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Oil Crops Outlook

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Robust Export Demand for Soybeans Offsets Weak Domestic Use

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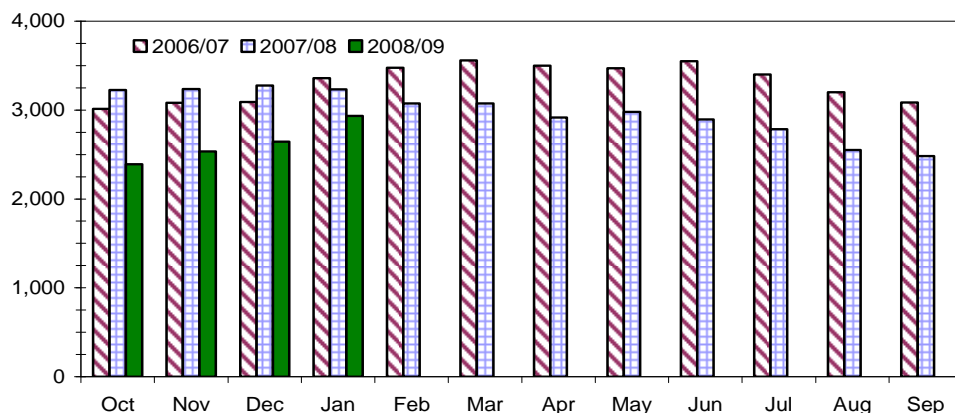
Weaker projected competition from Argentina led USDA to forecast 2008/09 U.S. soybean exports 35 million bushels higher this month to a record 1.185 billion. However, the forecast of the 2008/09 domestic soybean crush was lowered by 10 million bushels this month to 1.64 billion as lower demand for soybean oil and soybean meal depress crush margins. U.S. season-ending soybean stocks are forecast down 25 million bushels to 185 million.

Production of soybeans in Argentina for 2008/09 is forecast 800,000 tons lower this month to 43 million tons. The reduction is based on a lower area estimate of 17.2 million hectares, compared with 17.5 million last month. A smaller soybean supply is forecast to slow 2008/09 soybean exports from Argentina to 11.7 million tons, versus 13.8 million in 2007/08.

Figure 1

Soybean oil stocks rise quickly as demand sinks

Million pounds



Source: *Fats and Oils: Production, Consumption, and Stocks*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Domestic Outlook

Record U.S. Soybean Exports To Shrink Season-Ending Stocks

Export shipments of U.S. soybeans were very strong in January and February. Yet, outstanding sales are still high due to the pace of new sales, particularly to China. As a consequence, USDA forecast 2008/09 U.S. soybean exports 35 million bushels higher this month to a record 1.185 billion. U.S. soybean trade is being buoyed this spring by importers worried over possible export disruptions in Argentina. Producers there have already been reluctant sellers of old-crop supplies. By April, these farmers will begin harvesting new-crop soybeans, but disappointing yields and falling prices may make quick sales there unlikely. Farm groups are pressing the Argentine Government to provide some relief. Officials have offered only a deferment on income tax payments for a year and loosening of export restrictions on a few commodities. Many farmers, though, insist the only meaningful policy would be a lowering of the export tax on soybeans (currently 35 percent), their top source of revenue. They warn that they could suspend sales, as they did for several months last year, if their pleas are unheeded.

In the export market for soybeans, the best sales opportunities for U.S. suppliers may be immediately in front of them. The recent stabilization of soybean-growing conditions in Argentina has calmed fears of a more serious shortage in that country's exports. Provided that crop conditions there do not relapse, demand for U.S. soybeans should moderate by the summer, of 2009. Indicators point to the small-to-negative spreads between nearby and deferred futures contracts. For example, July 2009 soybean futures are 10-15 cents per bushel below March 2009 futures, compared to a more typical positive spread for the period of 10-20 cents. Also weighing on the new-crop contracts is the market's anticipation of a substantial increase in U.S. soybean acreage this year. November 2009 soybean futures are ranging 50-70 cents per bushel below the March contract. Thus, futures prices currently offer U.S. farmers little incentive to store soybeans into the fall. Although producers might still hold back some of the crop to take advantage of any weather-related price rally this summer, sales this spring should be brisk. Interest costs alone would cost farmers 2-4 cents per bushel each month and payment for storage usually adds another 4 cents per month.

In contrast to the foreign market for soybeans, domestic processors have been plagued by low margins. While foreign demand is supporting soybean prices, the U.S. market is contracting on account of a slump in soybean meal consumption. USDA's forecast of the 2008/09 domestic soybean crush was lowered 10 million bushels this month to 1.64 billion. Also contributing to the lower value of crushing soybeans is a rising surplus of soybean oil. Carrying such a high level of soybean oil stocks will grow burdensome if processors do not reduce production.

Despite the forecast reduction in the soybean crush, the rise in export demand is expected to draw down season-ending stocks. The 2008/09 final inventory is forecast down this month by 25 million bushels to 185 million and below last season's carryout of 205 million bushels. Farm prices for soybeans likely peaked last summer and appear to be slowly drifting lower. Average prices received between September 2008 and January 2009 reflects a portion of sales contracted at those higher values. USDA raised its forecast of the 2008/09 average farm price for soybeans by 10 cents this month to \$8.85-\$9.85 per bushel.

Soybean Oil Demand by Biodiesel Industry Expected Down Sharply

Domestic consumption of soybean oil for 2008/09 is forecast 700 million pounds lower this month to 16.9 billion. If realized, the year-to-year decline from 2007/08 (18.3 billion pounds) would be the largest ever. A leading contributor is a reduction in the forecast for soybean oil's use in producing methyl esters (biodiesel) from 2.9 billion to 2.2 billion pounds. Soybean oil demand from this market was already tightening as diesel fuel prices collapsed faster in 2008 than the feedstock costs for biodiesel. For January 2009, domestic consumption of soybean oil for methyl esters plunged 53 percent from the same month a year earlier. The cumulative total for October 2008-January 2009 was down 137 million pounds from a year earlier. And now, further difficulties will arise from the blockage of a major market outlet for U.S. biodiesel.

Last year, European biodiesel producers lodged a complaint with the European Commission that charged U.S. biodiesel exports were unfairly subsidized. In fiscal 2008, U.S. exports of biodiesel to the EU (including the re-exports of biodiesel imports) totaled about 2.1 million metric tons—up nearly four-fold from the previous year. In 2008, the EU market for biodiesel totaled nearly 7 million tons and most of the member countries have expanded their 2009 consumption targets. The U.S. industry denies the allegations of dumping and attributes the sharp increase in Europe's imports to its own higher mandated use and taxes for biofuel, the value of the euro, and its feedstock costs. Nonetheless, the European Commission found injury to domestic producers and decided this month to impose anti-dumping and countervailing duties on U.S. firms that export biodiesel. They range from 26 to 41 euros per hundred kilograms (approximately \$1.09-\$1.72 per gallon). The provisional duty begins March 13 with a term of 6 months. After that, European governments will determine whether to enact a definitive duty, which could last for 5 years. As a result, U.S. exports and production of biodiesel are likely to contract substantially.

U.S. inventories of soybean oil are already piling up due to weakening demand. Oil stocks at the end of January (2.9 billion pounds) were up considerably from December (2.65 billion). Plummeting domestic use is anticipated to keep 2008/09 ending stocks of soybean oil near 2.8 billion pounds, up 535 million from last month's forecast. Soybean oil prices, which fell from a January average of 32.2 cents to 28.9 cents in February, will remain under pressure. The season-average price is now seen at 28.5-31.5 cents per pound, versus the previous forecast of 31-34 cents per pound.

The inert soybean oil market would be less critical if accompanied by a strong market for soybean meal. However, the demand outlook for soybean meal is not much better. The forecast of 2008/09 soybean meal disappearance was trimmed to 30.6 million tons this month compared to 30.75 million a month ago and 33.16 million in 2007/08. Only 4 months into the current marketing year, soybean meal use trails the 2007/08 pace by about 1.5 million short tons. Use of soybean meal is expected to keep losing ground against last year through the spring. The latest hatchery data indicate that a falloff in poultry output will continue. And, low milk prices are accelerating the culling of dairy cow herds.

Lower Estimate of Argentine Soybean Area Reduces 2008/09 Production Forecast

Production of soybeans in Argentina for 2008/09 is forecast 800,000 tons lower this month to 43 million tons. The reduction is based on a lower area estimate of 17.2 million hectares, compared with 17.5 million last month. Although this year's soybean area is still expected to be a record for Argentina, it is well below earlier indications. Had the rains fallen a month earlier instead of between late January and February as they did, there would have been ample cropland available to sow soybeans.

The forecast for the Argentine soybean yield is unchanged this month. The major growing region had considerable rainfall improvement in February, but there are offsets with other minor soybean-growing regions. Provinces in the far south (Buenos Aires, La Pampa) and the far northwest (Santiago del Estero, Chaco) largely missed out on the beneficial rains. The drought irreparably damaged some first-crop soybeans and the practicality of harvesting in the areas most affected is becoming more doubtful. Throughout the country, the dry spells this season have been exacerbated by above-normal temperatures. Even the crops planted in late January have a much development to do before cold weather arrives.

A smaller soybean supply will slow exports from Argentina. USDA forecasts 2008/09 soybean exports at 11.7 million tons, down from last month's forecast of 12.7 million and 2007/08 shipments of 13.8 million. U.S. soybean exports are filling the gap from a likely decline in Argentine shipments.

As the growing season for sunflowers nears conclusion in Argentina, the production forecast is lowered for the fourth consecutive month. At 2.5 million tons, the forecast of 2008/09 sunflowerseed output is now half of the season's first forecast as a result of one of the worst droughts on record. Farmers will harvest 35 percent less sunflower area (1.7 million hectares). Much of the February rainfall that benefited soybeans did not reach far enough south to aid the primary sunflower-producing region. Southern regions of La Pampa and Buenos Aires instead had another month of hot and dry weather. With 43 percent of the sunflowerseed crop harvested by the first week of March, rains that did reach parched fields were not as beneficial as they would have been a month or two earlier. As a result, sunflowerseed yields are forecast down 17 percent this year to 1.47 metric tons per hectare. Harvest progress is reported ahead of last year's pace, but widespread abandonment is contributing. Lower crushing in 2008/09 will limit the exports of sunflowerseed oil and meal. Globally, the bumper crop harvest in the Northern Hemisphere will temper the market impact of reduced production in Argentina.

Demand for Rapeseed Expands in European Union and China

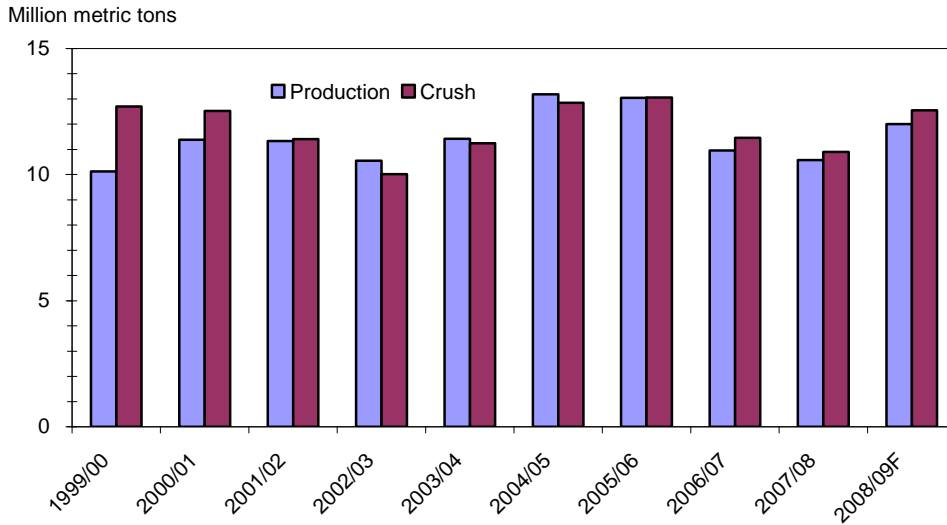
Global production of rapeseed for 2008/09 is at an all-time high of 57.5 million tons. This is enabling a robust global demand for rapeseed, also. In the EU, even with its record domestic harvest, an expanding market for rapeseed crushing is dictating more imports. Reduced competition for the European biodiesel industry should further enhance demand for domestically produced rapeseed oil. In 2008/09, EU rapeseed crush is seen increasing 9 percent to 19.9 million tons, which could

swell imports by 235 percent to 2.3 million. Ukraine is the major source for foreign supplies. The EU will also have ample stocks of rapeseed left over to establish a strong start for next season's use.

China's own output of rapeseed in 2008 rose to 12 million tons from 10.6 million the previous year. The 2008 crop was revised up by 500,000 tons this month based on recent data from official sources in China. Much of the annual gain was due to a 15-percent increase in rapeseed area, although yields were also good. Despite a better domestic supply, attractive prices for rapeseed are encouraging more imports. China's rapeseed imports in 2008/09 are expected to more than double to 1.75 million tons. Pressured by abundant foreign supplies, domestic rapeseed prices have fallen sharply. China's state reserves system is purchasing rapeseed at an above-market price to minimize losses for farmers in the Yangtze Valley. These stocks will likely be held off the market until prices for domestic producers improve.

China's rapeseed imports originate primarily from Canada. Total exports from Canada for 2008/09 were forecast up 400,000 tons this month to a record 6.7 million. Still, forecast ending stocks for Canada, at 2.55 million tons, would still be a national record.

Figure 2
Growth in China's rapeseed crush outpaces production gain



Source: PS&D Online, Foreign Agricultural Service, USDA.

Contacts and Links

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Data

Monthly tables from *Oil Crops Outlook* are available in Excel (.xls) spreadsheets at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/soybeansoilcrops/Data/data.htm>. These tables contain the latest data on the production, use, imports, exports, prices, and textile trade of cotton and other fibers.

Recent Reports

Economic Analysis of Base Acre and Payment Yield Designations Under the 2002 U.S. Farm Act evaluates farmers' decisions to designate base acres under the 2002 Farm Act. Findings suggest that decision makers responded to economic incentives in their designations of base acres by selecting those options that resulted in the greatest expected flow of program payments <http://www.ers.usda.gov/publications/ERR12/>. See also *Farm Program Acres* for the county-level farm program and planted acreage data used in the report, which can be downloaded and mapped. <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/baseacres/>

Related Websites

WASDE, <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1194>
Oilseed Circular, http://www.fas.usda.gov/oilseeds_arc.asp
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Table 1--Soybeans: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Sept. 1	Area		Yield	Supply				Disappearance			Ending stocks	
	Planted	Harvested		Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Crush	Exports	Seed, feed, & residual		Total
	<i>Million acres</i>		<i>Bu/acre</i>	<i>Million bushels</i>								
2006/07	75.5	74.6	42.9	449	3,197	9	3,655	1,808	1,116	157	3,081	574
2007/08 ¹	64.7	64.1	41.7	574	2,677	10	3,261	1,801	1,161	93	3,056	205
2008/09 ²	75.7	74.6	39.6	205	2,959	9	3,173	1,640	1,185	163	2,988	185
2007/08												
September						0.4		147.3	62.0			
October						0.6		163.7	138.6			
November						0.6		156.3	127.4			
Sep-Nov				573.8	2,677.1	1.6	3,252.5	467.4	328.1	96.7	892.1	2,360.4
December						1.0		164.1	146.0			
January						1.5		160.5	140.9			
February						1.3		144.4	139.8			
Dec-Feb				2,360.4	--	3.7	2,364.1	468.9	426.7	34.5	930.1	1,434.0
March						0.8		156.0	119.2			
April						0.9		147.5	74.9			
May						0.6		152.6	54.7			
Mar-May				1,434.0	--	2.2	1,436.2	456.0	248.9	55.2	760.1	676.1
June						1.0		141.0	62.6			
July						0.8		139.3	50.6			
August						0.5		128.7	44.1			
Jun-Aug				676.1	--	2.3	678.5	409.0	157.3	(92.9)	473.4	205.0
Total						9.9		1,801.3	1,161.0	93.4	3,055.8	
2008/09												
September						0.4		125.7	36.0			
October						1.3		150.1	178.1			
November						1.1		144.7	173.5			
Sep-Nov				205.0	2,959.2	2.8	3,167.0	420.4	387.6	83.3	891.4	2,275.6
December						0.9		141.3	170.8			
January ¹						NA		145.2	NA			
Total to date ¹						3.7		707.0	558.5			

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast. NA=Not available.

Sources: *Crop Production* and *Grain Stocks*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 2--Soybean meal: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year begin. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance			Ending stocks	
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Domestic	Exports		Total
<i>1,000 short tons</i>								
2006/07	314	43,054	156	43,524	34,374	8,804	43,178	346
2007/08 ¹	346	42,242	141	42,729	33,155	9,280	42,435	294
2008/09 ²	294	38,841	165	39,300	30,600	8,400	39,000	300
2007/08								
October	346.0	3,870.8	12.4	4,229.2	3,206.8	709.1	3,915.9	313.3
November	313.3	3,711.6	12.1	4,037.1	2,840.1	902.2	3,742.3	294.8
December	294.8	3,889.0	11.0	4,194.8	3,009.8	762.9	3,772.7	422.0
January	422.0	3,792.6	9.8	4,224.5	3,088.3	847.6	3,936.0	288.5
February	288.5	3,424.7	11.9	3,725.1	2,498.8	890.5	3,389.3	335.8
March	335.8	3,701.1	10.8	4,047.6	2,800.8	851.5	3,652.2	395.4
April	395.4	3,500.6	13.7	3,909.8	2,743.3	826.6	3,569.9	339.9
May	339.9	3,634.5	13.3	3,987.8	2,800.3	754.3	3,554.6	433.2
June	433.2	3,350.6	11.9	3,795.7	2,553.2	818.2	3,371.4	424.3
July	424.3	3,316.9	9.9	3,751.1	2,673.0	778.8	3,451.8	299.3
August	299.3	3,053.0	11.0	3,363.3	2,367.9	580.1	2,948.0	415.3
September	415.3	2,996.9	12.6	3,424.8	2,573.0	557.9	3,130.9	293.9
Total		42,242.3	140.6	42,728.8	33,155.2	9,279.7	42,434.9	
2008/09								
October	293.9	3,520.1	9.1	3,823.1	2,780.5	670.5	3,451.0	372.1
November	372.1	3,412.8	8.0	3,792.9	2,393.6	799.5	3,193.1	599.8
December	599.8	3,345.6	9.9	3,955.3	2,922.2	619.2	3,541.4	413.9
January ¹	413.9	3,439.5	NA	3,853.4	NA	NA	3,406.2	447.2
Total to date ¹		13,718.0	27.0	14,038.9	8,096.2	2,089.3	13,591.7	

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Source: *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 3--Soybean oil: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year begin. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance					
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Domestic		Exports	Total	Ending stocks
					Total	Methyl ester			
<i>Million pounds</i>									
2006/07	3,010	20,489	37	23,536	18,574	2,761	1,877	20,451	3,085
2007/08 ¹	3,085	20,568	65	23,718	18,328	2,981	2,907	21,235	2,483
2008/09 ²	2,483	18,645	50	21,178	16,900	2,200	1,500	18,400	2,778
2007/08									
October	3,085.2	1,868.6	4.1	4,957.9	1,600.1	246.8	132.9	1,733.0	3,224.9
November	3,224.9	1,805.4	3.1	5,033.4	1,600.2	219.1	198.0	1,798.2	3,235.2
December	3,235.2	1,879.4	3.3	5,117.9	1,449.5	219.3	391.3	1,840.9	3,277.0
January	3,277.0	1,855.2	6.0	5,138.2	1,746.4	268.1	157.6	1,904.0	3,234.2
February	3,234.2	1,663.2	7.0	4,904.4	1,321.1	216.9	507.7	1,828.8	3,075.6
March	3,075.6	1,827.8	5.3	4,908.7	1,449.0	230.2	384.5	1,833.5	3,075.3
April	3,075.3	1,707.0	8.0	4,790.3	1,446.8	235.1	426.0	1,872.9	2,917.4
May	2,917.4	1,756.9	5.3	4,679.7	1,536.9	233.3	163.6	1,700.5	2,979.2
June	2,979.2	1,633.3	2.9	4,615.4	1,549.6	278.9	172.3	1,721.9	2,893.5
July	2,893.5	1,616.9	5.3	4,515.6	1,606.5	287.2	125.5	1,732.0	2,783.6
August	2,783.6	1,508.0	9.3	4,300.9	1,565.7	300.5	183.8	1,749.5	2,551.5
September	2,551.5	1,445.9	5.3	4,002.7	1,455.8	245.6	64.1	1,520.0	2,482.7
Total		20,567.6	64.8	23,717.7	18,327.5	2,981.2	2,907.5	21,235.0	
2008/09									
October	2,482.7	1,716.4	5.3	4,204.4	1,675.1	262.7	138.1	1,813.2	2,391.2
November	2,391.2	1,623.3	10.0	4,024.6	1,386.8	234.5	102.4	1,489.2	2,535.4
December	2,535.4	1,597.4	3.3	4,136.1	1,371.1	194.8	119.9	1,491.0	2,645.2
January ¹	2,645.2	1,618.7	NA	4,263.8	NA	124.7	NA	1,331.2	2,932.7
Total to date		6,555.8	18.7	9,057.2	4,433.0	816.7	360.4	6,124.5	

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.Sources: *Oilseed Crushings* and *Fats and Oils: Production, Consumption, and Stocks*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce

Table 4--Cottonseed: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Aug. 1	Supply				Disappearance				Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Production	Imports	Total	Crush	Exports	Other	Total	
<i>1,000 short tons</i>									
2006/07	602	7,348	0	7,950	2,680	616	4,165	7,461	489
2007/08 ¹	489	6,589	3	7,080	2,706	599	3,132	6,437	643
2008/09 ²	643	4,429	50	5,122	2,400	350	2,042	4,792	330

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Crop Production*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 5--Cottonseed meal: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance				Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic	Exports	Total	
<i>1,000 short tons</i>								
2006/07	59	0	1,241	1,301	1,134	105	1,239	62
2007/08 ¹	62	0	1,262	1,324	1,149	119	1,268	55
2008/09 ²	55	0	1,090	1,146	986	110	1,096	50

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Source: *Oilseed Crushings*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 6--Cottonseed oil: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Oct. 1	Supply			Disappearance				Ending stocks
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic	Exports	Total	
<i>Million pounds</i>								
2006/07	101	1	849	951	714	138	852	99
2007/08 ¹	99	0	856	956	623	186	809	147
2008/09 ²	147	0	755	902	686	131	817	85

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Oilseed Crushings* and *Fats and Oils: Production, Consumption, and Stocks*, Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 7--Peanuts: U.S. supply and disappearance

Year beg. Aug. 1	Supply			Disappearance					Ending stocks	
	Beginning stocks	Imports	Production	Total	Domestic food	Crush	Seed & residual	Exports		Total
<i>Million pounds</i>										
2006/07	2,167	61	3,464	5,692	2,585	513	471	603	4,172	1,520
2007/08 ¹	1,520	73	3,672	5,265	2,517	496	471	750	4,234	1,031
2008/09 ²	1,031	40	5,148	6,219	2,540	475	543	830	4,388	1,831

¹ Estimated. ² Forecast.

Sources: *Crop Production* and *Peanut Stocks and Processors*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture and Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Table 8--Oilseed prices received by U.S. farmers

Marketing						
year	Soybeans	Cottonseed	Sunflower	Canola	Peanuts	Flaxseed
	\$/bu.	\$/ton	\$/cwt.	\$/cwt.	Cents/lb.	\$/bu.
1997/98	6.47	121.00	11.60	11.30	28.30	5.81
1998/99	4.93	129.00	10.60	10.30	28.40	5.05
1999/00	4.63	89.00	7.53	7.82	25.40	3.79
2000/01	4.54	105.00	6.89	6.71	27.40	3.30
2001/02	4.38	90.50	9.62	8.77	23.40	4.29
2002/03	5.53	101.00	12.10	10.60	18.20	5.77
2003/04	7.34	117.00	12.10	10.60	19.30	5.88
2004/05	5.74	107.00	13.70	10.70	18.90	8.07
2005/06	5.66	96.00	12.10	9.62	17.30	5.94
2006/07	6.43	111.00	14.50	11.90	17.70	5.80
2007/08	10.10	162.00	21.70	18.30	20.50	13.00
2008/09 ¹	8.85-9.85	210-250	19.95-21.55	18.35-19.95	23.7-25.3	12.95-13.95
2007/08						
September	8.15	137.00	17.70	15.10	18.60	9.59
October	8.36	153.00	18.00	16.70	21.40	11.60
November	9.42	158.00	18.30	16.70	21.70	12.90
December	10.00	169.00	19.20	18.30	21.30	13.10
January	9.95	170.00	19.10	19.00	21.80	13.50
February	11.70	175.00	24.20	22.20	21.00	16.00
March	11.40	NA	25.90	26.40	20.70	17.50
April	12.00	NA	24.50	24.90	20.00	16.60
May	12.10	NA	27.40	25.30	20.40	16.90
June	13.10	NA	28.10	25.30	20.10	18.00
July	13.30	NA	28.40	26.20	21.10	18.10
August	12.80	NA	26.40	22.30	18.90	16.50
2008/09						
September	10.70	253.00	28.20	20.70	21.10	15.60
October	9.94	237.00	25.30	19.20	20.60	12.60
November	9.38	223.00	23.60	17.00	20.10	13.00
December	9.24	220.00	22.30	18.30	21.70	11.20
January	9.97	214.00	21.90	16.90	23.80	11.00
February ¹	9.58	213.00	20.60	16.20	25.30	11.50

¹ Preliminary. NA = Not available.

Source: *Agricultural Prices*, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 9--U.S. vegetable oil and fats prices

Marketing year	Soybean oil ²	Cottonseed oil ³	Sunflower oil ⁴	Canola oil ⁴	Peanut oil ⁵	Corn oil ⁶	Lard ⁶	Edible tallow ⁶
<i>Cents/lb.</i>								
1997/98	25.80	28.85	27.00	28.83	49.21	28.94	19.46	20.69
1998/99	19.90	27.32	20.10	22.48	40.72	25.30	14.66	15.14
1999/00	15.60	21.52	16.68	17.11	35.96	17.81	13.64	13.21
2000/01	14.15	15.98	15.89	17.56	34.97	13.54	14.61	13.43
2001/02	16.46	17.98	23.25	23.45	32.23	19.14	13.55	13.87
2002/03	22.04	37.75	33.11	29.75	46.70	28.17	18.13	17.80
2003/04	29.97	31.21	33.41	33.76	60.84	28.43	26.13	22.37
2004/05	23.01	28.01	43.71	30.78	53.63	27.86	21.80	18.48
2005/06	23.41	29.47	40.64	31.00	44.48	25.18	21.74	18.16
2006/07	31.02	35.70	58.03	40.57	52.99	31.80	28.43	27.32
2007/08	52.03	73.56	91.15	65.64	94.53	69.37	40.85	41.68
2008/09 ¹	28.5-31.5	34.0-37.0	42.5-45.5	36.5-39.5	87.0-90.0	28.0-31.0	23.0-26.0	19.5-22.5
2007/08								
October	38.10	52.20	73.50	50.38	76.75	52.50	35.09	33.98
November	42.68	63.60	84.80	57.30	93.20	56.32	33.78	36.88
December	45.16	66.63	86.50	61.50	98.50	59.47	32.66	35.28
January	49.77	71.69	90.00	64.94	97.33	63.67	33.01	38.53
February	56.68	78.60	96.00	71.80	99.00	74.89	38.33	44.33
March	57.27	78.94	96.75	70.56	100.00	83.55	46.00	48.39
April	56.58	79.75	93.00	71.38	104.38	87.09	43.04	44.25
May	58.27	82.75	97.40	73.05	104.80	87.29	42.27	41.88
June	62.43	87.56	99.50	76.69	107.00	82.33	44.93	46.61
July	60.54	86.06	97.50	74.13	110.00	76.64	52.82	48.61
August	50.78	72.55	91.40	61.05	110.00	60.00	46.50	41.94
September	46.09	62.44	87.50	54.88	110.00	48.71	41.73	39.53
2008/09								
October	35.50	46.45	74.40	42.85	97.00	34.76	37.07	26.97
November	31.55	37.38	54.00	39.83	90.00	31.06	26.40	18.13
December	29.30	32.88	42.50	37.19	85.25	26.88	20.00	17.50
January	32.16	35.70	41.60	38.80	79.10	25.19	25.36	23.36
February ¹	28.93	33.19	40.00	35.66	75.00	29.05	20.31	21.40

¹ Preliminary. ² Decatur, IL. ³ PBSY Greenwood, MS. ⁴ Midwest. ⁵ Southeast mills. ⁶ Chicago.

NA= Not available.

Sources: *Monthly Feedstuff Prices* and *Peanut Report*, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table 10--U.S. oilseed meal prices

Marketing year	Soybean meal ²	Cottonseed meal ³	Sunflower meal ⁴	Peanut meal ⁵	Canola meal ⁶	Linseed meal ⁷
\$/Short ton						
1997/98	185.30	144.00	84.20	210.25	131.15	117.54
1998/99	138.50	109.55	64.20	122.02	112.28	84.49
1999/00	167.62	127.43	75.00	108.15	117.07	103.42
2000/01	173.62	142.93	90.50	119.75	139.20	121.92
2001/02	167.72	136.16	87.27	112.32	143.33	121.29
2002/03	181.58	146.12	105.00	128.35	144.06	122.91
2003/04	256.05	183.47	111.14	177.56	188.45	159.25
2004/05	182.90	124.04	85.50	118.34	139.75	115.55
2005/06	174.17	144.27	77.46	106.98	140.52	115.53
2006/07	205.44	150.36	104.88	100.00	173.50	133.01
2007/08	335.94	253.81	172.81	190.00	251.32	228.81
2008/09 ¹	265-305	210-250	135-175	100-140	210-250	225-265
2007/08						
October	260.55	183.40	138.40	NA	167.24	170.20
November	280.76	176.25	133.75	NA	192.25	184.63
December	314.78	196.67	158.67	NA	226.30	186.83
January	331.28	273.60	212.00	NA	276.78	242.70
February	345.87	292.00	225.50	NA	285.83	250.00
March	331.57	245.00	201.25	NA	276.85	247.13
April	329.94	230.00	163.20	NA	268.14	253.70
May	325.48	240.50	154.38	NA	258.75	240.25
June	390.72	293.25	160.38	NA	293.20	265.38
July	412.25	333.00	190.50	NA	310.19	273.70
August	355.35	290.00	156.25	NA	239.88	231.25
September	352.70	292.00	179.40	NA	220.42	200.00
2008/09						
October	260.66	238.75	161.13	NA	192.55	160.75
November	267.37	225.00	146.88	NA	217.99	164.00
December	268.24	229.50	150.00	NA	228.62	189.60
January	306.85	237.50	164.38	NA	279.23	248.75
February ¹	297.42	236.25	161.88	NA	243.30	270.00

¹ Preliminary. ² Hi-pro Decatur, IL. ³ 41% Memphis. ⁴ 28% Minneapolis.

⁵ 50% Southeast mills. ⁶ 36% Pacific Northwest. ⁷ 34% Minneapolis. NA= Not available.

Source: *Monthly Feedstuff Prices*, Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.