

Idaho Grain Market Report, April 1, 2010

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Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday, March 31, 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	\$5.75	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.90	\$3.75	\$5.51
Idaho Falls	\$6.00	(2-R)\$6.50-\$6.85 (6-R)\$6.50	\$4.00	\$3.68	\$5.57
Blackfoot / Pocatello	\$5.93	(2-R) \$6.50 (6-R) NQ	\$4.10	\$3.77	\$5.58
Grace / Soda Springs	\$5.85	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.82	\$3.61	\$5.36
Burley / Rupert Hazelton	\$5.50	(2-R) \$6.50 (6-R) \$6.50	\$3.85-\$3.90	\$3.66	\$5.47
Twin Falls / Eden / Buhl	\$5.80-\$6.50	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.58-\$3.90	NQ	NQ
Weiser	\$5.85	(2-R) NQ (6-R) NQ	\$3.65	NQ	NQ
Nez Perce / Craigmont	\$4.85	(2-R) \$4.85 (6-R) \$4.85	\$3.95	\$4.36	\$6.25
Lewiston	\$5.30	(2-R) \$5.30 (6-R) \$5.30	\$4.14	\$4.55	\$6.44
Moscow / Genesee	\$4.90	(2-R) \$4.90 (6-R) \$4.90	\$3.91-\$4.70	\$4.32-\$5.13	\$6.05-\$6.21

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 \$4.58-\$4.65 Aug NC \$4.60-\$4.65	Apr \$5.02-\$5.07 Aug NC \$5.10-\$5.13	Apr \$6.62-\$6.82 Aug NC \$6.04-\$6.08
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	\$4.11	\$3.77	\$5.53
Great Falls	\$4.95-\$5.00	NQ	\$6.00	NQ	\$3.10-\$3.32	\$5.47-\$5.82
Minneapolis	\$4.48	NQ	NQ	NQ	\$4.55 (12%)	\$6.62-\$6.92

Market trends this week

BARLEY – Local barley prices were mostly lower, ranging from 75 cents lower to 50 cents higher in southern Idaho and no change reported in northern Idaho. USDA reported no barley export sales for last week, while barley export shipments totaled .2 TMT for Mexico

2010 Planting Intentions – USDA pegged U.S. barley acreage at 3.273 million, down 8% from last year. **Idaho barley acreage was pegged unchanged from last year at 530,000.**

Quarterly Stocks Report, 3/31/10 – USDA pegged barley stocks on March 1 at 157 million bu, up 22% from a year ago. The indicated disappearance for the period December through February was 49 million bu, up 12%, for the same period a year ago.

WHEAT – Local wheat prices were also mostly lower this week: SWW ranged from 10 cents lower to 10 cents higher; HRW ranged from no change to 25 cents lower; and DNS ranged from 1 to 21 cents lower. U.S. wheat export sales last

week were slightly above trade expectations at 430.6 TMT, up 16% from the previous week and 43% from the prior 4-week average. Export sales for MY 10/11 totaled 53 TMT. Wheat export shipments hit a marketing year high at 693 TMT, up 53% from the previous week and 61% from the prior 4-week average.

2010 Planting Intentions – USDA pegged all wheat acreage at 53.827 million, down 9% from last year and the lowest wheat planted area since 1970. This was more than **500,000 acres above the average pre-report trade estimate** of 53.325 million. Winter wheat acres were pegged at 37.698 million, down 13% from last year and slightly above their January estimate. Other spring wheat acres were pegged at 13.91 million, well above expectations. **Idaho wheat acres were pegged at 1.38 million, up 5% from last (winter wheat 780,000 and spring wheat 580,000).**

Quarterly Stocks Report, 3/31/10 – USDA pegged wheat stocks on March 1 at 1.352 million bu, up 30% from a year ago, but 12 million bushels below the average pre-report trade estimate of 1.364 million bu. The indicated disappearance for the period December through February was 429 million bu, up 12%, for the same period a year ago.

Wheat Competitor/Buyer News – Egypt snubbed U.S. wheat again this week, buying Russian wheat. Other tenders this week include: Jordan 100 TMT and Bangladesh 100 TMT.

CORN –

2010 Planting Intentions - USDA pegged corn acreage at 88.798 million, up 3% from last year, but more than **140,000 below the average pre-report trade estimate** of 88.941 million.

Quarterly Stocks Report, 3/31/10 - USDA pegged corn stocks on March 1 at 7.694 million bu, up 11% from a year ago, and 189 bushels above the average pre-report trade estimate of 7.505 million bu. The indicated disappearance for the period December through February was 3.23 million bu, up 4%, for the same period a year ago.

Corn Competitor/Buyer News – South Korea purchased 281 TMT of U.S. corn this week. Argentine port strikes caused some concerns about the reliability of this major corn and soybean exporter.

Futures market activity this week

WHEAT – Wheat began the week mixed to fractionally lower on Monday in liquidation selling ahead of Wednesday's planting intentions and quarterly stocks reports as well as favorable weather for winter wheat crop development and spring wheat planting. Short covering pushed wheat prices solidly higher on Tuesday despite a higher dollar. Wheat fell sharply on Wednesday in the face of a higher than expected spring wheat acreage estimate from USDA and spillover pressure from corn and soybeans. Wheat finished modestly higher today (Thursday) on short covering. **Wheat market closes on Thursday, 4/1/10 ...**

	May 2010	Weekly Summary	July 2010	Weekly Summary
Chicago	\$4.54 ³ / ₄	Down \$.10	\$4.68 ¹ / ₂	Down \$.09 ¹ / ₂
Kansas City	\$4.70	Down \$.05 ¹ / ₂	\$4.81 ³ / ₄	Down \$.04 ³ / ₄
Minneapolis DNS	\$4.89	Down \$.08	\$5.00	Down \$.08 ¹ / ₂

CORN – Corn began the week fractionally higher on Monday in choppy trading, with gains from higher crude oil mostly offset by favorable planting weather and position evening ahead of Wednesday's key reports. Tuesday saw more choppy trading under pressure from outside markets but losses were limited by late session short covering. Corn fell nearly double digits on Wednesday on a selling wave sparked by a bearish stocks report which showed quarterly stocks about 200 million above the average trade estimate which raises worrisome questions about USDA's 2009 final production estimate and/or current demand. Prices finished fractionally lower today (Thursday) as early gains from short covering faded into the close. **May 2010 corn contract closed Thursday, 4/1/10, at \$3.44 ¹/₂, down \$.11 ³/₄ for the week and the July 2010 contact closed at \$3.56, down \$.11 ¹/₂ for the week.**

Other Major Factors to Watch -

- **Crude Oil** – Crude oil prices gained 6% this week, climbing above \$84/bbl on a combination of factors, including a lower dollar, positive economic news and concerns about terrorist attacks in Russia and Middle East. Wednesday's petroleum stocks report was mostly bearish...with crude stocks increasing 2.929 million bbls, compared to an expected increase of 2.5 million bbls; distillates showed a decline of 1.085 million bbls, compared to an expected draw of 1.375 million bbls; and gasoline stocks increased by 313,000 bbls, compared to an expected draw of 1.85 million bbls. Crude closed at \$84.87/bbl on Thursday, boosted by a lower dollar and economic optimism.
- **U.S. weather** – Weather was mostly dry across the Central U.S. this week, but revised forecasts showed a wetter outlook starting midweek in the Northern CB, moving south and eastward by the weekend. Pockets of dryness are beginning to take shape in the Southern Plains which will need moisture later this month to avoid winter wheat stress. The 6-10 day outlook shows below normal temps and above normal precipitation for the Northern and Eastern CB, but other models disagree on the moisture amounts.
- **International weather / crop watch** –
 - **Canada** – Above normal temperatures continued across much of the Western Prairies.
 - **Europe** – Rain continued to boost soil moisture across Central and Northern Europe, while warmer temps eased winter grains out of dormancy in Germany and Poland.

- **Former Soviet Union** – Above normal temps triggered widespread snow melting across Ukraine and southern Russia, while unseasonably deep snow pack continued in much of eastern and northern Russia.
- **Middle East** – Showers favored reproductive winter grains in Iran and Iraq, while above normal temps accelerated crop development in Turkey.
- **Northern Africa** – Mostly sunny weather continued to favor reproductive to filling winter grains.
- **China** – Showers benefitted winter grain and canola development.
- **Argentina / Brazil** – Argentina saw mostly dry warmer weather, aiding crop maturation and harvesting.