

Friday July 18, 2025

KG's Grain Gauge

Weekly Commentary by Evan James

Grain markets were higher this week as pollination concerns grow over above average heat beginning next week and the funds take some profits, confirmed by a key reversal in corn and November soybeans bouncing strong off of \$10.00. Additional support can be credited to supportive biofuel details and 45Z tax credits.

As of Sunday, the national corn condition rating was steady at 74% good/excellent vs the 65% five-year average. Silking was reported at 34%, compared to 33% on average. Doughing came in at 7%, above 5% on average. National soybean condition rating improved 4 points to 70% good/excellent vs the 63% five-year average. 47% of the crop is blooming, in line with 47% on average, while 15% is setting pods, compared to 14% on average. Indiana's corn rating came in at 62% good/excellent, soybeans also at 62%. Winter wheat harvest is 63% complete, compared to 64% on average.

Given the role of the weather in the causation of the past months' price action, it is safe to say the market is trading a corn yield more like 185 rather than the USDA's 181 trend-line yield. A 185 corn yield, holding all else equal, puts ending stocks at the highest since 2018 and a stocks-to-use the highest since 2019 (JSA). Consider this scenario number one if ideal conditions remain in August. Second scenario. Out of the past 20 years, only 1 year shows a December contract low taking place in July. 20% of the lows were made in August, while 15% were made in September (JSA). However, heat concerns are growing as we get into the end of the month. Specifically elevated lows through the night hours. If this progresses, will this year be an outlier in terms of a new crop low? More importantly, would the market reflect an August crop fumble in a timely manner?

As far as basis goes, JSA did some analysis on supply to storage comparisons over the corn belt, stating the U.S. is "setting up to have the most stress to space since 2018." Indiana is included in one of the states showing a storage deficit. On top of that, a good SE crop could weigh on rail values as not as much will need to be pulled out of the ECB. If you look at it the other way, the areas that struggled to get planted will likely have a long, drawn out harvest, which typically doesn't pressure basis. Additionally, we have the troubled ECB areas that will cause commercial buyers in those areas to get aggressive to ensure their space gets full. In return, surrounding competition will bid up to keep customers with a good crop away from that attractive bid. Not a definitive answer, I know, but some things to think about given the setup to go either way.

To the charts. September corn support at \$3.91, resistance at \$4.1275. December corn support at \$4.0725, resistance at \$4.35. November soybeans support at \$10.27, resistance at \$10.43. September wheat support at \$5.32, resistance at \$5.5025.

Funds were net buyers of 20,243 corn contracts, net sellers of 24,376 soybean contracts, and net sellers of 5,441 wheat contracts last week.

Weekly Price Changes

Futures Contract	Close	Weekly Change	% Change
Sep 25 Corn	\$4.0850	\$0.1250	3.2%
Dec 25 Corn	\$4.2775	\$0.1550	3.8%
Nov 25 Soybeans	\$10.3575	\$0.2850	2.8%
Sep 25 Wheat	\$5.4625	\$0.0125	0.2%
July 26 Wheat	\$6.0275	\$0.0125	0.2%

Quick Notes

Upcoming:

- August 12th: WASDE Report
- September 1st: Labor Day, Markets are closed
- September 12th: WASDE Report
- September 30th: Quarterly Grain Stocks & Updated Acres

December Corn Technical Analysis

A lot to talk about technically with the CZ25 contract. First off, we bounced hard off of this long term channel trending down since 2022. The top of that channel is \$4.6950, which also marks the 100% retracement level from Monday's new contract low of \$4.0725 to April's high of \$4.6950.

Putting in that bottom also generated quite a few targets: \$4.22, \$4.24, \$4.3125, \$4.3275, \$4.35, and \$4.3850. \$4.22 and the 20-day MA have been taken out, with the next targets seen at the 38.2% retracement level and \$4.3275, which would close the gap. However, moves beyond the holiday gap will be difficult I suspect. The 50-day MA, 50% retracement level, and the short-term down trend line off of April's high all stack up in the \$4.35 - \$4.3850 range.

Gap fill nets a \$4.00 fall cash price at all of our locations...



Weekly Exports Summary in Million Bushels

Commodity	Weekly Sales	Weekly Shipments	YTD Sales	YTD Shipments	Net New Crop Sales	All New Crop Sales
Corn	3.84	47.66	2734.77	2327.19	22.28	235.75
Soybeans	9.99	10.16	1850.81	1697.16	9.13	67.48
Wheat	18.16	15.91	302.75	79.70	0.00	0.34

Source: John Stewart & Associates

Point of Interest: Marketing Alternatives

Minimum Price Contract

Call your KG merchandiser for more information!



Graphic Source: moomoo Financial

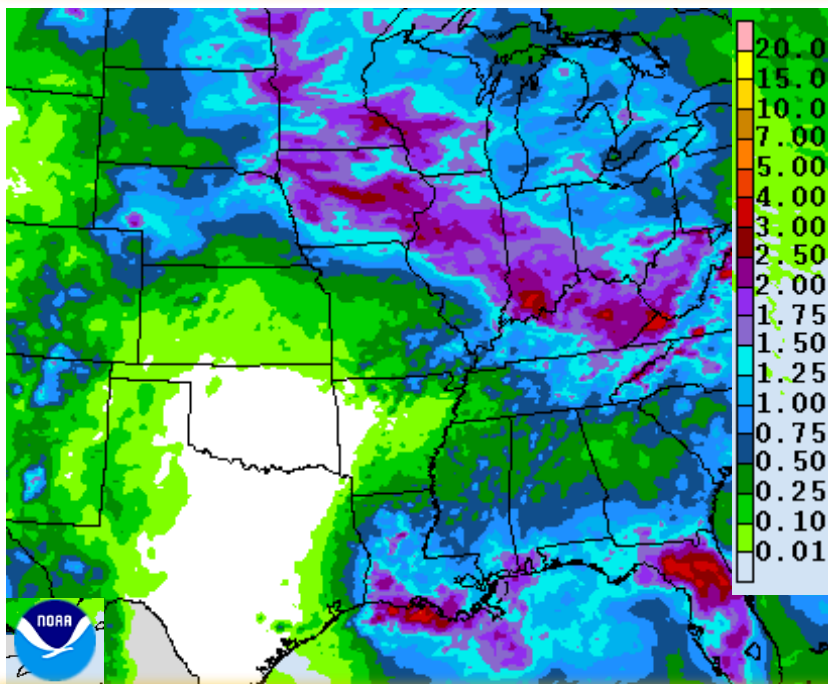
Minimum Price Contract

- Forward-priced cash contract with a CBOT call attached
- Minimum price is the forward-contracted price minus the cost of the call (premium)
- Establishes the floor price for your grain while allowing you to participate in market rallies
- As the board price increases, the value of the call increases depending on time left until expiration (time value)
- Final price is minimum price + premium of the call sold (if any)

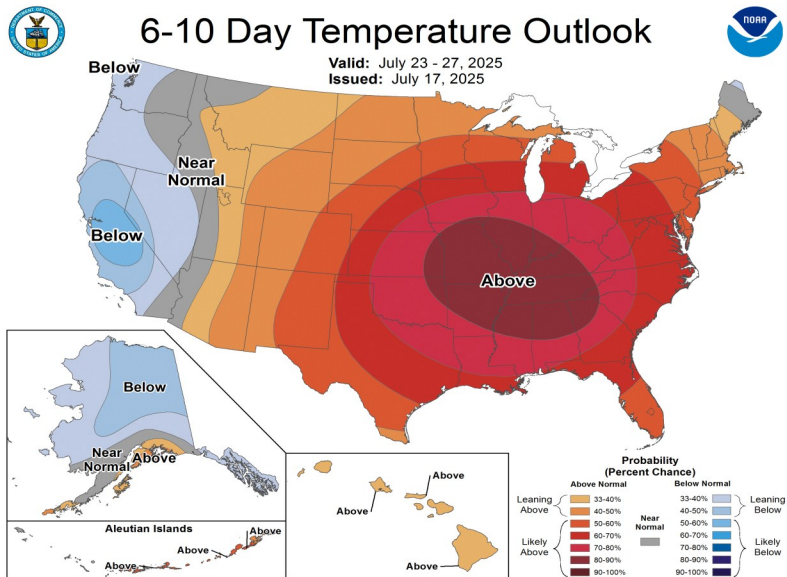
Created by Abby Jordan, Kokomo's Grain Merchandiser Intern!

The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Kokomo Grain .

7/18-7/25 Precipitation Forecast



7/23-7/27 Temperature Outlook



CFTC Managed Money Futures Only Net Positions (# cnts)

Date	Corn	Soybeans	Wheat
1/28/2025	343,789	73,035	-106,391
2/4/2025	361,531	72,756	-82,030
2/11/2025	326,244	42,221	-74,173
2/18/2025	359,733	33,704	-47,844
2/25/2025	333,843	23,714	-65,094
3/4/2025	206,844	-24,525	-82,646
3/11/2025	132,412	-7,922	-76,346
3/18/2025	104,430	-17,984	-78,666
3/25/2025	73,920	-33,821	-90,137
4/1/2025	128,433	-3,681	-100,584
4/8/2025	131,184	-27,334	-90,724
4/15/2025	145,154	43,348	-86,238
4/22/2025	132,414	53,245	-81,861
4/29/2025	86,129	58,928	-112,216
5/6/2025	29,019	41,728	-105,936
5/13/2025	-64,272	55,667	-120,541
5/20/2025	-95,483	31,330	-100,541
5/27/2025	-90,149	60,919	-93,855
6/3/2025	-133,979	34,604	-94,543
6/10/2025	-150,143	35,071	-87,669
6/17/2025	-169,072	62,289	-74,256
6/24/2025	-175,396	35,396	-63,868
7/1/2025	-189,540	13,901	-63,414
7/8/2025	-179,287	7,184	-57,593
7/15/2025	-159,044	-17,192	-63,034
Weekly Change	20,243	-24,376	-5,441
Record +	409,444	240,937	66,351
Record -	-356,415	-183,145	-171,269

CFTC data as of Tuesday of report week, reported on Friday.

Helpful Links

Drought Monitor: [Current Map](#) | [U.S. Drought Monitor](#)

Purdue Crop Basis Tool: [Purdue Center for Commercial Agriculture Crop Basis Tool - Center for Commercial Agriculture](#)

Purdue Ag Economy Barometer: [Home Ag Economy Barometer](#)

Prices

[Kokomo Grain - Market Overview](#)

[Kokomo Grain - Cash Prices](#)

Charts

[Kokomo Grain - Corn \(September 2025\) - Chart](#)

[Kokomo Grain - Corn \(December 2025\) - Chart](#)

[Kokomo Grain - Soybean \(November 2025\) - Chart](#)

[Kokomo Grain - Wheat \(September 2025\) - Chart](#)