Idaho Grain Market Report, February 29, 2024—NEW CROP PRICES

Published weekly by the Idaho Barley Commission
lwilder@barley.idaho.gov 208-334-2090 www.barley.idaho.gov

Prices paid by Idaho Elevators delivered to warehouses in specified locations for barley and wheat on Wednesday February 28, 2024. 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	6.50		5.83	5.83	6.75	5.98
Twin Falls / Buhl Jerome / Wendell	7.50		5.86			
Meridian	9.50		6.56	5.37	6.20	
Nezperce / Craigmont	6.96		5.25	5.56	6.49	
Lewiston	7.48		5.51	5.82	6.75	
Moscow / Genesee	6.99-7.43		5.28-5.35	5.59-5.72	6.52-.6.69	

Prices at Selected Terminal Markets, cash FOB
Wednesday February 28, 2024 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			6.10-6.15	6.45-6.57	7.36-7.47	
Ogden			6.49	6.43	7.35	6.58
Great Falls	6.67			5.98-6.16	6.68-6.92	
Minneapolis				8.22	8.79	

Market News and Trends This Week

BARLEY—Idaho cash feed barley prices were unchanged for the week ending February 28. Idaho cash malt barley prices were down $0.50 to unchanged for the week. No net sales for barley were reported by USDA FAS for 2024/2025 for the week of February 16-22. No net exports were reported for the week.

Barley News—Over the past three years, the value of Australian barley exports to Latin America grew by +416% in real terms to reach A$256.1 million in 2022–23 (ABS 2023). This was due to Australia's record production of quality barley and redirection of barley exports from the Chinese market. Within Latin America, demand was influenced by suboptimal growing conditions, with drought and late frosts reducing regional production. Australian barley exports to Latin America markets is dominated by malting barley and malt. In 2022–23, Australia's total barley exports to Latin America (A$256.1m) consisted primarily of malting barley ($246.5m), with the remainder as barley for feed. Barley for feed is outcompeted by soy and corn in Latin American markets. Australia also exported A$67.0 million worth of malt to the region. In 2022–23, Mexico accounted for 77% of the value of Australian barley exported to Latin America (Figure 1). Mexico has become the world's fourth largest beer producer and the world's largest beer exporter following the outstanding growth of its beer industry over the last decade. In recent years, Australia has emerged as the primary supplier of barley to Mexico, Peru and Ecuador. Australia accounted for 95% of the value of Mexico's barley imports in 2022, which were worth a total of US$145.1 million. France and the US made up the remaining 5% market share. In 2022, Peru and Ecuador imported US$42.0 million and US$14.6 million worth of barley, respectively, with Australia providing 94% and 92% of their imports by value (UN Comtrade 2023). Other Latin American countries – principally Brazil – continue to source their barley from within the region. In 2022, Argentina accounted for 84% of the Latin America's US$488.3 million of barley imports. Other suppliers were Australia (11%), Uruguay (3%), and the EU (2%). There is potential scope for Australian exports to grow in the region if access to the Brazilian market for malting barley can be achieved. Brazil is the largest barley importer in the region with US$267 million imported in 2022 (UN Comtrade 2023) and is the world's third largest brewing industry after the US and China, ahead of Mexico. (Agriculture.gov.au)

Market News and Trends This Week—continued

WHEAT—Idaho cash wheat prices were mixed for the week ending February 28. SWW prices ranged from down $0.22 to up $0.34 from the previous week; HRW prices were up $0.08 to up $0.10; DNS prices were down $0.13 to unchanged and HWW prices were unchanged. USDA FAS reported net sales for 2023/2024 for the period February 16-22 at 327,300 MT. Primarily to Japan (88,700 MT), unknown destinations (65,000 MT), the Philippines (58,600 MT), Mexico (46,800 MT), and South Korea (20,900 MT). Exports of 538,700 MT were to Japan (137,600 MT), the Philippines (112,200 MT), China (56,900 MT), Mexico (51,900 MT), and Egypt (36,700 MT).

Wheat News— In a 29-5 vote, the Idaho Senate on Monday adopted Senate Joint Memorial 103 to voice opposition to the federal government's efforts to remove and breach dams in the Columbia-Snake River system. A joint memorial is not a bill, but rather it is a petition or representation made by either chamber and approved in the other chamber, "addressed to whoever can effectuate the request of the memorial," according to Idaho legislative rules. According to the joint memorial, the Idaho Legislature addresses President Joe Biden, the U.S. Congress and Idaho's congressional delegation. The Idaho Legislature in the joint memorial said it recognizes the importance of the Columbia-Snake River system for fish and wildlife, recreation, hydropower generation, irrigation, and transportation for agriculture. But Idaho lawmakers argue that dam removal or breaching in the river system would come at the expense of Idaho's agricultural industry. "The purpose of this memorial is to oppose the removal of the dams in the Snake River and to emphasize the importance of the Port of Lewiston and the Columbia-Snake River system to the economy and livelihoods of Idaho citizens," memorial sponsor Sen. Mark Harris, R-Soda Springs said. "Idaho farm families who grow wheat rely on this river system to get their crop to foreign markets." According to the joint memorial, nearly 10% of all U.S. wheat exports are barged through the four dams on the Snake River, and about 50% of all Idaho-grown wheat is barged from Lewiston to Portland and then exported to international markets. Removing or breaching the dams would make it unnavigable for farmers to transport those products to port for export, opponents of dam breaching have said. Senate Majority Leader, Kelly Anthon, R-Burley, said he is pleased to see the legislation before the Senate. (Idaho Capital Sun)

CORN—USDA FAS reported net sales for 2023/2024 for period February 16-22 were 1,082,300 MT, were to Mexico (423,700 MT), Japan (326,800 MT), Colombia (153,200 MT), South Korea (133,900 MT), and Venezuela (30,000 MT). Exports of 1,216,200 MT were primarily to Mexico (477,400 MT), Japan (380,000 MT), Colombia (143,100 MT), South Korea (130,600 MT), and Canada (25,300 MT).

Ethanol Corn Usage—DOE's Energy Information Agency (EIA) reported ethanol production for the week February 23 was 1.078 million bbls/day down 0.6 percent from the previous week and up 7.5 percent from last year. Total ethanol production for the week was 7.546 million barrels. Ethanol stocks were 26.022 million bbls, up 2.0 percent from last week and up 5.0 percent from last year. An estimated 107.00 million bu of corn was used in last week's production bringing this crop year's cumulative corn usage for ethanol production at 2.582 billion bu. Corn used needs to average 102.89 million bu per week to meet USDA estimate of 5.375 billions bu for the crop year.

Futures Market News and Trends—Week Ending February 29, 2024

FUTURES MARKET SETTLEMENT PRICES for the Week Ending Thursday, February 29, 2024:

Commodity	March 2024	Week Change	May 2024	Week Change	July 2024	Week Change	Sept 2024	Week Change
CHI SRW	$5.77½	$0.04	$5.76¼	$0.07¼	$5.79¼	$0.09¼	$5.86¾	$0.09¾
KC HRW	$6.02¾	$0.34	$5.87¼	$0.21¾	$5.74¼	$0.16¼	$5.83½	$0.15¼
MGE DNS	$6.65¾	$0.24¼	$6.58¾	$0.12	$6.61¾	$0.09¾	$6.68	$0.07½
CORN	$4.15¾	$0.16	$4.29½	-$0.16	$4.41¼	$0.15	$4.50¼	$0.15

WHEAT FUTURES—Wheat futures were up to less wheat ground for flour than previously expected. **Wheat futures prices ranged up $0.04 to up $0.34 (per bu) versus the previous week.**

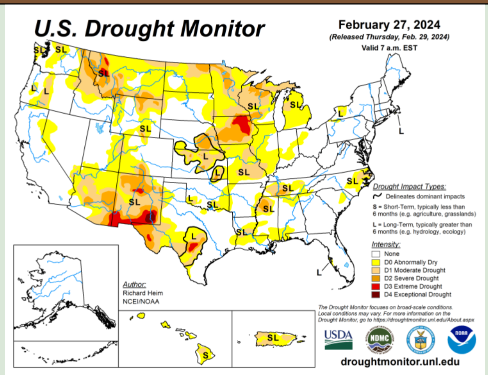
CORN FUTURES—Corn futures prices were up less production than expected. **Corn futures prices ranged from up $0.15 to up $0.16 (per bu) versus the previous week.**

CRUDE OIL FUTURES—Oil prices edged higher on Thursday as U.S. inflation data reinforced expectations for a June cut to interest rates, supporting the demand outlook, while comments from U.S. President Joe Biden indicating an ongoing Gaza conflict boosted supply sentiment. (Reuters)

EIA reported U.S. crude oil refinery inputs averaged 14.7 million bbls day during the week ending February 23 was 100 thousand bbls/day more than last week's average. Refineries operated at 81.5% of capacity last week. As of February 23 there was an increase in Crude Oil stocks of 4.199 million bbls from last week to 447.163 million bbls, under the 5-year average of 449.175 million bbls. Distillate stocks decreased by 0.510 million bbls to a total of 121.141 million bbls, under the 5-year average of 1344.157 million bbls; while gasoline stocks decreased by 2.832 million bbls to 247.037 million bbls, under the 250.725 million bbl 5-year average. The national average retail regular gasoline price was $3.249/per gallon on February 26, 2024, down $0.02 from last week's price and down $0.093 from a year ago. The national average retail diesel fuel price was $4.058 per gallon, down $0.051 from last week's price and down $0.236 from last year.

NYMEX Crude Oil Futures finished the week ending Thursday, February 29, 2024 to close at $78.26/bbl (April contract), up $1.77 for the week.

USDA U.S. Drought Monitor—February 29, 2024



Northeast: No significant changes were made in the region this week.

Southeast: Improvements were made in the west coast of Florida. Drought expanded in southern Alabama and into western portions of Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina.

Midwest: Expansion of drought in Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan. Minnesota, and Iowa.

High Plains: Drought was expanded in the Dakotas and eastern Arkansas.

West: Drought expanded in the northern Cascades and the Olympic Mountains.

South: Drought was expanded in eastern Oklahoma, northeast Texas, western Arkansas, southern Mississippi, Louisiana, southeast Texas, and southwest Tennessee.

USDA U.S. Crop Weather Highlights—February 29, 2024

West: Storminess stretches from northern California and the Pacific Northwest to the northern Rockies. A blizzard warning is in effect in the northern and central Sierra Nevada, where storm-total snowfall will locally top 5 feet. Storm-related impacts, including high winds, extend inland across the Great Basin and Intermountain West.

Plains: Temperatures are rapidly rebounding from a brief cold snap. In fact, today's high temperatures will approach or reach 60°F as far north as central and eastern Montana. Meanwhile, clouds and a few rain and snow showers have developed on the southern Plains, mainly across Texas. On February 25 in Texas, topsoil moisture was rated 32 percent very short to short, while 51% of the state's rangeland and pastures were rated in very poor to poor condition. Earlier this week, several large wildfires, including the 850,000-acre Smokehouse Creek Fire, scorched vast areas of mostly grassland across Texas' northern panhandle into western Oklahoma, mainly near the Canadian River.

Corn Belt: Cool, dry weather prevails. This morning's minimum temperatures dipped below 10°F in the upper Great Lakes region, with scattered sub-zero readings. Early-week upper Midwestern snow, which in North Dakota totaled 3.7 inches in Grand Forks and 2.7 inches in Fargo, remains on the ground. Most of the remainder of the Midwest is snow-free.

South: Scattered rain showers are returning across areas from the Mississippi Delta westward. Meanwhile, cool, dry, breezy weather prevails in much of the Southeast. With some fruit crops across the Deep South starting to bloom earlier than normal, producers will be closely monitoring for the potential of harmful spring freezes.

Outlook for U.S: Precipitation—mostly rain—will spread into the Southeast on Friday and affect portions of the Atlantic Coast States early in the weekend. Meanwhile, sprawling Pacific storminess will slowly translate eastward, with a low-pressure system crossing the northern Plains and upper Midwest late in the weekend. Cold air trailing that system could result in another round of temperatures below 0°F on Sunday and Monday in parts of Montana. Meanwhile, blizzard conditions across the northern and central Sierra Nevada should persist into Sunday, with a broader area of the western U.S. expecting high winds and significant mountain snow. Elsewhere, little or no precipitation will fall during the next 5 days across the nation's mid-section, including the central Plains and western Corn Belt, while temperatures will rebound to 80°F or higher by Sunday in the southcentral U.S. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for March 5 – 9 calls for above-normal temperatures across the eastern half of the U.S., while colder-than-normal conditions will cover the West. Meanwhile, wetter-than-normal weather occur nearly nationwide, with only northern sections of the Rockies and High Plains expecting near- or below-normal precipitation. California has the greatest likelihood of experiencing wet weather.

International Crop Weather Highlights—Week ending February 24, 2024

Europe: Record February Warmth Persisted; Good Moisture Everywhere Save For the Balkans Record February warmth continued to hasten winter crop greening over central and eastern Europe more than one month ahead of normal and accelerated crop development in the west. Widespread showers maintained adequate to abundant moisture supplies for winter grains and oilseeds over central and northern growing areas.

Middle East: Anomalous warmth abated save for lingering above-normal temperatures in eastern Turkey. Drier weather after last week's heavy rain promoted winter grain development across the region, though locally heavy showers lingered from the eastern Mediterranean Coast into Saudi Arabia.

Asia: Abundant sunshine in Pakistan and India promoted crop development, although early-season heat in southern India necessitated increased irrigation. A cold front pushed through eastern China bringing showers (south) and snow (north) as well as cooler weather to winter crops that had been experiencing an early green up. Showers remained concentrated in southern sections of the region, benefiting rice and oil palm, while earlier-than-normal heat prevailed in Thailand and environs.

Australia: In the east, occasional showers and seasonably warm weather benefited immature summer crops, but periods of dry weather favored early sorghum harvesting.

South America: Widespread, locally heavy rain benefited immature soybeans, corn, and cotton in nearly all Brazilian farming areas.