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GENERAL COMMENTS

No USDA DDGS price report was published last week and this week's report is delayed until Friday due to the U.S. federal holiday.

DDG prices in the Pacific Northwest (rail) were last reported December 22, 2023, at \$284 – \$305 per short ton which was unchanged to down \$3 per ton from the prior week. DDG prices in Iowa were last quoted at \$200 to \$240 per ton, unchanged at up \$12 per ton.

U.S. DDGS exports totaled 897,000 MT in October 2023, according to the USDA, up 12% year-over-year. YTD DDGS exports were down 4%.

The most recent monthly Grain Crushing report from USDA featured 505 million bushels of corn used for ethanol in November 2023, up 1% from year-over-year. DDGS production totaled 1.80 million tons in November 2023, also up 1% year-over-year. DWG production totaled 1.37 million tons, down 6 percent year-over-year.

DDGS Price Table: January 4, 2023 (USD/MT) (Quantity, availability, payment, and delivery terms vary)			
Delivery Point Quality Min. 35% Pro-fat combined	January	February	March
Barge CIF New Orleans	248	246	245
FOB Vessel Gulf	255	253	249
Rail Delivered PNW	272	270	272
Rail Delivered California	285	284	282
Mid-Bridge, Laredo, TX	305	302	303
FOB Lethbridge, Alberta	272	272	271
40 ft containers to South Korea (Busan)	318	318	315
40 ft containers to Taiwan (Kaohsiung)	322	322	319
40 ft containers to Philippines (Manila)	360	360	358
40 ft containers to Indonesia (Jakarta)	NA	NA	NA
40 ft containers to Malaysia (Port Kelang)	334	334	332
40 ft containers to Vietnam (HCMC)	319	319	317
40 ft containers to Japan (Yokohama)	337	337	335
40 ft containers to Thailand (LCMB)	339	339	337
40 ft containers to China (Shanghai)	323	323	321
40 ft containers to Bangladesh (Chittagong)	NA	NA	NA
40 ft containers to Taiwan Myanmar (Yangon)	322	322	320
KC Rail Yard (delivered ramp)	245	243	244
Elwood, IL Rail Yard (delivered ramp)	223	221	223
Source:	Reuters/Decision Innovation Solutions and Polaris Analytics and Consulting.		

OCEAN FREIGHT MARKET

Dry bulk ocean freight rates ended 2023 retracing gains through early December. The Baltic Dry Index for example, the venerable measurement on the health of the dry bulk sector ended 2023 at 2,094, a drop of 37% from an eighteen-month peak of 3,346 on December 4. The decline is attributed to the wild swings of the Capesize market that saw demand collapse to haul iron ore and coal. The Capesize market greatly influences the Baltic Dry Index.

The smaller vessel classes finished the year lower as well with the Panamax market ending at an index reading of 1,909, nearly one-fourth off its early December peak and the Supramax sector ending at 1,369, which was 13% below the December peak.

Even though freight rates ended 2023 lower, they remain well above levels from one year ago, with the Baltic Dry Index two-thirds higher, the Capesize market more than double, while the Panamax and Supramax sectors ended about 30% higher.

With 2023 in the rearview mirror, freight rates continue the pathway of lower levels with the Panamax market starting 5% lower at 1,808, the Supramax down 7% to 1,271 and the Handysize sector down 15% to 745.

Ocean freight rates are demonstrating a weakness in demand despite bullish factors across the globe. For example, the Panama Canal continues to experience an El Niño induced drought leading to historic low water levels in Gatun Lake, the key reservoir used to flush vessels through the Panama Canal. The drought is not expected to let up anytime soon. The seasonal dry period continues until May. The Panama Canal Authority relaxed the number of daily transits from 18 (that was to go into effect February 1, 2024) to 24 vessels, but that is woefully below the 38 transits when navigation conditions are adequate. These fewer slots mean transit times between origins and destinations are longer, adding upwards of \$0.50 per metric ton for grain each day a vessel is delayed locking through the Panama Canal. Or vessels take longer routes around the Cape of Good Hope or through the Suez Canal. For grain exports out of the United States routing volumes through the Pacific Northwest is a good alternative. The vessel draft is restricted to 44.0 feet through the Neopanamax locks, while unchanged at 39.5 feet through the Panamax or original set of locks.

Meanwhile, the Red Sea is fraught with attacks on merchant vessels plying the waters between Asia and the Mediterranean Sea, which requires transiting the Suez Canal. As such, vessel owners and operators have paused using that route out of safety concerns. Instead, vessels are being routed around the Cape of Good Hope, adding days and weeks to transit times. Those longer sailings lead to tightened vessel capacity utilization and higher freight rates while disrupting supply chains. Freight rates could find upward price action on continued transit issues across Panama, increased terrorist activity in the Red Sea, improving global economic activity that demands more iron ore and coal, and shifts in grain and soybean flows between South America and the United States, depending on how crops progress in South America. For now, ocean freight rates have a sluggish start moving into the New Year.

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

Bulk Freight Rates for HSS – Heavy Grain, Sorghum and Soybeans* \$USD/MT			
Route and Vessel Size	3-Jan-24	27-Dec-23	Weekly Change
55,000 U.S. Gulf – Japan	62.88	64.27	-1.39
55,000 U.S. PNW – Japan	26.17	26.53	-0.36
66,000 U.S. Gulf – China	51.38	53.28	-1.90
66,000 U.S. PNW – China	26.34	27.32	-0.98
25,000 U.S. Gulf – Veracruz, Mexico	25.00	27.00	-2.00
30-36,000 U.S. Gulf – Veracruz, Mexico	16.21	17.67	-1.46
30-38,000 U.S. Gulf – Colombia	28.00	30.00	-2.00
50,000 U.S. Gulf – East Coast Colombia	14.04	16.01	-1.97
50,000 Argentina – East Coast Colombia	21.98	23.11	-1.13
43-45,000 U.S. Gulf-Guatemala	NA	NA	NA
26-30,000 U.S. Gulf – Morocco	59.00	64.00	-5.00
55-60,000 U.S. Gulf – Egypt	42.00	44.00	-2.00
55-60,000 U.S. PNW – Egypt	42.00	42.00	0.00
60-70,000 U.S. Gulf – Europe, Rotterdam	33.00	33.00	0.00
Brazil, Santos – China	44.11	44.77	-0.66
Northern Coast Brazil – China	27.38	27.90	-0.52
56-60,000 Argentina/Rosario – China Deep Draft	51.46	53.55	-2.09
Source:	Reuters: *Numbers for this table based on previous night's closing values.		

LATEST EXPORT FIGURES

Calendar Year (January-December):

Rank	Partner	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan - Oct 2022	Jan - Oct 2023	Change YTD (%)	Change YTD (MT)
-	World Total	10,792,412	10,922,732	11,574,305	10,972,949	9,366,745	8,986,441	-4%	-380,304
1	Mexico	2,022,752	1,732,282	2,382,780	2,230,829	1,856,028	1,859,816	0%	3,788
2	Vietnam	1,202,103	1,282,022	1,436,934	1,278,996	1,151,505	935,558	-23%	-215,947
3	Korea, South	1,242,410	1,260,030	1,135,719	1,263,878	1,047,856	996,957	-5%	-50,899
4	Canada	643,994	397,588	772,794	967,522	849,203	588,007	-44%	-261,196
5	Indonesia	913,488	933,401	859,428	835,060	725,972	761,165	5%	35,193
6	Japan	516,881	463,118	424,205	496,862	414,039	342,912	-21%	-71,127
7	Ireland	277,440	291,278	369,706	447,904	379,621	247,255	-54%	-132,366
8	Turkey	577,364	790,455	847,526	422,882	361,010	543,495	34%	182,485
9	Colombia	200,615	209,961	238,753	360,695	290,812	281,302	-3%	-9,510
10	Taiwan	242,521	241,542	226,151	254,340	205,212	214,020	4%	8,808
11	Spain	103,369	64,670	158,036	239,065	239,065	166,353	-44%	-72,712
12	New Zealand	208,571	278,870	231,067	233,853	208,306	42,640	-389%	-165,666
13	Morocco	223,352	188,929	212,742	203,763	176,201	237,777	26%	61,576
14	Thailand	574,380	848,838	355,471	184,354	167,422	236,010	29%	68,588
15	China	174,338	270,261	453,072	175,045	124,617	207,446	40%	82,829
16	Israel	212,153	196,975	207,053	169,451	169,451	153,715	-10%	-15,736
17	Philippines	261,977	280,372	184,330	162,769	137,625	179,688	23%	42,063
18	United Kingdom	180,625	121,609	125,528	132,030	73,881	145,565	49%	71,684
19	Bangladesh	160,873	164,517	139,351	107,061	96,477	100,672	4%	4,195
20	Ecuador	50,595	55,625	49,762	104,443	85,831	152,449	44%	66,618
21	Egypt	142,141	182,399	181,257	87,117	85,312	32,257	-164%	-53,055
22	Honduras	62,508	75,218	68,640	85,824	73,153	82,317	11%	9,164
23	Guatemala	73,214	73,335	80,060	84,362	73,621	71,223	-3%	-2,398
24	Costa Rica	92,651	83,807	84,749	81,612	68,096	71,323	5%	3,227
25	El Salvador	78,451	56,006	58,099	74,013	66,070	41,748	-58%	-24,322
26	Malaysia	66,809	50,122	50,747	55,476	49,775	42,589	-17%	-7,186
27	Cambodia	50,064	42,923	40,515	35,470	30,063	54,930	45%	24,867
28	Tunisia	0	14,000	918	25,622	14,400	20,629	30%	6,229
29	Portugal	14,299	10,449	18,200	23,138	23,138	20,517	-13%	-2,621
30	Panama	19,736	15,993	30,155	22,505	18,291	22,017	17%	3,726
31	Jamaica	20,790	7,680	20,878	21,852	21,852	16,309	-34%	-5,543
32	Saudi Arabia	13,500	29,331	18,459	21,718	11,386	36,735	69%	25,349
33	Peru	18,737	14,658	0	14,722	14,722	16,417	10%	1,695
34	Burma	71,137	64,274	25,701	13,567	12,380	7,743	-60%	-4,637
35	Sri Lanka	18,159	27,626	24,635	13,011	11,196	4,161	-169%	-7,035
36	Oman	7,123	9,018	9,045	10,716	8,226	7,162	-15%	-1,064
37	Qatar	8,023	9,179	15,417	7,584	6,058	2,371	-156%	-3,687
38	Nicaragua	4,969	8,909	7,338	5,016	5,016	4,586	-9%	-430
39	United Arab Emirates	6,416	6,518	8,992	4,637	2,887	6,970	59%	4,083
40	Jordan	2,519	1,407	4,780	2,640	2,012	4,501	55%	2,489

Marketing Year (September-August):

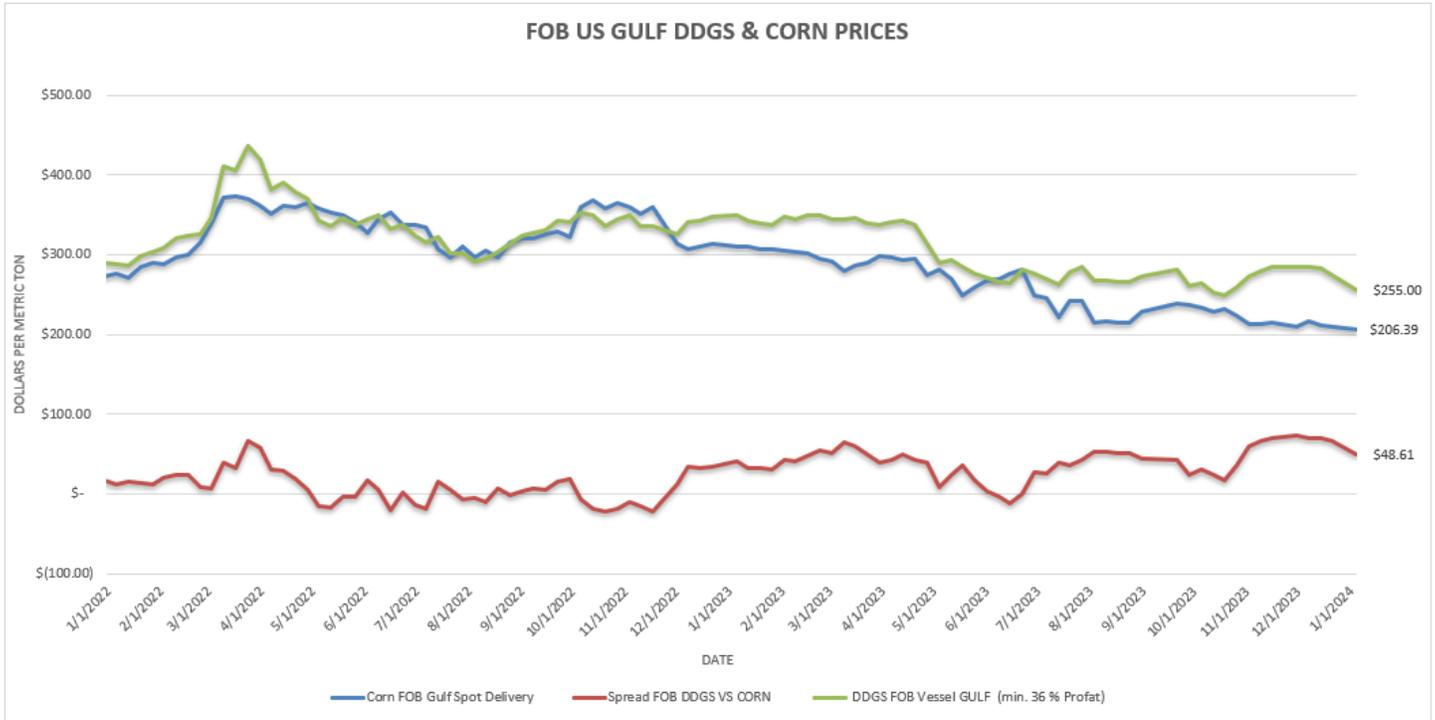
Rank	Partner	2020	2021	2022	2023	Sep - Oct 2023	Sep - Oct 2024	Change YTD (%)	Change YTD (MT)
-	World Total	10,488,669	11,556,779	11,559,974	10,365,420	1,700,042	1,927,267	12%	227,225
1	Mexico	1,789,732	2,149,786	2,317,237	2,182,177	342,691	395,131	13%	52,440
2	Korea, South	1,209,824	1,167,465	1,241,421	1,237,220	211,013	186,772	-13%	-24,241
3	Vietnam	1,207,882	1,412,672	1,350,651	1,110,495	308,270	260,824	-18%	-47,446
4	Indonesia	905,812	888,866	930,941	836,856	94,915	128,312	26%	33,397
5	Canada	426,377	551,441	1,095,566	663,885	113,842	156,283	27%	42,441
6	Turkey	601,596	937,058	547,119	569,338	33,731	69,760	52%	36,029
7	Japan	482,063	472,580	471,449	421,742	66,394	70,387	6%	3,993
8	Colombia	209,611	268,732	295,860	355,902	57,514	52,797	-9%	-4,717
9	Ireland	259,117	334,647	460,228	354,801	73,910	34,647	-113%	-39,263
10	Taiwan	252,419	224,863	235,960	268,977	47,335	41,506	-14%	-5,829
11	Thailand	880,000	453,031	203,630	264,215	44,922	33,649	-34%	-11,273
12	Morocco	200,341	236,168	211,580	223,477	4,713	46,575	90%	41,862
13	Spain	20,699	154,217	215,830	209,812	71,025	27,566	-158%	-43,459
14	China	196,858	363,453	346,901	208,610	14,276	63,540	78%	49,264
15	Philippines	281,426	234,061	152,466	203,410	35,921	37,343	4%	1,422
16	Ecuador	56,408	51,222	90,220	149,043	13,917	35,935	61%	22,018
17	Israel	168,131	198,090	211,768	131,272	12,186	34,629	65%	22,443
18	United Kingdom	135,149	124,019	92,780	130,058	0	73,656	100%	73,656
19	New Zealand	282,083	265,692	244,845	100,214	32,027	0	-	-32,027
20	Bangladesh	124,516	199,306	107,666	90,969	7,478	27,765	73%	20,287
21	Honduras	58,640	77,280	84,690	85,874	14,625	23,739	38%	9,114
22	Guatemala	74,232	89,417	71,097	85,430	19,131	15,665	-22%	-3,466
23	Costa Rica	81,195	79,059	93,402	82,732	9,587	11,694	18%	2,107
24	El Salvador	79,572	55,444	70,769	53,959	14,058	9,790	-44%	-4,268
25	Saudi Arabia	23,287	18,904	8,917	50,344	10,583	7,306	-45%	-3,277
26	Malaysia	53,828	49,938	60,227	46,860	9,073	10,503	14%	1,430
27	Cambodia	37,021	41,892	44,829	40,559	5,509	25,287	78%	19,778
28	Tunisia	0	14,918	14,400	31,539	0	312	100%	312
29	Egypt	158,273	221,130	122,645	26,164	10,583	18,481	43%	7,898
30	Panama	16,985	22,527	26,281	25,852	5,830	6,209	6%	379
31	Portugal	4,949	23,700	23,138	20,517	0	0	-	0
32	Peru	14,478	8,847	14,722	16,417	0	0	-	0
33	Jamaica	12,476	14,595	25,936	13,680	4,199	6,828	39%	2,629
34	Oman	8,587	7,467	11,482	9,884	544	312	-74%	-232
35	Burma	59,338	47,644	21,797	8,800	711	841	15%	130
36	Sri Lanka	27,751	28,110	10,565	8,681	4,188	1,483	-182%	-2,705
37	United Arab Emirates	6,476	7,714	5,833	7,859	0	861	100%	861
38	Pakistan	278	1,235	105	6,283	0	4,924	100%	4,924
39	Jordan	2,581	3,792	2,602	5,724	595	0	-	-595
40	Venezuela	0	0	0	5,145	0	0	-	0

NOTES:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. (*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.
3. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure. QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, grouped commodities. Or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.
4. Product Group : BICO-HS10

CHARTS BASED ON MOST RECENT DATA FROM FAS GATS DATABASE (October 2023)

FOB US DDGS AND CORN PRICES



FOB US DDGS AND SOYBEAN MEAL PRICES

