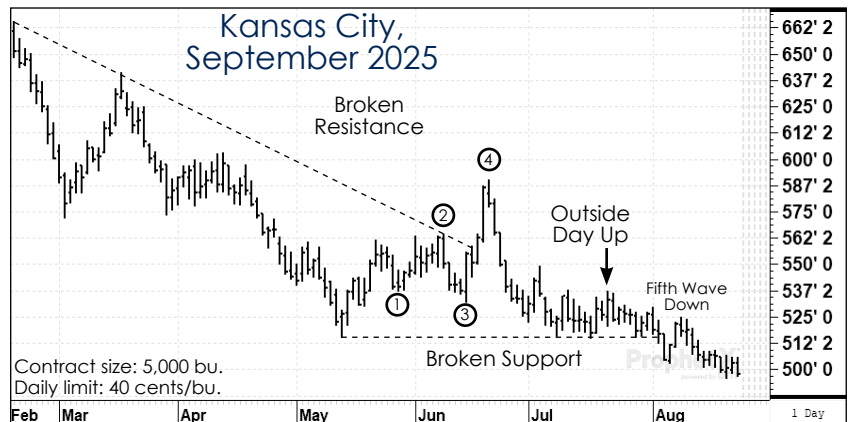
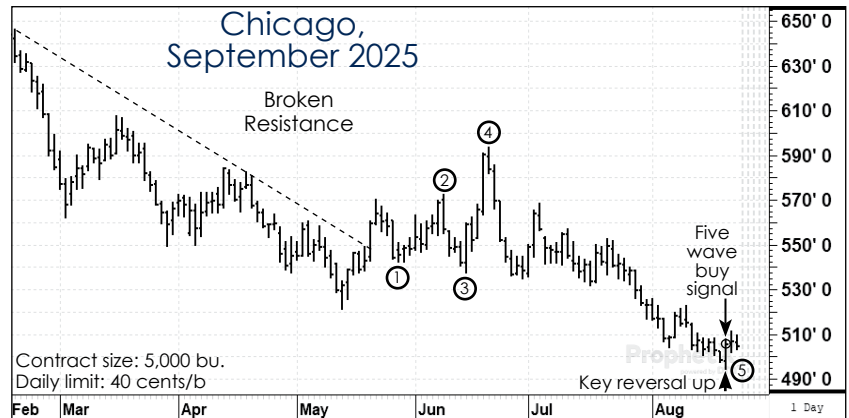
Global wheat conditions are mostly favorable, although there is some concern about dryness in Russia. In the U.S., rains in the southern Plains should help boost the crop outlook ahead of winter wheat planting.

Cash only marketers' strategy: Seventy percent of this year's crop has been priced. Sit tight for now.

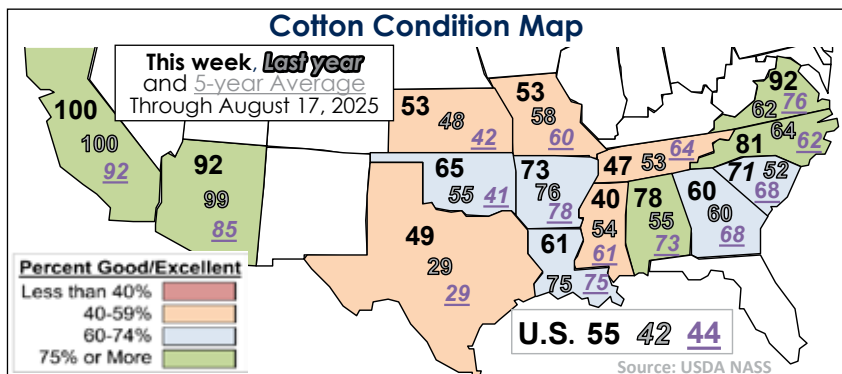
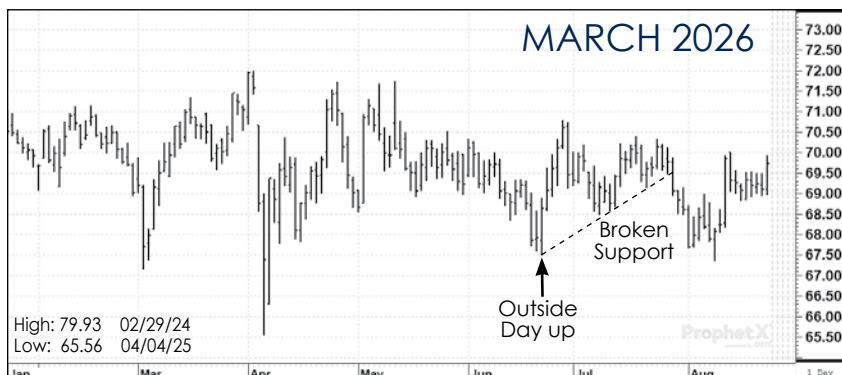
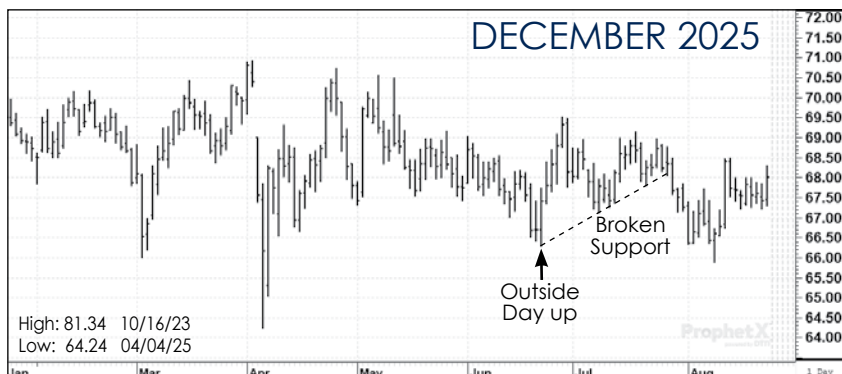
Hedgers' strategy: Sixty percent of this year's crop has been sold. No futures or options positions are on. Be patient.

U.S. SUPPLY & DEMAND

	USDA		Brock	
Marketing year begins June 1	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
ACREAGE (mil acres)				
Planted Area	46.1	45.4	46.1	45.5
Harvested Area	38.5	36.6	38.5	37.3
Yield	51.2	52.7	51.2	51.8
SUPPLY (mil bu)				
Beg. Stocks	696	851	696	851
Production	1,971	1,927	1,971	1,933
Imports	149	120	150	115
Total Supply	2,817	2,898	2,817	2,899
USAGE (mil bu)				
Food/Seed	1,031	1,034	1,031	1,039
Feed & Residual	109	120	109	110
Domestic Use	1,140	1,154	1,140	1,149
Exports	826	875	826	865
Total Use	1,966	2,029	1,966	2,014
Ending Stocks (May 31)	851	869	851	885
Stocks/Use	43.3%	42.8%	43.3%	43.9%
Farm Price (\$/Bu)	\$5.52	\$5.30	\$5.52	\$5.30-5.60



COTTON



COMMENTARY

Futures have alternated between gains and losses each of the past six days, but Friday's "up" day was more forceful and has hopefully broken the market out of its sideways malaise. After bumping into resistance right at 68.00 on three different occasions recently, September futures surged past that level on Friday.

After a strong week the prior week, USDA reported net cotton export sales Thursday of only 105,400 bales for 2025/26. Vietnam was the top buyer at 35,800 bales. China remains absent and, unlike with soybeans, there's not much of a hope or expectation that they will start buying cotton soon. Weekly cotton shipments totaled 123,300 bales.

On the supply side, the August USDA crop report affirmed our expectation that acreage would need to be cut. The market's reaction to that cut has been disappointing. Crop condition ratings jumped in the week ended Sunday, led by improvement in Texas, although conditions in Georgia have deteriorated.

The next near-term target is the Aug. 13 high of 68.50 in the December contract. We continue to look at the 69-cent area to start making sales for 2025/26. If the market retreats again, bears will be targeting the Aug. 8 low at 66.60.

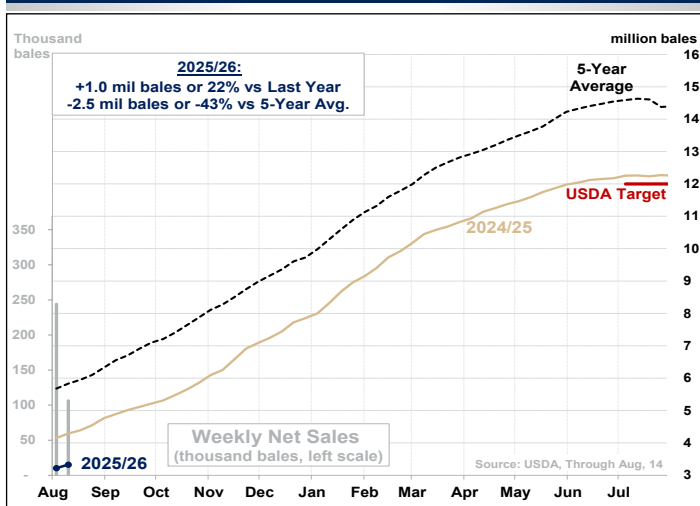
Cash-only Marketers' Strategy: Cash marketers are 100% sold on the 2024 crop. Nothing sold in new-crop yet.

Hedgers Strategy: We are 100% sold on the 2024 crop. Nothing sold in new-crop. We are aside futures.

U.S. SUPPLY & DEMAND

	USDA		Brock	
Marketing year begins Aug 1	2024/25	2025/26	2024/25	2025/26
ACREAGE (mil acres)				
Planted Area	11.18	9.28	11.18	9.42
Harvested Area	7.81	7.36	7.81	7.66
Yield	886	862	886	824
SUPPLY (mil 480-lb. bales)				
Beginning Stocks (August 1)	3.15	4.00	3.15	4.00
Production	14.41	13.21	14.41	13.15
Imports	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Supply	17.57	17.22	17.57	17.15
USAGE (mil 480-lb. bales)				
Mill Use	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.80
Exports	11.90	12.00	11.90	12.35
Total Use	13.60	13.70	13.60	14.15
Unaccounted	(0.03)	(0.08)	(0.03)	0.00
STOCKS (mil 480-lb. bales)				
Ending Stocks (July 31)	4.00	3.60	4.00	3.00
Farm Price (\$/lb)	63	64	63	65-70

All Cotton Export Commitments



COMMENTARY

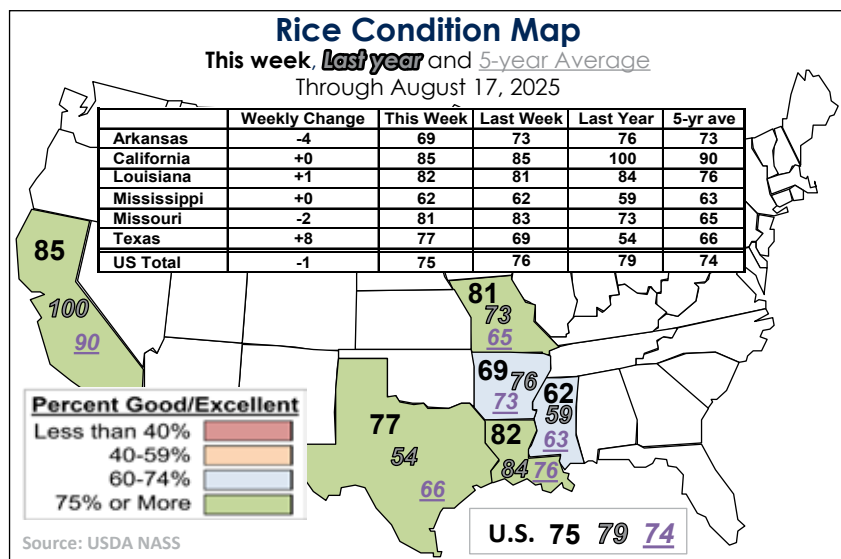
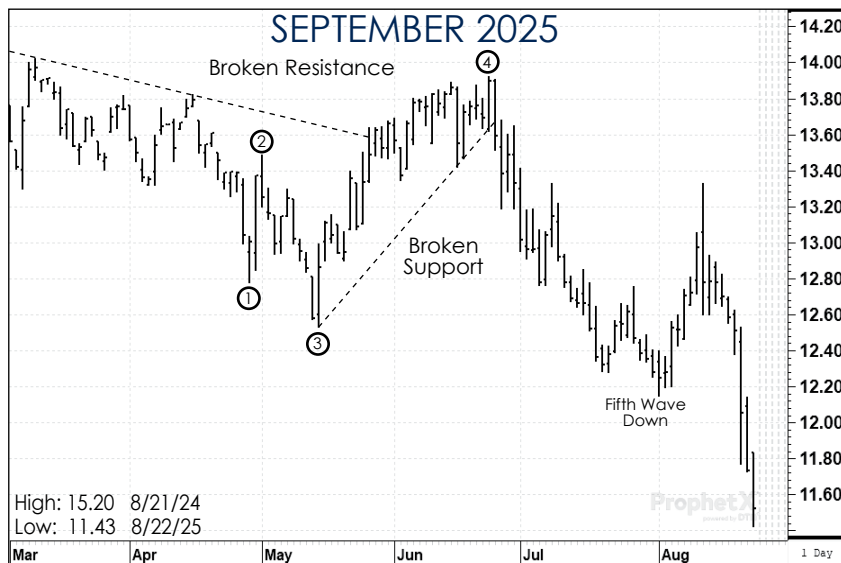
August has not been kind to rice bulls. Nearby September futures rose to \$13.33, a multi-week high, on Aug. 12, which was the day of the USDA crop report. But the market then retreated, posting a bearish reversal lower that day, and it has been downhill ever since. Losses have accelerated in the second half of this week, pushing prices to new contract lows and a five-year low on a front-month basis on Friday.

The USDA report itself, while not wildly bearish, was enough to kill any upside momentum in the market. USDA cut its 2024/25 export estimate, which led to a bigger carry-in for 2025/26. Along with that, USDA increased acres across Mid-South states. The market currently faces harvest pressure, and, based on market reaction, the impact of a soggy spring in parts of Arkansas has not been as negative for yields as expected.

Export demand has remained weak, with poor weekly sales reported Thursday. Supplies in Asia and South America are ample. Domestic demand is also soft. Rice trade groups are hopeful that tariffs on Asian countries, particularly India, will ultimately prompt more farmers to plant varieties such as Basmati in the U.S. That remains to be seen and is, at best, a long-term prospect.

On a continuation chart, the next target for bears is the pandemic low of \$11.21 1/2 set in July 2020. From a fundamental perspective, we expect prices will trade higher later in the year.

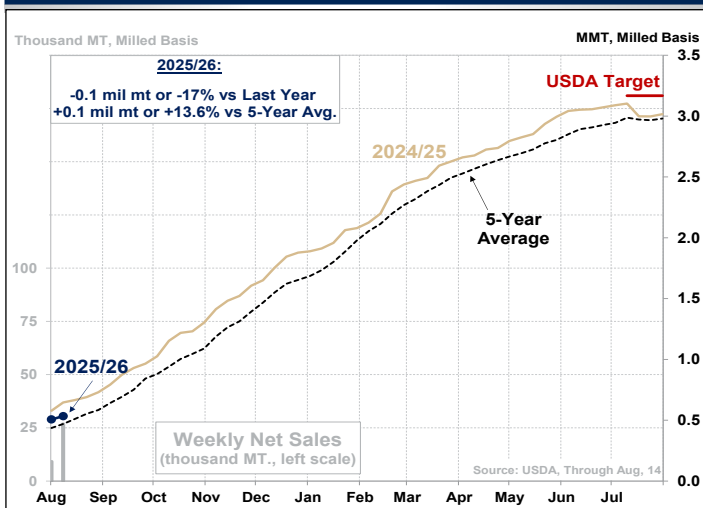
Strategy: We are 100% sold in the 2024 crop. We are 10% sold for new-crop.



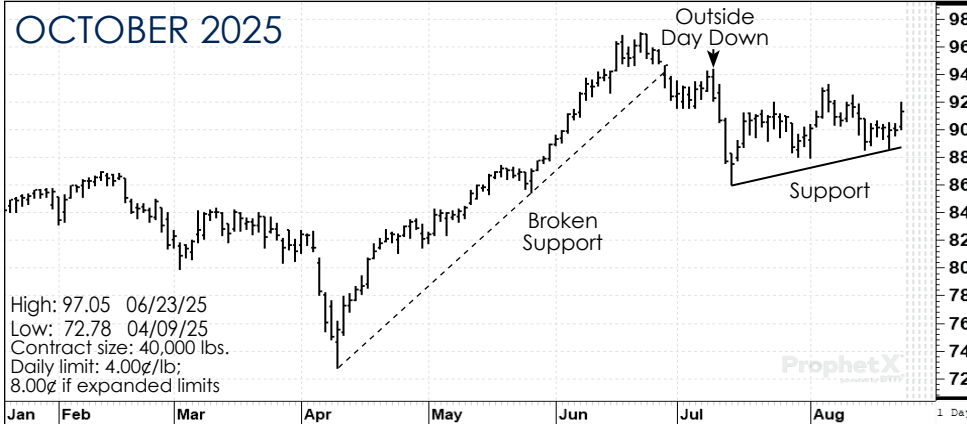
U.S. SUPPLY & DEMAND

	USDA		Brock	
	Marketing year begins Aug 1	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26
ACREAGE (mil acres)				
Planted Area		2.91	2.91	2.79
Harvested Area		2.87	2.87	2.73
Yield (Pounds)		7,748	7,748	7,636
SUPPLY (mil cwt)				
Beg. Stocks		39.8	39.8	50.5
Production		222.1	222.1	208.5
Imports		48.5	48.5	49.7
Total Supply		310.5	310.5	308.6
USAGE (mil cwt)				
Domestic & Residual		170.0	170.0	167.0
Exports		90.0	90.0	97.0
Rough		29.0	29.0	32.0
Milled (Rough Eq.)		61.0	61.0	65.0
Total Use		260.0	260.0	264.0
ENDING STOCKS				
Farm Price (\$/cwt)		\$15.10	\$15.10	\$14.20
			\$13.60-14.60	

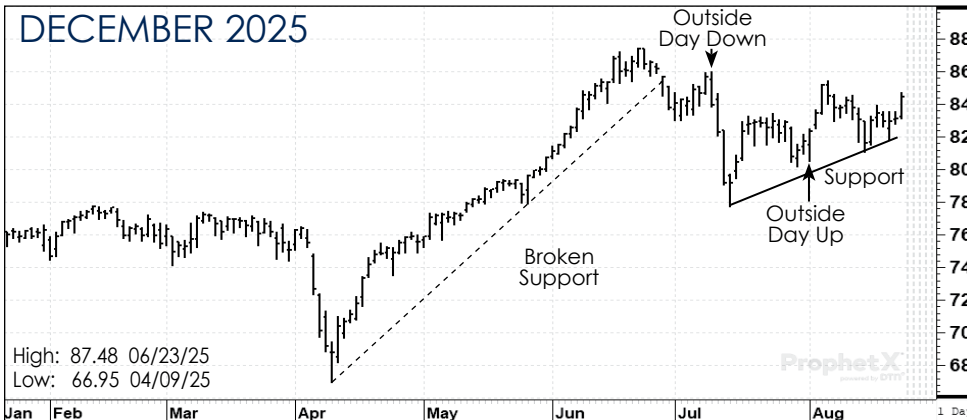
U.S. RICE EXPORT COMMITMENTS



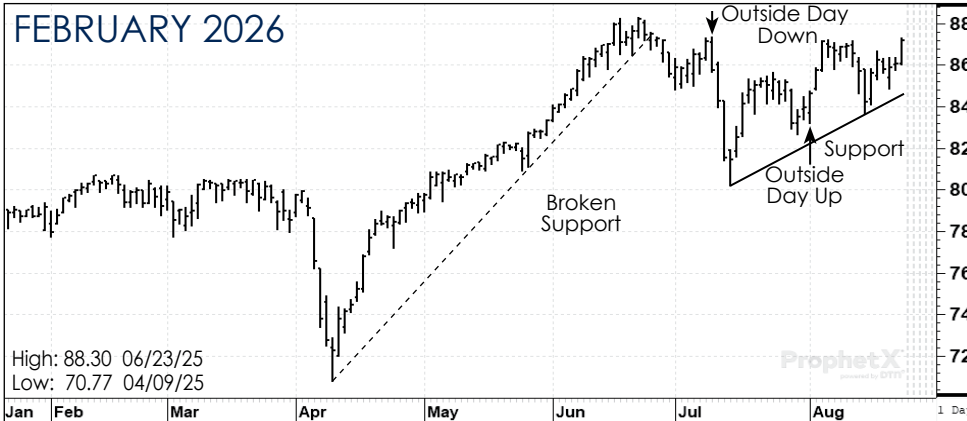
OCTOBER 2025



DECEMBER 2025

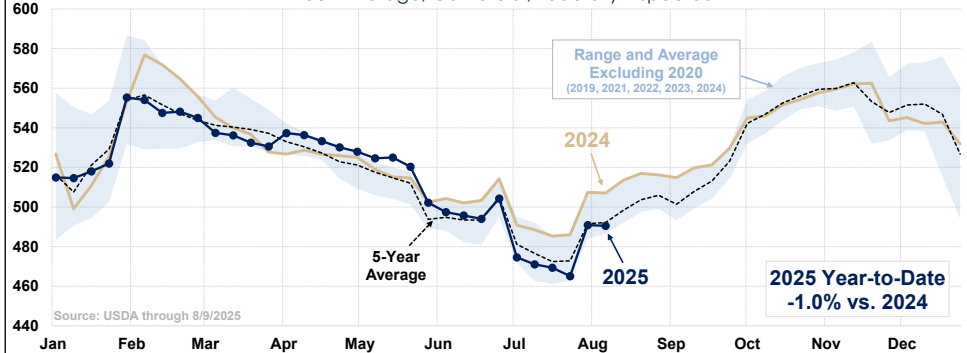


FEBRUARY 2026



Weekly Pork Production, million lbs.

4-Week Average, Commercial, Federally Inspected



COMMENTARY

Lean hog futures showed strength this week, with most contracts charting weekly gains of \$1.25-\$1.50. Futures were supported by their wide discounts to cash, even as the CME cash lean hog index showed signs of seasonal weakness. Further sharp gains in cattle futures also lent support along with optimism that the Fed will cut interest rates in September, supporting the general economy.

We still see limited downside for nearby Oct. lean hogs, which remain more than \$17 discount to cash. More likely, Oct. will work its way higher to meet a declining cash index. Dec. and Feb. futures also still hold large seasonal discounts to cash. Feb. charted its highest Friday close in eight weeks, suggesting further upside, but we will maintain our modest short hedge for now, with key resistance for Feb. at \$88.30. June hogs broke out to a new contract high on Friday and we may have to reconsider our Q2 hedge position next week if the market shows follow-through.

The story in the hog market for now continues to be lighter-than-expected hog marketings and pork production as data indicates demand has been on the soft side the past couple of months despite record high beef prices. This week's estimated hog slaughter ran 2.419 million head, down 3.5% from a year earlier, with pork production down 4.1% on lighter hog weights. USDA monthly data shows July slaughter was 3.9% below a year earlier.

Export demand for U.S. pork has been disappointing lately, with sales of pork cuts at a lackluster 19,200 metric tons during the week ended Aug. 14 for a second straight week. The composite pork cutout value fell \$2.58 in the week ended Thursday to a 6-week low and the average packer operating margin has dipped into the red. The weakness carried over to hog markets, with the CME cash lean hog index falling to a one month low.

Hedgers' Strategy: Hedgers are short Feb. 2026 lean hog futures against 25% of Q1 marketings and June 2026 lean hog futures against 25% of Q2 marketings.

COMMENTARY

There was less turbulence in the cattle futures markets this week as, for the most part, they moved in just one direction — upward. Futures continued to find support from strong cash prices, tight U.S. cattle supplies and technically-driven buying. They received an added boost on Friday from a sharp recovery in U.S. stock markets after Fed chairman Jerome Powell said an interest rate cut is likely in September.

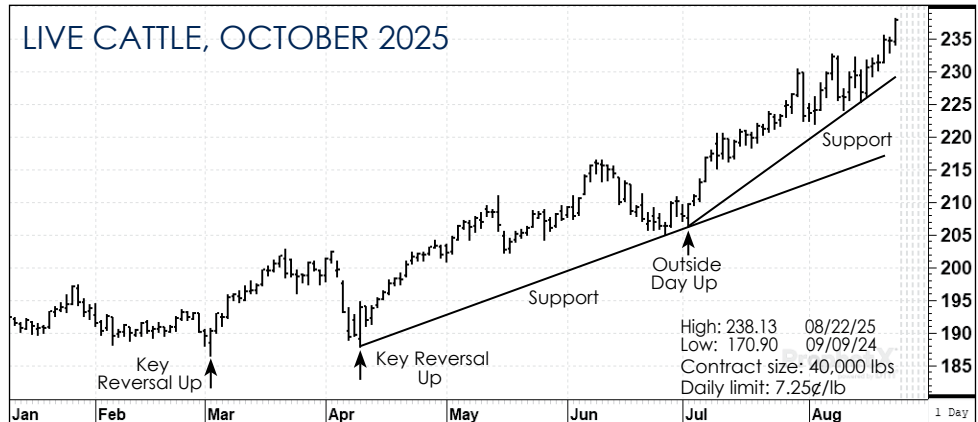
We hate to sound like a broken record, but in this case, it should be beautiful music to cattle producers' ears. The long-term bull market in live cattle and feeder cattle, now nearly 5-1/2 years old, shows no signs of ending. The market itself is like a broken record, with most-active Oct. live cattle futures closing higher nine straight weeks after correcting lower in June. That said, futures look due for at least another sharp short-term correction at any time, and live cattle futures appear to be in the third upward wave of a long-term five-wave pattern on the weekly continuation chart. Whenever that ends, futures should fall much faster than they have risen.

Futures continue to take their lead from the cash market, rather than the other way around, which would be the normal order of things. Plains cash trade was firm this week, although little trade had taken place in the southern Plains as of midday Friday. There were a few sales in Kansas as high as \$245 live on Thursday, with southern Plains feedlots seeking \$240 or more versus last week's mostly \$235 trade. In contrast, Nebraska trade was likely mostly over by Friday with sales occurring at \$245 live and \$385-\$392 on a dressed carcass basis.

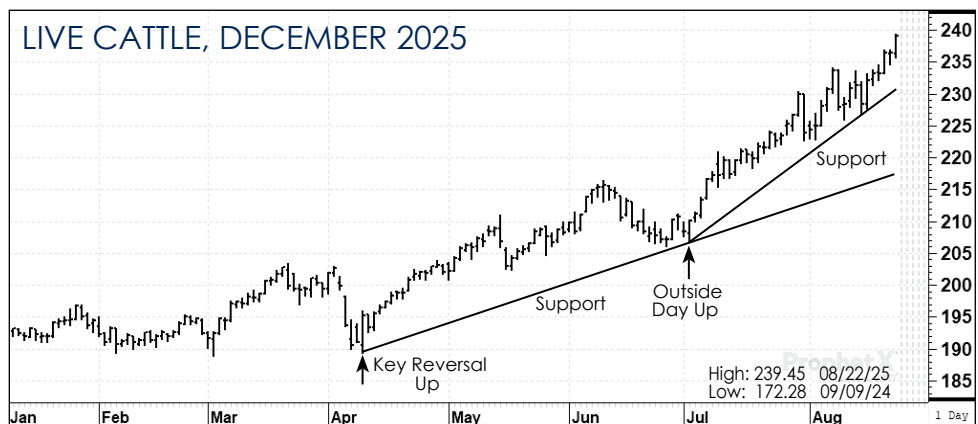
Friday's Cattle-on-Feed report put the Aug. 1 feedlot inventory at 98.4% of a year earlier, toward the high end of expectations and put feedlot placements at 93.9%, versus an average trade estimate of 91.1%. This could be enough to trigger a round of speculative profit taking as a bullish report may have been baked into futures prices.

Hedgers' Strategy: Live cattle hedgers remain long \$225 put options on Oct. 2025 futures on 50% of Q4 marketings. Feeder cattle sellers and buyers are aside futures.

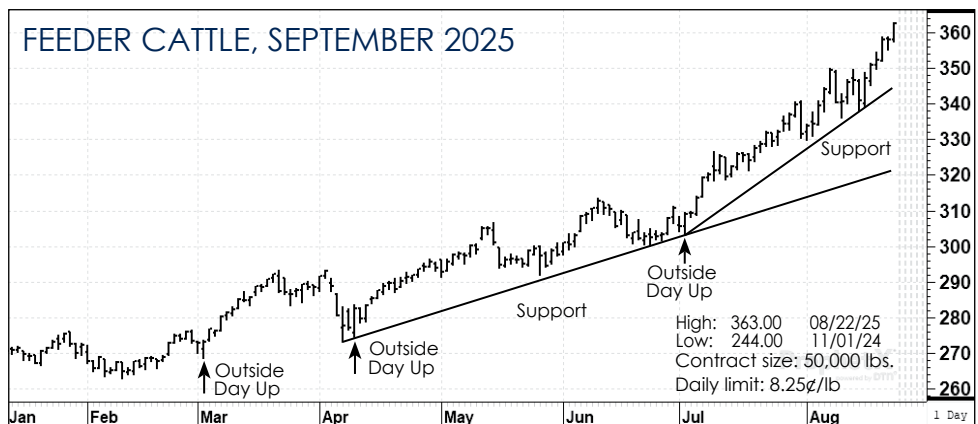
LIVE CATTLE, OCTOBER 2025



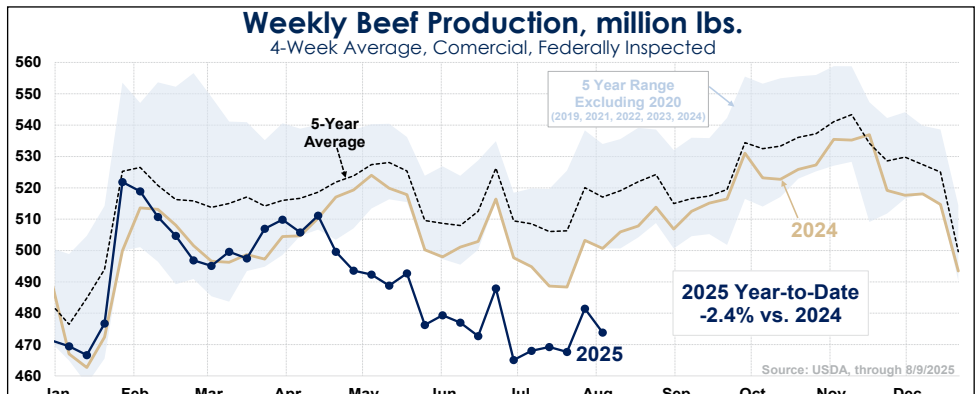
LIVE CATTLE, DECEMBER 2025



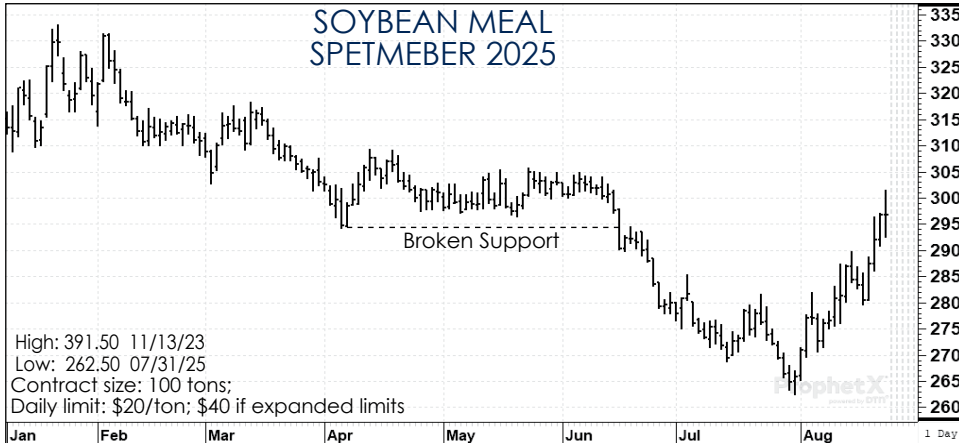
FEEDER CATTLE, SEPTEMBER 2025



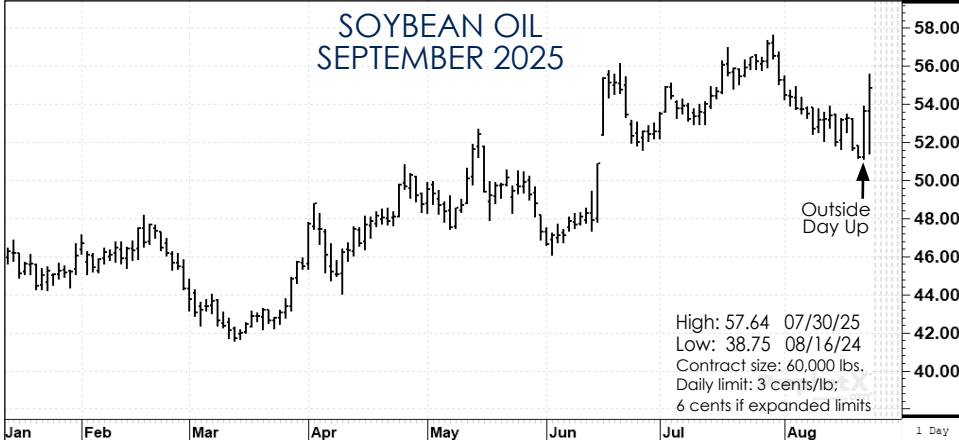
Weekly Beef Production, million lbs.



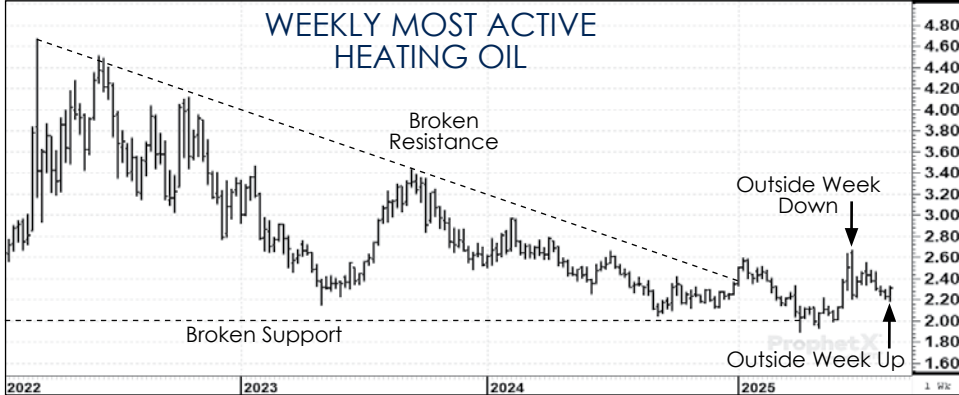
SOYBEAN MEAL
SPETMEBER 2025



SOYBEAN OIL
SEPTEMBER 2025



WEEKLY MOST ACTIVE
HEATING OIL



WEEKLY MOST ACTIVE
NATURAL GAS



COMMENTARY

Feed: As noted in our lead story, we believe the grain and oilseed markets are done going lower at this point, which is a call for feed buyers to start being proactive. That said, after rallying for much of the month of August, soybean meal futures appeared to run out of gas this week. On Friday, October meal posted a bearish reversal lower off of a two-month high. December meal also retreated. It recently found resistance right at the \$300 level. A surge in soybean oil prices on Friday will add to optimism about crush demand, and with it soybean supplies.

Distiller's dried grain prices were steady to mostly weaker across the Midwest over the past week. Some locations in the western Corn Belt were down by \$10 per ton on the week. With this week's Pro Farmer tour confirming that the western crop is particularly strong, feed supplies are not a concern there right now.

Fertilizer: Prices remain mostly stable, but at prices that aren't attractive to farmers given current crop prices. As noted on page 10, tariffs are a concern. Current grain market dynamics could favor more soybean plantings next year and fewer corn acres, which would be negative for fertilizer demand and prices.

Natural Gas: This market remained under pressure, falling to new major lows for the move on Friday. The market is being pressured by near-record production, which has caused domestic supplies to build. Meanwhile, the U.S. weather pattern has turned much cooler for much of the country, particularly the Midwest and East Coast, which will limit cooling demand late in the summer. And longer-term, a warm autumn is expected, which would delay the onset of heating demand season.

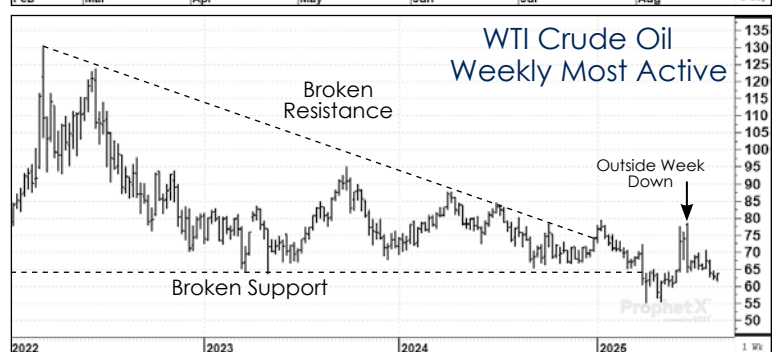
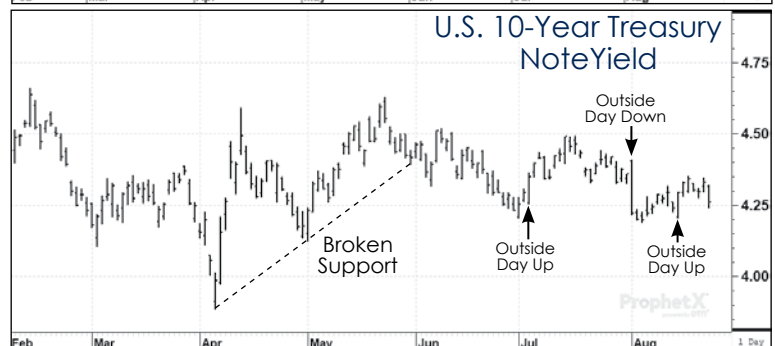
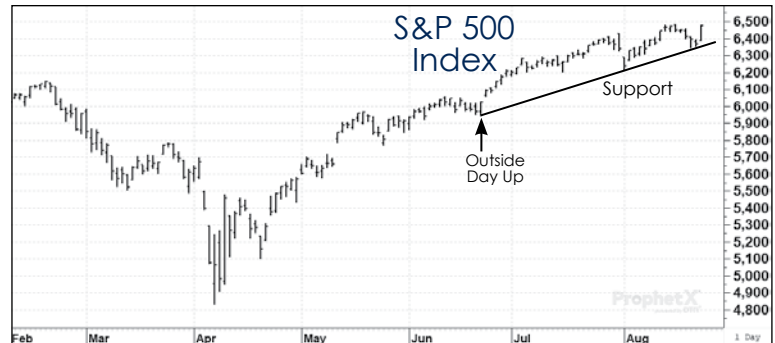
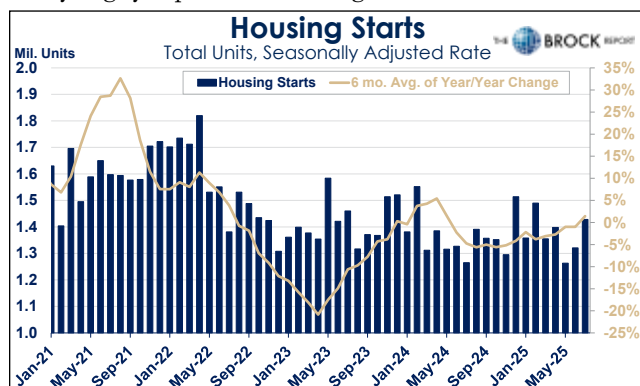
COMMENTARY

The stock market ripped higher on Friday, propelled by a highly anticipated speech by Fed Chair Jerome Powell that investors took as confirmation the Federal Open Market Committee will cut interest rates at its September meeting. While the Fed has been reluctant to cut rates due to worries about inflation tied to the impact of tariffs, and has seen little need to cut due to a strong labor market, Powell on Friday said there is now a prospect of a sharper slowdown in the job market, which could reduce concerns about inflation. "The balance of risks appears to be shifting," he said.

The Fed-fueled rally refreshed what had been a gloomy week for the stock market up to that point, led by a selloff in AI-related stocks. Leading the way down was Palantir, which fell six straight days, wiping out \$73 billion in market value. Other companies including Nvidia, Meta and Microsoft were also all down. And Meta, which has invested tens of billions of dollars in AI this year, announced a hiring freeze. But most analysts are seeing the tech selloff as a bout of profit-taking rather than a sign the boom is over. Palantir, even after its losing streak, was still the best performer in the S&P 500 for 2025, up more than 100%.

Housing data out this week showed a big increase in apartment construction, while the market for single-family homes remains sluggish. The Census Bureau reported housing starts in July were up 5.2% from the prior month in July and 12.9% from a year ago, versus analyst expectations of a 2.8% year-over-year jump. The increase is driven by rental housing, as housing starts with five or more units were up 27.4%, compared to 7.8% for single-unit. Meanwhile, existing home sales were up 2.0% from the prior month, and 0.8% year-over-year, according to the National Association of Realtors. The organization's chief economist noted an "ever so slight improvement in housing affordability."

As with the rest of the economy, economists are watching closely for the impact of tariffs, which is expected to rise in the coming months. Homebuilders are already reporting rising materials costs. In addition, stepped up immigration enforcement and deportations threatens to cause a labor shortage for an industry largely dependent on immigrant labor.



THE BROCK REPORT POSITION MONITOR

THE WEEK AHEAD: No major ag reports are scheduled. Traders will continue to track Midwest weather and yield estimates. Economic reports of note include Durable Goods on Tuesday along with Consumer Confidence. The Personal Consumption Expenditures (PCE) Index, the Fed's preferred inflation gauge, will be released on Friday.

Bolded %'s highlight changes made week ending 8/22/2025

CORN

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Strictly Cash	100%	100%	35%
Hedgers Cash	100%	100%	30%
Hedgers F&O	0%	0%	20%

SOYBEANS

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Strictly Cash	100%	100%	30%
Hedgers Cash	100%	100%	30%
Hedgers F&O	0%	0%	0%

WHEAT

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Strictly Cash	100%	100%	70%
Hedgers Cash	100%	100%	60%
Hedgers F&O	0%	0%	0%

RICE

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Strictly Cash	100%	100%	10%
Hedgers Cash	100%	100%	10%
Hedgers F&O	0%	0%	0%

COTTON

	23/24	24/25	25/26
Strictly Cash	100%	100%	0%
Hedgers Cash	100%	100%	0%
Hedgers F&O	0%	0%	0%

LIVESTOCK

HOGS	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Futures	0%	0%	25%	25%
Options	0%	0%	0%	0%
CATTLE	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Futures	0%	0%	0%	0%
Options	50%	50%	0%	0%
FEEDERS	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Futures	0%	0%	0%	0%
Options	0%	0%	0%	0%
MILK	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Futures	0%	0%	0%	0%

Sell in cash or futures market; whichever works best for your operation.

FEED PURCHASES

CORN	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Cash	25%	0%	0%	0%
Futures/Options	0%	0%	0%	0%
SOYBEAN MEAL	25-III	25-IV	26-I	26-II
Cash	50%	25%	0%	0%
Futures/Options	50%	0%	0%	0%

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