Hello Colorado Wheat.

What a week! Seems like Friday lasted a whole week…**Non-bearish crop reports**, **hot and dry weather returning**, and **maybe** the Russian's are closing one of their own important wheat shipping lanes?! https://united24media.com/war-in-ukraine/russia-halts-shipping-through-kerch-strait-after-ukrainian-drone-strikes-on-vessels-20677

I said maybe, because so far I haven't been able to find an official Russian announcement about the closing.

Complicating things, possibly weirdly… late Saturday night Senator Lindsey Graham suddenly passed away shortly after returning from a trip to Ukraine. Graham politically was known as a "hawk" and aggressively supported more sanctions on the Russians and more weapons sent to Ukraine. And so now people are asking: Did the Russians poison Sen. Graham?

Huh? What?

Anyway…I doubt any big Fund Money is ready to sell the heck outta this grain rally right immediately this minute, so…I'm tempted to just put this thing on cruise control and listen to the music, because as Bob Dylan wrote but Jimi Hendrix made famous…from All Along the Watchtower… "there's too much confusion. I can't get no relief."

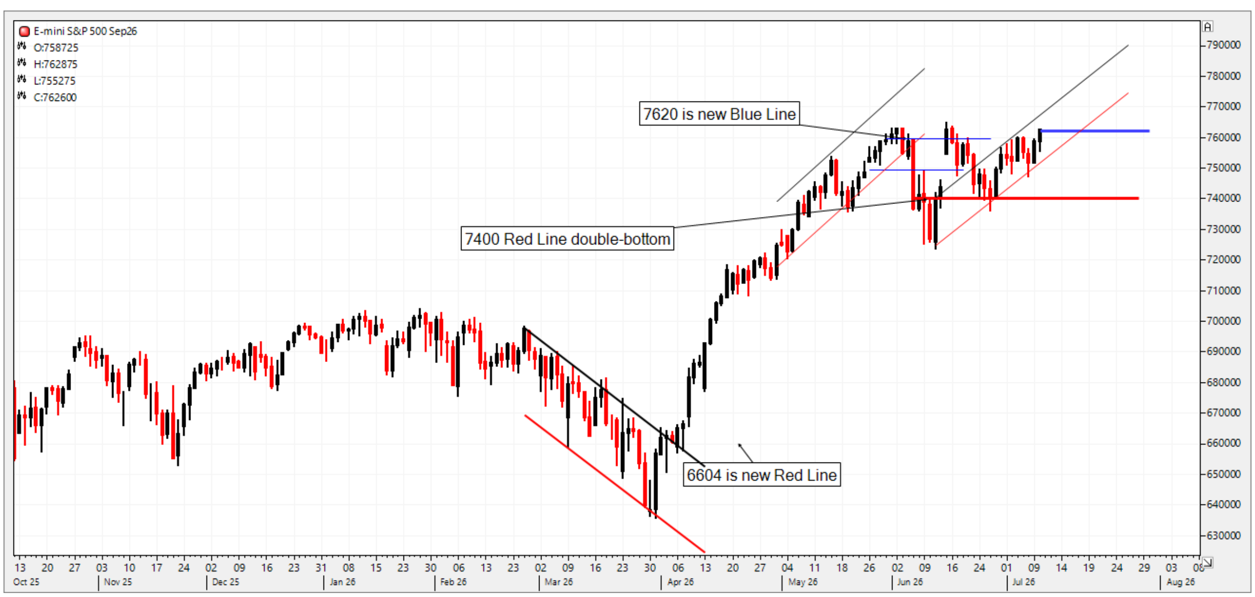
Might as well play some Purple Haze too, because I suspect it's gonna be a while before we know anything… "is it tomorrow, or just the end of time."

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

Friday finished strongly. For the week, wheat picked up about 40c and corn not quite 20c. Old-crop beans gained 50c or so, as China bot some more and the futures recognized old-crop basis bids for beans to the crushers are quite strong. Crude oil quit going down, and the Stock Market posted a new higher Blue Number. Over the long run, it's still the best game in town.

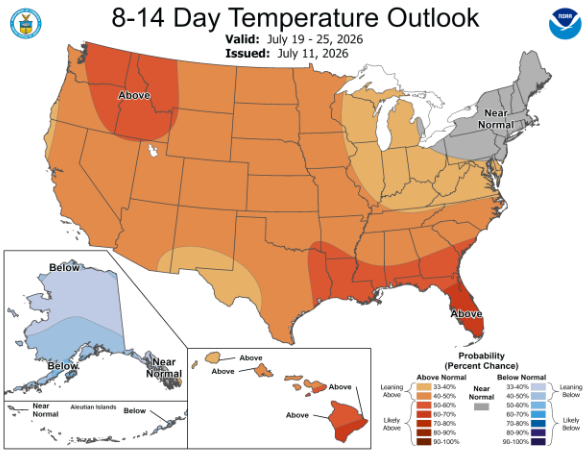
	KC Sep HRW	DEC 26 HRW	Sep 26 CORN	DEC 26 CORN	Chgo U wheat	Springs Sept	Aug'26 BEANS	NOV'26 BEANS	Crude oil	S&P (U)
CLOSE	**KWU26**	**KWZ26**	**CU26**	**CZ26**	**WU26**	**MWU26**	**SQ26**	**SX26**	**CRD26**	**ES26**
07/10	**$6.76**	**$6.90**	**$4.40**	**$4.61**	**$6.40**	**$6.53**	**$11.92**	**$11.91**	**$71.41**	**$7620**
07/03	$6.39	$6.52	$4.23	$4.42	$6.00	$6.19	$11.36	$11.48	$68.69	$7528
06/26	**$6.20**	**$6.35**	$4.22	$4.42	**$5.90**	**$6.05**	$11.37	$11.56	**$69.23**	$7402
06/19	$6.51	$6.66	$4.25	$4.44	$6.14	$6.48	$11.28	$11.43	$76.60	$7556
06/12	$6.41	$6.54	**$4.21**	**$4.40**	$5.96	$6.42	**$11.19**	**$11.32**	$84.88	$7435
06/05	$6.32	$6.47	$4.27	$4.46	$5.93	$6.46	$11.26	$11.38	$90.54	$7400
05/29	$6.62	$6.77	$4.56	$4.75	$6.23	$6.89	**$11.90**	**$11.90**	$87.36	$7596
05/22	$6.93	$7.09	$4.70	$4.87	**$6.59**	$7.10	$11.95	$11.88	$96.60	$7491
05/15	$6.98	$7.11	$4.63	$4.81	$6.50	$7.06	$11.77	$11.71	$101.02	$7432
05/08	$6.87	$7.01	$4.78	$4.94	$6.34	$7.00	**$12.03**	**$11.90**	$95.42	$7419
05/01	**$7.07**	**$7.21**	**$4.85**	**$4.99**	$6.53	**$7.22**	$11.97	$11.83	**$101.94**	**$7258**

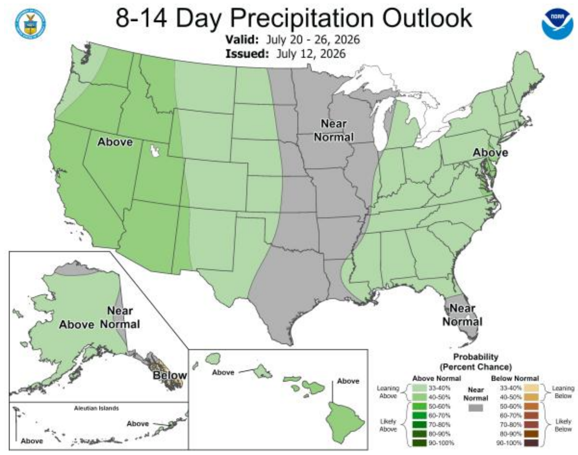
As long as the E mini stays above 7400, life is good:



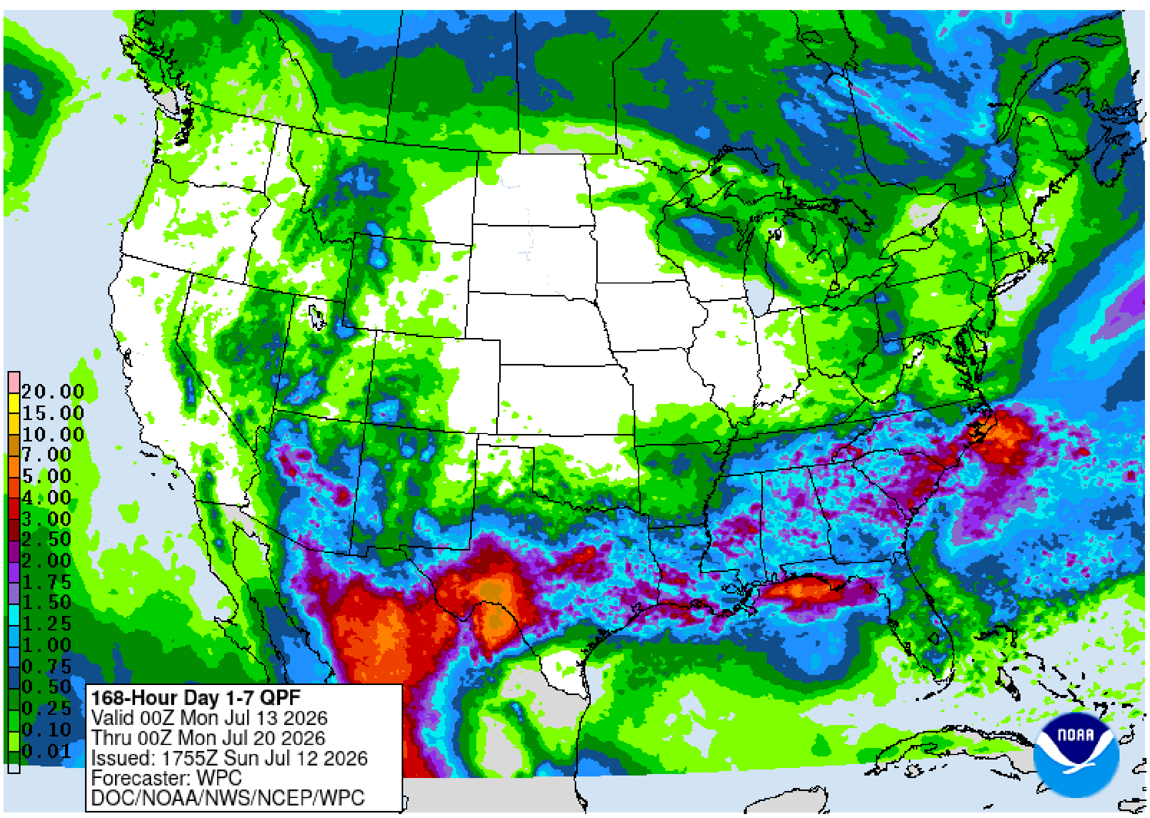
Let’s get the weather picture on the table.

The 8–14-day outlooks are based on trends. I’m not convinced this is a “burning dome of death”…so there might be some downside risk if this just turns into “summer” …

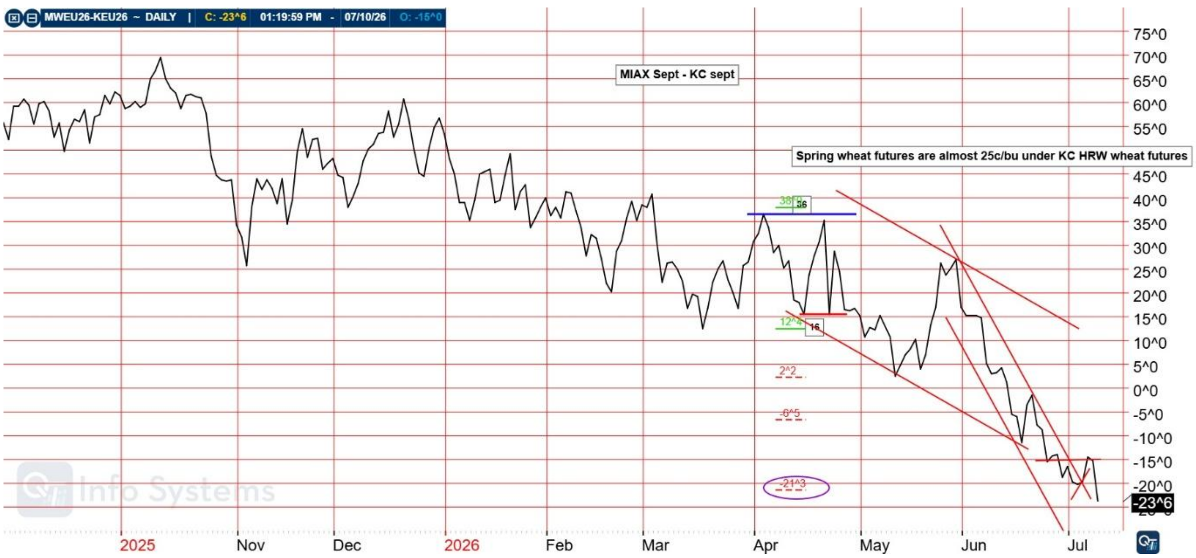




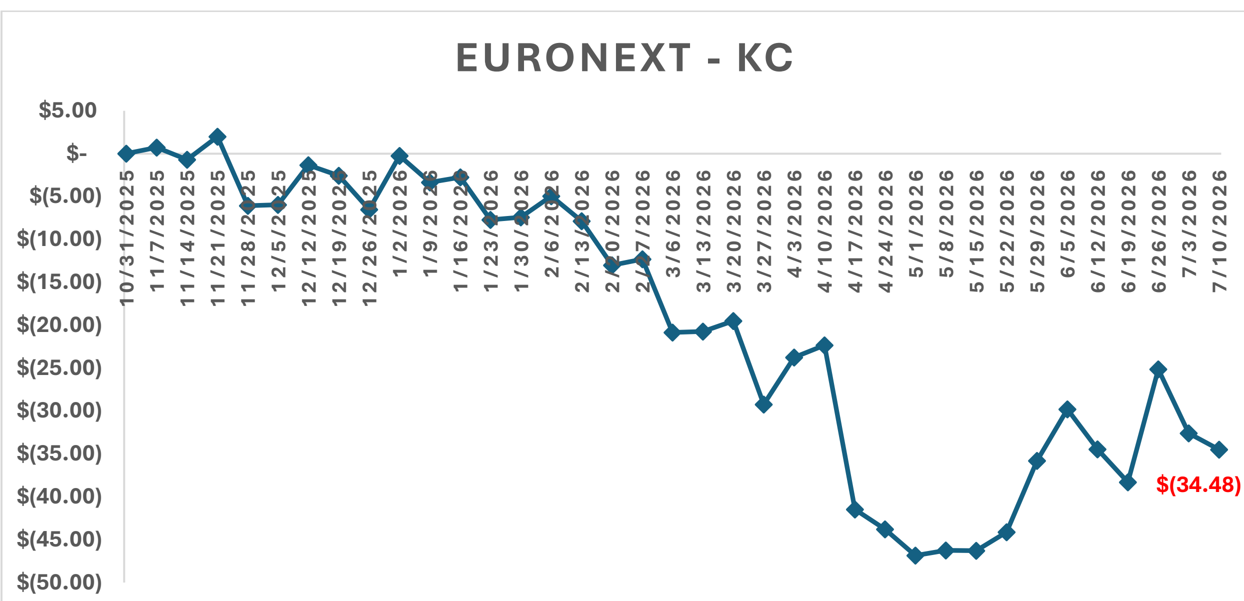
This week’s NOAA’s 5-7 day Precipitation Forecast map shows a hole in the middle. The Great Plains and much of the Midwest will dry out. Colorado wheat harvest will finish. Nebraska will get close. South Dakota will make a lot of progress; I don’t think Montana has started yet.



The Grain Stocks report showed fewer bushels than expected, so the WASDE accounted for that by increasing last year's feed/residual category by 18 million bu. Exports dropped a little, so the July USA wheat carry-in for this year (beginning stocks) is net 15 mil bu lower. Even though the NASS Crop Production report dropped HRW wheat production 27 million bu. overall USA wheat production only went down by 7 mil bu....so we'll deduce USA spring wheat production must look pretty good. So a HRW crop that looks bad and HRS crop that looks good, and Russian wheat that may or may not be tied up...leads to spring wheat at a discount to winter wheat. (My Price Count Down shows the 35th% target was reached.)



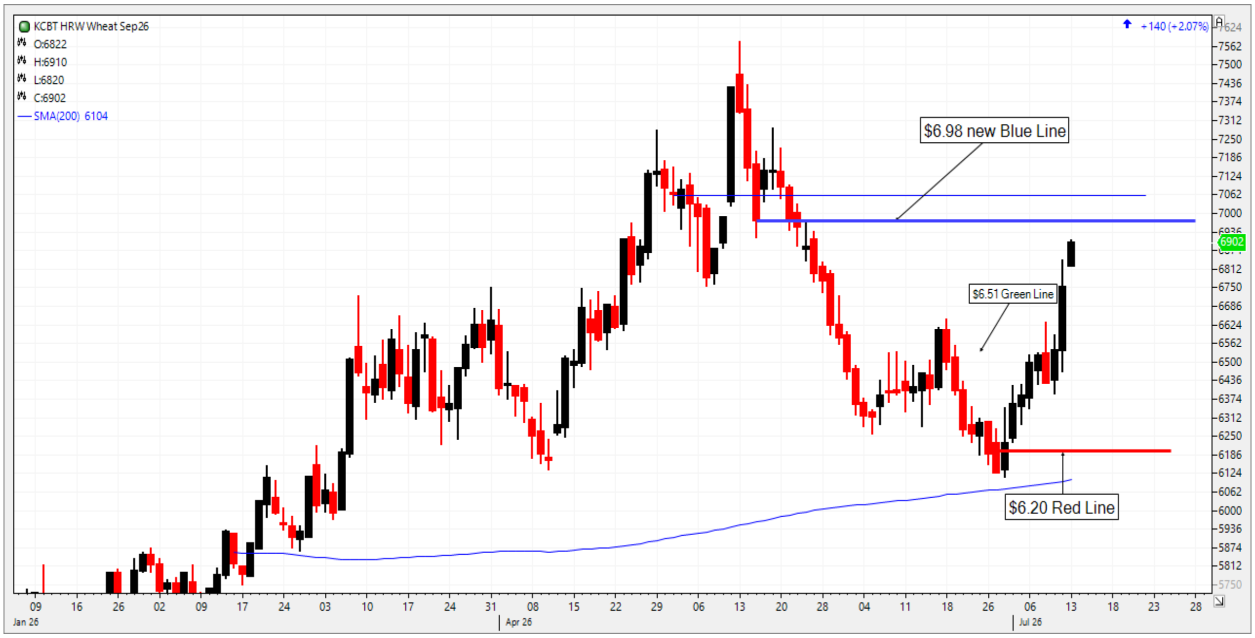
And European wheat futures gained $2/mt LESS than KC wheat gained:



We'll need to look at USA wheat exports, and some other fundamental tweaks made by the USA, but for the most part, we know everything about what we have. Demand will be the issue, and then no doubt USA HRW new-crop planting season will be keenly watched.

So…how will we open Sunday night? Looks like up 13c!

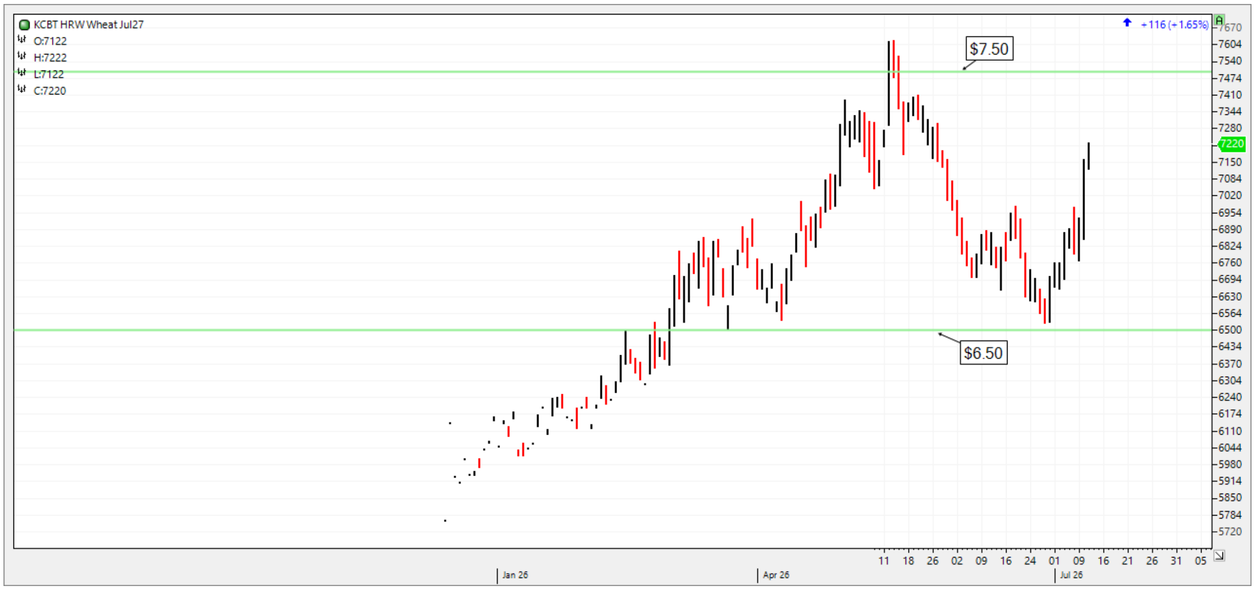
Here's KC Sept. The old Blue number of $7.07 rolled off the table (time ticked by…) so now the Blue number (High weekly close in these past 11 weeks) is now at $6.98, which is closer to the market, and you can see Sunday night it's currently trading up around $6.90:



For perspective, here's the long-term weekly continuous:

SO IF you have any unsold wheat, what do you do? That weekly chart suggests putting in a Price Target at $7.50 and using a sell-stop at $6.25.

New-crop wheat? Here's KC July. I could go with a price target of $7.50, and the sell-stop is down to $6.50. That assumes you haven't sold ANY new-crop wheat yet. IF you've already sold 25% at $7.00, I wouldn't add to it. Why? Because a LOT of guys this year who normally easily raise 40-bushel wheat struggled to make 10-bu wheat, so if they would have sold more than 25%...they're gonna have to come up with some money.



A few quick points from the wheat reports... we saw the USDA thinks about 13 to 14 mil bu of HRW USA domestic mill demand will switch to spring wheat, which is about 3.5%, so not really a lot. It will happen but we won't notice.

We saw the first look at wheat-by-class usage. HRW winter wheat exports are expected to drop by 100 mil by, and spring wheat only gains 7 mil bu. Soft red winter exports are expected to drop by 22 mil bu. The July USA all wheat exports of 775 mil bu for 26/27 were what we saw in June, but we didn't get the "by class" until now.

World wheat numbers...production stayed about the same. No changes were made to Europe, which might be a little questionable with their hot weather. Australia, Argentina, China and India all stayed the same. Canada actually dropped 1 mmt, but Russia and Ukraine both gained .5 mmt. World wheat ending stocks dropped 2.6 mmt; 1mmt came from a reduction in beginning stocks, and the balance, about 1.5 mmt came in increased milling demand. Both Russia and Ukraine are expected to increase wheat exports by .5 mmt, but...that's maybe looking like a big assumption given recent developments with the Kerch Strait.

The updated Export loading pace shows wheat really slowing down, although wheat export sales were about 12 mil bu, so we're not really at a standstill or anything like that. The USDA expects this year's wheat exports to be 85% of last year's; current loadings are 82% of last year. While we're here…corn loadings are still big and bean loadings have picked up a little as China is taking some boats.

WEEK ENDED (07/02/26)	Weekly loadings	Accumulated in season (FGIS)	Estimated fudge factor	Total loaded est*	USDA projection	Amount needed	Weeks to go	Bu per week needed
Corn	64.6	**2,778.4**	110	**2,888**	**3,325**	**437**	**08**	**54.6**
Soybeans	19.4	**1,390.8**	34	**1,425**	**1,520**	**95**	**08**	**11.9**
All wheat	4.9	**55.3**	27	**82**	**775**	**693**	**47**	**14.7**
Milo	0.9	**180.9**	5	**186**	**225**	**39**	**08**	**4.9**
LAST update								
Corn	70.3	**2,711.7**	110	**2,822**	**3,325**	**503**	**09**	**55.9**
Soybeans	15.4	**1,370.5**	34	**1,405**	**1,530**	**125**	**09**	**13.9**
All wheat	13.2	**49.0**	27	**76**	**775**	**699**	**48**	**14.5**
Milo	6.7	**180.8**	5	**186**	**225**	**39**	**09**	**4.3**

Corn Illinois River basis is mixed, but bean bids are definitely a little firmer:

south illinois river bids	corn	corn	beans	beans
7/10/2026 U and Q	**2**	**15**	**8**	**10**
7/3/2026 U and Q	8	12	-4	9
6/26/2026	1	6	0	1
6/19/2026	0	2	-11	-3
6/12/2026	-2	2	-11	-3

Texas to-arrive HRW basis bids are unchanged:

GULF

date	**12 pro**	**11's**	**diff**	
7/10/2026	**115**	**100**	15	
7/3/2026	115	100	15	
6/26/2026	115	100	15	U
6/19/2026	125	120	5	N

Posted wheat basis out in the country is firm to higher; a couple better bids are shown. The mill bid into Roggen is now 10 OVER…are the days of unders over? If that Cheyenne Wells bid at -25 is legit, we haven't seen in 3 years:

Date	SE Colorado	Chey. Wells	Burlington	Holyoke area	Roggen area
07/10	**$6.06-$6.06**	**$6.51**	**$6.11-$6.21**	**$6.01-$6.41**	**$6.56-$6.86**
07/03	$5.60-$5.60	$6.00	$5.75-$5.85	$5.50-$5.85	$6.15-$6.35
06/26	$5.46-$5.46	$5.81	$5.41-$5.51	$5.36-$5.51	$5.91-$6.11
06/19	$5.59-$5.79	$6.14	$5.74-$5.84	$5.69-$5.84	$6.19-$6.44
06/12	$5.50-$5.65	$6.05	$5.60-$5.70	$5.25-$5.75	$6.10-$6.35
06/05	$5.26-$5.36	$5.56	$5.17-$5.27	$5.11-$5.31	$5.91-$6.16
BASIS	**SE Colorado**	**Chey. Wells**	**Burlington**	**Holyoke**	**Roggen area**
07/10(U)	**-70, -70**	**-25**	**-65, -55**	**-75, -35**	**-20, +10**
07/03(U)	-79, -79	-39	-64, -54	-89, -54	-23, -04
06/26(N)	-65, -65	-30	-70, -60	-75, -60	-25, -00
06/19(N)	-85, -65	-30	-70, -60	-75, -60	-25, -00
06/12(N)	-85, -70	-30	-75, -65	-110, -60	-25, -00
06/05(N)	-95, -85	-65	-110, -94	-110, -90	-30, -05

Date	Concordia	Salina	Hutch/Wichita	Ark City
07/10(U)	**-44**	**-32, -25**	**-59, -28**	
07/03(U)	-44	-35, -25	-59, -34	
06/26(N)	-40	-45, -20	-49, -20	
06/19(N)	-40	-45, -20	-49, -20	
06/12(N)	-40	-45, -20	-49, -20	
06/05(N)	-40	-45, -30	-49, -20	

That "Hutch/Wichita "low side high side" widened to 31c. I suspect we'll see more of this as the year rolls by, with elevators that are comfortable doing mill business paying more than some who mainly do export biz, which means if you do have any wheat for sale, **make sure you're checking around.**

New-crop corn fundamentals changed with the reports. The Grain Stocks from the previous week showed noticeably less corn on hand than expected, so this week's WASDE raised old-crop corn FEED/RESIDUAL…which is kinda hard to justify with the low animal herds, so some think last year's corn crop was overstated. It's a conspiracy. Besides the Russians killing Lindsey Graham, the Chinese got to Mitch McConnell's wife and the USDA intentionally overstated last year's corn crop to keep a lid on prices.

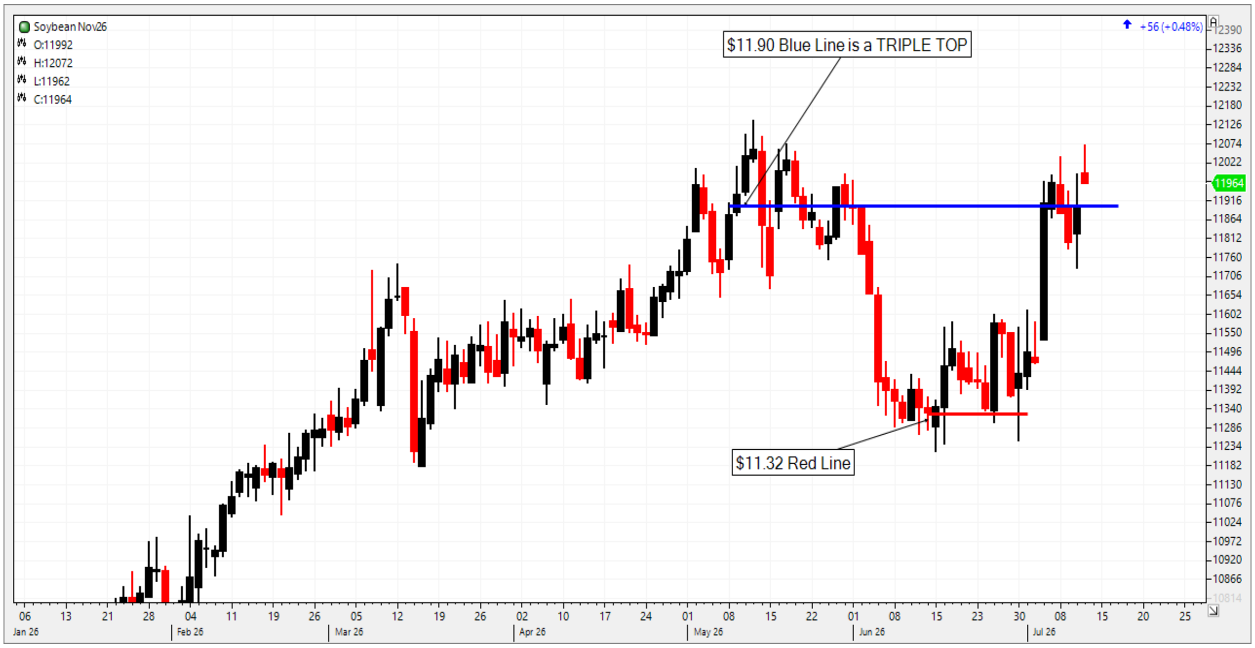
A 150 mil bu change gets your attention…now we have to assume the USDA is not really sure, as they did **not** raise feed/residual for the new-crop, although they did raise new-crop corn exports by 50 mil bu. Net ending corn stocks for this coming new year were reduced by 170 mil bu, BUT we saw the USDA did NOT change their National Average Farm Price.

There will be lots of changes to the corn balance sheet as we progress.

World numbers …The USDA dropped European corn production 4 mmt, and beginning world corn stocks were cut 5 mmt. A 2 mmt drop in usage netted a 5 mmt drop in world corn ending stocks.

SO…we have a Dec corn chart that looks like it would like to challenge the Blue Lines up near $5.00. I think in order to do that, the weather is going to have to get worse, and if that happens, we'll be nervous about the existing $5.00 sales from previously, so…I'm not too keen to double up.

November beans are now posting a Triple Top at the $11.90 area. Sunday nite is 6c above that, but it's a long time between now and then Friday close.



New-crop bean fundamentals net didn't change as a 30 mil increase in expected production was offset by a 30 mil bu increase in bean exports. And world bean numbers did not change at all. I still think selling new-crop beans at $12 is a great place to start.

That Purple Haze is wearing off. Wheat is now only up 8c instead of 13c, and this feels like it's going to be a long week. I think now it's The Traveling Wilbury's song "End of the Line, and they're singing "…maybe somewhere down the road, when somebody plays Purple Haze".

Have a good week. Stay Safe. Slow Down is the best way to do that.

Stay Alert. The markets are plenty goofy.