

Market Perspectives

www.grains.org

January 5, 2023

CONTENTS

Chicago Board of Trade Market News	2
CBOT March Corn Futures	4
U.S. Weather/Crop Progress	6
U.S. Export Statistics	7
FOB	8
Distiller's Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS)	10
Country News	11
Ocean Freight Markets and Spreads	12
Ocean Freight Comments	13

For more information on the contents of this newsletter or the U.S. Grains Council, its mission and programs, please contact Cary Sifferath at (202) 789-0789.

The U.S. Grains Council is a private, non-profit partnership of producers and agribusinesses committed to building and expanding international markets for U.S. barley, corn, grain sorghum and their products. The Council is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has ten international offices that oversee programs in more than 50 countries. Financial support from our private industry members, including state checkoffs, agribusinesses, state entities and others, triggers federal matching funds from the USDA resulting in a combined program value of more than \$26 million.

Chicago Board of Trade Market News

	Week in Review: CME Corn March Contract					
Cents/Bu	Friday December 30	Monday January 2	Tuesday January 3	Wednesday January 4	Thursday January 5	
Change	-1.00		-8.00	-16.75	-1.00	
Closing Price	678.50		670.50	653.75	652.75	
Factors Affecting the Market	Corn futures settled a penny lower to end 2022 after two-sided trade. The market tested trendline resistance but could not move above that point. Corn export sales hit 30.8 Mbu last week but were below the weekly target. Drought is still an issue for Argentina's corn crop, but Brazil's crop is in good shape. Outside markets were quiet but crude oil rose \$1.86/brl.	Markets were closed in observance of the New Year's holiday.	Corn settled 8 cents lower as funds returned from the holidays in a selling mood. USDA reported 26.3 Mbu of corn export inspections, a volume again below the weekly target. YTD inspections are down 27%. Fresh news was light, but the CFTC data showed funds adding 35,000 contracts to their existing net long through 27 Dec.	Corn futures plunged lower on a combination of fund selling and bearish forecast for the US and global economy. Trading volume was heavy and demand for U.S. corn was a focus, as was technical selling. Ethanol margins will pick up with lower corn values, but Wed.'s \$4/brl decline in crude oil will offset that effect. Stocks rose while the USD fell 27 bps.	Corn traded both sides of unchanged before it settled a penny lower. The market caught a bid 2 cents below \$6.50, which may be a sign of commercial buying. Ethanol output fell last week and was the smallest since the polar vortex week of February 2021. Outside markets were mixed; crude oil rose \$0.88/brl and the USD rose 84 bps.	

Outlook: March corn futures are down 25 ¾ cents (3.8 percent) this week as a combination of global economic worries and managed money selling pressured commodity markets. Commodity and equity markets received bearish news early this week as several analysts increased their expected odds of an economic recession occurring in the U.S. and around the world in 2023. This week's economic data, however, held a mix of positive and negative implications and a recession, which could be bearish raw commodity demand, is still far from certain. Regardless, funds took the opportunity to liquidate long CBOT holdings, which pushed futures lower. Additionally, farmers used the December rallies in corn, soybeans, and wheat to make cash sales, which added pressure to the market.

The weekly Export Sales report is delayed until Friday, 6 January due to the New Year's holiday, but Tuesday's Export Inspections report featured 0.667 MMT of corn inspections for the last week of December. That volume was expectedly down from the prior week due to the holidays and YTD inspections for the 2022/23 marketing year total 9.58 MMT, down 27 percent.

Ethanol production was down 19 percent for the week ending 30 December as the holidays and cold weather reduced run rates. Ethanol stocks slipped 0.8 percent from the prior week but are 14 percent greater than this time in 2021.

USDA's monthly Grain Crushing numbers reported 11.37 MMT (447.4 million bushels) of corn was used for fuel ethanol in November 2022, down fractionally from the prior month and down 4.2 percent from the prior year. Corn used for industrial and beverage ethanol also slipped from the prior year but beverage ethanol usage was just below the five-year high set in 2021. DDGS production in November totaled 1.615 MMT (1.78 million short tons), up 1.9 percent from October but down 11 percent from 2021.

From a technical standpoint, March corn is pulling back from trendline resistance near \$6.83 that it tested at the end of December but was unable to break. On Thursday, the contract caught a bid a few cents below the psychologically-important \$6.50 level as commercials became more active buyers. Technical support still lies at \$6.48-6.50, followed by long-term support at the 7 December daily low of \$6.35.

Interest Rates and Macroeconomic Markets, January 5, 2023						
	Last*	Weekly Change	Weekly % Change	Monthly Change	Monthly % Change	1-Year History
Interest Rates						
U.S. Prime	7.50	0.0	0.0%	0.5	7.1%	
LIBOR (6 Month)	5.13	0.0	-0.3%	0.0	-0.8%	
LIBOR (1 Year)	5.46	0.0	-0.3%	-0.1	-1.3%	
S&P 500	3,809.3	-40.0	-1.0%	-154.2	-3.9%	~~~~~~
Dow Jones Industrials	32,935.8	-285.0	-0.9%	-845.6	-2.5%	~~~~~~
U.S. Dollar	105.1	1.3	1.2%	0.3	0.3%	
WTI Crude	73.7	-4.7	-6.0%	2.3	3.1%	
Brent Crude	78.7	-4.7	-5.7%	2.6	3.4%	_~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Source: DTN ProphetX, World Perspectives, Inc.

^{*} Last price as of 3:26 PM ET

CBOT March Corn Futures



Source: DTN ProphetX

Current Market Values:

Futures Price	Futures Price Performance: Week Ending January 5, 2022						
Commodity	5-Jan	30-Dec	Net Change				
Corn							
Mar 23	652.75	678.50	-25.75				
May 23	652.50	678.00	-25.50				
Jul 23	646.75	671.75	-25.00				
Sep 23	606.25	627.00	-20.75				
Soybeans							
Jan 23	1466.75	1519.25	-52.50				
Mar 23	1470.75	1524.00	-53.25				
May 23	1477.50	1530.00	-52.50				
Jul 23	1481.00	1533.25	-52.25				
Soymeal							
Jan 23	488.70	478.50	10.20				
Mar 23	464.90	471.00	-6.10				
May 23	451.20	461.00	-9.80				
Jul 23	444.30	454.30	-10.00				
Soyoil							
Jan 23	62.94	63.81	-0.87				
Mar 23	62.42	64.07	-1.65				
May 23	62.11	63.94	-1.83				
Jul 23	61.67	63.56	-1.89				
SRW							
Mar 23	746.75	792.00	-45.25				
May 23	754.75	798.75	-44.00				
Jul 23	759.25	803.00	-43.75				
Sep 23	766.25	809.50	-43.25				
HRW							
Mar 23	839.75	888.00	-48.25				
May 23	835.25	882.25	-47.00				
Jul 23	830.75	876.50	-45.75				
Sep 23	831.25	877.00	-45.75				
MGEX (HRS)							
Mar 23	909.00	938.75	-29.75				
May 23	901.00	926.50	-25.50				
Jul 23	895.50	919.75	-24.25				
Sep 23	878.00	898.50	-20.50				

*Price unit: Cents and quarter-cents/bu. (5,000 bu.)

U.S. Weather/Crop Progress

U.S. Drought Monitor Weather Forecast: During the next five days (January 5-9), enhanced onshore flow is forecast to bring additional heavy rain and high-elevation snow to California and the Pacific Northwest. According to the Weather Prediction Center, the heaviest amounts (more than 7 inches, liquid equivalent) are forecast across the coastal ranges of northern California and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Periods of snow may spread inland over the Great Basin and central Rockies. Light to moderate rainfall is expected to accompany a low pressure system as it tracks across the lower Mississippi Valley. Elsewhere for the central and eastern U.S., little or no precipitation is forecast.

The Climate Prediction Center's 6-10 day outlook (valid Jan 10-14) depicts a persistent pattern with enhanced onshore flow affecting the West Coast. Probabilities exceed 70 percent for above-normal precipitation throughout much of California with increased probabilities for above-normal precipitation forecast for the West and central Great Plains. Above-normal precipitation is also favored for much of the East. Below-normal precipitation is slightly favored for much of Texas, the northern high Plains, and Great Lakes. The long duration of Pacific flow and persistent pattern continues to increase chances for above-normal temperatures for nearly all of the contiguous U.S.

Follow this link to view current U.S. and international weather patterns and future outlook: Weather and Crop Bulletin.

U.S. Export Statistics

Note: Due to the New Year's holiday, the weekly Export Sales report from the USDA is delayed until Friday, January 6, 2023. Updated export statistics will be provided in the next Market Perspectives report.

U.S. Export Inspections: Week Ending December 29, 2022					
Commodity	Export In	spections		YTD as	
(MT)	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Market YTD	Previous YTD	Percent of Previous
Barley	0	0	1,855	10,010	-81%
Corn	667,010	922,142	9,584,257	13,066,487	-27%
Sorghum	2,754	43,164	406,892	1,729,339	-76%
Soybeans	1,462,882	1,774,899	28,617,907	30,794,290	-7%
Wheat	85,672	313,707	11,839,979	12,200,420	-3%

Source: USDA/AMS. *Marketing Year is June 1-May 31 for wheat and barley and Sept. 1-Aug. 31 for corn, sorghum and soybeans. Week-to-week reports will vary due to exporter reported conditions & cancellations to previous week's reports.

USDA Grain Inspections for Export Report: Week Ending December 29, 2022						
Region	YC	% of Total	WC	% of Total	Sorghum	% of Total
Lakes	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Atlantic	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Gulf	467,829	71%	7,994	99%	0	0%
PNW	68,353	10%	49	1%	0	0%
Interior Export Rail	122,785	19%	0	0%	2,754	100%
Total (Metric Tons)	658,967	100%	8,043	100%	2,754	100%
White Corn Shipments by Country (MT)			7,994 49	to Colombia to S. Korea		
Total White Corn			8,043			
Sorghum					2,754	to Mexico
Shipments by						
Country (MT)						
Total Sorghum					2,754	

Source: USDA, World Perspectives, Inc.

Yellow Corn (USD/MT FOB Vessel*)					
YC FOB Vessel	GI	ULF	PNW		
Max. 15.0%	Basis	Flat Price	Basis	Flat Price	
Moisture	(#2 YC)	(#2 YC)	(#2 YC)	(#2 YC)	
January	1.34+H	\$309.73	1.79+H	\$327.31	
February	1.24+H	\$305.95	1.78+H	\$327.22	
March	1.15+H	\$302.41	1.76+H	\$326.43	
April	1.08+K	\$299.46	1.71+K	\$324.36	
May	1.02+K	\$297.10	1.64+K	\$321.61	
June	1.04+N	\$295.55	1.63+N	\$318.95	

Sorghum (USD/MT FOB Vessel*)						
#2 YGS FOB Vessel	N	NOLA TEXAS				
Max 14.0% Moisture	Basis	Flat Price	Basis	Flat Price		
January	N/A	N/A	2.60+H	\$359.33		
February	N/A	N/A	2.60+H	\$359.33		
March	N/A	N/A	2.60+H	\$359.33		

#2 White Corn (U.S. \$/MT FOB Vessel*)					
Max. 15.0% Moisture January February March					
Gulf	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Corn Gluten Feed Pellets (CGFP) (FOB Vessel U.S. \$/MT*)					
January February March					
New Orleans	\$315	\$315	\$315		
Quantity 5,000 MT					

Corn Gluten Meal (CGM) (FOB Vessel U.S. \$/MT*)					
Bulk 60% Pro. January February March					
New Orleans	\$830	\$830	\$830		
*5-10,000 MT Minimum	•				

^{*}Prices are based on offer indications only. Quoted prices are believed to reflect current market conditions but may vary from actual offers. Terms of delivery, payment, and quality may vary from one supplier to another, impacting the actual value of the price.

DDGS Price Table: January 5, 2022 (USD/MT) (Quantity, availability, payment, and delivery terms vary)

(Qualitity, availability, payment, and delivery terms vary)				
Delivery Point Quality Min. 35% Pro-fat combined	January	February	March	
Barge CIF New Orleans	343	343	342	
FOB Vessel GULF	350	350	348	
Rail delivered PNW	390	390	389	
Rail delivered California	397	398	396	
Mid-Bridge Laredo, TX	392	392	388	
FOB Lethbridge, Alberta	363	362	362	
40 ft. Containers to South Korea (Busan)	390	393	396	
40 ft. Containers to Taiwan (Kaohsiung)	420	430	430	
40 ft. Containers to Philippines (Manila)	418	428	428	
40 ft. Containers to Indonesia (Jakarta)	411	414	419	
40 ft. Containers to Malaysia (Port Kelang)	417	419	424	
40 ft. Containers to Vietnam (HCMC)	423	425	430	
40 ft. Containers to Japan (Yokohama)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
40 ft. containers to Thailand (LCMB)	424	426	431	
40 ft. Containers to China (Shanghai)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
40 ft. Containers to Bangladesh (Chittagong)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
40 ft. Containers to Myanmar (Yangon)	418	418	425	
KC Rail Yard (delivered ramp)	318	317	317	
Elwood, IL Rail Yard (delivered ramp)	311	310	310	

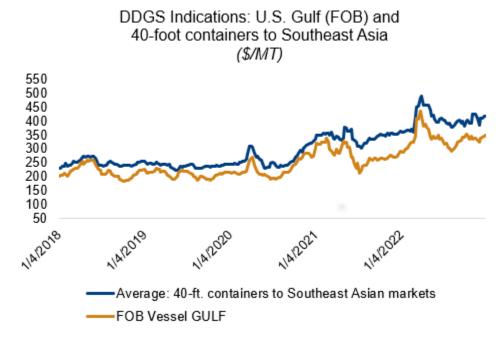
Source: World Perspectives, Inc. *Prices are based on offer indications only; terms of delivery, payment and quality may vary from one supplier to another, impacting the actual value of the price.

Distiller's Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS)

DDGS Comments: DDGS values are \$4-5/MT higher this week as a fourth consecutive week of declining ethanol run rates continues to restrict spot supplies and support values. Soymeal markets remain bullish with unusually strong basis levels and futures in an inverted curve, which is lending support to broader feedstuff markets. Domestic demand remains strong though the recent winter storms caused some lingering logistics issues.

The DDGS/Kansas City soymeal ratio is at 0.56 this week, up from last week and above the three-year average of 0.50. The DDGS/cash corn ratio edged higher this week to 1.06, up from last week's value of 1.01 but equal to its three-year average.

On the export market, Barge CIF NOLA prices are higher for a fourth week with spot offers up \$1-2/MT. FOB NOLA offers are \$3-4/MT also higher and are showing a slightly inverted market. U.S. rail rates are \$4-6/MT lower this week as logistics are still untangling from the past few weeks. Finally, offers for 40-foot containers destined for Southeast Asia are steady this week at \$423 for February shipment.



Source: World Perspectives, Inc.

Country News

Argentina: The outlook for this season's corn crop depends on when La Nina ends, though the damage has already been done. (Reuters)

Brazil: Conab expects the 2022/23 corn crop to reach 125.8 MMT, while market services company StoneX just lowered its forecast to 128.71 MMT from the previous 130.3 MMT. With December corn exports expected to hit a record 6.4 MMT, exporter association Anec says total exports will be a record 43.1 MMT. (AgriCensus; Refinitiv)

Mexico: Corn production in 2022 was 27.3 MMT but the Ministry of Agriculture believes its free fertilizer for farmers in Sinaloa will increase that number by 2 MMT. However, agricultural consulting group Grupo Consultor de Mercados Agrcola says production will only be 26.9 MMT. (Latin Times)

Philippines: Lower rice production and reduced tariffs may cause corn imports to increase by 43 percent to 1 MMT. (USDA/FAS; PhilStar Global)

Tunisia: Government agency ODC has issued a tender to purchase 75 KMT of barley for February-March shipment. (AgriCensus)

Turkey: The country's highest court, which had overturned the government's ban on GM product imports in 2015, last month reimposed the prohibition on importing GM maize MON810. (Safety4Sea).

Ukraine: A historic lag in fall harvesting has left 22 percent of the country's corn crop in the fields for winter, which could affect quality. (AgriCensus)

Ocean Freight Markets and Spreads

Bulk Freight Indices for HSS — Heavy Grain, Sorghum and Soybeans* January 5, 2023

January 5, 2023							
Route and Vessel Size	Current Week (USD/MT)	Change from Previous Report	Remarks				
55,000 U.S. Gulf-Japan	\$54.00	Down \$2.00	Handymax \$54.50 MT				
55,000 U.S. PNW- Japan	\$30.50	Down \$1.00	Handymax at \$31.00 MT				
66,000 U.S. Gulf – China	\$53.00	Down \$2.00	North or South China				
PNW to China	\$30.00	Down \$1.00					
25,000 U.S. Gulf - Veracruz, México	\$23.00	Down \$0.25	3,000 MT daily discharge rate				
30-36,000+ U.S. Gulf - Veracruz, México	\$19.25	Down \$0.25	Deep draft and 6,000 MT per day discharge rate.				
30-38,000 U.S. Gulf - Colombia	\$30.25	Down \$1.00	West Coast Colombia at \$34.50				
50,000 MT U.S. Gulf to East Coast Colombia	\$28.00						
From Argentina	\$37.00						
43-45,000 U.S. Gulf - Guatemala	\$38.00	Down \$0.50	Acajutla/Quetzal - 8,000 out				
26-30,000 US Gulf - Morocco	\$44.00	Down \$1.25	5,000 discharge rate				
55-60,000 U.S. Gulf –Egypt PNW to Egypt	\$44.75 \$45.50	Down \$1.50	55,000-60,000 MT Egypt Romania - Russia- Ukraine \$18.00 -\$26.00 - \$36.00 - France \$27.00, Bulgaria \$18.00				
60-70,000 U.S. Gulf – Europe, Rotterdam	\$28.50	Down \$0.50	Handymax at +\$2.50 more				
Brazil, Santos – China	\$42.25	Down \$1.50	54-59,000 Supramax-Panamax				
Brazil, Santos - China	\$40.00		60-66,000 Post Panamax				
Northern Coast Brazil - China	\$46.00		55-60,000 MT				
56-60,000 Argentina/Rosario- China, Deep Draft	\$45.00	Down \$1.50	Upriver with Top-off, Plus \$3.85-4.75				

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

^{*}Numbers for this table based on previous night's closing values.

Ocean Freight Comments

Transportation and Export Report: Jay O'Neil, O'Neil Commodity Consulting: Freight traders are slowly returning to work after the two-week holiday period. First indications are that outlook opinions have change and moved to the bearish side. The speed of the Chinese post-COVID reopening does not look as optimistic as earlier hoped. As such, markets are starting the new year on a negative note with daily hire rates dropping further. January-February Panamax daily hire rates slipped to \$10,000/day.

Baltic-Panamax Dry-Bulk Indices						
January 5, 2023	This	Last	Difference	Percent		
Route	Week	Week	Dillerence	Change		
P2A: Gulf/Atlantic - Japan	21,218	24,655	-3,437	-13.9		
P3A: PNW/Pacific-Japan	8,652	10,958	-2,306	-21.0		
S1C: U.S. Gulf-China-S. Japan	22,179	31,246	-9,067	-29.0		

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

Capesize Vessel Freight Values				
Western Australia to South China (iron ore)				
Four weeks ago:	\$8.75-9.00			
Three weeks ago:	\$8.11-8.15			
Two weeks ago:	\$8.11-8.15			
One week ago:	\$8.11-8.15			
This week	\$7.30-8.00			

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

U.SAsia Market Spreads						
January 5, 2023	PNW	Gulf	Bushel Spread	MT Spread	Spread Advantage	
#2 Corn	1.75	1.23	0.52	\$20.47	PNW	
Soybeans	2.40	1.45	0.95	\$34.91	GULF	
Ocean Freight	\$30.00	\$53.00	0.58-0.63	\$23.00	February	

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

Bulk Grain Freight Rates to Europe from Select Origins



Source: World Perspectives, Inc.

Bulk Grain Freight Rates for Key Suppliers and Destinations January 5, 2023							
Origin	Destination	This Week		Monthly % Change			2-Year History
Panamax/Supramax Vessels							
U.S. Gulf	Japan	54.00	-3.25	-5.7%	-16.50	-23.4% "	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
U.S. PNW		30.50	-1.50	-4.7%	-8.25	-21.3% 👡	
Argentina		49.50	-1.00	-2.0%	-11.00	-18.2% ¬	
Brazil		44.50	-1.00	-2.2%	-9.00	-16.8% ¬	
U.S. Gulf		53.00	-3.50	-6.2%	-16.50	-23.7%	
U.S. PNW	Ohinn	30.00	-1.75	-5.5%	-8.00	-21.1% -,	
Argentina	China	45.00	-4.00	-8.2%	-19.50		
Brazil		46.00	-3.75	-7.5%	-20.50	-30.8% _	
U.S. Gulf		29.40	0.20	0.7%	2.40	8.9% <	
Argentina	Europe	53.50	2.00	3.9%	10.50	24.4% ~	
Brazil		55.50	2.00	3.7%	9.50	20.7% -	
Argentina	Saudi	63.50	2.00	3.3%	7.00	12.4% _	~
Brazil	Arabia	72.50	2.00	2.8%	8.00	12.4% ~	
U.S. Gulf		44.75	-2.75	-5.8%	-12.50	-21.8% _	
U.S. PNW	F	48.10	-1.10	-2.2%	0.35	0.7% _	
Argentina	Egypt	64.50	2.00	3.2%	11.00	20.6% _	
Brazil		68.50	2.00	3.0%	8.00	13.2% _	
Handysized Vessels							
U.S. Gulf		44.00	-5.50	-11.1%	-13.25	-23.1% _	
U.S. Great Lakes	Morocco	81.70	-0.10	-0.1%	36.95	82.6%	
Argentina		57.50	2.00	3.6%	13.00	29.2% 🕳	
Brazil		60.50	2.00	3.4%	10.00	19.8% -	
U.S. Great Lakes	Europe	81.00	0.00	0.0%	34.05	72.5%	
Brazil		62.70	1.90	3.1%	5.10	8.9% _	
Argentina	Algeria	58.50	2.00	3.5%	11.00	23.2% _	
Brazil	, agona	61.50	2.00	3.4%	10.00	19.4% ~	
U.S. Gulf		30.25	-1.75	-5.5%	-6.75	-18.2% _	
U.S. PNW	Colombia	50.00	0.00	0.0%	8.20	19.6% 🖡	
Argentina		37.00	-2.00	-5.1%	-16.00	-30.2% _	
Shipping Indexes							
Baltic Dry I	ndex	2261	938	70.9%	44	2.0% ᢏ	

Source: World Perspectives, Inc.

Note: Quoted rates are believed to reflect current market conditions but may vary from actual offers.

Rates may differ based on delivery terms, demurrage, and other factors.

Indications for some routes were corrected on 20 and 27 Oct. 2022.