

Idaho Grain Market Report, Mar. 15, 2018

Published weekly by the Idaho Barley Commission, [kolson@barley.idaho.gov](mailto:kolson@barley.idaho.gov), 208-334-2090

Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday, Mar. 14, 2018. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. and wheat prices in \$/bu.

	<b>Barley (Cwt.) FEED</b>	<b>MALTING</b>	<b>Wheat (bu.) Milling</b>			
	<b>48 lbs or better</b>	<b>Open market malting</b>	<b>#1 SWW</b>	<b>#1 HRW 11.5% pro</b>	<b>#1 DNS 14% pro</b>	<b>#1 HWW</b>
Rexburg / Ririe	\$7.25		\$3.95	\$5.20	\$5.70	\$5.40
Idaho Falls		\$8.30-9.06	\$3.85	\$5.10	\$5.60	\$5.35
Blackfoot / Pocatello		\$6.50	\$3.85	\$5.10	\$5.60	\$5.35
Grace / Soda Springs	\$7.00		\$3.91	\$4.71	\$5.62	\$5.41
Burley / Rupert	\$6.25		\$3.92	\$4.74	\$5.51	\$5.44
Hazelton						
Twin Falls / Buhl / Jerome / Wendell	\$5.75-6.75		NQ	NQ	NQ	NQ
Nampa / Weiser	\$5.75		\$4.45			
Nez Perce / Craigmont	\$5.81		\$4.86	\$5.78	\$6.73	
Lewiston	\$6.33		\$5.12	\$6.04	\$6.99	
Moscow / Genesee	\$5.81-5.95		\$4.89-5.03	\$5.81-5.96	\$6.76-6.82	\$5.96

**Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash prices FOB**

	<b>#2 Feed 46 lbs. --</b>	<b>Malting</b>	<b>#1 SWW Ord pro -</b>	<b>#1 HRW 11.5% Protein</b>	<b>#1 DNS 14% Protein</b>	<b>#1 HWW</b>
Portland			\$5.40 -5.68	\$6.54 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -6.79 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	\$7.36 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -7.56 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	
Los Angeles	\$8.65-9.00					
Tulare	\$8.65-9.00					
Ogden	\$7.30		\$4.15	\$5.10	\$6.00	\$5.70
Great Falls	\$5.25-5.75	\$7.50- 8.25		\$5.60-5.68(12%)	\$6.25-6.35	
Minneapolis	\$5.94			\$5.90 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> (12%)	\$7.71 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	

**Market trends this week**

**BARLEY** – Local feed and open market malting barley prices were steady this week. USDA reports no barley export sales for last week, while barley export shipments totaled 1.3 TMT to Taiwan, South Korea and Japan.

**WHEAT** – Local wheat prices were mixed this week. SWW prices ranged from minus 19 cents to plus 6 cents; HRW prices ranged from 5 to 21 cents lower; and DNS prices ranged from minus 1 cent to plus 13 cents. USDA reports wheat export sales last week were below trade expectations at 162.8 TMT (plus MY 18/19 sales of 56.7 TMT), down 58% from the previous week and down 47% from the previous 4-week average. Wheat export shipments last week were better at 334.8 TMT, down 7% from the previous week and down 16% from the 4-week average.

**Wheat Competitor/Buyer News** – European ag sources confirm winter wheat crop damage from the late February freeze, with an estimated crop loss of at least 600 TMT. Another cold snap is forecast next week for France, Germany and Poland. The French wheat crop is currently rated 81% good/excellent, compared to last year's rating of 92% for this time of year. France is expected to export 17.1 MMT of wheat in MY 2017/18, down 2.4% from an earlier forecast. SovEcon is estimating Russia's new wheat crop at 77.6 MMT compared to 85 MMT in 2017 and exports of 36.8 MMT compared to 37.5 MMT projected for the current marketing year. Egypt purchased 240 TMT of wheat today – 120 TMT each from Russia and Romania.

**CORN** – USDA reports U.S. corn export sales last week were well above trade expectations and a marketing year high of 2.51 MMT (plus MY 18/19 sales of 100 TMT), up 35% from the previous week and up 41% from the 4-week average. Corn export shipments totaled 1.41 MMT, up 31% from the previous week and up 40% from the 4-week average.

**Ethanol corn usage** – DOE's Energy Information Agency reported a surprisingly large downtick in weekly U.S. ethanol production last week – down 3.0% or 32,000 bbls/day to 1.025 million bbls/day, which is down 1.9% from a year ago. Ethanol stocks surged to 24.28 million bbls, which is up nearly 5% from the previous week and up nearly 7% from a year ago. Weekly corn usage for ethanol, however, remains strong at 106.6 mbu and ahead of the weekly pace needed to reach USDA's revised estimate for MY 2017/18 of 5.575 billion bu. Cumulative year-to-date corn use now totals 3.05 billion bu.

**Corn Competitor/Buyer News** – CONAB is estimating the Brazilian corn crop at 87.2 MMT, compared to USDA's latest estimate of 94.5 MMT. The Buenos Aires Grain Exchange is pegging the Argentine corn crop at 34 MMT, compared to USDA's latest estimate of 36 MMT. The Rosario Grain Exchange pegs their crop at 32 MMT. Argentine growing areas received spotty rain coverage last weekend but there are three major storm systems expected to boost coverage to 50% of the key growing region in the next two weeks which should help stabilize yields. China has reportedly increased its corn processing capacity (ethanol and corn starch) by 30% in the past year – up 33 MMT to a total of 137 MMT. South Korean feed users purchased 210 TMT of optional origin corn this week. USDA reported three large corn sales in their daily reporting system this week – 260 TMT and 254 TMT to unknown destinations and 107.8 TMT to Japan.

**Futures Market trends this week**

**WHEAT** – Wheat prices started the week fractionally higher on support from short covering. Gains were limited by demand concerns as the U.S. wheat export pace has slowed in recent weeks. Prices retreated lower on Tuesday under pressure from technical selling triggered by an extended 11-15 day forecast which shows better chances of moisture across the Plains and Midwest. Short covering pulled wheat prices modestly higher on Wednesday. Wheat futures finished lower today (Thursday), on selling triggered by weaker than expected export sales and updated forecasts showing some key production areas are likely to receive beneficial moisture during the next several days. **Wheat futures contract closes on Thursday, 3/15/2018...**

	<b>May 2018</b>	<b>Week Change</b>	<b>July 2018</b>	<b>Week Change</b>	<b>Sept 2018</b>	<b>Week Change</b>
CHI SRW	\$4.78 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Down \$0.10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	\$4.96	Down \$0.09 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	\$5.12 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Down \$0.09 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
KC HRW	\$5.13 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Down \$0.07	\$5.30 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Down \$0.06 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	\$5.47 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Down \$0.06 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
MGE DNS	\$6.15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>	Down \$0.02	\$6.22 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Down \$0.03 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	\$6.28 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>	Down \$0.04

**CORN-** Corn posted fractional gains on Monday in choppy trading, with pressure from increased farmer selling. Corn extended these modest gains on Tuesday, bolstered by news of more large single day export sales reports, including sizeable South Korean optional origin purchases this week. Wednesday saw technical selling drive corn prices modestly lower. Corn futures closed lower again today (Thursday) in line with wheat, despite stronger than expected weekly corn export sales. **May 2018 contract closed on Thursday, 3/15/2018 at \$3.86<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, down \$0.03<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> for the week, July 2018 contract closed at \$3.94<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, down \$0.03<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> for the week and Sept. 2018 contract closed at \$4.00, down \$0.02<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> for the week.**

**CRUDE OIL** – Crude oil futures continued to chop lower this week, under pressure from larger than expected domestic oil inventories. The U.S. EIA reported that weekly domestic oil stockpiles increased for a third consecutive week by 5.022 million bbls, compared to an expected increase of 2.0 million bbls. Br contrast, distillate stocks declined by 4.36 million bbls, compared to an expected decline of 1.5 million bbls and gasoline stockpiles decreased by 6.712 million bbls, compared to an decrease of 1.2 million bbls. **Crude oil futures finished down \$0.85/bbl for the week to close at \$61.19/bbl.**

**Crop Weather** – Winter wheat crops in southwestern KS, Oklahoma and Texas are currently rated in the worst condition for this time of year since 1895. The KS crop is currently rated at 12% good/excellent and 53% poor/very poor. The OK and TX crops are rated at 7% and 72% and 13% and 53%. Overall, 52.1% of the U.S. is experiencing some level of drought, wit 40% of winter wheat covered by drought and 39% of spring wheat area. Some key winter wheat areas are expected to receive beneficial moisture over the next few days.