

WEEKLY NEWS ARTICLE UPDATE



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Export Sales Highlights

This summary is based on reports from exporters for the period October 28-November 3, 2016.

Soybeans: Net sales of 1,001,800 MT for 2016/2017 were down 60 percent from the previous week and 49 percent from the prior 4-week average. Increases were reported for China (1,369,700 MT, including 996,900 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 28,200 MT), the Netherlands (167,300 MT, including 183,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 17,000 MT), Thailand (98,100 MT, including 86,000 MT switched from unknown destinations), Mexico (81,900 MT, including decreases of 2,400 MT), and Indonesia (58,800 MT, including decreases of 1,700 MT). Reductions were reported for unknown destinations (903,800 MT) and Malaysia (1,500 MT). For 2017/2018, net sales of 102,000 MT were reported for unknown destinations (60,000 MT) and Mexico (42,000 MT). Exports of 2,791,300 MT were down 5 percent from the previous week, but up 14 percent from the prior 4-week average. The primary destinations were China (2,063,400 MT), Mexico (177,900 MT), the Netherlands (167,300 MT), Thailand (103,500 MT), and Japan (79,200 MT).

Optional Origin Sales: For 2016/2017, the current optional origin sales outstanding balance totals 235,000 MT, all China.

Exports for Own Account: New exports for own account totaling 28,500 MT were reported to Canada. The current outstanding balance totals 29,400 MT, all Canada.

Soybean Cake and Meal: Net sales of 149,900 metric tons were reported for 2016/2017. Increases were reported for the Philippines (60,500 MT), Denmark (39,900 MT,

including 40,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 100 MT), Thailand (21,000 MT), Mexico (21,000 MT), Canada (14,100 MT), Japan (8,500 MT, including 6,000 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 200 MT), and Saudi Arabia (5,200 MT). Reductions were for unknown destinations (32,400 MT) and the Dominican Republic (2,500 MT). For 2017/2018, net sales of 5,800 MT were reported for Mexico. Exports of 243,000 MT were reported to the Philippines (74,400 MT), the Dominican Republic (41,600 MT), Denmark (39,900 MT), Mexico (24,400 MT), Thailand (21,000 MT), Canada (18,500 MT), and Japan (6,600 MT).

Soybean Oil: Net sales of 16,300 metric tons were reported for 2016/2017. Increases were reported for the Dominican Republic (7,000 MT), Colombia (6,200 MT), Mexico (2,000 MT), Canada (800 MT), and Kuwait (100 MT). Exports of 5,200 MT were reported to Mexico (3,600 MT) and Canada (1,500 MT).

[Argentine Soy Planting Area Seen at 19.6 Million Hectares -Exchange](#)

BUENOS AIRES, Nov 10 (Reuters) - Argentine farmers are expected to plant 19.6 million hectares with soybeans this season, down 2.5 percent from the previous crop year as growers pile into corn and wheat, the Buenos Aires Grains Exchange said in its weekly report on Thursday.

The exchange kept its 2016/17 corn planting estimate unchanged at 4.9 million hectares, which would mark a 27 percent expansion of corn area compared with the 2015/16 season. Also unchanged was the exchange's forecast of a 21 percent increase in wheat production to 12.5 million tonnes.

The country's president, Mauricio Macri, won office on a free-markets platform last year. Soon after his December inauguration, he eliminated corn and wheat export taxes in a bid to improve crop rotation on the Pampas farm belt after decades of over planting soy.

The 2016/17 soy crop was expected at 53 million tonnes, down from 56 million tonnes a year earlier, Esteban Copati, the exchange's head of crop estimates, told journalists last month.

The Rosario grains exchange said on Wednesday that it expected Argentine farmers to harvest 52.5 million tonnes of 2016/17 soybeans.

[Soybeans Up for 2nd Day on Latin America Crop Woes, Wheat Firms](#)

By Naveen Thukral

SINGAPORE, Nov 11 (Reuters) - Chicago soybean futures rose 1.7 percent on Friday with the market on track for its biggest daily gain in more than two weeks as concerns over lower planting in Argentina underpinned sentiment.

Wheat rose, snapping two sessions of losses on bargain buying while corn gained more ground although ample supplies kept a lid on prices.

For the week, the Chicago Board Of Trade most-active soybean contract is up 2.4 percent, recovering last week's 2.1 percent loss.

Wheat is down 1.81 percent this week, the biggest decline in two months, and corn has lost 1.3 percent, its second week of losses.

"The Buenos Aires Grain Exchange said Thursday that soy planting in Argentina was only 11 percent complete. More rain is forecast for the southwest next week and so it won't allow for much additional progress to be made in that area," said Tobin Gorey, director of agricultural strategy at Commonwealth Bank of Australia, referring to soybeans.

"Consequently the Exchange has warned that we may see Argentine planting cut as these flood conditions stubbornly persist."

Brazil's official crop supply agency Conab forecast Brazil early next year would harvest a soybean crop of 101.6 million tonnes to 103.5 million tonnes, down slightly from its outlook of 101.9 to 104.0 million tonnes last month.

There is additional support for soybeans with a rally in edible oil markets.

Malaysian palm oil futures rose to their highest levels in over two-and-a-half years on Thursday, supported by government data which showed lower-than-expected inventories for October. Still, lower U.S. weekly soybean exports are capping gains.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture in a weekly report said about 1 million tonnes of U.S. soybeans were sold for export in the week ended Nov. 3, below expectations of 1.7 million to 2 million.

Export sales of 1.2 million tonnes of U.S. corn were within the range of expectations and export sales of U.S. wheat of 769,581 tonnes were above expectations.

In news, Russian farmers have sown winter grains in the largest area in the last seven years and will plant more in coming weeks, improving prospects for the 2017 crop, analysts said.

Commodity funds were net buyers of CBOT corn, soybean, soymeal and soyoil futures contracts on Thursday and net sellers of wheat futures, traders said.

[U.S. Forecaster Sees La Niña Likely to Persist in Coming Months](#)

NEW YORK, Nov 10 (Reuters) - A U.S. government weather forecaster on Thursday said that previously predicted La Niña conditions have arrived and are slightly favored to persist into the Northern Hemisphere winter 2016-17.

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC), an agency of the National Weather Service, in a monthly forecast said it observed La Niña conditions during October and sees a 55 percent chance they will persist through the winter.

Last month, the agency pegged the chance of La Nina developing this fall at 70 percent.

La Niña will likely raise temperatures and reduce precipitation in the southern United States and do the opposite across the northern part of the country, the CPC said.

Typically less damaging than El Niño, La Niña is characterized by unusually cold ocean temperatures in the equatorial Pacific Ocean and tends to occur unpredictably every two to seven years. Severe occurrences have been linked to floods and droughts.

EU Will Have to Import Cow Dung to Meet Renewables Targets, Study Warns

11-Nov-2016

EXCLUSIVE / The European Union will be forced to import organic waste, such as cow dung and wood, if it does not limit the amount of bioenergy that can count towards its renewable energy targets, new research has found.

Analysis by green groups Birdlife Europe and Transport & Environment found that European sustainable wood waste, agricultural residues and manure will cover just 80% of the EU's projected bioenergy use in 2030.

EU leaders in October agreed to boost renewables in its energy mix by at least 27% by 2030, as part of its pledge to cut emissions and fight climate change.

The campaigners said that the shortage would have to be made up by imports from unsustainable wood and food crops from abroad. Such imports would not be subject to EU rules, and the shipping would have an impact on the environment.

The European Commission is expected to publish its revised Renewable Energy Directive on 30 November. The directive is the main policy driver for the use of bioenergy in Europe.

Bioenergy is renewable energy from living organisms. Europe is currently mainly using wood for energy and biofuels to power transport, according to the study, which is published today (10 November).

In 2014, bioenergy accounted for 64.1% of Europe's renewable energy sources. The green groups said that, by 2030, sustainable bioenergy could only account for 30% in 2030.

The availability of waste for energy will drop, campaigners said, due to improved waste management and initiatives such as the EU's Circular Economy Package. Demand for wood in the furniture, construction, paper and packaging sectors is also rising, according to the research.

Jori Sihvonen, bioenergy officer at T&E, said: "Before burning it, sustainably produced wood should be used to build houses, and make furniture and paper.

"Europe should limit the use of bioenergy and instead devote its efforts to promoting sustainable renewables such as solar, wind, geothermal and tidal."

Without limits on bioenergy in the Renewable Energy Directive, campaigners said, the law would incentivise the use of unsustainable bioenergy, such as some biofuels or imported wood.

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/transport/news/green-transport-target...> Sustainability rules needed T&E and Birdlife Europe both called for EU sustainability rules for biomass supplies. Some

food-based biofuels and burning trees for energy could be worse than fossil fuel alternatives, they said.

Sini Eräjää, EU bioenergy policy officer at BirdLife Europe, said: "The EU needs a policy on bioenergy sustainability that separates the good from the bad and ensures we stay within the limits of what is sustainably available. The policy should rule out the use of agricultural crops and trees for energy to make room for the more sustainable kinds of bioenergy."

[Two-Thirds of Brits Support GM Crops, Claims Bayer-Sponsored Survey](#) [RT International](#) | 16:33 GMT, Nov 08, 2016

A large-scale UK public survey says there has been a sea change in attitudes toward genetically-modified foods. The study has been published as the government prepares to loosen its attitudes to GMOs following Brexit, and more field trials are being given the go-ahead.

A survey of 2,000 people was conducted by Populus, a respected pollster, and commissioned by Bayer Crop Science. One of the top ten biggest producers in the industry, it is also a subsidiary of Bayer AG, which is currently in the process of merging with Monsanto, the world's biggest seed producer, and a leader in GMO proliferation.

According to the results, published in The Times, 54 percent of the respondents said that they agreed with the existence of genetically-modified crops "*in principle*," and 10 percent said they were "*necessary*" to feed a growing population. Only 27 percent said they were opposed to the technology outright.

The finding is significant, as George Eustice, the agriculture minister, recently told parliament that the government is looking for new, "*science-based and proportionate*" rules on genetically-modified crops, "*as part of the preparations for EU exit*." While the European Union has technically ruled genetically-modified crops to be safe, most of its member states remain wary. This week, the German cabinet approved a draft law that will ban GMO cultivation, following France, which has already done the same, in the wake of the EU's permissive ruling last year.

On Thursday, Rothamsted Research, a long-established bioengineering facility, applied to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to conduct a study of GM wheat over the next two years. The wheat, which is sprayed by tiny DNA-modifying particles, is more efficient at photosynthesis, and has produced yields that are up to 40 percent higher in lab conditions.

If the application is successful, it will be the second ongoing trial of genetically-modified cultures in the UK, following a 2014 rape seed planting, also performed at Rothamsted's research station, located just north of London.

Between 2003 and 2010, there were no GMO field trials in the UK, following a series of high-profile disruptions by activists, and a hardening of the public mood against so-called Frankenfoods.

A YouGov survey conducted only two years ago claimed that 40 percent of Brits say that the UK government shouldn't be promoting the adoption of GM crops in the UK, with only 22 percent in favor of it doing so, and 38 percent unsure. It is unclear if the difference with the latest survey is

due to a genuine evolution of opinion, or due to the fact that the previous one asked about growing GMs in the UK, rather than the more abstract question asked by Populus in its latest questionnaire.

Leading UK groups that have traditionally opposed farming have already dismissed the current poll's findings.

Peter Melchett, policy director at the Soil Association, a pro-organic charity, called the results "*nonsense*," and said that any planned trials would be "*irrelevant*" due to a lack of market demand for genetically-modified cultures.

"GM is a bogus solution sucking up funding that could make a real difference if it was spent on waste reduction and poverty eradication," Liz O'Neill, director of GM Freeze, the UK's umbrella campaign for a moratorium on GM in food and farming, told The Times.

The international market for genetically-modified crops – mostly corn, soybean, cotton and canola - expanded sharply following their mass introduction in the 1990s. as they have become popular in the US, Brazil and Argentina, in particular. But last year, the acreage of land seeded with GMOs fell for the first time ever, due to a wider farming downturn, and a lack of new markets adopting genetically-modified crops.

[Argentina 2017 Soy Output Seen at 52.5 MMT - Exchange](#)

BUENOS AIRES, Nov 9 (Reuters) - Argentine farmers will harvest an estimated 52.5 million tonnes of soybeans in the 2016-17 crop year, the Rosario grains exchange said on Wednesday in its first soy crop estimate of the season.

The country is the world's No. 3 soybean exporter and top supplier of soymeal livestock feed.

The Rosario exchange also issued its first corn crop estimate of the season, of 36.5 million tonnes. It upped its 2016-17 wheat harvest estimate to 13.4 million tonnes from a previous forecast of 13 million tonnes.

The agriculture ministry expects a 2016-17 soybean crop of 56 million tonnes and a corn harvest of 44.5 million tonnes, state news agency Telam reported.