

Idaho Grain Market Report, April 15, 2010

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Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday, April 14, 2010. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. and wheat prices in \$/bu.

Selected Locations	Barley (Cwt.)		Wheat (bu.)		
	#2 Feed, 48 lbs or better	Open market malting	#1 SWW	#1 HRW 11.5% protein	#1 DNS 14% protein
Ashton	NQ	(2-R) \$6.50 (6-R) NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
Rexburg/ Ririe/ Roberts	\$6.00	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$4.10	\$4.11	\$5.65
Idaho Falls	\$6.00	(2-R)\$6.50-\$6.85 (6-R)\$6.50	\$4.05	\$4.02	\$5.73
Blackfoot / Pocatello	\$5.93	(2-R) \$6.50 (6-R) NQ	\$4.10	\$3.83	\$5.64
Grace / Soda Springs	\$5.85	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.92	\$3.89	\$5.60
Burley / Rupert Hazelton	\$5.25-\$5.50	(2-R) \$6.50 (6-R) \$6.50	\$3.80	\$3.92	\$5.53
Twin Falls / Eden / Buhl	\$5.70-\$6.50	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.48-\$3.90	NQ	NQ
Weiser	\$5.85	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.78	NQ	NQ
Nez Perce / Craigmont	\$4.85	(2-R) \$4.85 (6-R) \$4.85	\$4.14	\$4.74	\$6.30
Lewiston	\$5.10	(2-R) \$5.10 (6-R) \$5.10	\$4.33	\$4.93	\$6.49
Moscow / Genesee	\$4.90-\$6.25	(2-R) \$4.90 (6-R) \$4.90	\$4.10-\$4.80	\$4.70-\$5.43	\$6.26-\$6.95

Trading Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash prices FOB

	Barley (Cwt.)		Wheat (bu.)			
	#2 Feed 46 lbs. -- unit trains barge	Single rail cars- domestic	Malting	#1 SWW	#1 HRW 11.5% Protein	#1 DNS 14% Protein
Portland	NQ	NQ	NQ	Apr \$4.70-\$4.80 Aug NC \$4.75-\$4.80	Apr \$5.31-\$5.43 Aug NC \$5.33-\$5.43	Apr \$6.76-\$7.02 Aug NC \$6.29-\$6.35
Los Angeles	\$8.00	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
Stockton	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
Tulare	\$8.00	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
Ogden	\$5.93	NQ	NQ	\$4.17	\$4.05	\$5.75
Great Falls	\$4.75-\$5.00	NQ	\$6.00	NQ	\$3.58-\$3.61	\$5.71-\$6.11
Minneapolis	\$4.17	NQ	NQ	NQ	\$4.79 ½ (12%)	\$6.66 ½ - \$6.86 ½

Market trends this week

BARLEY – Local barley prices were steady in southern Idaho and ranged from steady to 20 cents lower in northern Idaho. USDA reported barley export sales at .3 TMT for Canada last week, while barley export shipments totaled 1.4 TMT also to Canada.

WHEAT – Local wheat prices were mostly higher this week: SWW ranged from 15 cents lower to 9 cents higher; HRW prices ranged from 2 cents lower to 15 cents higher; and DNS ranged from 17 cents lower to 15 cents higher. U.S. wheat export sales last week were within trade expectations at 101.1 TMT in the current marketing year which was down 69% from the previous week and 72% from the prior 4-week average. Export sales for MY 10/11 totaled 310.8 TMT. Wheat export shipments totaled 476.9 TMT, up 6% from the previous week and 3% from the prior 4-week average.

Wheat Competitor/Buyer News – Saudi Arabia purchased 550 TMT of wheat last week, with reported origins of Kazakhstan, Canada and small amounts from Germany. Iran says they would resume wheat exports after a three year absence due to drought reduced crops in recent years. **International wheat import tenders** – Iraq for 100 TMT.

CORN – U.S. corn export sales were above trade expectations last week at 1 MMT, down 26% from the previous week, however it was up 14% from the prior 4-week average. Export sales for MY 10/11 totaled 140.9 TMT. Corn export shipments last week totaled 1.1 MMT, up 27% from the previous week and 6% from the prior 4-week average.

Futures market activity this week

WHEAT – Wheat began the week marginally higher with support from a lower dollar and short covering, but gains were limited by ideal winter wheat growing conditions and limited delays in spring field work thus far. Wheat surged higher on Tuesday in mostly chart-related buying (short covering). However, ideas that wheat markets were becoming overbought as well as late session profit-taking drove wheat modestly lower on Wednesday. Wheat finished higher again today in spillover support and additional short covering, but gains were capped by a higher dollar. **Wheat market closes on Thursday, 4/15/10 ...**

	May 2010	Weekly Summary	July 2010	Weekly Summary
Chicago	\$4.80 ¼	Up \$.14 ½	\$4.92 ¾	Up \$.12 ½
Kansas City	\$4.96 ½	Up \$.13	\$5.07 ½	Up \$.13 ¼
Minneapolis DNS	\$5.12	Up \$.10 ¾	\$5.23 ¼	Up \$.10 ¾

CORN – Corn began the week modestly higher in mostly narrow choppy trading with conflicting influences- a lower dollar and firmer cash prices on the plus side and nearly ideal planting weather on the negative. Corn continued to push higher on Tuesday, buoyed by a combination of new fund buying, short covering and stronger outside markets. Follow-through buying and fresh support from higher crude oil propelled corn higher on Wednesday. Corn finished higher today (Thursday) with support from stronger than expected export sales and renewed investment money flow into commodities. **May 2010 corn contract closed Thursday, 4/15/10, at \$3.63 ¼, up \$.17 ½ for the week and the July 2010 contact closed at \$3.73 ¾, up \$.16 ½ for the week.**

Other Major Factors to Watch -

- **Crude Oil** – Crude oil prices began the week modestly lower to \$84/bbl despite a lower dollar and supportive equities. But continued weakness in the dollar (fell to 4-week lows) and a mostly bullish stocks report pulled crude back to \$85.84/bbl on Wednesday. The weekly petroleum stocks report was mostly bullish...crude stocks fell 2.2 million bbls, compared to an expected increase of 1.3 million bbls; distillates increased 1.1 million bbls, compared to an expected build of 1.0 million bbls; and gasoline stocks showed a bullish decline of 1.04 million bbls, compared to an expected draw of 1.0 million bbls.
- **U.S. weather** – A light band of showers moved across the North Central region mid week, but moisture amounts were less than earlier forecast and were mostly confined to the North Dakota/Minnesota, Minnesota/Wisconsin borders and central Nebraska into central South Dakota. Light showers were expected to move through Iowa and Northwest Corn Belt on Thursday. Good rain potential was seen across the Southern Plains, delivering beneficial moisture to the hard red winter wheat crop. The 6-10 and 8-14 day outlook shows a warmer and drier pattern for most the Central U.S., providing favorable planting prospects. **El Nino Update** – Current El Nino weather cycle is now in a mid-weak stage and rapidly declining; however current dynamics don't point to a formation of La Nina pattern this summer, which would mean hotter than normal temps across the central U.S.
- **International weather / crop watch –**
 - **Canada** – Western prairies continue to be dry, but rain/snow this week provided beneficial moisture to parts of southern Alberta and eastern Saskatchewan. However, a dry pattern was expected to return this weekend and the extended weather forecast is drier than normal.
 - **Europe** – Showers continued to maintain favorable soil moisture across Central and Northern Europe. Rain delays were reported in parts of France, Balkans and Italy.
 - **Former Soviet Union** – Ukraine and southern Russia saw dry planting weather, allowing spring planting pace to accelerate. Ukraine reported that about 62% of springs grains have been planted compared to 96% the same time last year. Seasonably warmer weather finally has melted much of the remaining snow pack in much of eastern and northern Russia and Kazakhstan. .
 - **Middle East** – Showers continued to favor jointing winter grains in Turkey, Iraq and western Iran.
 - **Northern Africa** – Persistent dryness is reducing soil moisture and reducing yield potential in Morocco and western Algeria, while showers helped stabilize grain crops in eastern Algeria and Tunisia.
 - **China** –Vegetative maps show generally poor crop health in the northern quarter of the wheat belt, but showers are expected in the 6-10 day outlook.
 - **Argentina / Brazil** – Argentina saw mostly cool/dry weather, while southern Brazil experienced a recent drying trend allowing harvest to accelerate.