



Bushels and Bottom Lines

Closing Market Prices: June 11- June 18

Corn: Dec 2025

June 18: \$4.44

Weekly Change: Up 4.2

Soybeans: Nov 2025

June 18: \$10.682

Weekly Change: Up 39

Wheat: July 2025

June 18: \$5.742

Weekly Change: Up 40

ADM Basis Drop Signals Shift in Soybean Demand

Cash soybean bids took a sharp hit last week at ADM's Decatur, IL location. The old crop bid dropped by about 65 cents after ADM switched from using the July 25 futures contract with a +22 basis to the November 25 contract with a -20 basis. Other Midwest processors quickly followed. ADM is reportedly well-covered on soybeans and is anticipating a large harvest.

US- China Reach New Trade Agreement

The U.S. and China have come to terms on a new trade deal. As part of the agreement, China will speed up exports of rare earth minerals and magnets to the U.S. In exchange, the U.S. will ease some export restrictions and allow Chinese students to attend American universities. Current tariffs will stay in place. President Trump confirmed that Chinese goods will continue to face a 55% tariff, while U.S. exports to China will see a 10% tariff. Final details of the deal haven't been released yet, and it still needs formal approval from both President Trump and President Xi Jinping. Meanwhile, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said that some countries may get extra time to meet the July 9 deadline for wrapping up trade deals with the U.S.

Senate Unveils Tax Bill with Biofuel Provisions

The Senate has released its version of the tax package tied to President Trump's "One Big Beautiful Bill." Like the House version, it extends the 45Z tax credit through 2031. However, the Senate bill allows the use of foreign biofuel feedstocks but reduces the credit by 20% for fuels made from those sources.

Tar Spot

Tar spot has officially been confirmed in Kansas and Northern Indiana- an early appearance that has growers and agronomists watching closely. The Indiana case was identified at the Pinney Purdue Ag Center in a V4/V5 stage, early/mid-April planted, non-irrigated, no-till corn field planted to a susceptible hybrid. Tillage hasn't been shown to reduce tar spot severity. An early application of fungicide at V5-V8 is a good idea to keep the plant healthy and follow up with a VT/ R1 for optimal protection! Contact our agronomy team for more questions and information!

Juneteenth Market Closure

Markets will be closed tomorrow, June 19th, due to the Juneteenth holiday.

Ohio's Variable Costs

Ohio's updated 2025 crop budgets show variable costs for corn ranging from \$502 to \$614 per acre. For trend-line corn yields (190.1 bpa), variable costs are expected to rise 2.4% from last year, while fixed costs are up 3.4%, mainly due to higher rent and equipment expenses. Soybean variable costs are projected between \$264 and \$298 per acre. For trend-line soybeans (56.8 bpa), variable costs are expected to decrease by 2%, though fixed costs are set to increase by 2.9%. Wheat variable costs are estimated between \$231 and \$288 per acre. For a trend-line yield of 81.5 bpa, variable costs are projected to decline 2.3%, with fixed costs rising 2.7%. Returns will vary depending on how crop prices shift. The budgets assume prices of \$4.20/bu for corn, \$10.20/bu for soybeans, and \$6.00/bu for wheat.

US Crop Conditions

U.S. crop progress G/E ratings rose 1 point this week to 72%. That's 3% above the 5-year average but still 2% behind last year. Ohio remains unchanged, while key production states saw slight improvement. With planting complete, the market's focus shifts to the upcoming acreage report in two weeks.

China Looks to Cut Soymeal Use

China plans to cut the amount of soymeal used in animal feed to 10% by 2030, down from 13% last year and nearly 18% back in 2017. The goal is to rely less on imported soybeans. If the plan works, China could reduce soybean imports by about 10 million metric tons each year- roughly half of what they bought from the U.S. in 2024. Some large hog farms in China have already lowered soymeal use by adding alternative proteins and synthetic amino acids. Even though China has pulled back on buying from the U.S. in recent years, it still purchases about 20% of its soybeans from us.

Soybean Market Reacts

Soybean oil is leading the soybean market higher after last Friday's EPA announcement regarding proposed Renewable Fuel Credits (RFC) and Renewable Volume Obligations (RVO) increases. RFC on imported feedstocks will have a lesser value.

Wheat Market Outlook

Uncertainty of the conflict in the Middle east has the market on notice. Dry weather in the northern plains spring wheat area is being watched. Rains in the central plains and southeast are being monitored for quality concerns and harvest delays.

June 12th WASDE Report

The June 12th WASDE report showed 24/25 corn ending stocks lower to 1.365 billion bu. Soybeans unchanged @ 350 million bu. And wheat unchanged @ 841 million bu. Monday June 30, we get the planted acres report and the June 1 quarterly stocks report. As Jay Berschback says, "This will be one to watch"!

Grow and Gain: 2025 Educational Series

Join us this summer for our 2025 class series! Classes will be held on June 24, July 15, July 22, and July 29, starting at 8:30 AM at 220 N. Defiance Street, Archbold, OH 43502. For more details, visit our Facebook page or website.