



Wheat Outlook

Jennifer K. Bond, coordinator

Olga Liefert

In this report:

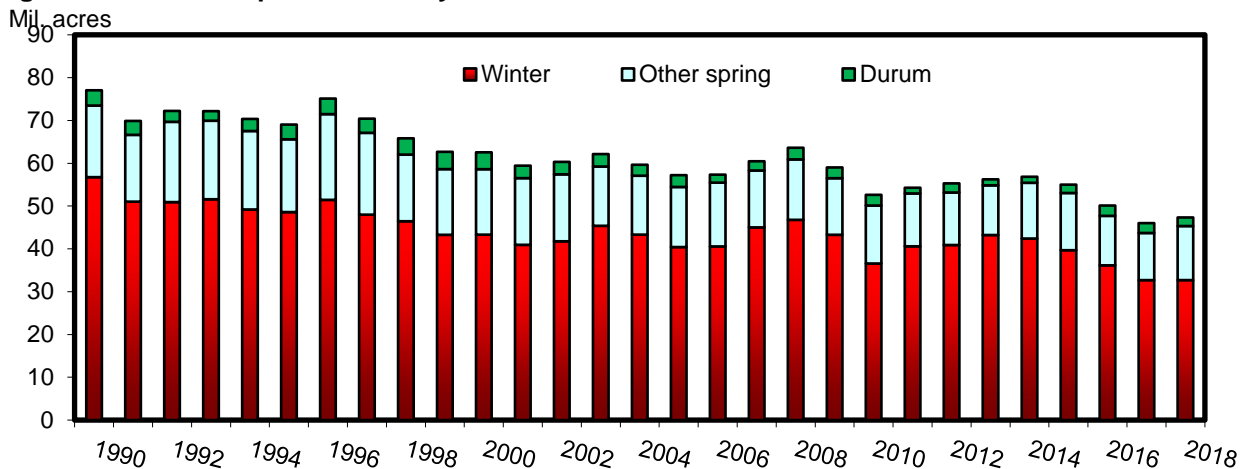
- [Domestic Outlook](#)
- [International Outlook](#)
- [Domestic Feature:](#)

Recap of Agricultural Outlook Forum Projections for Wheat in 2018/19

U.S. All Wheat Planted Area Projected to Rise in 2018 on Sizable Other Spring Wheat Expansion

The March 29 USDA-National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) *Prospective Plantings* report revealed a substantial year-to-year increase in 2018 planting intentions for other spring wheat, up 15 percent from 2017 to 12.627 million acres. Rising prices for spring wheat have encouraged sowings, while more favorable returns from cotton and other grains have weakened farmer interest in planting durum. Durum planting intentions are down 13 percent from last year to 2.0 million acres (figure 1). The revised forecast for winter wheat, at 32.7 million acres, is up slightly from both the January projection and the 2017 estimate. On net, the all wheat planted area projection of 47.3 million acres for 2018 heralds a modest recovery. However, if realized, it will be the second-lowest level of U.S. wheat sowings on record and reflects an extremely competitive global wheat market. Russia—by far the world’s dominant wheat exporter this marketing year—is now forecast to export an unprecedented 38.5 million tons, raised 1 million tons this month largely on reduced EU exports. Russia is expected to remain a formidable force in the global wheat market in the year to come.

Figure 1: U.S. wheat planted area by class



Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service. Quick Stats Database.

Domestic Outlook

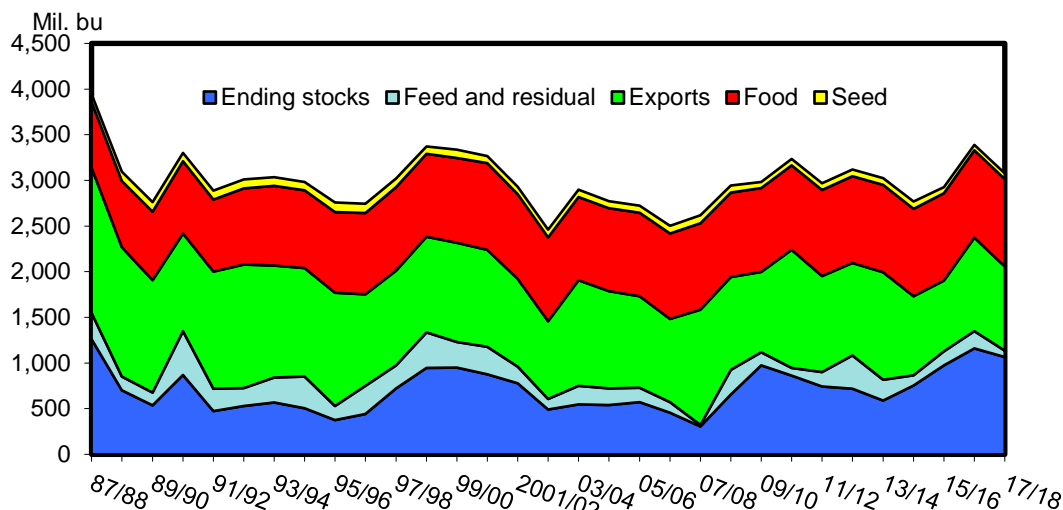
Domestic Changes at a Glance:

- U.S. all wheat feed and residual use is trimmed 30 million bushels on sluggish use in the third quarter, as implied in the March USDA-NASS *Grain Stocks* report.
- Reduced usage lifts ending stocks to 1,064 million bushels.
- The 2017/18 ending stocks figure exceeds the 5-year average by more than 220 million bushels, though it remains below the 2016/17 figure (1,180 million bushels).
- With the vast majority of the 2017/18 wheat crop marketed, the mid-point season average farm price is unchanged from March and remains at \$4.65/bushel.
- The USDA-NASS *Prospective Plantings* report projects 2018/19 all wheat planted area to total 47.3 million acres.
 - If realized, 2018/19 all wheat planted area will exceed the 2017/18 estimate by nearly 1.3 million acres.
 - NASS's current forecast largely affirms the direction of change in planted area described in the February *Grains Outlook* presentation delivered at the USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum. Please see this month's domestic feature for a summary of the presentation.

U.S. Feed and Residual Lowered; Ending Stocks Up 30 Million Bushels

The U.S. 2017/18 all wheat balance sheet is little changed this month with the exception of modest updates to 2017/18 feed and residual and ending stocks. The March 29 USDA-NASS *Grain Stocks* report implied lower-than-expected third quarter feed and residual use. Annual wheat feed and residual use was lowered 30 million bushels from the March World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE) to 70 million, the lowest level since 2007/08 (figure 2).

Figure 2: U.S. wheat utilization



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Domestic prices for hard red winter wheat have generally strengthened in recent months, while other feedstuffs and feed grains, including corn, sorghum, distillers' dried grains, cottonseed meal, and soy hulls have remained competitively priced. In particular, as the wheat/corn price ratio has increased, the value of feeding wheat has fallen, putting downward pressure on the marketing-year estimate. Hard red winter (HRW)—the most common source of feed wheat—absorbs a 25 million bushel cut for a revised 2017/18 feed and residual estimate of 20 million bushels. Hard red spring (HRS) feed and residual is lowered by the remaining 5 million bushels of the total 30 million bushels reduction. Updates to food and seed use will follow, as necessary, after the May 1 release of the quarterly *Flour Milling Products* and the *May Crop Production* reports.

Table 1 - U.S. wheat supply and utilization at a glance 2017/18, April 2018				
Balance sheet item	2017/18 (March)	2017/18 (April)	2017/18 Change from previous month	2017/18 Comments
Supply, total	<i>Million bushels</i>			<i>May-June Marketing Year (MY)</i>
Beginning stocks	1,180.6	1,180.6	0.0	
Production	1,740.6	1,740.6	0.0	
Imports	155.0	155.0	0.0	
Supply, total	3,076.2	3,076.2	0.0	
Demand				
Food	955.0	955.0	0.0	
Seed	62.0	62.0	0.0	
Feed and residual	100.0	70.0	-30.0	Higher-than-expected Q3 ending stocks implies lower feed and residual (F&R) use. Hard red winter (HRW) use is reduced by 25 million bushels; Hard red spring is cut 5 million.
Domestic, total	1,117.0	1,087.0	-30.0	Lower F&R use reduces total domestic use by 30 million bushels.
Exports	925.0	925.0	0.0	No net change; HRW lowered 10 million bushels; white wheat raised 10 million.
Use, total	2,042.0	2,012.0	-30.0	
Ending stocks	1,034.2	1,064.2	30.0	Decreased use boosts ending stocks by 30 million bushels; stocks-to-use ratio raised to near 53% and compares to the 5-year average of 38.9%.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board.

Reduced feed and residual use boosts ending stocks to 1,064 million bushels, well above the 5-year average of 843 million bushels, while still lower than last year's ending stocks of 1,181

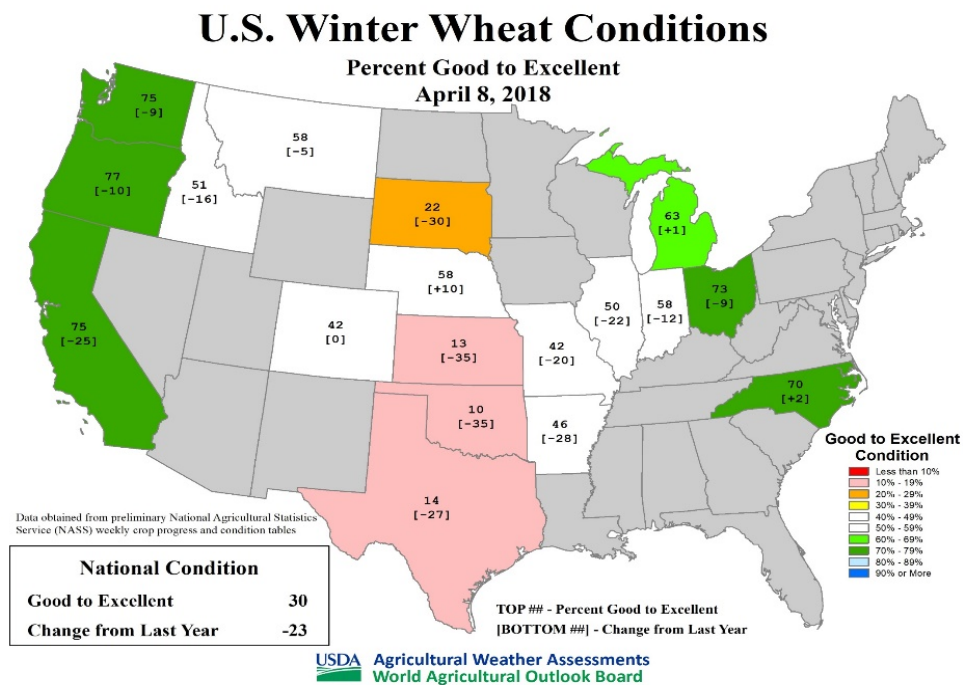
million bushels. Third quarter ending stocks were raised more than 28 million bushels from the previous projection. On March 1, USDA-NASS reported that 1,494 million bushels of wheat were held on and off U.S. farms. At the same time a year prior, 1,658 million bushels of wheat were held in all positions. The *Grain Stocks* report was viewed as neutral and largely matched industry expectations ahead of the report. The NASS report also included a revision to second quarter (Q2) all wheat stocks, resulting in a slight (129,000 bushel) reduction in Q2 all wheat and HRW stocks.

U.S. all wheat exports are unchanged this month and remain at 925 million bushels or 24.5 million tons. Global competition pushed the average March U.S. HRW (FOB) wheat price lower this month, down \$25 per ton to \$230; however, the price remains above comparable prices for the European Union, Black Sea Region, and Argentina. HRW exports are lowered 10 million bushels this month to 370 million. Despite a \$5 per ton, month-to-month price advance for soft white wheat, demand for all white remains strong on multiple tenders from Japan and provides support for a 10 million bushel boost to the 2017/18 white wheat export projection.

Winter Wheat Conditions Continue to Cause Concern

With condition ratings available from USDA-NASS through the week ending April 8, a clearer picture of the impact of unfavorable growing conditions for the winter wheat crop is emerging. In the Southern Plains, the months-long drought continues to intensify. On April 8, in Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma, the portion of the crop rated “good” to “excellent” totaled just 13, 14, and 10 percent, respectively—far below ratings for the previous year. In Oklahoma and Northern Texas, already stressed winter wheat was damaged further by a freeze on April 7. In the Northern High Plains, including Montana and North Dakota, where a modest amount of winter wheat is grown, dry conditions were eased some by the arrival of snow, which provided an insulating cover as monthly temperatures fell between 5 and 10 degrees below normal.

Figure 3: U.S. winter wheat conditions, week-to-week changes

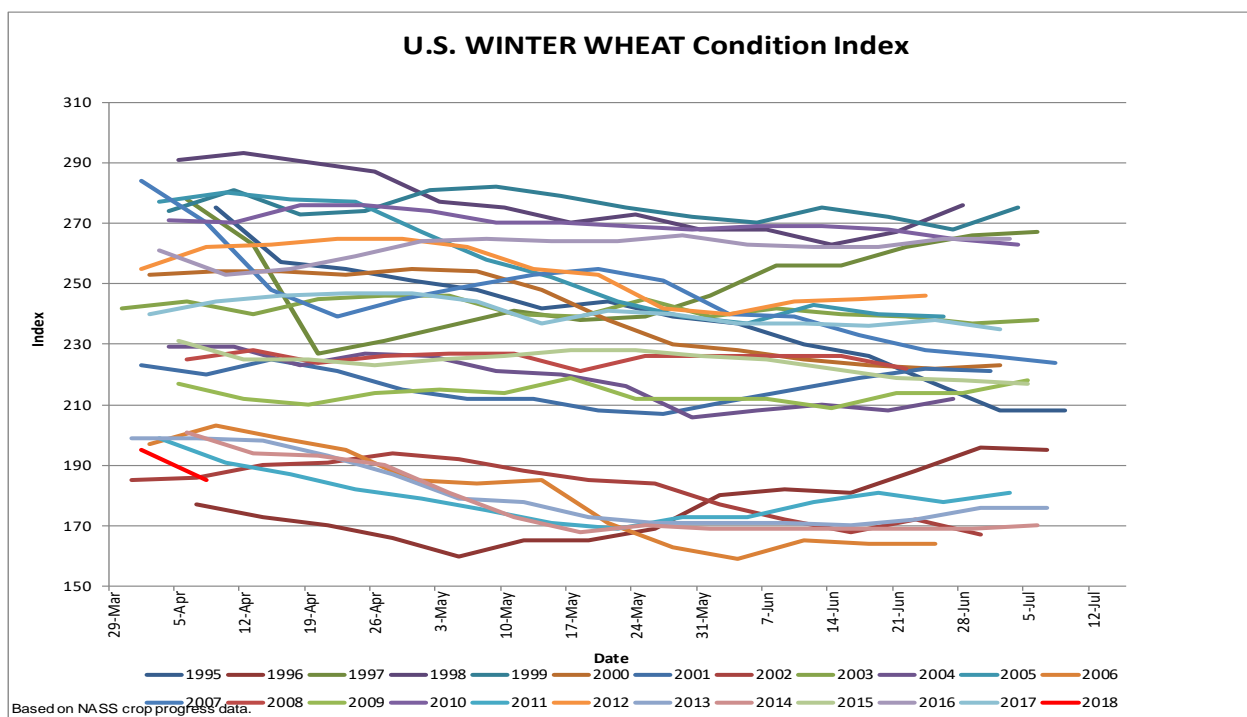


Key soft red winter wheat growing regions have recently dealt with an abundance of moisture and cooler temperatures that are reported to have saturated some fields and slowed growth. Ratings in Ohio, Illinois, and Indiana reflect the challenging growing conditions, with the

proportion of the crop rated “good” to “excellent” for the week ending April 8 falling 9, 22, and 12 points, respectively, below the same week in 2017.

In aggregate, just 38 percent of the 2018 winter wheat crop is currently rated “good” to “excellent,” a 23-point decline compared to the same week in 2017. The percent of winter wheat rated “good” to “excellent” dropped by 2 percentage points between April 1 and April 8. In the April 10, USDA, Office of the Chief Economist (OCE) *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*, the condition index places the 2018 winter wheat crop in the lower tier of years that include 1996, 2002, 2006, 2011, 2013, and 2014 (figure 4). The week-to-week decline in winter wheat rating puts the 2018 index on par with the 2002 index for the same week. Ratings for “very poor” are not included in the index calculations, and other ratings are linearly scaled from 1 to 4, with “excellent” ratings given the greatest weight. In week 14 of both 2002 and 2018, 14 percent of the winter wheat crop was rated “very poor.”

Figure 4: U.S. winter wheat condition index

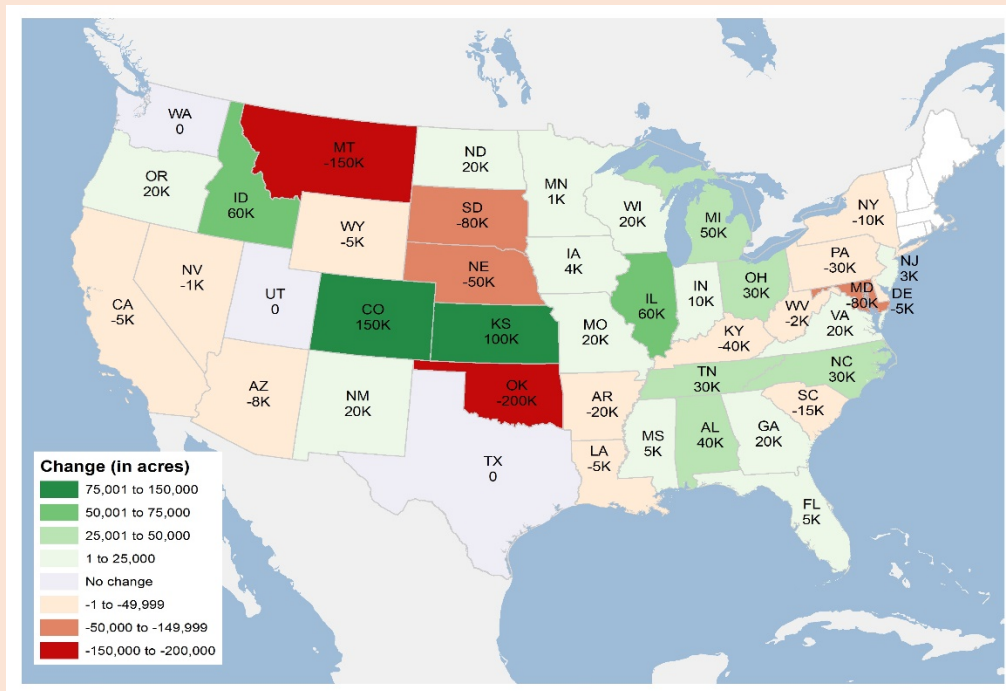


Source: USDA, Office of the Chief Economist, *Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin*.

Domestic Feature: Recap of Agricultural Outlook Forum Projections for Wheat in 2018/19

On February 23, revised commodity outlooks for 2018/19 grains and oilseeds were released online and presented at the USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum (AOF). These outlooks update the evolving analysis of the USDA Interagency Commodity Estimates Committees (ICEC) for the 2018/19 commodity balance sheets. Updated supply and use estimates for 2018/19 wheat reflect expectations of increased production, compared to the prior year and relative to the USDA Baseline Projections released in November 2017. The AOF planted wheat area increased from November because NASS showed higher winter wheat acreage than previously expected in the *Winter Wheat and Canola Seeding* report issued January 12. USDA-NASS estimates that 2018 winter wheat planted is slightly higher than the previous year, with gains in Kansas and Colorado largely offsetting losses elsewhere in the United States (figure 5).

Figure 5: Winter wheat planted area 2018 vs. 2017, change by State



Updates in planted area expectations, reported at the February meeting, mirror the direction of change by class, as indicated in the March *Prospective Plantings* report. Specifically, the revised outyear forecast expanded all wheat planted area by 1.5 million acres from the November forecast, based largely on expectations of greater other spring wheat planted area (figure 6). At the February AOF, the wheat ICEC reported all wheat plantings of 46.5 million acres, which compares to the now 47.3 million forecast at the end of March by NASS. While the most recent NASS planted area forecast is up from its previous iterations, it is also the second lowest level of sowings since records began in 1919.

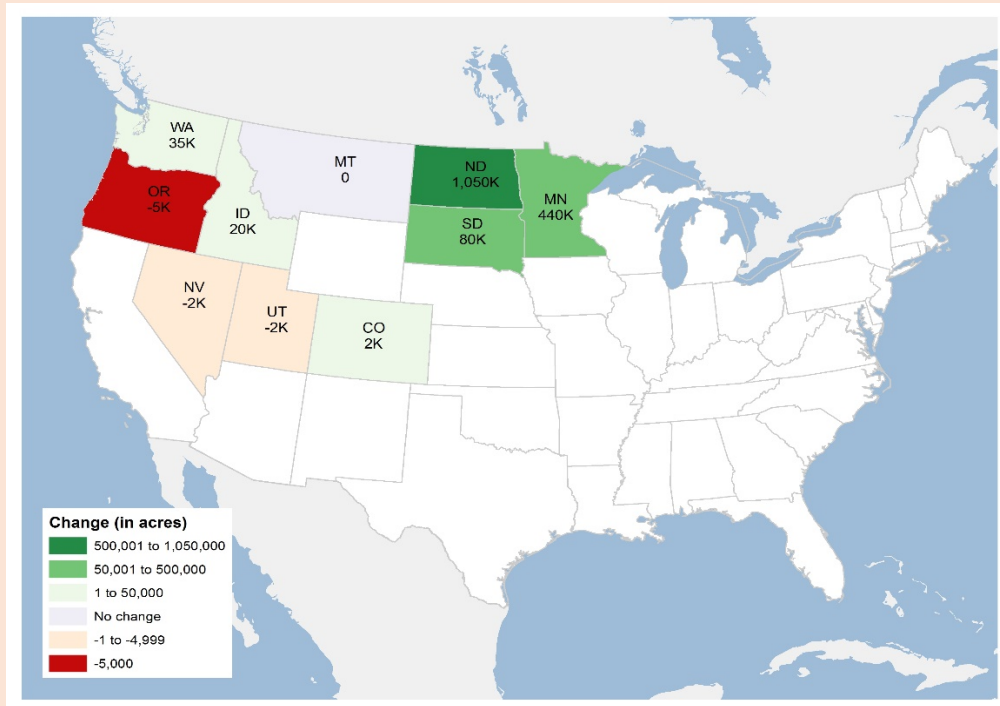
In February, as dry conditions persisted in the hard red winter wheat belt, a slight reduction in the harvested-to-planted ratio relative to the 10-year average, was used in the revised AOF projections. At the time of the AOF, an estimated 45 percent of the 2018/19 winter wheat crop was located in an area experiencing drought. Further, an entrenched La Niña weather pattern implied limited opportunities for significant precipitation or drought relief ahead of the return of warm weather. In the subsequent weeks, dryness in the Southern Plains has not abated in Kansas, Texas, and Oklahoma as reflected in rising proportion of the winter wheat crop rated “poor” to “very poor.” Use of the reduced harvested-to-planted ratio reflects expectations of above-average abandonment and tempers production gains previously implied by a combination of 20-year trend yields and expanded planted area.

In total, 1,839 million bushels of production were reported in the February AOF projections, up 24 million from the November report. Larger production combines with carry-in that has risen repeatedly since the initial forecast of 935 million bushels reported in November. Unchanged imports of 135 million bushels contribute to total wheat supplies of 2,983 million in 2018/19. The February forecast indicates a 3-percent year-to-year decrease in total wheat supply, projected at 2,983 million bushels, which compares to the 5-year average of near 3,040 million bushels.

At the AOF, projected domestic use for the outyear was reported as marginally higher, relative to the November Baseline Projections and up 10 million bushels from 2017/18 to 1,127 million

based on expectations of increased feed and residual use in 2018/19. Food use is forecast to remain level, with the current 2017/18 estimate based on food use of 955 million bushels and seed use of 62 million bushels. Wheat exports for 2018/19 are projected at 925 million bushels and on par with the current forecast of 925 million for the 2017/18 marketing year. Continued strong international price competition will create challenges for U.S. wheat, which has recently seen rising cash and futures prices for some classes of wheat as concerns about the effect of persistent dry weather on winter wheat yields, and ultimately supplies, mount.

Figure 6: Spring wheat planted area 2018 vs. 2017, change by State



Based on the data available at the time of the February AOF meeting, U.S. wheat ending stocks for 2018/19 were projected to increase by 118 million bushels from the November forecast. At 931 million bushels, the ending stocks for 2018/19 would be the lowest since 2014/15 but still above the 5-year average of 902 million bushels. The implied stocks-to-use ratio, at 45.4 percent, is down from the current 2017/18 ratio of 52.8 percent, but remains above the 5-year average of 42.7. The 2018/19 season-average farm price (SAFP) is projected at \$4.70 per bushel and is up 5 cents from the midpoint of the forecast 2017/18 price and up 10 cents from the November all wheat SAFP projection. In May, the WASDE will update the 2018/19 supply and demand projections. These figures will reflect the latest data on the 2017/18 crop—most notably, the size of anticipated carry-in for the 2018/19 crop. Further, revised projections of winter, other spring, and durum production—as a function of anticipated yields and harvested area—will be provided at an aggregate level. In June, the WASDE will include the first wheat-by-class balance sheet projections.

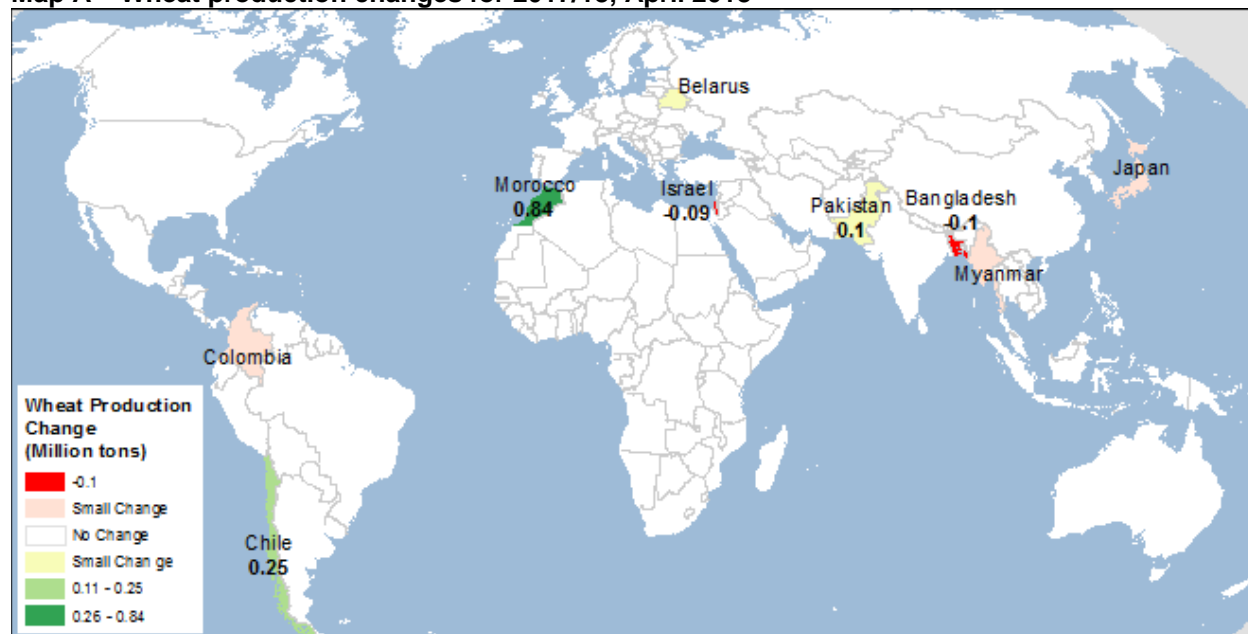
International Outlook

Wheat Production Is Up

World wheat production for 2017/18 is projected up 1.0 million tons this month to a record 759.8 million. Global supplies are projected to increase by 3.0 million tons, with beginning stocks increased by 2.0 million tons. With just a few months remaining in the 2017/18 July-June international trade year, supply and demand wheat balances have been revised for a number of countries, though most of the adjustments are fairly small. The 2017/18 wheat harvest in most countries was completed several months ago, and this month's production revisions reflect new information, received mostly from government agencies. The largest revision is a 0.8-million-ton production increase for Morocco.

Stocks are revised up in Iran; the revisions of the country's wheat food, seed, and industrial consumption (FSI) and ending stocks categories go back to 2012/13. Iranian FSI consumption for those years has been trimmed as its expansion was determined to be too robust compared to its GDP growth rate. With reductions in FSI, stocks were increased. Other smaller revisions (under 0.1 million tons each) in beginning stocks are made for a number of other countries. At-a-glance information for this month's changes in wheat production is presented in map A.

Map A – Wheat production changes for 2017/18, April 2018



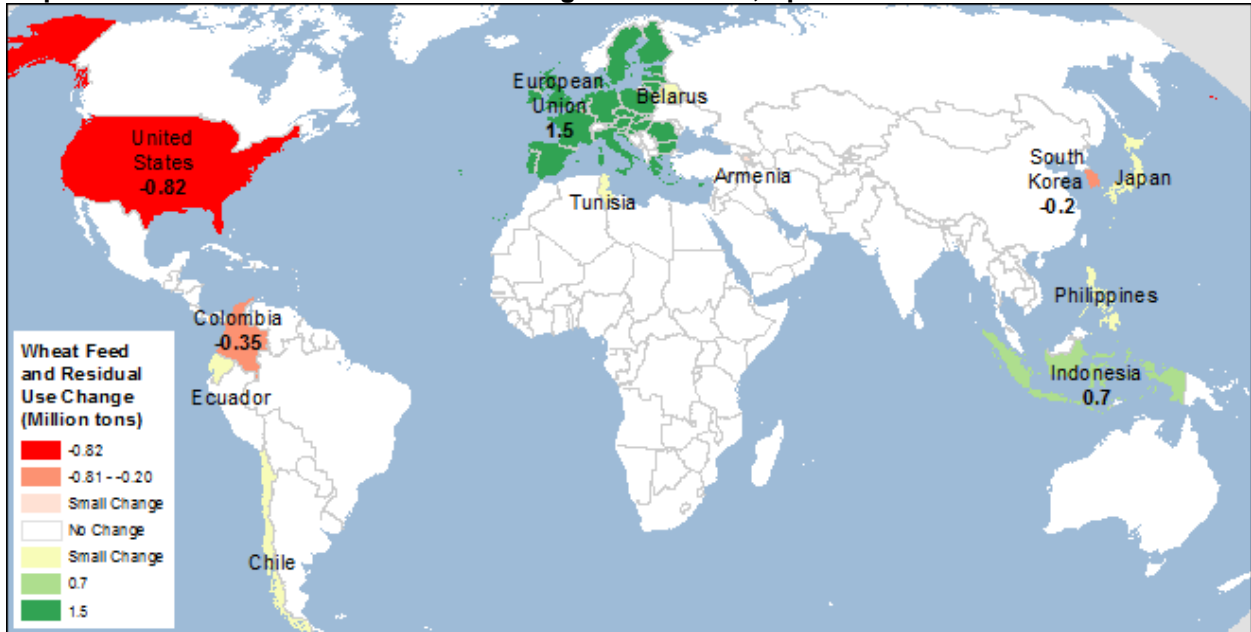
Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Foreign Wheat Use Is Slightly Up

Foreign wheat use projections for 2017/18 are up 1.4 million tons this month to 713.5 million. Foreign feed and residual wheat use is forecast up 2.0 million tons, mainly due to the European Union (EU). The EU is expected to use more wheat for feeding, while exporting less outside of the region to non-EU countries. The abundance of wheat and reduced corn output in the EU has made the wheat price competitive with corn, with feeding shifting to wheat. Feed use is also increased in Indonesia, up 0.7 million tons, reflecting a healthy growth in the poultry sector and the expanding substitution of low-quality imported wheat for corn. Smaller changes are made for a number of countries this month.

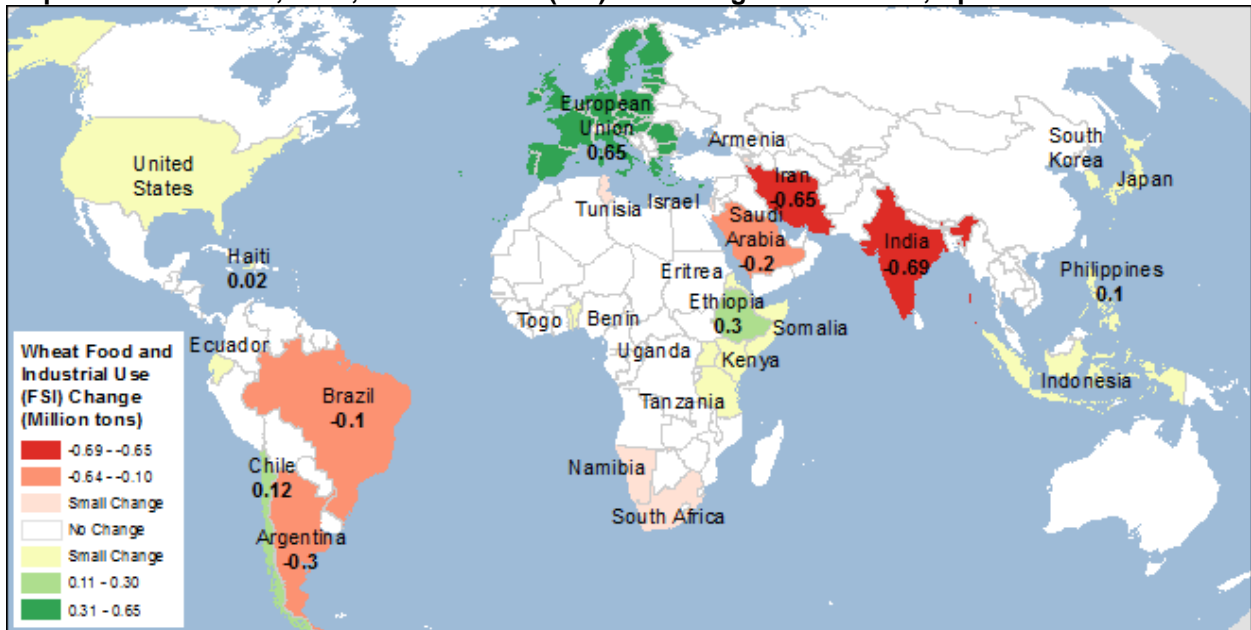
With multiple offsetting revisions, foreign food, seed, and industrial use (FSI) is forecast down 0.4 million tons. The largest change is a 0.7 million ton reduction for India to bring it into line with the Government stocks' data. As discussed earlier, Iranian FSI consumption is reduced following a multiyear revision. For additional information on this month's changes in wheat domestic consumption, see map B1 (feed consumption) and map B2 (FSI consumption), below.

Map B1 – Wheat feed and residual use changes for 2017/18, April 2018



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Map B2 – Wheat food, seed, and industrial (FSI) use changes for 2017/18, April 2018

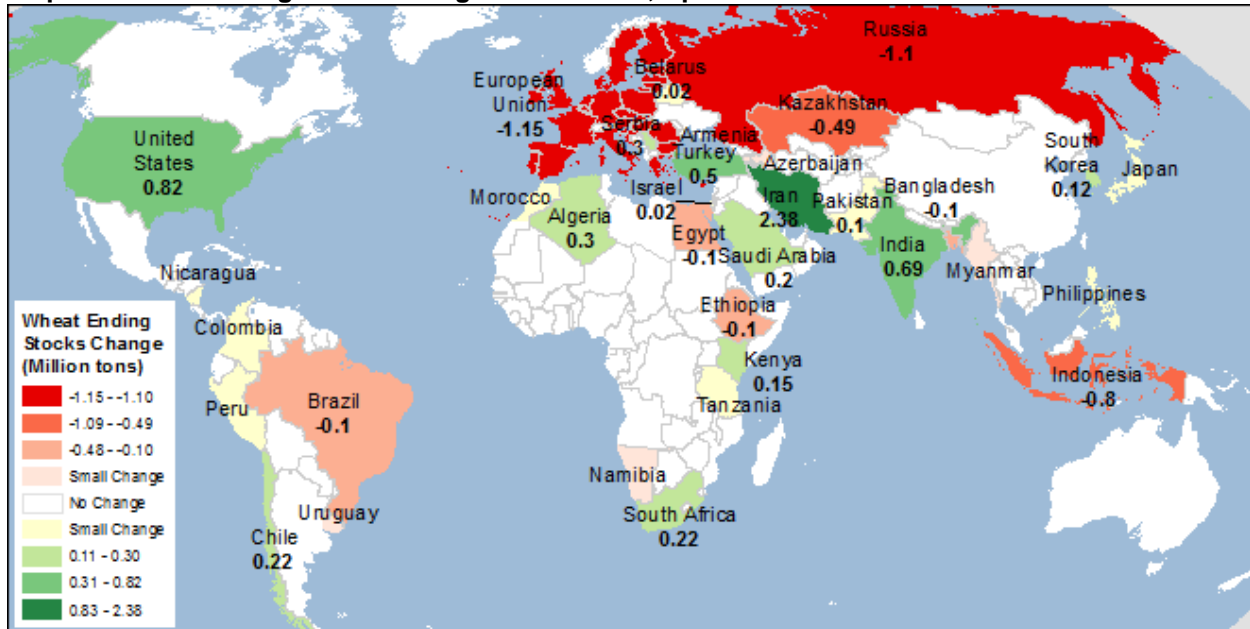


Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Wheat Ending Stocks Projected Higher

The projected increase in world wheat supplies exceeds higher projected consumption, resulting in raising global ending stocks. Wheat stocks are now projected to reach a new record of 271.2 million tons, up 1.5 million this month. Several changes in stocks are made this month as specific countries' wheat balances were revised. At-a-glance information for this month's changes in wheat ending stocks is presented in map C.

Map C – Wheat ending stocks changes for 2017/18, April 2018



Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

A Shift in World Wheat Trade Shares Projected

Projected record world wheat trade for the international July-June 2017/18 trade year (TY) is almost unchanged, down just 0.1 million tons this month to 184.3 million. As three-quarters of the trade year has now passed, most of the revisions this month are based on the pace of sales, licenses, and shipments.

Additional trade data for the 2017/18 July-June trade year indicate that the pace of wheat exports is in some cases above, and in other cases below, what was needed to reach their previous month's forecasts. The export projections for several countries were adjusted accordingly. Russian wheat exports continue to exceed expectations with a record-strong pace of export sales, expanding outreach, and continued price competitiveness vis-à-vis other major exporters, despite modest increases in domestic prices. Sharp depreciation of the Russian currency (ruble), which occurred after additional Western economic sanctions were recently imposed, is expected to boost exports further. Russian wheat exports are projected to reach 38.5 million tons, 1.0 million tons more than anticipated a month ago. This is the highest individual country wheat export in 20 years—since the United States exported 43.4 million tons (July-June) in 1987/88.

The European Union (EU) is the main Russian competitor in the Black Sea region. Facing massive Russian low-priced wheat supplies, and an unusually warm Russian winter that allowed that country to maintain a high pace of exports, the EU lags behind, losing sales in

several markets. This is especially evident in Africa and the Middle East, as in most of the EU countries (France, Germany, United Kingdom, Poland, and the Baltic countries) wheat has not been price-competitive vis-à-vis Russia. EU wheat exports are projected down 1.0 million tons to 24.0 million this month. Although EU wheat prices are becoming more competitive, as Romanian and French wheat prices declined and are currently on par with those of Russian wheat, the pace of EU exports has been sluggish and still needs to accelerate to reach the current projection.

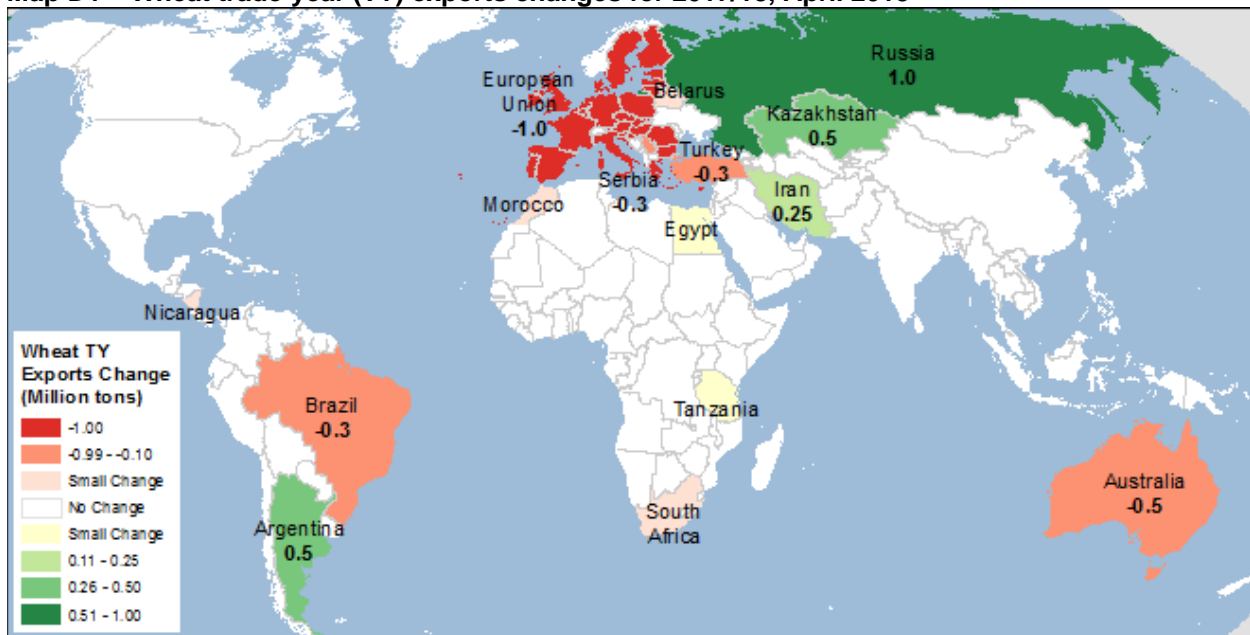
The strong pace of wheat exports from Argentina and its expansion into new regions (especially Indonesia) support a 0.5 million ton increase this month to reach 14.5 million, the highest Argentine wheat exports on record.

The pace of Australian exports in February was lower than expected, especially to Indonesia, and its exports for the 2017/18 July-June international trade year are reduced 0.5 million tons to 17.0 million, offsetting the change for Argentina. For Australia's October-September marketing year, exports are left unchanged at 16.0 million tons. The trade-year forecast is higher than that for its local marketing year, due to Australia's timing of harvest and exports. The first 6 months of comparatively high exports (July-December), when Australia was still exporting record wheat supplies, will add to the July 2017-June 2018 total.

U.S. exports for both the July-June trade year and June-May local marketing year are left unchanged, although the structure of exports by class of wheat are adjusted (see section on domestic wheat).

For a visual display of this month's changes in 2017/18 wheat exports, see map D1, below.

Map D1 – Wheat trade-year (TY) exports changes for 2017/18, April 2018

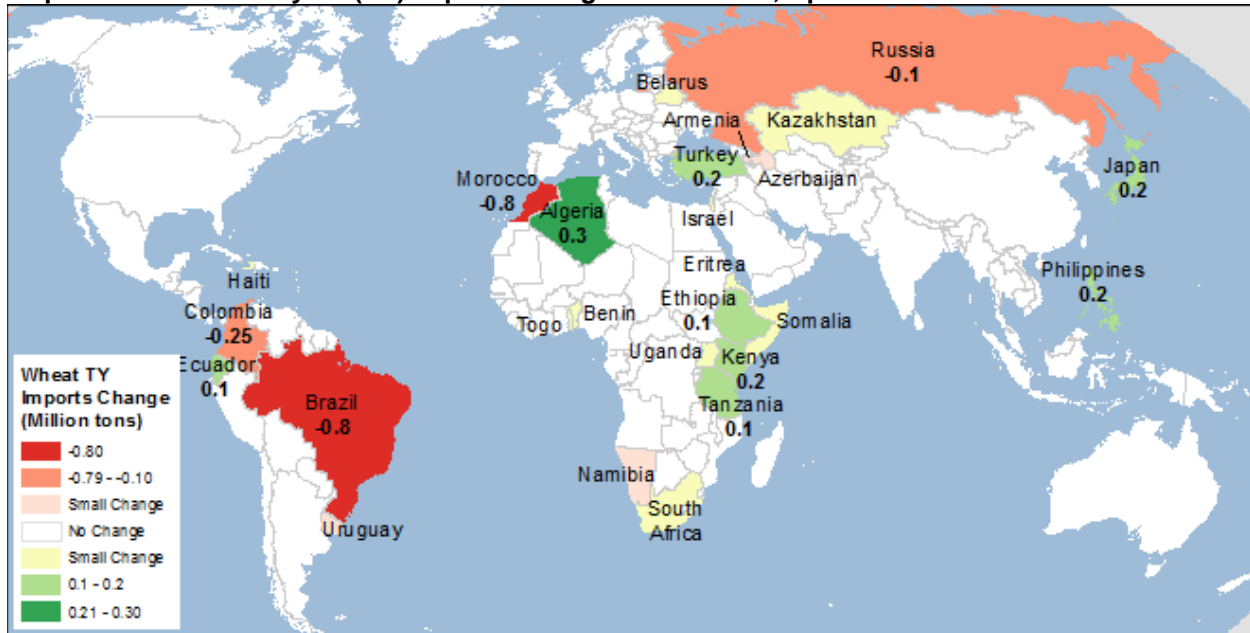


Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Import prospects are reduced 0.8 million tons each this month for Morocco (higher projected wheat output) and Brazil (the pace of imports lags behind the forecast and with just one quarter left in the trade year, is unlikely to catch up).

Partly offsetting the above reductions, Algeria, Japan, Kenya, Philippines, Turkey, and several other countries are projected to import additional wheat in the range of 0.1–0.3 million tons. For a display of this month’s changes in 2017/18 wheat imports, see map D2.

Map D2 – Wheat trade year (TY) imports changes for 2017/18, April 2018

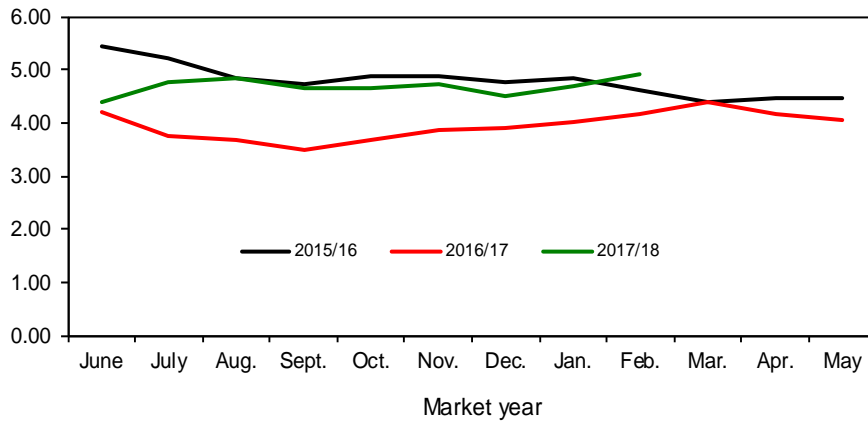


Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Production, Supply and Distribution online database.

Figure 1

All wheat average prices received by farmers

Dollars per bushel

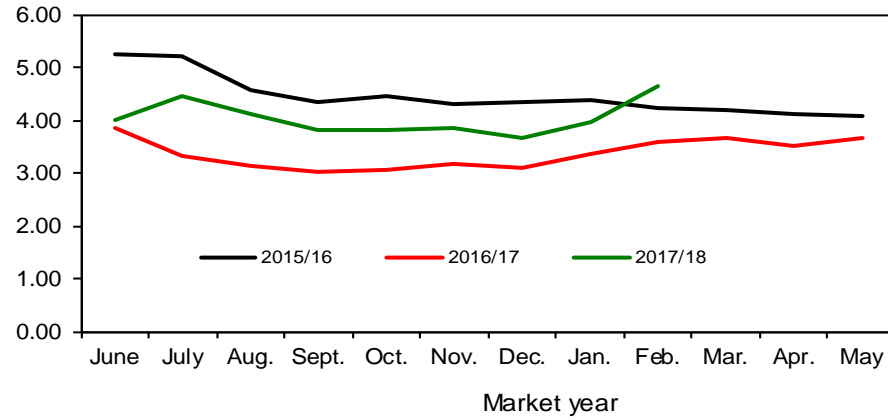


Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 2

Hard red winter wheat average prices received by farmers

Dollars per bushel

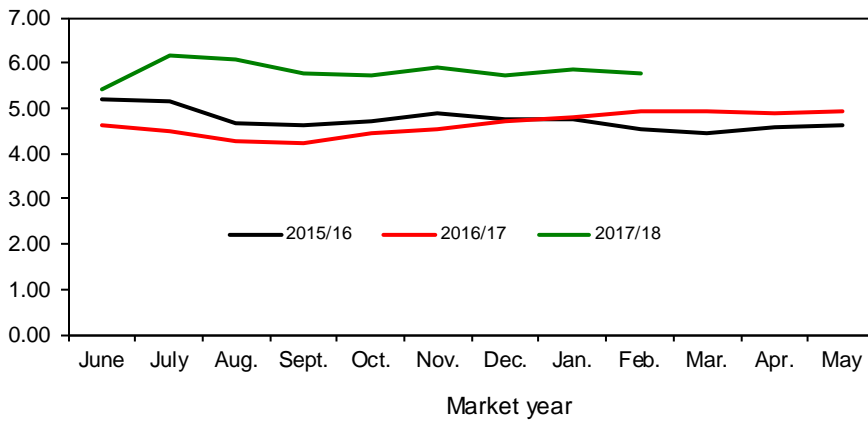


Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 3

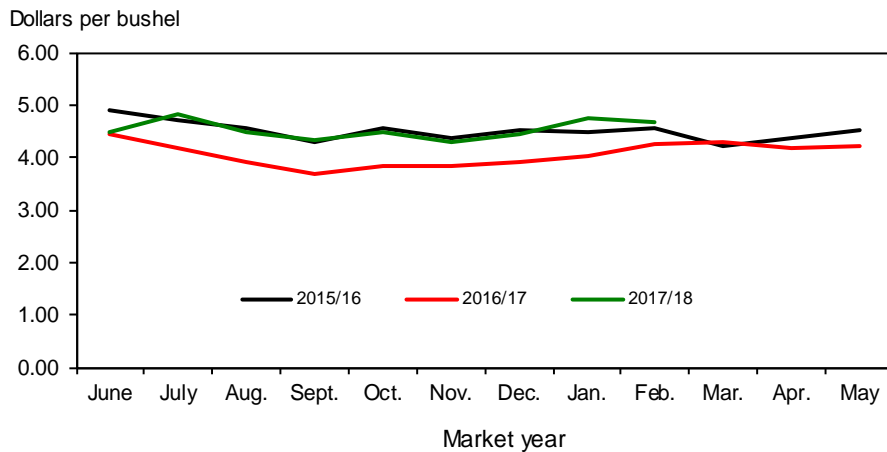
Hard red spring wheat average prices received by farmers

Dollars per bushel



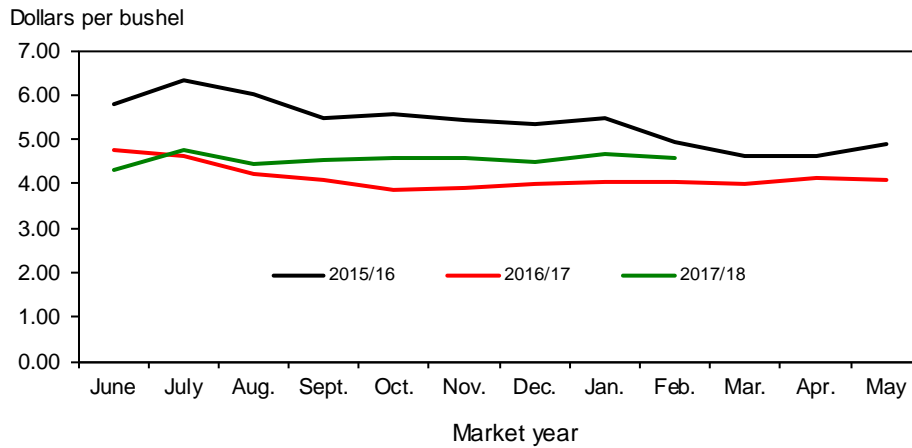
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 4
Soft red winter wheat average prices received by farmers



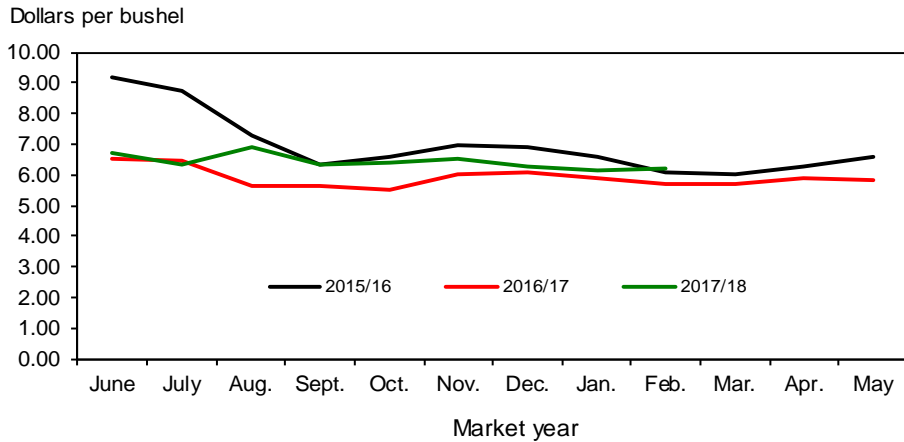
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 5
Soft white wheat average prices received by farmers



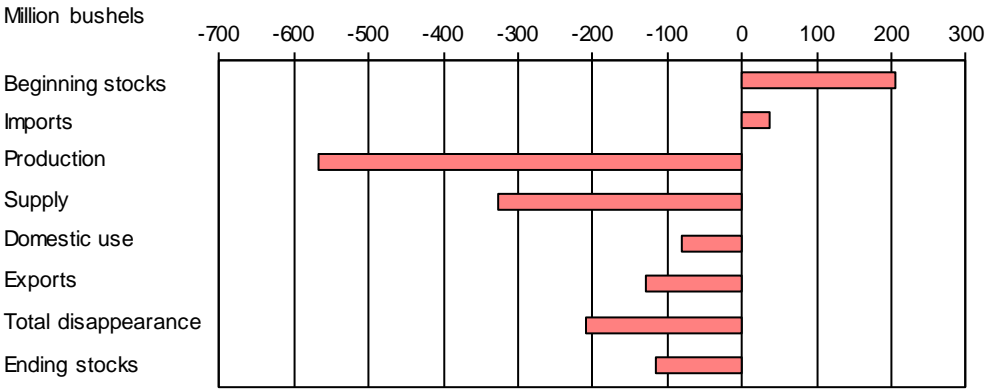
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 6
Durum wheat average prices received by farmers



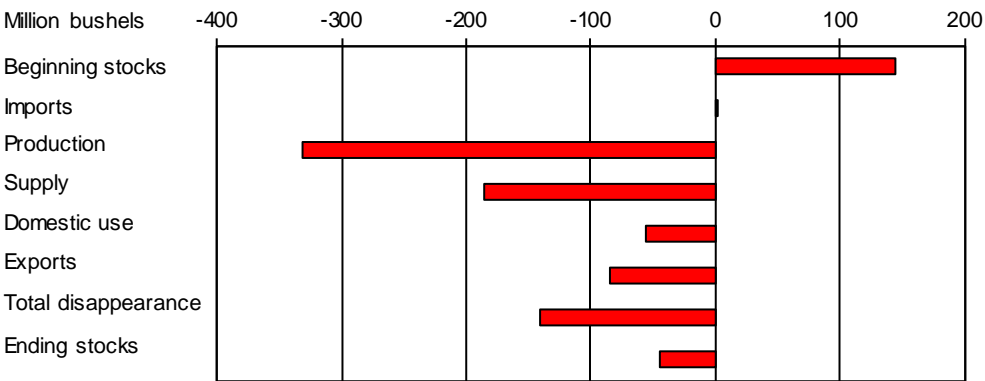
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, *Agricultural Prices*.

Figure 7
All wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



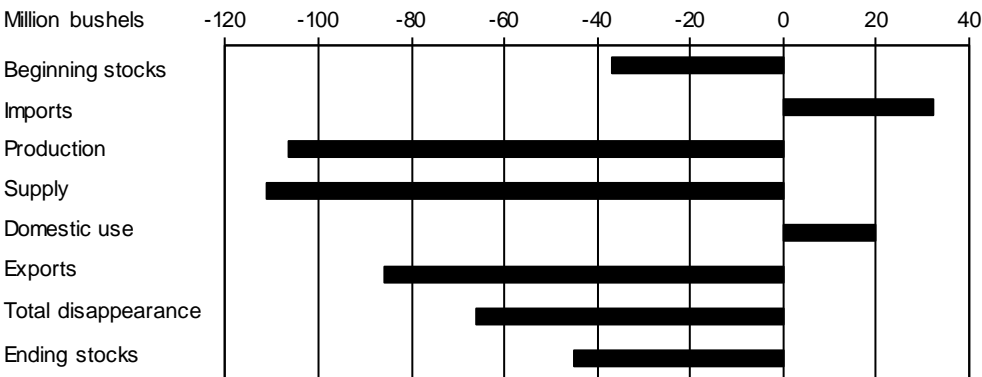
Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 8
Hard red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

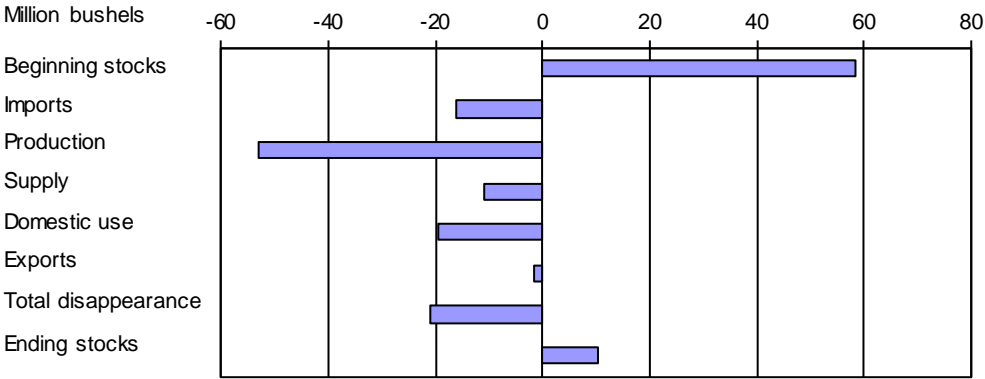
Figure 9
Hard red spring wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 10

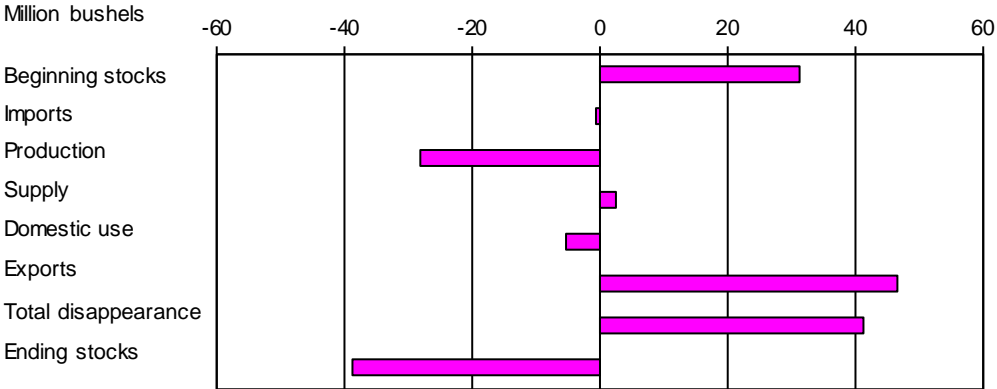
Soft red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 11

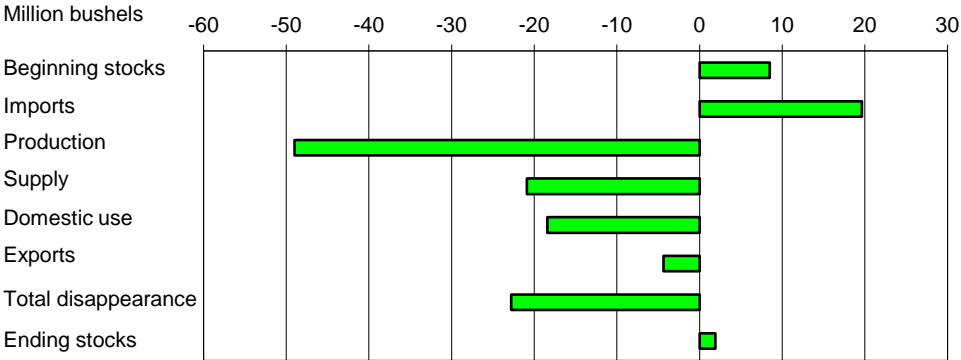
White wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Figure 12

Durum: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

Table 1--Wheat: U.S. market year supply and disappearance, 4/12/2018

Item and unit		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Area:								
Planted	Million acres	54.3	55.3	56.2	56.8	55.0	50.1	46.0
Harvested	Million acres	45.7	48.8	45.3	46.4	47.3	43.9	37.6
Yield	Bushels per acre	43.6	46.2	47.1	43.7	43.6	52.7	46.3
Supply:								
Beginning stocks	Million bushels	863.0	742.6	717.9	590.3	752.4	975.6	1,180.6
Production	Million bushels	1,993.1	2,252.3	2,135.0	2,026.3	2,061.9	2,308.7	1,740.6
Imports ¹	Million bushels	113.1	124.3	172.5	151.2	112.7	118.1	155.0
Total supply	Million bushels	2,969.2	3,119.2	3,025.3	2,767.8	2,927.1	3,402.5	3,076.2
Disappearance:								
Food use	Million bushels	941.4	950.8	955.1	958.3	957.1	949.0	955.0
Seed use	Million bushels	75.6	73.1	75.6	79.4	67.2	61.3	62.0
Feed and residual use	Million bushels	158.5	365.3	228.2	113.4	149.4	156.5	70.0
Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,175.5	1,389.3	1,258.8	1,151.1	1,173.7	1,166.7	1,087.0
Exports ¹	Million bushels	1,051.1	1,012.1	1,176.2	864.3	777.8	1,055.1	925.0
Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,226.6	2,401.4	2,435.1	2,015.4	1,951.5	2,221.9	2,012.0
Ending stocks	Million bushels	742.6	717.9	590.3	752.4	975.6	1,180.6	1,064.2
CCC inventory	Million bushels						.0	
Stocks-to-use ratio		33.4	29.9	24.2	37.3	50.0	53.1	52.9
Loan rate	Dollars per bushel	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94	2.94
Contract/direct payment rate	Dollars per bushel	73.80	73.70	72.80	56.40	56.40	56.50	56.50
Farm price ²	Dollars per bushel	7.24	7.77	6.87	5.99	4.89	3.89	4.60-4.70
Market value of production	Million dollars	14,269	17,383	14,604	11,915	10,203	8,981	8,094

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

² U.S. season-average price based on monthly prices weighted by monthly marketings. Prices do not include an allowance for loans outstanding and government purchases.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and supporting materials.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 2--Wheat by class: U.S. market year supply and disappearance, 4/12/2018

Market year, item, and unit		All wheat	Hard red winter ¹	Hard red spring ¹	Soft red winter ¹	White ¹	Durum	
2016/17	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	50.11	26.58	10.90	6.02	4.20	2.41
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	43.85	21.87	10.62	4.98	4.03	2.36
	Yield	Bushels per acre	52.65	49.47	46.28	69.37	71.08	44.03
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	975.60	445.53	271.97	156.63	73.68	27.80
	Production	Million bushels	2,308.72	1,082.01	491.33	345.23	286.25	103.91
	Imports ²	Million bushels	118.14	5.05	41.78	33.19	7.74	30.38
	Total supply	Million bushels	3,402.47	1,532.58	805.07	535.05	367.67	162.10
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	948.98	384.71	250.00	150.00	85.00	79.27
	Seed use	Million bushels	61.27	26.20	15.48	11.02	5.17	3.40
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	156.49	77.64	-16.27	67.34	9.04	18.74
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,166.73	488.55	249.21	228.36	99.21	101.41
	Exports ²	Million bushels	1,055.13	454.74	320.86	91.69	163.46	24.38
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,221.86	943.28	570.07	320.05	262.67	125.79
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	1,180.60	589.30	235.00	215.00	105.00	36.30
2017/18	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	46.01	23.43	10.50	5.73	4.05	2.31
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	37.59	17.64	9.67	4.32	3.82	2.14
	Yield	Bushels per acre	46.31	42.54	39.82	67.66	67.53	25.71
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	1,180.60	589.30	235.00	215.00	105.00	36.30
	Production	Million bushels	1,740.58	750.33	385.01	292.16	258.18	54.91
	Imports ²	Million bushels	155.00	7.00	74.00	17.00	7.00	50.00
	Total supply	Million bushels	3,076.18	1,346.63	694.01	524.16	370.18	141.21
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	955.00	385.00	252.00	153.00	85.00	80.00
	Seed use	Million bushels	62.00	27.00	17.00	11.00	4.00	3.00
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	70.00	20.00	.00	45.00	5.00	.00
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,087.00	432.00	269.00	209.00	94.00	83.00
	Exports ²	Million bushels	925.00	370.00	235.00	90.00	210.00	20.00
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,012.00	802.00	504.00	299.00	304.00	103.00
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	1,064.18	544.63	190.01	225.16	66.18	38.21

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Area and yield data are unpublished National Agricultural Statistics Service data. Supply and disappearance data, except production, are approximations.

² Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Crop Production and unpublished data; and USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and supporting materials.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 3--Wheat: U.S. quarterly supply and disappearance (million bushels), 4/12/2018

Market year and quarter		Production	Imports ¹	Total supply	Food use	Seed use	Feed and residual use	Exports ¹	Ending stocks
2010/11	Jun-Aug	2,163	27	3,166	235	1	215	265	2,450
	Sep-Nov		24	2,473	242	51	-63	311	1,933
	Dec-Feb		23	1,956	221	1		308	1,425
	Mar-May		22	1,448	228	16	-67	407	863
	Mkt. year	2,163	97	3,236	926	71	85	1,291	863
2011/12	Jun-Aug	1,993	21	2,877	230	5	201	295	2,147
	Sep-Nov		32	2,179	244	51	-16	238	1,663
	Dec-Feb		30	1,693	231	1	44	217	1,199
	Mar-May		30	1,229	236	19	-70	301	743
	Mkt. year	1,993	113	2,969	941	76	159	1,051	743
2012/13	Jun-Aug	2,252	26	3,020	238	1	403	264	2,115
	Sep-Nov		33	2,148	247	55	-22	198	1,671
	Dec-Feb		35	1,705	229	1	5	235	1,235
	Mar-May		31	1,266	238	15	-20	315	718
	Mkt. year	2,252	124	3,119	951	73	365	1,012	718
2013/14	Jun-Aug	2,135	36	2,889	235	4	422	358	1,870
	Sep-Nov		48	1,918	249	53	-168	309	1,475
	Dec-Feb		42	1,517	231	2	-1	228	1,057
	Mar-May		47	1,104	240	17	-25	282	590
	Mkt. year	2,135	172	3,025	955	76	228	1,176	590
2014/15	Jun-Aug	2,026	44	2,661	239	6	256	253	1,907
	Sep-Nov		35	1,942	248	49	-93	208	1,530
	Dec-Feb		37	1,566	231	2	8	185	1,140
	Mar-May		36	1,176	240	22	-58	219	752
	Mkt. year	2,026	151	2,768	958	79	113	864	752
2015/16	Jun-Aug	2,062	27	2,841	240	1	298	205	2,097
	Sep-Nov		27	2,124	249	44	-107	192	1,746
	Dec-Feb		34	1,780	230	2	2	175	1,372
	Mar-May		25	1,396	239	20	-43	205	976
	Mkt. year	2,062	113	2,927	957	67	149	778	976
2016/17	Jun-Aug	2,309	33	3,317	238	1	266	268	2,545
	Sep-Nov		30	2,575	245	41	-30	239	2,079
	Dec-Feb		25	2,104	228	1	-22	238	1,659
	Mar-May		31	1,690	238	19	-58	310	1,181
	Mkt. year	2,309	118	3,402	949	61	156	1,055	1,181
2017/18	Jun-Aug	1,741	42	2,963	239	2	170	286	2,266
	Sep-Nov		36	2,302	251	40	-55	193	1,873
	Dec-Feb		37	1,911	230	1	-15	201	1,494
	Mkt. year	1,741	155	3,076	955	62	70	925	1,064

Latest market year is projected; previous market year is estimated. Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Includes flour and selected other products expressed in grain-equivalent bushels.

Source: USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates and supporting materials.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 4--Wheat: Monthly food disappearance estimates (1,000 grain-equivalent bushels), 4/12/2018

Mkt year and month 1/	Wheat ground for flour	+	Food imports ²	+	Nonmilled food use ³	-	Food exports ²	=	Food use ⁴
2016/17	Jun	73,149		2,933		2,000		2,150	75,932
	Jul	74,237		2,639		2,000		1,665	77,212
	Aug	81,136		3,198		2,000		1,856	84,478
	Sep	78,018		2,537		2,000		2,140	80,415
	Oct	81,469		2,968		2,000		2,325	84,111
	Nov	77,978		3,191		2,000		2,201	80,968
	Dec	73,195		2,863		2,000		1,868	76,190
	Jan	73,561		2,858		2,000		2,027	76,392
	Feb	72,977		2,301		2,000		1,978	75,300
	Mar	77,425		2,840		2,000		1,789	80,477
	Apr	74,812		2,828		2,000		1,534	78,105
	May	76,492		2,818		2,000		1,914	79,396
2017/18	Jun	73,183		3,248		2,000		1,822	76,610
	Jul	74,520		2,966		2,000		1,795	77,691
	Aug	81,444		3,151		2,000		2,107	84,488
	Sep	78,315		2,622		2,000		1,411	81,526
	Oct	82,356		3,243		2,000		1,133	86,465
	Nov	78,827		3,219		2,000		1,285	82,762
	Dec	73,992		2,941		2,000		1,563	77,369
	Jan			3,075				1,423	1,652
Feb			2,948				1,589	1,359	

¹ Current year is preliminary. Previous year is preliminary through August of current year, estimated afterwards.

² Food imports and exports used to calculate total food use. Includes all categories of wheat flour, semolina, bulgur, and couscous and selected categories of pasta.

³ Wheat prepared for food use by processes other than milling.

⁴ Estimated food use equals wheat ground for flour plus food imports plus nonmilled food use minus food exports.

Source: Data through the 2nd quarter of 2011 was calculated using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census' Flour Milling Products (MQ311A) and U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis' Foreign Trade Statistics.

Subsequent flour milling calculations are based on data from the North American Millers Association.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 5--Wheat: National average price received by farmers (dollars per bushel) , 4/12/2018

Month	All wheat		Winter		Durum		Other spring	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
June	4.20	4.37	3.97	4.11	6.50	6.69	4.61	5.35
July	3.75	4.77	3.56	4.56	6.47	6.30	4.48	6.09
August	3.68	4.83	3.41	4.27	5.66	6.93	4.26	5.87
September	3.48	4.65	3.25	4.11	5.61	6.32	4.22	5.62
October	3.68	4.64	3.37	4.17	5.51	6.41	4.38	5.55
November	3.88	4.73	3.41	4.07	6.00	6.53	4.48	5.78
December	3.90	4.51	3.40	3.91	6.07	6.25	4.66	5.61
January	4.01	4.69	3.53	4.19	5.90	6.12	4.74	5.72
February	4.16	4.92	3.77	4.63	5.71	6.20	4.83	5.65
March	4.37		3.82		5.72		4.86	
April	4.16		3.70		5.90		4.83	
May	4.05		3.77		5.82		4.81	

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Prices.

Table 6--Wheat: National average prices received by farmers by class (dollars per bushel), 4/12/2018

Month	Hard red winter		Soft red winter		Hard red spring		White	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
June	3.84	3.99	4.45	4.50	4.61	5.41	4.75	4.30
July	3.32	4.45	4.16	4.84	4.48	6.16	4.63	4.77
August	3.15	4.10	3.92	4.49	4.27	6.07	4.23	4.43
September	3.02	3.82	3.68	4.33	4.24	5.75	4.08	4.55
October	3.07	3.82	3.83	4.48	4.46	5.73	3.88	4.59
November	3.16	3.84	3.85	4.31	4.54	5.89	3.92	4.58
December	3.11	3.66	3.91	4.45	4.72	5.72	4.00	4.47
January	3.35	3.95	4.04	4.74	4.78	5.84	4.04	4.68
February	3.59	4.65	4.25	4.68	4.91	5.76	4.02	4.58
March	3.66		4.29		4.92		4.01	
April	3.52		4.19		4.89		4.11	
May	3.65		4.20		4.95		4.07	

Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Prices.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 7--Wheat: Average cash grain bids at principal markets, 4/12/2018

Month	No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (13% protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Texas Gulf, TX ¹ (dollars per metric ton)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
June	5.04	5.24	5.54	6.65	5.18	4.53	176.55	189.60
July	4.24	5.65	5.18	7.22	4.66	5.12	151.57	203.74
August	4.15	4.80	5.32	6.28	4.62	4.22	149.18	171.41
September	4.24	5.07	5.36	6.52	4.41	4.81	150.47	178.76
October	4.40	5.11	5.58	6.24	4.20	5.03	152.12	175.82
November	4.64	5.30	5.70	6.84	4.12	4.96	150.28	179.49
December	4.56	5.38	5.76	6.72	4.03	4.84	141.83	183.90
January	4.91	5.73	6.03	6.94	4.34	5.03	153.22	192.17
February	5.04	5.93	6.08	6.89	4.58	5.41	155.24	--
March	4.80	6.05	5.53	6.70	4.54	5.52	154.32	--
April	4.37	--	5.08	--	4.23	--	165.90	--
May	4.80	--	5.89	--	4.31	--	180.04	--
Month	No. 1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 hard amber durum Minneapolis, MN (dollars per bushel)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
June	--	--	--	--	6.35	7.50	--	--
July	--	--	--	--	5.82	8.77	--	--
August	--	--	--	--	5.97	7.74	--	--
September	--	--	--	--	5.98	7.40	--	--
October	--	--	--	--	6.34	7.39	--	--
November	--	--	--	--	6.28	7.52	--	--
December	--	--	--	--	6.49	7.38	--	--
January	--	--	--	--	6.80	7.42	--	--
February	--	--	--	--	6.81	7.29	--	--
March	--	--	--	--	6.60	7.40	--	--
April	--	--	--	--	6.45	--	--	--
May	--	--	--	--	6.64	--	--	--
Month	No. 2 soft red winter St. Louis, MO (dollars per bushel)		No. 2 soft red winter Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel)		No. 2 soft red winter Toledo, OH (dollars per bushel)		No. 1 soft white Portland, OR (dollars per bushel)	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
June	4.74	4.66	4.70	4.41	4.69	4.44	5.46	4.91
July	4.23	5.15	4.12	4.96	4.22	4.94	5.07	5.40
August	3.90	4.31	3.99	4.12	4.03	4.20	4.89	5.13
September	3.89	4.30	3.76	4.23	3.72	4.27	4.77	5.19
October	3.89	4.16	3.82	4.22	3.90	4.24	4.65	5.30
November	4.04	4.34	3.88	4.13	3.92	4.18	4.64	5.26
December	3.91	4.28	3.94	4.12	3.80	4.04	4.57	5.22
January	4.17	4.38	4.16	4.27	4.09	4.22	4.63	5.30
February	4.38	4.65	4.26	4.55	4.28	4.54	4.74	5.39
March	4.24	4.76	4.06	4.69	4.14	4.75	4.70	5.64
April	4.14	--	3.93	--	4.08	--	4.61	--
May	4.20	--	4.08	--	4.19	--	4.77	--

-- = Not available or no quote.

¹ Free on board.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, State Grain Reports.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Table 8--Wheat: U.S. exports and imports for last 6 months (1,000 bushels), 4/12/2018

Item		Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018
Exports	All wheat grain	86,268	51,022	51,641	79,137	65,821	51,423
	All wheat flour ¹	909	707	866	1,073	964	1,094
	All wheat products ²	542	454	435	566	473	523
	Total all wheat	87,719	52,183	52,942	80,776	67,258	53,040
Imports	All wheat grain	8,920	8,285	9,640	9,389	9,775	9,137
	All wheat flour ¹	1,231	1,554	1,499	1,253	1,446	1,301
	All wheat products ²	1,409	1,717	1,777	1,720	1,680	1,657
	Total all wheat	11,560	11,556	12,915	12,362	12,901	12,095

Totals may not add due to rounding.

¹ Expressed in grain-equivalent bushels. Includes meal, groats, and durum.

² Expressed in grain-equivalent bushels. Includes bulgur, couscous, and selected categories of pasta.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics; and ERS calculations using Census trade statistics.

Date run: 4/11/2018

Suggested Citation

Bond, Jennifer K., and Olga Liefert. *Wheat Outlook*, WHS-18d, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, April 12, 2018.