



WEEKLY OUTLOOK

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CORN AND SOYBEAN EXPORTS SHOULD REACH PROJECTIONS

Corn exports for the marketing year ending on August 31, 1990 are expected to reach 2.35 billion bushels. That projection is nearly 16 percent larger than last year's exports and only 2 percent less than the record annual exports reached ten years ago. With only 11 weeks left in the marketing year, exports are on target to reach the projected level. Through June 14, USDA export inspection figures totaled 1.969 billion bushels, 16 percent above the total on the same date last year.

Corn shipments through the first 42 weeks of the marketing year averaged 46.9 million bushels per week. To reach the projected level for the year, weekly shipments need to average 34.7 million bushels for the remaining 11 weeks. It should be noted that for the past three years USDA corn export inspection figures have exceeded the export figures from the Department of Commerce. The difference ranged from 16 to 33 million bushels, or one to two percent. Through the first 8 months of the current marketing year, export figures from USDA and the Department of Commerce are nearly identical.

The amount of corn sold for export but not yet shipped totaled 292 million bushels on June 14. That figure is equal to outstanding sales of a year ago. An additional 90 million bushels of corn must be sold for export if the USDA's projection is to be reached. Last year, total exports for the year exceeded mid-June commitments by only 35 million bushels. If exports are to reach the projected level this year, additional sales to the USSR will be required.

The rate of use of corn in the domestic market will be revealed in USDA's *Grain Stocks* report to be released on June 28. If use is on target to meet the USDA projection, June 1 corn stocks should be near 2.85 billion bushels. A smaller figure would imply that corn feeding will exceed the projection of 4.55 billion bushels and vice versa.

For the soybean marketing year ending on August 31, the USDA expects exports to reach 610 million bushels, 16 percent above the extremely small exports of a year ago, but 34 percent below the record annual exports of 8 years ago. Through June 14, exports totaled 555 million bushels, only 13 percent more than exported by the same date a year ago. To reach the USDA projection, exports during the final 11 weeks of the marketing year will have to average 5 million bushels per week.

The amount of soybeans sold for export but not yet shipped stood at 38.5 million bushels on June 14, about equal to the level of outstanding sales of a year ago. An additional 17 million bushels of soybeans need to be sold for export, if the USDA projection is to be met. For the past 3 years, USDA export inspection figures have exceeded figures from the Department of Commerce. The difference has ranged from 12 to 24 million bushels. Through the first 8 months of the current marketing year, export figures from the Department of Commerce exceeded USDA figures by nearly 7 million bushels. It appears that exports will reach, if not exceed, the USDA projection of 610 million bushels.

Through the first 9 months of the current marketing year, the domestic soybean crush totaled 868 million bushels, 4.4 percent more than crushed during the same period last year. Figures from the National Oilseed Processors Association indicate that the crush during the first three weeks of June was nearly 15 percent above last year's crush. It now appears that crush for the entire year will exceed the projection of 1.11 billion bushels. June 1 stocks of soybeans, to be revealed on June 28, should have been between 600 and 610 million bushels. A significantly different figure would imply an error in the 1989 production estimate.

The 1990-91 wheat marketing year began on June 1. For the year, exports are projected at 1.25 billion bushels, about equal to exports of the past year. Export sales, however, have started slowly. As of June 14, only 205 million bushels had been sold for export, down 36 percent from sales of a year ago.

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