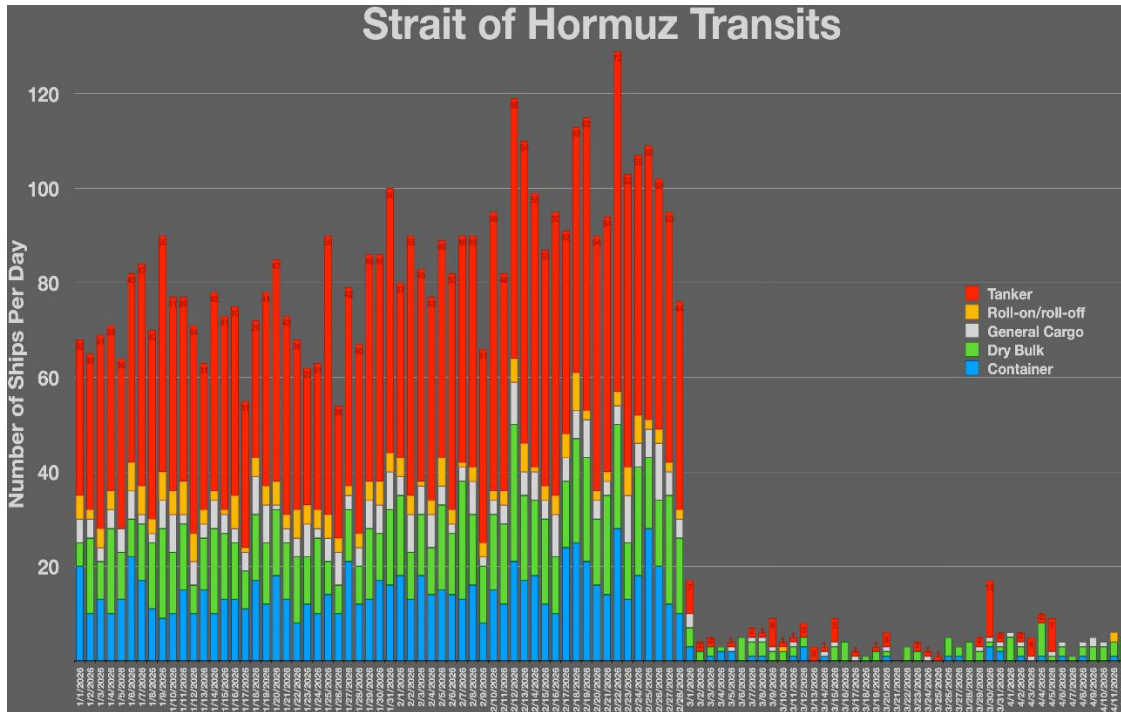


Hello Colorado Wheat.

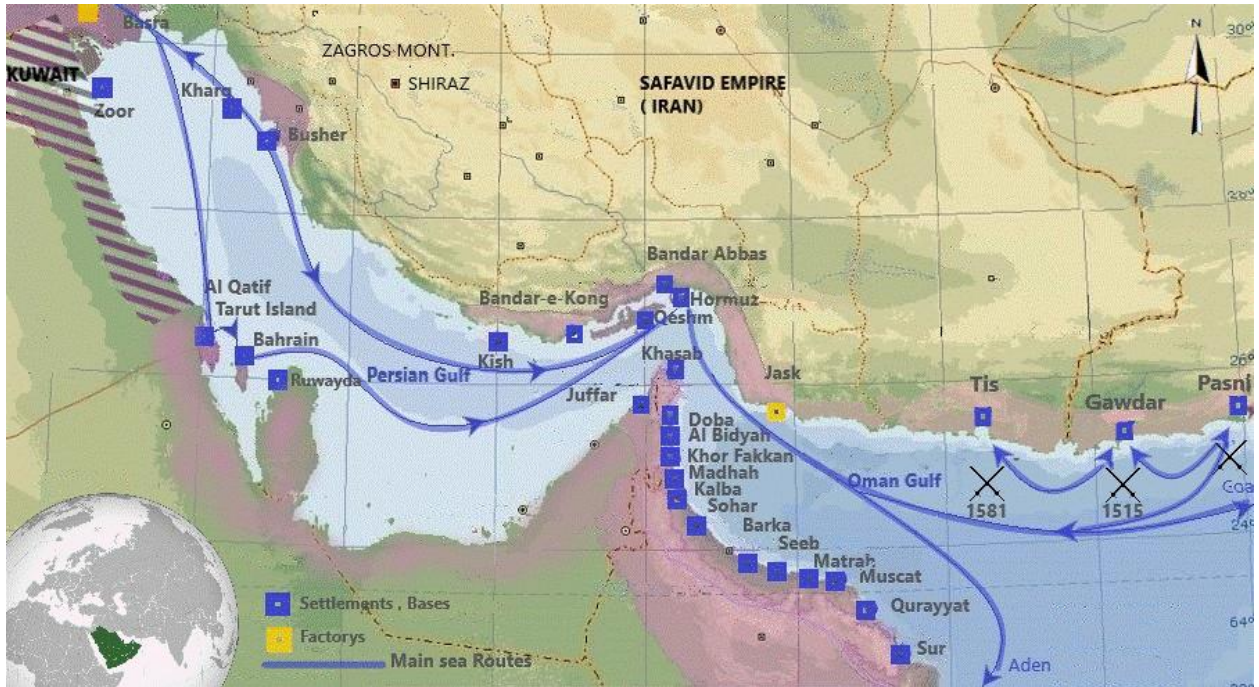
Is the Strait of Hormuz open, or not? Traffic shown since the first of March this year...



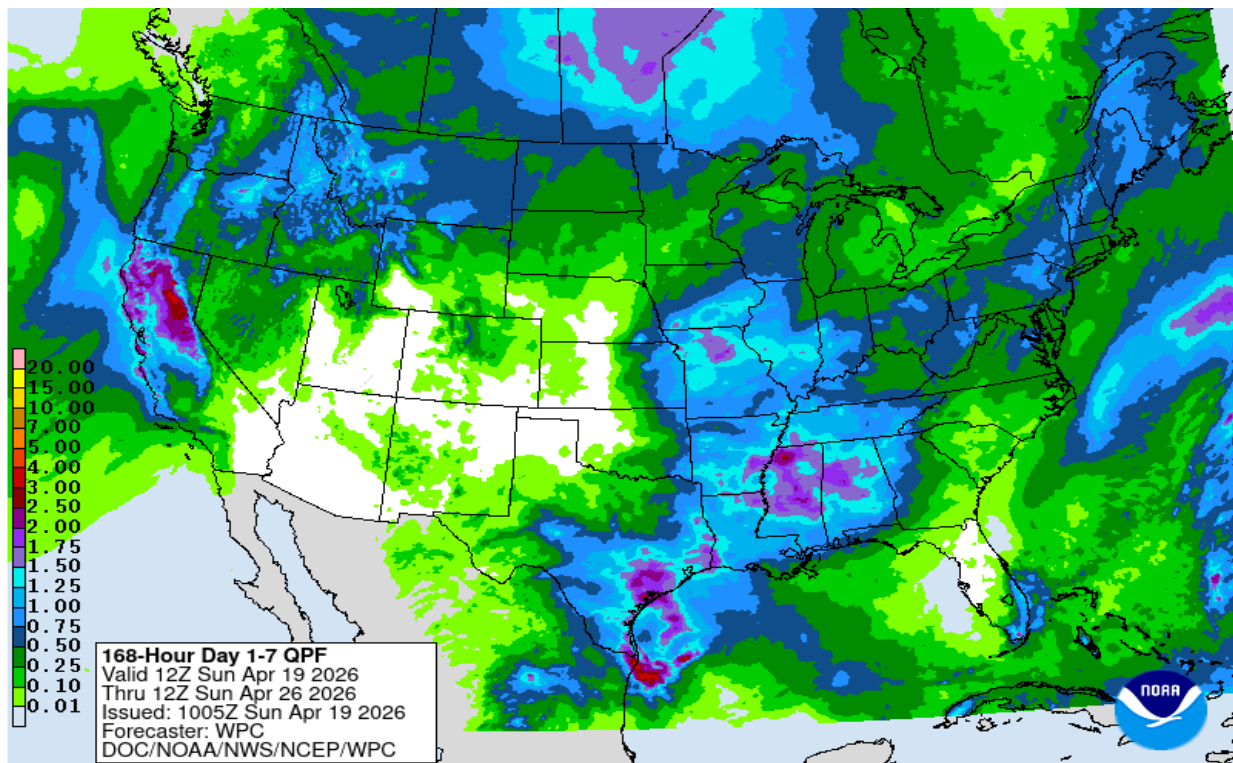
I'm not sure if this is Trump, or the Iranians... asking a ship Captain the key question:

*Charts and discussions follow, with the goal of giving you useful information to help you with the business of marketing your crops. My disclaimer remains the same: these are my sometimes rapidly changing opinions. ALSO, USE THE BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES YOU CAN. **STUDIES SHOW GOOD MANAGEMENT ADDS AN AVERAGE OF 13 BU/ACRE; IT PAYS FOR ITSELF***

“Foreign Powers” trying to control that strait are nothing new. This picture from Wikipedia is when Portugal dominated the Strait in the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Those were the days...



Remember when we only talked about the weather? How boring...The forecast looks dry, for The Great Plains, again.



Recent cold temps didn't help the new-crop HRW, but ...I doubt they killed it. The main problem with this wheat crop is it's too dry. Survival Mode, just trying to make enough seed to pass the genes along to the next generation. **Yield reduction is the result.**

Someone asked me "how much of wheat's price rally is because of the "Macro Event" (War on Iran), and how much is because of expected supply reduction?" Maybe this guy knows?

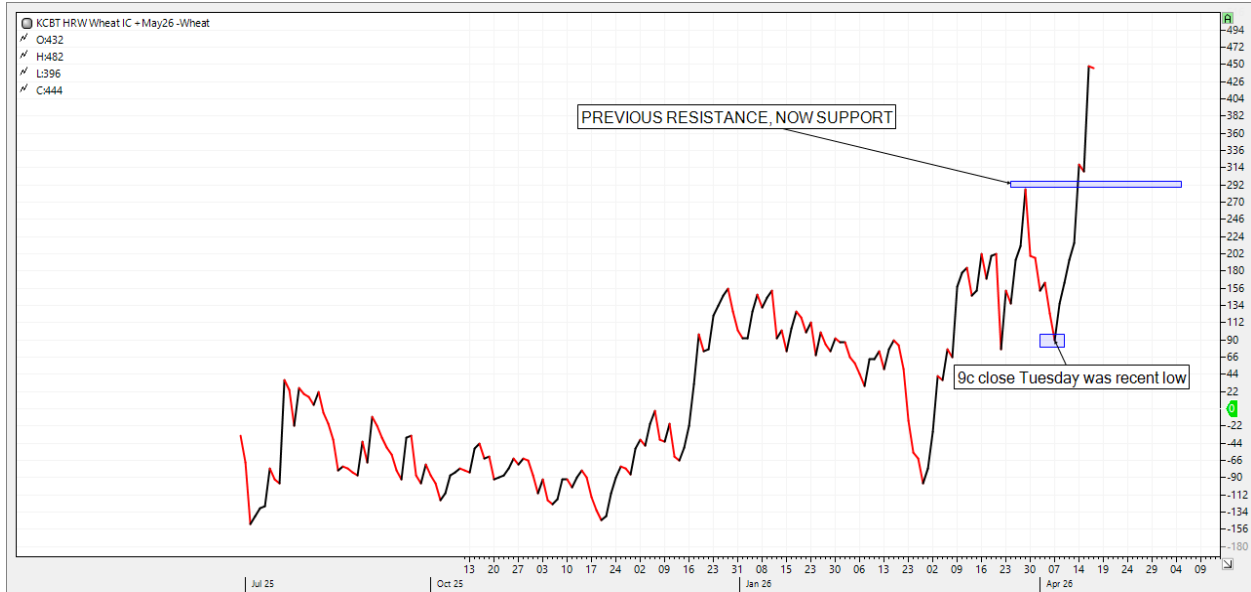
I have no idea. What I DO KNOW is...we're not talking about \$4.00 wheat. We're talking about \$6.50 wheat, and I think that figures in when trying to answer that question.

Here's how we ended, and keep in mind, Friday going home, we were told this war is over. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2026/04/17/donald-trump-iran-strait-of-hormuz-usa-today/89657831007/>

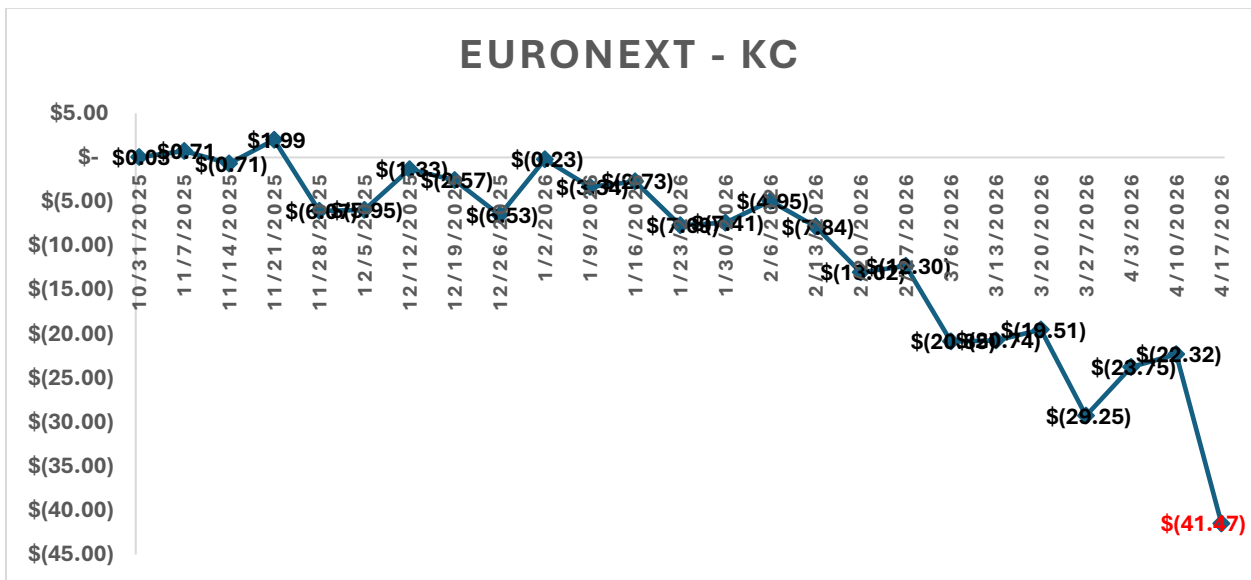
I'm still showing the May as top-step, as cash bids are still basis the May (wide carrying charges foster posting cash bids on the expiring month as long as possible, which MIGHT change with the coming expected supply reductions). Crude oil and the stock market are the June trading months. We see NEW BLUE NUMBERS in old-crop hard wheats (hard winter and hard spring) but not in the Chgo wheat. Nor do we see new blue numbers (new 11-week Closing Highs) in corn or soybeans. We do see a new Blue number in the stock market (reverting to the "normal" trend?). Crude posted a 4-week Closing Low.

	KC May HRW	DEC 26 HRW	May 26 CORN	DEC 26 CORN	Chgo K wheat	Springs May	May'26 BEANS	NOV'26 BEANS	Crude oil	S&P (H)
CLOSE	KWK26	KWZ26	CK26	CZ26	WK26	MWK26	SK26	SX26	CRD26	ES26
04/17	\$6.37	\$6.76	\$4.49	\$4.77	\$5.91	\$6.53	\$11.67	\$11.57	\$82.59	\$7162
04/10	\$5.91	\$6.38	\$4.41	\$4.72	\$5.71	\$6.12	\$11.76	\$11.58	\$96.57	\$6855
04/03	\$6.16	\$6.62	\$4.52	\$4.81	\$5.98	\$6.47	\$11.64	\$11.54	\$111.54	\$6604
03/27	\$6.33	\$6.79	\$4.62	\$4.90	\$6.05	\$6.48	\$11.59	\$11.44	\$99.64	\$6412
03/20	\$6.06	\$6.55	\$4.66	\$4.91	\$5.95	\$6.28	\$11.61	\$11.41	\$98.23	\$6559
03/13	\$6.30	\$6.77	\$4.67	\$4.92	\$6.14	\$6.46	\$12.25	\$11.62	\$98.71	\$6636
03/06	\$6.24	\$6.68	\$4.61	\$4.85	\$6.17	\$6.43	\$12.01	\$11.47	\$90.90	\$6744
02/27	\$5.81	\$6.29	\$4.49	\$4.70	\$5.92	\$6.13	\$11.71	\$11.28	\$67.02	\$6889
02/20	\$5.85	\$6.30	\$4.40	\$4.65	\$5.80	\$6.00	\$11.53	\$11.15	\$66.48	\$6923
02/13	\$5.54	\$6.03	\$4.42	\$4.65	\$5.49	\$5.84	\$11.49	\$11.14	\$62.89	\$6850
02/06	\$5.44	\$5.94	\$4.39	\$4.58	\$5.39	\$5.83	\$11.29	\$10.94	\$63.55	\$6953

There's no denying the Dry Weather in The Great Plains has caught the market's attention, seen here in KC moving to about a 44c premium over Chgo wheat. You might remember a couple weeks ago I said the market was wrong. It's not wrong anymore.



This Euronext (matif) May wheat – KC May wheat! Wow!! KC is now a \$41/mt premium!!!

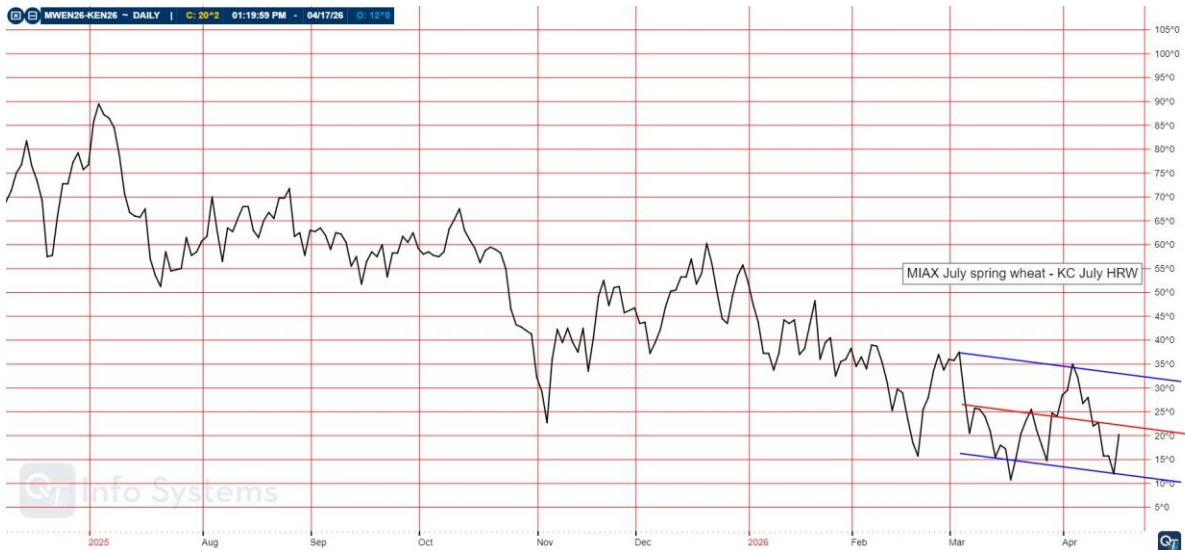


Nor is this only a short-lived phenomenon as KC Dec wheat is almost a \$36/mmt premium over the Euronext December wheat. We'll bring this up again when we are "forced" to look at "fundamentals" ...but this clearly implies USA HRW IMPORTS WILL VERY LIKELY BE AN ALL-TIME HIGH THIS COMING CROP YEAR. Which is kinda yucky, in my opinion, but unless Trump is willing to BLOCKADE the Bosphorus Strait in Istanbul, linking The Black Sea with the Mediterranean Sea...it's going to happen.

If you're gonna blockade one strait, why not blockade them all?



One other inter-market wheat spread is the MIAX July Spring wheat – KC July HRW...trading in a 20c range; current mid-point is about 22c; Friday’s close was 20c. **Overall trend has been a narrowing of the futures price difference, eroding the spring wheat premium.** Dry Weather in The Great Plains probably has been the main factor, although the war and **Political Headline Risk** is certainly a factor as well, because generally, MIAX spring wheat futures tend to lag...both on the way up, and on the way down. **This chart doesn’t look like the trend of spring wheat futures prices losing ground to KC wheat futures prices is over.** But...some guys like to “buy the dip”.



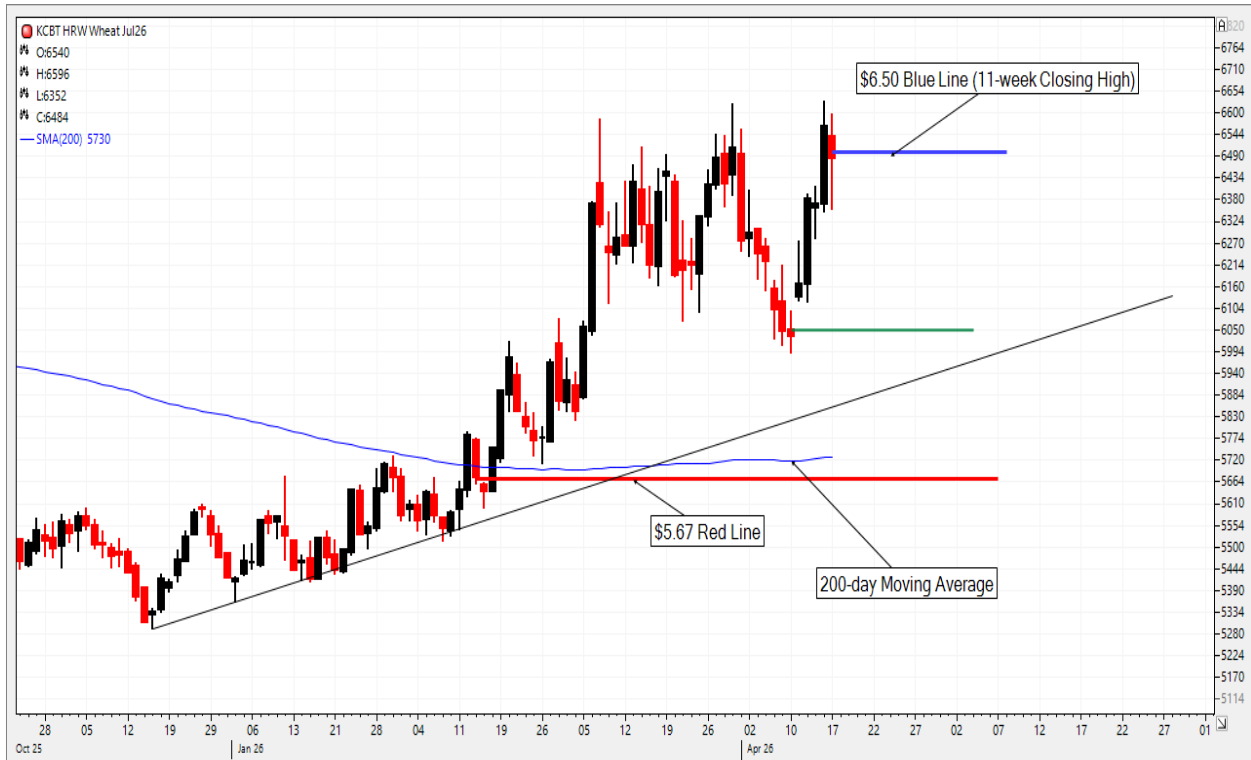
This is the updated 11-Week Closing Table with the July trading months as top-step:

	KC July HRW	DEC 26 HRW	July 26 CORN	DEC 26 CORN	Chgo N wheat	Springs July	July'26 BEANS	NOV'26 BEANS	Crude oil	S&P (H)
CLOSE	KWN26	KWZ26	CN26	CZ26	WN26	MWN26	SN26	SX26	CRD26	ES26
04/17	\$6.50	\$6.76	\$4.58	\$4.77	\$5.99	\$6.70	\$11.83	\$11.57	\$82.59	\$7162
04/10	\$6.05	\$6.38	\$4.51	\$4.72	\$5.81	\$6.27	\$11.91	\$11.58	\$96.57	\$6855
04/03	\$6.31	\$6.62	\$4.63	\$4.81	\$6.10	\$6.61	\$11.80	\$11.54	\$111.54	\$6604
03/27	\$6.48	\$6.79	\$4.74	\$4.90	\$6.16	\$6.62	\$11.75	\$11.44	\$99.64	\$6412
03/20	\$6.21	\$6.55	\$4.76	\$4.91	\$6.07	\$6.42	\$11.77	\$11.41	\$98.23	\$6559
03/13	\$6.44	\$6.77	\$4.78	\$4.92	\$6.25	\$6.59	\$12.38	\$11.62	\$98.71	\$6636
03/06	\$6.36	\$6.68	\$4.71	\$4.85	\$6.25	\$6.56	\$12.13	\$11.47	\$90.90	\$6744
02/27	\$5.94	\$6.29	\$4.56	\$4.70	\$5.99	\$6.27	\$11.83	\$11.28	\$67.02	\$6889
02/20	\$5.97	\$6.30	\$4.48	\$4.65	\$5.88	\$6.13	\$11.66	\$11.15	\$66.48	\$6923
02/13	\$5.67	\$6.03	\$4.50	\$4.65	\$5.57	\$5.97	\$11.61	\$11.14	\$62.89	\$6850
02/06	\$5.57	\$5.94	\$4.45	\$4.58	\$5.49	\$5.96	\$11.40	\$10.94	\$63.55	\$6953

Here's the updated KC weekly continuous. I added a \$7.50 horizontal line...which would be in play if this \$6.50 area becomes solid support:



This is the KC July, with the new Blue Line. \$6.05 is the 4-week Closing Low (green line). Red line (11-week Closing Low) way down below but moved up to \$5.67.



Here's last Monday's crop conditions, good or better, compared with 2 analogue years:

**HRW Wheat conditions  
good +excellent total  
%**

week ended	4/15/2018	4/9/2023	4/12/2026
KS	12	13	32
CO	38	25	16
NE	55	23	14
OK	8	20	10
TX	13	17	15
SD	27	29	33
MT	65	30	27
HRW average	31.1	22.4	21.0
<b>national</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>34</b>

In 2018, we were looking at \$5.50 wheat; in 2023 we were looking at \$8.25 wheat.

Ok, I feel the need...for some fundamentals.

	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2026-26	2025-27	
	581	516	506	428	356	223	274	402	447	carry in
	662	845	659	749	531	596	773	804	570	production
	5	2	4	5	4	18	6	6	25	imports
	1248	1363	1169	1182	891	837	1053	1212	1042	total supply
	384	378	377	410	373	384	386	390	385	food
	25	24	26	26	29	27	26	26	26	seed
	-9	77	-1	74	42	18	25	30	30	feed/residual
	400	479	402	510	444	429	437	446	441	domestic use
	332	378	340	316	224	134	215	320	220	exports
	732	857	742	826	668	563	652	766	661	total demand
	516	506	427	356	223	274	401	446	381	carryout
	70.5%	59.0%	57.5%	43.1%	33.4%	48.7%	61.5%	58.2%	57.6%	stox/use

570 mil bu production is a big drop, no doubt. Things could get worse, or...they still could improve.

2026/27	yields	production
40.0	KS	252.00
25.0	CO	36.25
32.0	NE	22.40
28.0	OK	77.00
30.0	TX	52.50
52.0	SD	34.32
60.0	ND	4.50
33.0	MT	56.43
73.0	CA	5.84
41.4	total	541.24
	USA HRW + HWW	570.00

I increased Imports to 25 mil bu.

The hard part is gauging **Demand Destruction**. I dropped Exports 100 mil bu.

NET BOTTOM LINE is the stox/use ratio stays unchanged. Could we stay a dollar higher than last year, \$6.50 futures instead of \$5.50? Yup.

How about \$2 higher? That becomes much more difficult.

Well, since I've only sold 25% of my new-crop wheat, why not sell more, or even all of it?

This article from Michigan Farm News quoting a North Dakota State study on fertilizer prices is why I'm too nervous to sell more. <https://www.michiganfarmnews.com/how-long-will-higher-fertilizer-prices-last-buckle-up-before-you-read-this-new-report->

I'm a chicken is another way to put it. Here's me:

Texas Gulf to-arrive bids are unchanged, still posted basis the May:

**GULF**

date	12 pro	11's	diff
4/17/2026	<b>105</b>	<b>90</b>	15
4/10/2026	105	90	15
4/3/2026	105	90	15
3/27/2026	105	90	15

Posted basis bids in the country are mixed. I'm calculating the average Colorado bid for wheat is \$5.54/bu.

Date	SE Colorado	Chey. Wells	Burlington	Holyoke area	Roggen area
<b>04/17</b>	<b>\$5.37-\$5.52</b>	<b>\$5.47</b>	<b>\$5.42-\$5.47</b>	<b>\$5.27-\$5.47</b>	<b>\$5.82-\$6.07</b>
04/10	\$4.91-\$4.96	\$5.11	\$4.92-\$5.02	\$4.81-\$5.06	\$5.31-\$5.56
04/03	\$5.16-\$5.21	\$5.36	\$5.17-\$5.27	\$5.06-\$5.31	\$5.51-\$5.96
03/27	\$5.33-\$5.38	\$5.53	\$5.34-\$5.44	\$5.23-\$5.48	\$5.68-\$6.13
03/20	\$5.06-\$5.11	\$5.26	\$5.07-\$5.17	\$4.96-\$5.13	\$5.41-\$5.86

BASIS	SE Colorado	Chey. Wells	Burlington	Holyoke	Roggen area
<b>04/17(K)</b>	<b>-100, -85</b>	<b>-90</b>	<b>-95, -90</b>	<b>-110, -90</b>	<b>-55, -30</b>
04/10(K)	-100, -95	-80	-99, -89	-110, -85	-65, -35
04/03(K)	-100, -95	-80	-99, -89	-110, -85	-65, -20
03/27(K)	-100, -95	-80	-99, -89	-110, -85	-65, -20
03/20(K)	-100, -95	-80	-99, -89	-110, -93	-65, -20

Date	Concordia	Salina	Hutch/Wichita	Ark City
<b>04/17(K)</b>	<b>-55</b>	<b>-51, -25</b>	<b>-83, -32</b>	
04/10(K)	-55	-54, -25	-83, -32	
04/03(K)	-55	-55, -25	-83, -35	
03/27(K)	-60	-56, -35	-83, -38	
03/20(K)	-60	-56, -35	-83, -40	

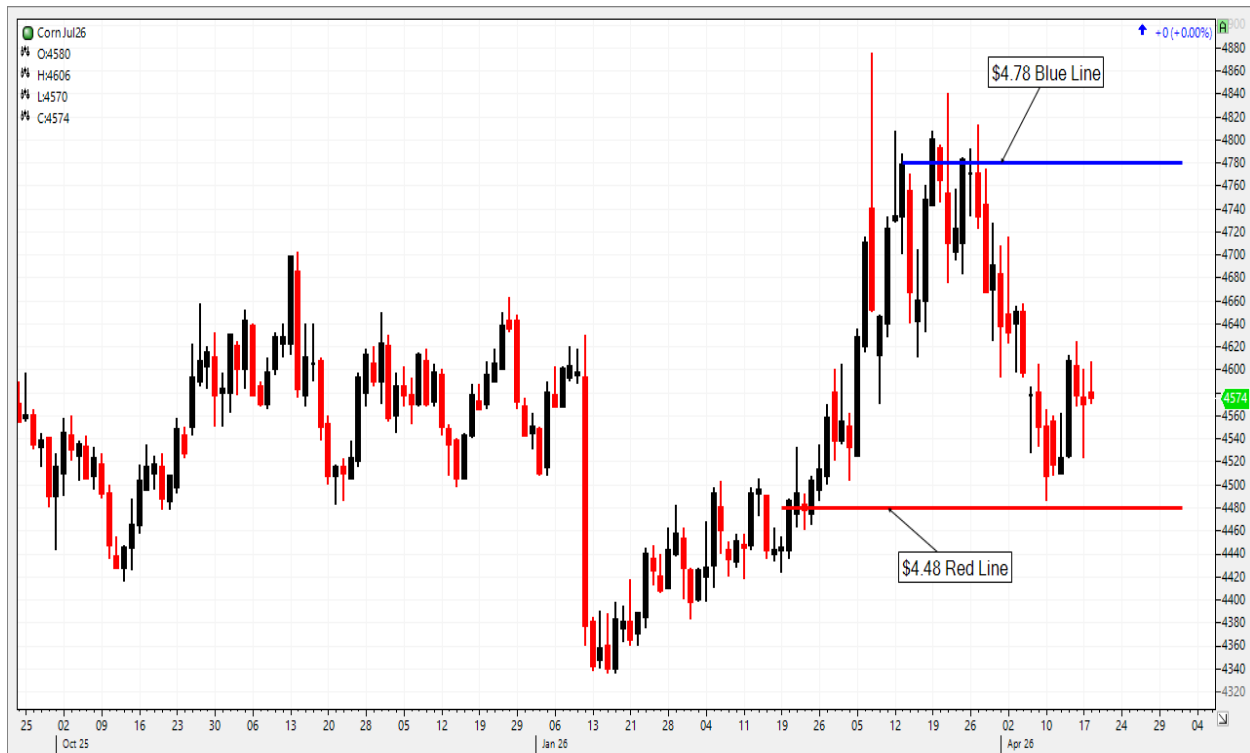
South Illinois River corn and bean bids quoted higher, still basis the K, and probably as high as they'll get. Should be on the N next week.

<b>south illinois river bids</b>	corn	corn	beans	beans
<b>4/17/2026</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>-3</b>
4/10/2026	-17	6	-25	-3
4/3/2026	-17	1	-25	-18
3/27/2026	-17	1	-30	-25
3/20/2026	-17	-3	-35	-25

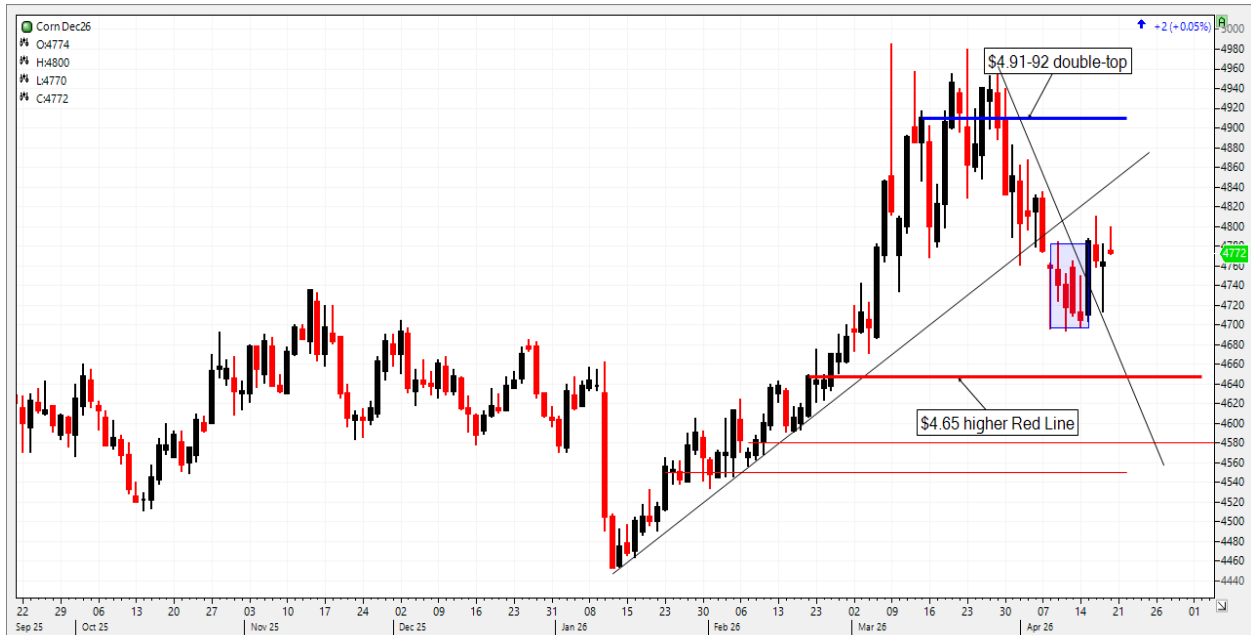
The updated Export Pace still looks good for corn and the reduced soybean forecast from last week kept beans on pace. Wheat slipped. Wheat sales of only 3.6 mil bu and soybean Export Sales, 9.1 mil bu, were low, and corn export sales of 55 mil bu were also below the needed sales pace.

<b>WEEK ENDED (04/09/26)</b>	Weekly loadings	Accumulated in season (FGIS)	Estimated fudge factor	Total loaded est*	USDA projection	Amount needed	Weeks to go	Bu per week needed
Corn	63.4	<b>1,969.7</b>	110	<b>2,080</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>1,220</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>61.0</b>
Soybeans	26.9	<b>1,154.3</b>	34	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>17.6</b>
All wheat	10.0	<b>770.6</b>	27	<b>798</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>14.6</b>
Milo	7.9	<b>123.1</b>	5	<b>128</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>4.9</b>
LAST update								
Corn	78.8	<b>1,908.0</b>	110	<b>2,018</b>	<b>3,300</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>61.0</b>
Soybeans	28.6	<b>1,126.9</b>	34	<b>1,161</b>	<b>1,540</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>18.0</b>
All wheat	12.3	<b>759.4</b>	27	<b>786</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>14.2</b>
Milo	7.1	<b>112.8</b>	5	<b>118</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>4.9</b>

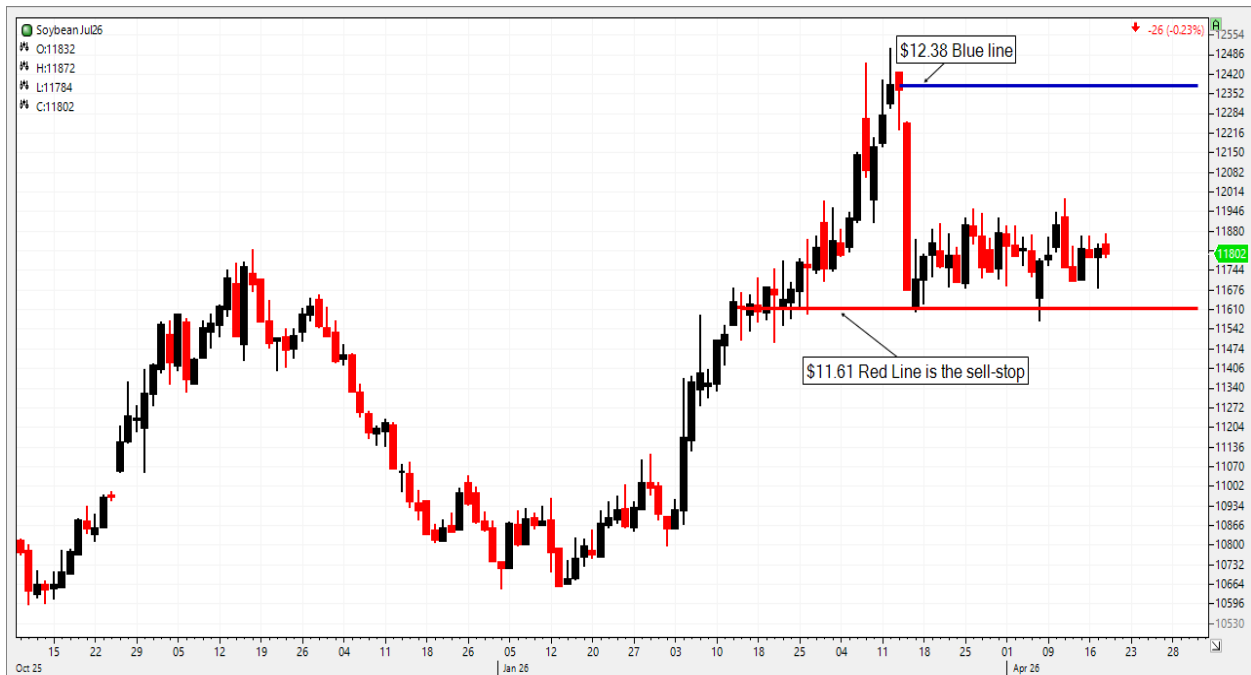
July corn ...I don't see a reason to hold old-crop corn.



I don't like the looks of this new-crop Dec corn chart either. I've sold only 10% of my expected new-crop corn, and will sell 10% more with a sell-stop below the Red Line.



I still have a few old-crop soybeans, and I'm waiting for a sell-stop to be triggered and move the last of them:



New-crop Nov soybeans...are all unsold, and will use a Red line sell-stop to begin marketing new-crop soybeans.



This coming year...besides weather, and politics...the expected record high input costs will make it more difficult than normal just paying the bills.

Sting released an album in 1999 called "Brand New Day". The song Desert Rose is haunting me. "...I dream of rain, I dream of gardens in the sand..."

Have a good week.

Stay safe. Slow Down.

And Stay Alert. This will be another volatile week.