Futures Analysis & Forecasting

USDA SUPPLY & DEMAND REVIEW October 11, 2024

SOYBEANS

SOYBEANS: U.S. 2024/25 soybean yield came in at 53.1 bushels/acre versus the average estimate of 53.2 and September's 53.2. The range of expectations was 51.7 to 54. Stable crop conditions over the last month was a clue that USDA wouldn't change vield much, and that was certainly the case. Harvested acres came in at 86.3 million. The average estimate was 86.3 million acres, and the range was 85.8 to 86.3. The September estimate was 86.3 million. Harvested acres are not typically revised in October. Production is estimated at 4.582 billion bushels versus 4.581 billion expected (range 4.462-4.66 billion) and 4.586 in the September report. U.S. ending stocks for 2024/25 are estimated at 550 million bushels, compared to 546 million expected (range 486-610 million) and 550 in September. World ending stocks for 2024/25 were 134.65 million tonnes, versus 134.6 million expected (range 132.4-136 million) and 134.6 in September. Brazil production for 2024/25 came in at 169 million tonnes versus 168.6 million expected (range 165-169 million) and 169 in September. Argentina production for 2024/25 came in at 51.0 million tonnes versus 51 million expected (range 50-52 million) and 51 in September. It is much too early in the growing season to expect USDA to make any changes to the South American outlook this month.

PRICE OUTLOOK: For those looking for increased volatility and a surprise in today's report, USDA made almost no changes to the U.S. balance sheet, resulting in about as dull a reaction to the October report numbers as we can remember. Traders will quickly look beyond this neutral report and refocus on U.S. harvest weather and South American planting weather, which is expected to improve over the next couple of weeks with monsoon rains finally arriving. With no bullish surprise in this report, 50% retracement support on November beans at 1012 looks vulnerable, and prices may sink to the next significant report support level at 999. The fundamental outlook remains bearish

USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND				
US SOYBEANS	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
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	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
A == = (NA A ====)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Area (MAcres)				
Planted	87.5	83.6	87.1	87.1
Harvested	86.2	82.3	86.3	86.3
Yield (Bu/Acre)	49.6	50.6	53.2	53.1
Beginning Stocks (M Bu)	274	264	340	342
Production	4,270	4,162	4,586	4,582
Imports	25	21	15	15
Supply,Total	4,569	4,447	4,941	4,939
Crushings	2,212	2,287	2,425	2,425
Exports	1,980	1,695	1,850	1,850
Seed	75	78	78	78
Residual	39	45	38	36
Use, Total	4,305	4,105	4,391	4,389
Ending Stocks	264	342	550	550
Stocks/Use Ratio	6.1%	8.3%	12.5%	12.5%
USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
WORLD SOYBEANS	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
(Million Metric Tons)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Supply				
Beginning Stocks	92.55	100.92	112.25	112.37
Production	378.70	394.71	429.20	428.92
Imports	167.82	177.41	177.74	177.61
Use				
Crush, Domestic	315.32	330.42	346.67	346.38
Total Domestic	366.40	383.80	402.98	402.72
Exports	171.76	176.87	181.63	181.53
Ending Stocks	100.92	112.37	134.58	134.65
C		22.22	22.451	22 424
Stocks/Use Ratio	27.5%	29.3%	33.4%	33.4%

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CORN

CORN: U.S. 2024/25 corn yield came in at 183.8 bushels/acre, versus the average estimate of 183.5 and September's 183.6. The range of expectations was 181.6 to 184.8. The small increase in yield is not significant although most thought yield would be steady to slightly down. Harvested acres came in at 82.7 million. The average estimate was 82.7 million acres, and the range was 82 to 82.7. The September estimate was 82.7 million. Production is estimated at 15.203 billion bushels versus 15.173 billion expected (range 15-15.283 billion) and 15.186 in the September report. U.S. ending stocks for 2024/25 are estimated at 1.999 billion bushels, compared to 1.988 billion expected (range 1.835-2.167 billion) and 2.057 in September. USDA left the U.S. balance sheet mostly unchanged, except for a 25 million bushel bump up in U.S. exports. World ending stocks for 2024/25 came in at 306.5 million tonnes versus 307.3 million expected (range 305.5-310.2 million) and 308.4 in September. Not surprisingly, Ukraine corn was cut to 26.2 million tonnes, down 1 million from last month and China corn was cut 2 million tonnes to 209.3 million tonnes. Brazil's production for 2024/25 was 127 million tonnes, versus 126.6 million expected (range 123.1-127 million) and 127 in September. Argentina's production for 2024/25 was 51 million tonnes, versus 50.8 million expected (range 49-52 million) and 51 in September. It is too early in the season to expect any change from USDA in this report for South American crops.

PRICE OUTLOOK: Today's report failed to offer any major surprises, and with U.S. and South American weather leaning bearish, prices may move lower in the short-term, searching for a level that stimulates additional demand. USDA announced a significant sale of 577,948 tonnes of corn sold to Unknown this morning as U.S. prices remain very competitive, and that is expected to continue through the end of the year, offering demand-led support on breaks. 50% retracement support on December corn comes in at 410 and 618% at 404 1/4. Speculators can consider buying on a break below 410 as U.S. harvest is likely to past the 50% mark next week

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USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND		0-4	C	0-4
US CORN	Oct			Oct
	USDA		002,	USDA
A (84.4)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Area (M Acres)				
Planted	88.2		90.7	90.7
Harvested	78.7	86.5	82.7	82.7
Yield (Bu/Acre)	173.4	177.3	183.6	183.8
Beginning Stocks (MBu)	1,377	1,360	1,812	1,760
Production	13,651	15,341	15,186	15,203
Imports	39	28	25	25
Supply, Total	15,066	16,729	17,022	16,989
Feed & Residual	5,486	5,814	5,825	5,825
Food, Seed & Industry	6,558	6,862	6,840	6,840
Ethanol for Fuel	5,176	5,471	5,450	5,450
Domestic Total	12,044	12,676	12,665	12,665
Total Exports	1,662	2,292	2,300	2,325
Use, Total	13,706	14,969	14,965	14,990
Ending Stocks	1,360	1,760	2,057	1,999
Stocks/Use Ratio	9.9%	11.8%	13.7%	13.3%
USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
WORLD CORN	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
(Million Metric Tons)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Supply Regioning Steels	242.02	204.00	200.62	242.65
Beginning Stocks Production	313.92 1,160.67	304.09 1,225.92	309.63 1,218.57	312.65 1.217.19
Imports	173.39	192.81	185.40	183.84
Use	170.00	102.01	100.40	100.04
Feed, Domestic	734.46	770.19	772.18	774.27
Total Domestic		1,217.35	1,219.85	
Exports	180.24	195.77	191.37	190.50
Ending Stocks	304.09	312.65	308.35	306.52
Stocks/Use Ratio	26.0%	25.7%	25.3%	25.1%

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WHEAT

WHEAT: U.S. 2024/25 U.S. ending stocks came in at 812 million bushels versus 820 million expected (range 788-846 million) and 828 in September. Harvested acres increased 600.000 from last month, but yields were cut to 51.2 BPA, down 1 bushel from last month. Exports were left unchanged while feed and residual increased by 10 million bushels. Although the balance sheet changes are relatively minor, the yield cut is mildly bullish. World ending stocks for 2024/25 came in at 257.7 million tonnes versus 255.9 million expected (range 252.5-258.8 million) and 257.2 in September. USDA lowered E.U. wheat by 1 million tonnes to 123 million and lowered Russian wheat production 1 million to 82 million tonnes. SovEcon lowered Russian production to 81.5 this morning. Further cuts the Russian crop are possible if significant rains do not occur soon. Interestingly, Ukraine wheat production was raised.6 million tonnes to 22.9 million.

PRICE OUTLOOK: The U.S. balance sheet changes were not significant but leaned slightly bullish. However, prices have been pushing higher this week ahead of the report, and futures are now seeing a minor selloff. The report will quickly move into the rearview mirror, and focus will return to the important change in Russian war strategy this week, striking Ukraine's port facilities and grain ships multiple times. If the attacks continue next week, a resumption of the rally can be expected. Retracement support for Chicago December starts at 580 1/2 and extends down to 570. Look for good speculative buying in that zone as geopolitical tensions remain elevated.

LIGHT OLING WINDS				
USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND				
US WHEAT		Oct	Sep	Oct
	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Area (MAcres)				
Planted	45.8	49.6	46.3	46.1
Harvested	35.5	37.1	37.9	38.5
Yield (Bu/Acre)	46.5	48.7	52.2	51.2
Beginning Stocks (MBu)	674	570	702	696
Production	1,650	1,804	1,982	1,971
Imports	122	138	105	115
Total Supply	2,446	2,512	2,789	2,783
Food	972	961	964	964
Seed	68	62	62	62
Feed/Residual	74	85	110	120
Domestic Total	1,114	1,108	1,136	1,146
Total Exports	762	707	825	825
Use, Total	1,876	1,815	1,961	1,971
Ending Stocks	570	696	828	812
Stocks/Use Ratio	30.4%	38.3%	42.2%	41.2%
USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
WORLD WHEAT	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
(Million Metric Tons)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Supply				
Beginning Stocks	273.57	273.61	265.25	266.18
Production	789.49	790.38	796.88	794.08
Imports	213.10	221.80	210.27	210.77
Use				
Feed, Domestic	152.70	158.54	151.91	151.80
Total Domestic	789.44	797.81	804.90	802.54
Exports	221.73	221.32	216.51	215.82
Ending Stocks	273.61	266.18	257.22	257.72
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Stocks/Use Ratio	34.7%	33.4%	32.0%	32.1%

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COTTON

USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND				
COTTON	Oct USDA 22-23	Oct USDA 23-24	Sep USDA 24-25	Oct USDA 24-25
Area (M Acres)				
Planted	13.75	10.23	11.17	11.17
Harvested	7.29	6.44	8.63	8.63
Yield (Lb/Acre)	953	899	807	789
Beginning Stocks (M Bales)	4.60	4.65	3.15	3.15
Production	14.47	12.07	14.51	14.20
Imports	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Supply, Total	19.07	16.72	17.67	17.36
Domestic Use	2.05	1.85	1.90	1.80
Exports	12.45	11.75	11.80	11.50
Use, Total	14.50	13.60	13.70	13.30
Unaccounted	-0.08	-0.03	-0.03	-0.04
Ending Stocks	4.65	3.15	4.00	4.10
Stocks/Use Ratio	32.1%	23.2%	29.2%	30.8%

USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND	Oct	Oct	Sep	Oct
WORLD COTTON	USDA	USDA	USDA	USDA
(Million 480-lb Bales)	22-23	23-24	24-25	24-25
Supply				
Beginning Stocks	71.01	75.97	75.61	75.20
Production	116.46	113.66	116.42	116.64
Imports	37.65	43.97	42.99	42.48
Use				
Domestic	112.64	113.85	115.75	115.74
Exports	36.78	44.75	42.99	42.47
Loss	-0.27	-0.21	-0.21	-0.22
Ending Stocks	75.97	75.20	76.49	76.33
Stocks/Use Ratio	67.4%	66.1%	66.1%	65.9%