

Idaho Grain Market Report, Mar. 29, 2018

Published weekly by the Idaho Barley Commission, kolson@barley.idaho.gov, 208-334-2090

Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday, Mar. 28, 2018. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. and wheat prices in \$/bu.

	Barley (Cwt.) FEED	MALTING	Wheat (bu.) Milling			
	48 lbs or better	Open market malting	#1 SWW	#1 HRW 11.5% pro	#1 DNS 14% pro	#1 HWW
Rexburg / Ririe	\$7.25		\$3.75	\$4.61	\$5.50	\$5.00
Idaho Falls		\$8.30-9.06	\$3.45	\$4.50	\$5.25	\$4.75
Blackfoot / Pocatello		\$6.50	\$3.45	\$4.50	\$5.25	\$4.75
Grace / Soda Springs	\$7.50		\$3.65	\$4.09	\$5.23	\$4.79
Burley / Rupert	\$6.25		\$3.55	\$4.09	\$5.18	\$4.79
Hazelton						
Twin Falls / Buhl / Jerome / Wendell	\$6.00-6.50		\$3.65	\$4.12	\$5.25	\$4.60
Nampa / Weiser	\$5.75		\$4.90			
Nez Perce / Craigmont	\$5.81		\$4.88	\$5.11	\$6.39	
Lewiston	\$6.33		\$5.14	\$5.37	\$6.65	
Moscow / Genesee	\$5.81-5.95		\$4.91-5.03	\$5.14-5.39	\$6.42-6.47	\$5.39

Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash prices FOB

	#2 Feed 46 lbs. --	Malting	#1 SWW Ord pro -	#1 HRW 11.5% Protein	#1 DNS 14% Protein	#1 HWW
Portland			\$5.40 -5.60½	\$5.91-6.21	\$7.04½ -7.24¼	
Los Angeles	\$8.65-9.00					
Tulare	\$8.65-9.00					
Ogden	\$7.75		\$3.90	\$4.40	\$5.60	\$5.05
Great Falls	\$5.25-5.75	\$7.50- 8.25		\$4.96-5.10 (12%)	\$5.89-6.09	
Minneapolis	\$5.94			\$5.26 (12%)	\$7.39½	

Market trends this week

BARLEY – Local feed barley prices range from minus 10 cents to plus 50 cents this week. Open market malting barley prices remained steady. USDA reported a net reduction of 14.9 TMT in barley export sales, including a net reduction of 16.1 TMT for Canada and new sales to South Korea and Taiwan. Barley export sales last week totaled 100 MT to Taiwan.

2018 BARLEY Plantings and March 1 quarterly stocks – 2018 U.S. barley plantings are estimated at 2.286 million acres, down 8% from last year. Idaho barley plantings are pegged at 560,000, up 6%. U.S. barley stocks on March 1 are estimated at 129 million bu, down 11% from the previous year. Indicated disappearance for the period December 2017 through February 2018 is pegged at 29.5 million bu, down 38% from last year. Idaho barley stocks on March 1 are pegged at 34.94 million bu, down 4% from the same period a year ago.

WHEAT – Local wheat prices are mixed this week: SWW prices ranged from minus 8 cents to plus 55 cents; HRW prices ranged from minus 6 cents to steady; and DNS prices ranged from minus 5 cents to plus 10 cents. USDA reported better than expected wheat export sales at 353.8 TMT (plus MY 2018/19 sales of 121.8 TMT), up 33% from the previous week and up 40% from the previous 4-week average. Wheat export shipments totaled 328.7 TMT, down 31% from the previous week and down 12% from the previous 4-week average.

2018 WHEAT Plantings and March 1 quarterly stocks – 2018 wheat plantings are estimated at 47.3 million acres, up 3% from last year but the second lowest acreage since 1919, and ABOVE the pre-report trade estimate of 46.5

million. Winter wheat acres are pegged at 32.7 million, nearly unchanged from last year (HRW 23.2 million, SRW 5.85 million and white 3.64 million). Other spring wheat acres are estimated at 12.6 million, up 15%. **Idaho wheat plantings are pegged at 1.24 million, up 6% from last year (winter 780,000 and spring 440,000).** U.S. wheat stocks on March 1 are estimated at 1.49 billion bu, down 10% from the previous year and in line with the average pre-report trade estimate of 1.493 billion bu. Indicated disappearance for the period December 2017 through February 2018 is pegged at 379 million bu, down 10%. Idaho wheat stocks on March 1 are pegged at 38.95 million bu, down 30% from the same period a year ago.

Wheat Competitor/Buyer News – The International Grains Council is projecting 2018 world wheat production will decline by 2.2% to 741 MMT and carryover will decline by 1.2% to 253 MMT. Iraq purchased 100 TMT with equal amounts from the U.S. and Australia.

CORN – USDA reported better than expected corn export sales at 1.353 TMT (plus MY 2018/19 sales of 287 TMT), down 8% from the previous week and down 28% from the previous 4-week average. Wheat export shipments totaled 1.376 MMT, unchanged from the previous week and up 8% from the previous 4-week average.

Ethanol corn usage – DOE's Energy Information Agency reported a bigger than expected recovery in weekly U.S. ethanol production last week – down 0.95% or 10,000 bbls/day to 1.039 million bbls/day, which is down 1.42% from a year ago. Ethanol stocks continued to contract by 4.1% to 22.79 million bbls, down 2% from a year ago. Weekly corn usage for ethanol remained strong at 108.1 mbu, ahead of the weekly pace needed to reach USDA's estimate for MY 2017/18 of 5.575 billion bu. Cumulative year-to-date corn use now totals 3.26 billion bu.

2018 CORN Plantings and March 1 quarterly stocks – 2018 corn plantings are estimated at 88.0 million acres, down 2% or 2.5 million acres from last year, and BELOW pre-report trade estimates of 89.5 million. U.S. corn stocks on March 1 are estimated at 8.89 billion bu, up 3% from the previous year and the highest mid-year stocks in nearly three decades. The USDA estimate is ABOVE the average pre-report trade estimate of 8.703 billion bu. Indicated disappearance for the period December 2017 through February 2018 is pegged at 3.68 billion bu, down 2 from the same period a year ago.

Corn Competitor/Buyer News – China is projected to sharply boost ethanol imports from the U.S. to as much as 400 TMT, compared to only 74 MMT last year. Their February imports reached the highest level since May 2016.

Futures Market trends this week

WHEAT – Wheat prices started the week lower under continued technical selling triggered by improving chances of beneficial rainfall across drought-stricken winter wheat region. Prices continued to slip lower on Tuesday and Wednesday in positioning ahead of Thursday's key planting intentions and quarterly stocks reports from USDA and pressure from a rising dollar. Wheat futures finished mixed today (Thursday) with winter wheat contracts finishing higher and spring wheat futures closing lower on higher than expected spring wheat planting estimate **Wheat futures contract closes on Thursday, 3/29/2018...**

	May 2018	Week Change	July 2018	Week Change	Sept 2018	Week Change
CHI SRW	\$4.51	Down \$0.09¼	\$4.68½	Down \$0.08	\$4.85¼	Down \$0.07¼
KC HRW	\$4.67¼	Down \$0.12	\$4.86¼	Down \$0.12	\$5.05¼	Down \$0.11¼
MGE DNS	\$5.78½	Down \$0.24¼	\$5.68	Down \$0.22¾	\$5.94	Down \$0.21

CORN- Corn posted modest losses on Monday on mostly spillover pressure with losses limited by disappointing weekend rains across Argentina's major central growing region and dry forecast for this week. Tuesday saw prices corn finish unchanged on Tuesday and drift fractionally lower on Wednesday in positioning ahead of Thursday's planting intentions and quarterly stocks reports. Corn futures finished higher today (Thursday) on support from a lower than expected 2018 acreage estimate. **May 2018 contract closed on Thursday, 3/29/2018 at \$3.87¾, up \$0.10½ for the week, July 2018 contract closed at \$3.96¼, up \$0.10½ for the week and Sept. 2018 contract closed at \$4.03¼, up \$0.11¼ for the week.**

CRUDE OIL – Crude oil futures slipped lower this week under pressure from easing geopolitical tensions, surging U.S. production and a stronger dollar. The U.S. EIA reported weekly domestic oil stockpiles increased by 1.643 million bbls, compared to an expected decline 287,000 bbls. Distillate stocks fell by 2.09 million compared to an expected decline of 1.6 million bbls. Gasoline stocks declined by 3.472 million bbls compared to an expected decline of 2.0 million bbls. **Crude oil futures finished down \$0.94/bbl for the week to close at \$64.94/bbl.**

Crop weather- The Central U.S. received heavy precipitation this week. Much of Texas and eastern Oklahoma received beneficial rainfall which is helping ease serious drought conditions, but key areas of KS, CO and NE were missed. Dryness concerns are emerging in China's northern wheat growing region, with an estimated one-third of Hebei facing severe water shortages.