

Idaho Grain Market Report, December 21, 2023—NEW CROP PRICES

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Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday December 20, 2023. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. And wheat prices in \$/bu.

| | Barley (Cwt.) FEED 48 lbs or better | MALTING Open Market Malting | Wheat (bu.) Milling #1 SWW | #1 HRW 11.5% Protein | #1 DNS 14% Protein | #1 HWW |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Rexburg / Ririe | No Bid | | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid |
| Idaho Falls | | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid |
| Blackfoot / Pocatello | No Bid | | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid |
| Grace / Soda Springs | 7.00 | | 6.45 | 6.37 | 7.34 | 6.52 |
| Burley / Rupert | No Bid | | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid | No Bid |
| Twin Falls / Buhl Jerome / Wendell | 8.75 | | 6.35 | | | |
| Meridian | 10.00 | | 5.85 | 5.78 | 6.83 | |
| Nezperce / Craigmont | No Bid | | 5.85 | 5.99 | 7.88 | |
| Lewiston | No Bid | | 6.11 | 6.25 | 7.54 | |
| Moscow / Genesee | 7.43 | | 5.88-6.00 | 6.02-6.04 | 7.23-7.31 | |

Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash FOB

Wednesday December 20, 2023. Barley prices in \$/Cwt. And wheat prices in \$/bu.

| | #2 Feed Barley 46 lbs. -- | Malting Barley | #1 SWW | #1 HRW 11.5% Protein | #1 DNS 14% Protein | #1 HWW |
|-------------|--|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Portland | | | 6.75-7.05 | 6.79-6.89 | 7.97-8.12 | |
| Ogden | 7.00 | | 7.03 | 6.82 | 7.76 | 6.97 |
| Great Falls | 8.02 | | | 6.03-6.30 | 7.03-7.28 | |

Market News and Trends This Week

BARLEY—Idaho cash feed barley prices were down \$0.25 to unchanged for the week ending December 20. Idaho cash malt barley prices were unchanged for the week. No net sales for barley were reported by USDA FAS for 2022/2023 for the week of December 8-14. No exports were reported for the week.

BARLEY—On Monday, Dec. 18, 2023, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) was forced to suspend rail operations at key points into and out of Mexico, specifically El Paso and Eagle Pass, Texas, to alleviate a sharp increase in illegal immigration at the border. These actions affect U.S. corn and barley at this time, two commodities the U.S. Grains Council represents. The CBP is working with the Mexican government and the Mexican rail system to remedy the situation as quickly as possible, but there is no timeline for resumption of normal operations. The U.S. Grains Council in Mexico is working with the Mexican industry and end users and monitoring the situation to ensure the least amount of disruption in services. Mexico is the top U.S. trading partner for U.S. corn, distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS) and barley, purchasing 16 million metric tons (MMT), 2 MMT and 317,000 metric tons, respectively, in the 2022-2023 marketing year. "The suspensions in El Paso and Eagle Pass threaten to impact trade to our most important partner, so we are working hard in the country to help alleviate the issues as quickly as possible," said Ryan LeGrand, U.S. Grains Council president and CEO. "The trading system in North America relies on interconnectedness, and any disruption affects both the U.S. and Mexican economies, not only with corn, DDGS and barley, but it also affects processing, biofuels production, feeding livestock and more, so it is vital the situation is resolved in a timely manner for the betterment of producers, industry and consumers on either side of the border." The Council will continue to monitor the situation. (USGC) The Ag Policy Committee of the American Malting Barley Association has signed onto a letter led by the National Grain and Feed Association, along with nearly 50 other associations, to reopen rail corridors at the Mexico border recently shuttered due to staffing constraints within Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The letter calls for the immediate opening of the El Paso and Eagle Pass international rail crossings. The closure of the rail crossings is rippling back into the U.S. supply chain and having negative impacts on the U.S. economy, not to mention it is cutting off access to food and other agricultural products to Mexico. (AMBA)

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Market News and Trends This Week—continued

WHEAT—Idaho cash wheat prices were mixed for the week ending December 20. SWW prices ranged from unchanged to down \$0.15 from the previous week; HRW prices were down \$0.10 to up \$0.05; DNS prices were down \$0.21 to up \$0.16 and HWW prices were down \$0.10 to up \$0.05. USDA FAS reported net sales for 2023/2024 for the period December 8-14 at 322,700 MT. Primarily to Mexico (97,900 MT), Japan (69,900 MT), Indonesia (58,900 MT), Algeria (53,100 MT), and South Korea (21,200 MT). Exports of 337,400 MT were to Mexico (98,500 MT), Japan (53,700 MT), Algeria (45,100 MT), Taiwan (27,000 MT), and South Korea (20,900 MT).

Wheat News—For farmers seeking to increase their grain harvesting capacity or efficiency, adding a new grain dryer for next season can be a good option. Jeff Cravens, GSI regional sales director, says there are several factors to consider in selecting the right dryer for your operation. "First and foremost is usually capacity. I start with the average daily intake from a total harvest perspective and then the amount of hours they want to run the dryer. Typically, 10 to 15 hours is the goal, if it can run that long and keep up with your daily harvest, that's usually about where the start is. All dryers in the industry are rated on wet intake bushels, not dried bushels out of the dryer. So, you have to account for shrink if that's what you're going to focus on and that can be usually in the five to 15 percent range." He says dryer selection also depends on the right style or type of dryer for your operation. If you're one big main grain system for your farm that you centrally transport to or if you have multiple facilities that you've got scattered out here and you're wanting to add a dryer here and there, those will vary by what you buy, size, type everything. So, the one thing that I always see people missing is possibility of labor available, things like that based on the type of dryer they buy. They all require different levels of inputs by the end user, but they all do different things a little better than the others. "Finally, Cravens says there are many different dryer types requiring different types of management. "You can get in-bin drying such as fans, heaters, stirring machines on grain bins, those types of things. Portable style dryers, tower dryers. A portable dryer requires a little bit more input than like a tower dryer, but you get more grain management opportunity out of that because you can change a lot of plenum temperatures, as you come through the dryer with grains, maintain quality those types of things. It takes more management out of the piece, which a tower dryer does right out of the gate." (AgInfo)

CORN—USDA FAS reported net sales for 2023/2024 for period December 8-14 were 1,013,100 MT, were to Mexico (346,500 MT), Japan (312,000 MT), China (136,300 MT), Colombia (99,500 MT), and Taiwan (70,100 MT). Exports of 870,900 MT were primarily to Mexico (355,000 MT), China (202,500 MT), Japan (184,600 MT), Colombia (61,800 MT), and El Salvador (20,100 MT).

Ethanol Corn Usage—DOE's Energy Information Agency (EIA) reported ethanol production for the week December 15 was 1.071 million bbls/day down 0.3 percent from the previous week and up 4.1 percent from last year. Total ethanol production for the week was 7.497 million barrels. Ethanol stocks were 22.906 million bbls, up 3.6 percent from last week and down 4.8 percent from last year. An estimated 106.30 million bu of corn was used in last week's production bringing this crop year's cumulative corn usage for ethanol production at 1.554 billion bu. Corn used needs to average 101.53 million bu per week to meet USDA estimate of 5.325 billions bu for the crop year.

Futures Market News and Trends—Week Ending December 21, 2023

FUTURES MARKET SETTLEMENT PRICES for the Week Ending Thursday, December 21, 2023:

| Commodity | March 2024 | Week Change | May 2024 | Week Change | July 2024 | Week Change | Sept 2024 | Week Change |
|-----------|------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| CHI SRW | \$6.12½ | -\$0.16½ | \$6.24 | -\$0.15½ | \$6.31¾ | -\$0.12½ | \$6.43¼ | -\$0.09½ |
| KC HRW | \$6.26¾ | -\$0.16 | \$6.30¼ | -\$0.17¼ | \$6.33 | -\$0.18¾ | \$6.44 | -\$0.18 |
| MGE DNS | \$7.18 | -\$0.12¾ | \$7.27¼ | -\$0.12¼ | \$7.35½ | -\$0.10 | \$7.43½ | -\$0.08 |
| CORN | \$4.72½ | -\$0.10½ | \$4.85¼ | -\$0.10 | \$4.95 | -\$0.09¾ | \$4.97½ | -\$0.08 |

WHEAT FUTURES—Wheat futures declined due to hikes to wheat harvest estimates in the Black Sea region. **Wheat futures prices ranged down \$0.10½ to down \$0.08 (per bu) versus the previous week.**

CORN FUTURES—Corn futures prices were down two days after the US government closed the Eagle Pass and El Paso rail bridges into Mexico. **Corn futures prices ranged from down \$0.18¾ to down \$0.08 (per bu) versus the previous week.**

CRUDE OIL FUTURES—Oil prices fell by roughly \$1 a barrel on Thursday after Angola said it would exit the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), raising questions about the producer group's efforts to support prices by limiting global supplies. (Reuters)

EIA reported U.S. crude oil refinery inputs averaged 16.5 million bbls day during the week ending December 15 was 403 thousand bbls/day more than last week's average. Refineries operated at 92.4% of capacity last week. As of December 15 there was an increase in Crude Oil stocks of 2.909 million bbls from last week to 443.682 million bbls, over the 5-year average of 446.981 million bbls. Distillate stocks increased by 1.485 million bbls to a total of 115.024 million bbls, under the 5-year average of 127.988 million bbls; while gasoline stocks increased by 2.710 million bbls to 226.723 million bbls, under the 230.195 million bbl 5-year average. The national average retail regular gasoline price was \$3.053/per gallon on December 18, 2023, down \$0.083 from last week's price and down \$0.067 from a year ago. The national average retail diesel fuel price was \$3.984 per gallon, down \$0.093 from last week's price and down \$0.702 from last year.

NYMEX Crude Oil Futures finished the week ending Thursday, December 21, 2023 to close at \$73.89/ bbl (February contract), up \$2.46 for the week.

USDA U.S. Drought Monitor—December 21, 2023

Northeast: Improvements were made in the region this week.

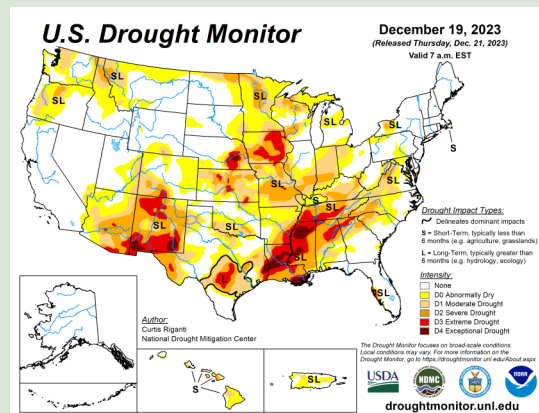
Southeast: Improvements were made in much of the region.

Midwest: Degradations were made northwest of St. Louis and in south-central Missouri. Improvements were made in the Kansas City area.

High Plains: Improvements were made in across central and western Kansas and south-central Nebraska. Expansion of drought in northern Colorado.

West: Improvements were made in coastal central and northern California, parts of northern Central Valley and northern Sierra Nevada, and coastal portions of Oregon and Washington.

South: Improvements were made in the western Great Plains, Texas, Oklahoma, and eastern Tennessee.



USDA U.S. Crop Weather Highlights—December 21, 2023

West: Significant precipitation is confined to parts of central and southern California, although a few showers have spread as far east as the central and southern Rockies. For today, flash flooding and debris flows are a threat in southern California, where additional rainfall could total 2 to 5 inches or more, especially on south-facing slopes. Meanwhile, mild, dry weather covers the northern half of the western U.S.

Plains: Unusually warm weather continues in advance of Pacific storminess. Later today, high temperatures should reach 60°F or higher as far north as the central High Plains. With month-to-date temperatures averaging at least 5 to 10°F above normal across the northern half of the Plains, livestock have experienced little stress. Additionally, overwintering wheat has faced minimal adversity, aside from localized drought concerns.

Corn Belt: Mild weather is replacing previously cool conditions. Today's high temperatures will range from near 35°F in the upper Great Lakes region to 55°F or higher in the middle Mississippi Valley. Spotty Midwestern snow that fell earlier in the month has largely melted, allowing late-season harvest efforts to advance as field conditions permit. Month-to-date temperatures have averaged at least 5 to 10°F above normal in much of the northern and western Corn Belt, favoring farm maintenance activities.

South: A freeze warning is in effect again this morning in parts of southeastern Georgia. Much of the remainder of the South is experiencing a gradual warming trend, with today's high temperatures expected to reach 75°F or higher in southern Texas. In areas of the South still contending with drought—especially from the lower Mississippi Valley to the southern Appalachians—mild, dry conditions favor outdoor work, although pastures and fall-sown crops remain stressed.

Outlook for U.S: Despite dry weather in the eastern U.S., pockets of power outages and lowland flooding may linger for a few days from northeastern Florida to Maine. Meanwhile, the storm system currently affecting southern California will turn eastward by Friday, crossing the Southwest before reaching the central and southern Plains late in the weekend. By December 25, Christmas Day, the storm will make a northward turn while traversing the Mississippi Valley. Very little cold air will be associated with the storm system, with significant snow initially limited to higher elevations of the Four Corners region and the central Rockies. By December 24-25, some wet snow may accumulate from the central High Plains into the far upper Midwest. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for December 26 – 30 calls for the likelihood of near- or above-normal temperatures nationwide, except for cooler-than-normal conditions in the western Gulf Coast region.

International Crop Weather Highlights—Week ending December 16, 2023

Europe: Much warmer weather melted the snow cover over northeastern Europe and lowered winter crop cold hardness in central and western growing areas. Moderate to heavy showers maintained adequate to abundant moisture reserves for dormant winter grains and oilseeds, though locally drier conditions were noted in central and southern Spain.

Middle East: Very warm weather kept winter wheat and barley from going dormant in Turkey and Iran; crops typically go dormant by early December. Widespread showers maintained or improved soil moisture for winter grain establishment, though northeastern Iran (Khorasan) remained unfavorably dry.

Asia: Seasonably warm weather with abundant sunshine promoted rabi crop development in India and Pakistan, while excessive rainfall caused flooding in maha rice areas of Sri Lanka. Unusually snowy weather in eastern wheat areas of China provided some protection from arctic temperatures that followed. Unseasonable dryness in the western half of Java, Indonesia, lowered moisture supplies for rice.

Australia: In the east, scattered showers aided summer crop emergence and establishment. o In the south, soaking rain slowed or outright halted wheat, barley, and canola harvesting. o In the west, dry, seasonably hot weather favored winter crop harvesting, which is nearing completion.

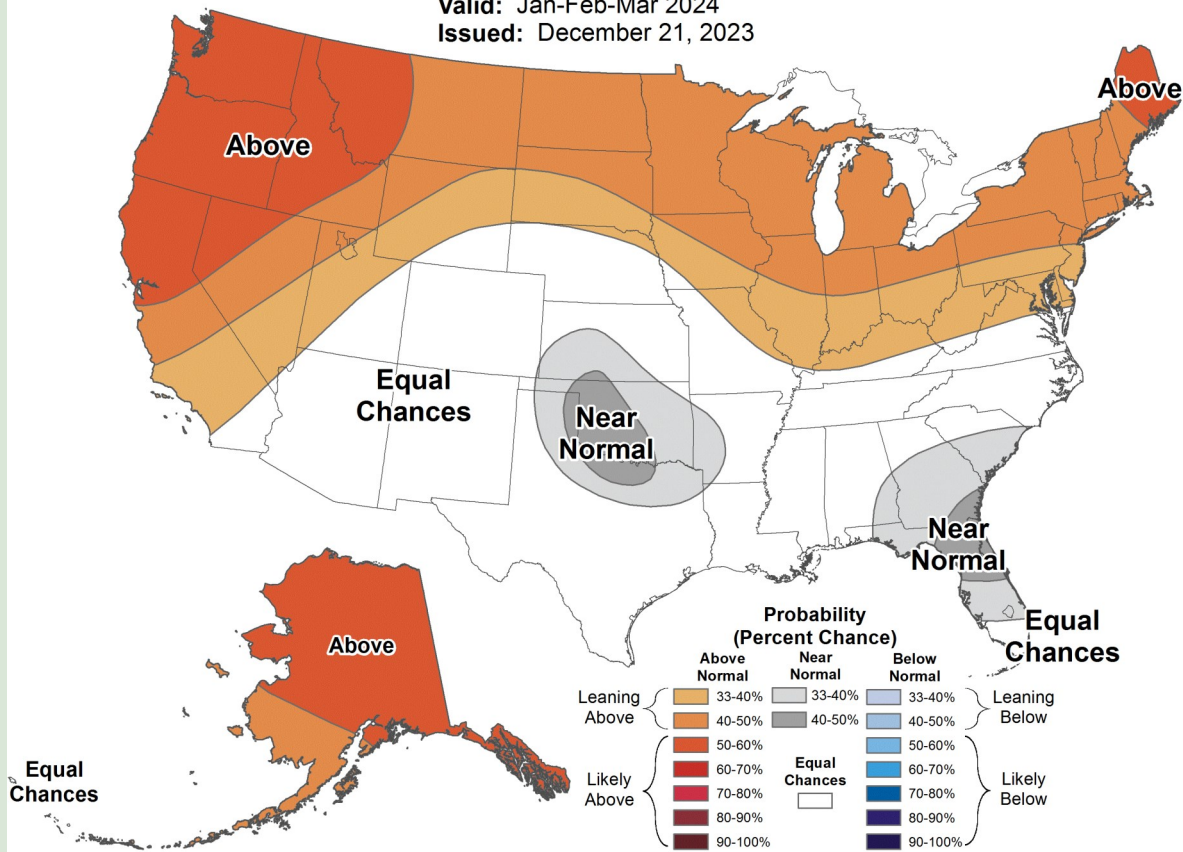
South America: Hot weather (daytime highs reaching the upper 30s and lower 40s degrees C) maintained high moisture requirements for soybeans in central and northeastern Brazil, while also stressing emerged crops growing with insufficient moisture. In Argentina, locally heavy showers maintained overall favorable conditions for emerging summer grains, oilseeds, and cotton.



Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2024
Issued: December 21, 2023



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Jan-Feb-Mar 2024
Issued: December 21, 2023

