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Wheat Outlook

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Continued High Farm Prices Projected for 2008/09

Contents

The next release is June 12, 2008

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board.

The national average farm price for wheat for 2008/09 is projected at $6.60 to $8.10 per bushel, compared with the current year forecast of a record $6.55 per bushel. Wheat prices in 2008/09 will be supported by farmer forward sales and early season export demand. Overall, the 2008/09 U.S. wheat outlook is for higher production, lower exports, increased domestic use, and higher ending stocks.

Record world wheat production is projected in 2008/09, with strong wheat prices encouraging an increase in area, and improved growing conditions boosting yield prospects. Weather through the beginning of May has been favorable across Europe, but dryness has reduced prospects across parts of North Africa and the Middle East. Wheat consumption is also expected to increase robustly with an increase in feed and residual use. Global production is projected to be larger than global use, resulting in a modest increase in world wheat stocks. Global 2008/09 ending stocks are projected up 12 percent to 124 million tons, about the same as in 2006/07. Increased competition is expected for U.S. exports, so despite increased production, U.S. exports are forecast to drop 27 percent in the 2008/09 July-June trade year.

Domestic Situation and Outlook

Ending Stocks Projected To Double in 2008/09

Ending stocks of wheat for 2008/09 are projected to be up 101 percent from 2007/08 as supplies exceed use. Total wheat supplies for 2008/09 are projected up only 4 percent because of historically low carryin. Total wheat use is projected down 5 percent for 2008/09 as lower exports more than offset increased domestic use.

Total production is projected at 2,392 million bushels, up 325 million bushels (16 percent) from 2007/08.

Winter wheat production. The survey-based forecast of winter wheat production, at 1,778 million bushels, is up 262 million bushels (17 percent) from 2007. Expected area for harvest as grain or seed totals 40.2 million acres, up 4.2 million acres (12 percent) from last year. Based on May 1 crop conditions, the U.S. winter wheat yield is forecast at 44.3 bushels per acre, up 2.1 bushels from the previous year.

Winter estimates by class. Hard red winter (HRW) production this year is estimated to be up 50 million bushels (5 percent) from a year ago to 1,011 million bushels. HRW production is estimated to rise despite slightly lower planted area and yield than in 2007. The larger harvested area in 2008 is because of lower expected abandonment. Abandonment was higher in 2007 because of losses due to a late spring frost and heavy rains at harvest time on the Southern Plains. Estimated planted area, harvested area, and yield for 2008 are 32.5 million acres, 27.2 million acres, and 37.2 bushels per acre, respectively.

Soft red winter (SRW) production is likewise estimated to be up 193 million bushels (54 percent) from last year and totals 551 million bushels. SRW production is estimated to rise because of higher planted and harvested areas and yield. SRW production is also up in 2008 because of expected lower abandonment. Abandonment was higher in 2007 because of losses due to a late spring frost. Estimated planted area, harvested area, and yield for 2008 are 10.7 million acres, 9.5 million acres, and 57.8 bushels per acre, respectively.

White production is estimated to total 215 million bushels, up 10 percent from a year ago. The planted and harvested areas and yield are 3.6 million acres, 3.4 million acres, and 62.7 bushels per acre, respectively. Of the white production total, 23.2 million bushels are hard white and 192 million bushels are soft white.

Spring wheat production. Spring wheat production is expected higher with seeded area up 10 percent in the March 31 *Prospective Plantings* report. Durum and other spring wheat production is projected at 614 million bushels, up 12 percent from 2007/08, based on 10-year harvested-to-planted ratios and trend yields.

Projected 2008/09 utilization. Food use is projected at 960 million bushels, up 10 million from the current year reflecting steady growth in domestic demand. Feed and residual use is projected at 230 million bushels, up sharply from the 60 million projected for 2007/08. Larger supplies of soft red winter wheat and higher corn prices are expected to boost wheat feeding. Exports are projected at 975 million bushels, down 24 percent from 2007/08. Ending stocks for 2008/09 are projected at 483 million bushels, more than double the current year's projected 239 million.

Winter Wheat Heading Slowed by Cool Weather

The National Agricultural Statistics Service's (NASS) May *Crop Production* reported that winter wheat developed slowly during April under cooler than normal conditions in many areas. By April 27, heading had not begun in the Pacific Northwest, northern Great Plains, and eastern Corn Belt. Nationally, 15 percent of the crop was at or beyond the heading stage, 9 points behind last year and 10 points behind the 5-year average. Significant delays were evident in Arkansas, the middle Mississippi Valley, as well as the central and southern Great Plains. However, the crop continued to develop ahead of schedule in California and North Carolina. The winter wheat condition rating varied between 45 and 47 percent good and excellent throughout the month of April.

Spring Wheat Planting and Emergence Slower Than Normal

The NASS May *Crop Production* reported that at the end of April, with 34 percent of the spring wheat crop planted, spring wheat producers were 6 points ahead of last year, but 6 points behind normal. Planting was active in all States during the last week of April; however, in Minnesota, where the planting pace was 9 points behind last year and 27 points behind normal, only 6 percent of the crop was planted. Following the planting delays, emergence, at 4 percent, was delayed 2 and 8 points compared with last year and normal, by the end of April. Emergence was behind normal in all States and progress was over 20 points behind the 5-year average in the Pacific Northwest and South Dakota.

Minor Changes in 2007/08 Projections Leave Ending Stocks Nearly Unchanged

Projected 2007/08 imports were raised 5 million bushels in May to 95 million bushels based on the import pace to date. All of the increase was allocated to hard red spring wheat. Projected 2007/08 exports were raised 5 million bushels in May to 1,280 million bushels based on the export pace to date. All of the increase was allocated to hard red winter wheat. Small changes were made in by-class food and seed use. Total food use, however, remains unchanged while total seed use is up slightly. The higher seed use drops total ending stocks slightly, about 3 million bushels.

Mill Grind Revisions Raise Flour Use in 2006 and 2007

In May, the U.S. Census Bureau revised its mill grind data upward for 2006 and 2007. The higher mill grind resulted in higher ERS per capita flour use estimates for these 2 years. Estimated flour use for 2006 is now 135.6 pounds per person, up from ERS's previous estimate of 134.5 pounds. Estimated flour use for 2007 is now 137.9 pounds per person, up from ERS's previous estimate of 137.5 pounds. The new estimates for these 2 years are up from the recent low of 134.2 pounds in 2005, but are still below the recent high of 146.2 pounds in 2000. Per capita flour use dropped sharply after 2000 with the sudden interest of many consumers in low-carbohydrate diets.

International Situation and Outlook

World Wheat Production To Increase 8 Percent to Record Level in 2008/09

World wheat production in 2008/09 is projected to reach 656 million tons, up 8 percent from the previous year. Foreign wheat production is projected up 7 percent over 2007/08, and is expected to be 27 million tons larger than the 2004/05 record. Strong wheat prices have encouraged expanded plantings in many parts of the world, pushing global area up 3 percent to the largest in 10 years. Generally favorable growing conditions in the largest wheat-producing regions support a 4.6-percent increase in projected yields.

The EU-27 is expected to be the world's largest wheat-producing region in 2008/09, increasing wheat production to 140 million tons, a 17-percent increase from the drought-and flood-plagued crop in 2007/08. The reduction of the set-aside from 10 percent to zero facilitated the increased area. Good growing conditions support a return to trend yields or above. The winter was relatively mild and winterkill is expected to be below normal. Rainfall has been abundant across much of the EU-27; even in Spain, the, although short, it has been timely.

China is expected to be the second-largest wheat producer in 2008/09, reaching 109 million tons, a 3-percent increase from last year. Area planted is reported up slightly as wheat returns and government payments were enough to maintain area. Severe winter weather was mostly outside the major wheat-producing areas, and trend yields are expected.

Wheat production in the former Soviet Union (FSU-12) is forecast at 99 million tons in 2008/09, up 7 percent from a year earlier. Fall planting conditions were much better for this year's crop, facilitating a rebound in winter wheat plantings in Ukraine and parts of Russia. Strong wheat prices are expected to boost area across Ukraine, Russia, and Kazakhstan. Spring wheat yields in 2008/09 in Russia and Kazakhstan are not expected to match the previous year's above-trend level, but winter wheat yields across Ukraine and Russia are expected to increase.

India is projected to produce a record 77 million tons in 2008/09, up 1 percent from a year earlier. This crop is already largely harvested, and the Government of India reports larger-than-expected procurements. Support prices were increased significantly. There was some dryness in non-irrigated areas, but this was more than offset by unusually mild temperatures. Pakistan, however, reported planting delays, and harvested area is expected to decline. The wheat crop is forecast down 8 percent to 21.5 million tons.

The Middle East has suffered from a winter drought across many wheat-producing areas. Production is projected down 12 percent to 35 million tons. Drought has extended from western Syria and Israel, across Iraq and into parts of Iran. Turkey has reported problems in some regions, but not as bad as a year ago, so wheat production in Turkey is projected up only 6 percent from the very poor crop in 2007/08.

North Africa's wheat production in 2008/09 is projected up 14 percent to 16 million tons. The drought in Morocco is less severe than a year ago. The countries to the east had generally better rainfall than Morocco.

Canadian planting intentions surveys indicate an increase in sowings of Canadian western red spring wheat, and a larger planned increase for durum. Canola prices have been strong enough to limit wheat area expansion, but barley and oats are expected to lose area in favor of wheat. Moreover, winter wheat seedings in eastern Canada increased sharply due to improved planting conditions last fall. Total wheat area harvested in Canada is projected up 16 percent in 2008/09, and with trend yields expected, production in 2008/09 is forecast up 25 percent to 25 million tons.

Argentina's 2008/09 wheat production is projected to decline 3 percent to 15 million tons due to a decline in expected planted area. Government restrictions on registering wheat exports, in order to limit internal price increases, have reduced producer incentives to plant wheat. The Government has tried to encourage wheat and corn area by increasing export taxes on soybeans, but the producers' reaction was to go on strike. This increases uncertainty about forecasts for Argentina.

Australia is expected to rebound from devastating drought in 2006/07 and 2007/08, boosting wheat production 83 percent to 24 million tons in 2008/09.

Increased Supplies To Boost Use in 2008/09

World wheat beginning stocks for 2008/09 are forecast down 11 million tons to 110 million. This stocks decline partly offsets the projected 50-million-ton increase in production, but global supplies are still up significantly year-to-year. Some of the countries with tight beginning stocks for 2008/09 are the traditional major exporters: the United States, Canada, the EU-27, and Australia. EU-27 beginning stocks are projected down 2 million tons to only 12 million, with government intervention stocks liquidated. Australia's beginning stocks are forecast to remain small at less than 4 million tons as stocks were drawn down following consecutive droughts. Canada is expected to reduce beginning stocks 3 million tons to 4 million as world prices have encouraged large exports.

World wheat disappearance in 2008/09 is projected to increase 3.5 percent to 642 million tons. Global wheat feed and residual use is expected to increase 15 percent to 113 million tons. High corn prices should encourage wheat feeding. Increased wheat production in the EU-27, FSU-12, United States, Canada, and Australia is expected to help boost the use of wheat for feed. World food, seed, and industrial use of wheat is expected to increase in most countries around the world, by about 1 percent in 2008/09.

The increase in world wheat use is projected to be smaller than the increase in wheat supplies, boosting global stocks at the end of 2008/09 for the first time in 4 years. World wheat ending stocks are projected to increase 14 million tons to 124 million, about the same as 2 years earlier and still low by historical standards.

Record World Wheat Trade Projected in 2008/09, U.S. Exports to Drop

World wheat trade in 2008/09 (July-June trade year) is projected to reach 117 million tons, up 6 percent from the previous year's depressed level, but only 2 percent larger than world wheat trade in 2006/07.

The most dramatic decline in wheat imports in 2008/09 is projected for India, with record production and procurements. India is projected to import almost nothing, down sharply from 2 million tons last year. Increased EU-27 production is also expected to limit its need to import. EU-27 imports are forecast down 1.5 million tons to 5.0 million. Increased production and expected lower internal prices will limit the incentive to import, but the decline will be softened by increased export availability from Ukraine and Russia, as the import quota on lower quality wheat is expected to be used.

Iran, with reduced production, is expected to return as a major importer of wheat in 2008/09, boosting its imports 2.3 million tons to 2.5 million. Algeria, with tight beginning stocks is projected to increase imports 1.2 million tons to 5.6 million. Syria, suffering from drought, is projected to increase imports 0.6 million tons to 0.8 million. Israel is forecast to increase wheat imports 0.4 million tons to 1.5 million, as increased corn prices and the greater availability of low-quality wheat encourage wheat feeding. Nigeria is projected to increase its wheat imports by 0.4 million tons to 3.3 million tons to maintain food consumption. Many other countries are expected to increase wheat imports by smaller amounts to maintain consumption and, in some cases, rebuild depleted stocks. Some growth in imports is expected to leave Egypt, at 7.8 million tons, the world's largest importing country in 2008/09, followed by Brazil at 7.3 million.

Shifting market shares are expected among wheat-exporting countries in 2008/09. Increased production is expected to double Australia's 2008/09 trade year exports to 15.0 million tons and boost EU-27 exports 6.0 million tons to 15.0 million. Ukraine is expected to lift export restrictions, increasing wheat exports 5.3 million tons to 6.0 million. Canada is projected to increase exports 2 million tons to 15.0 million.

Reduced wheat production and exports are forecast for Kazakhstan, down 2.5 million tons to 6.0 million, and for Pakistan, down 1.2 million tons to 1.0 million. China is expected to trim wheat exports 0.7 million tons to 2.0 million. Turkey and Argentina are projected to trim exports modestly.

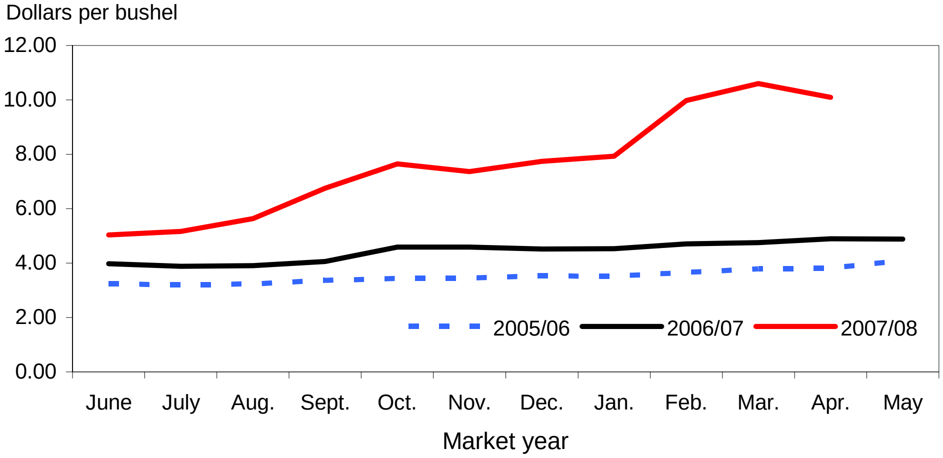
U.S. Exports To Drop After a Quick Start

U.S. wheat exports for the 2008/09 July-June international trade year are projected to drop 9.5 million tons from last year, reaching 26.0 million tons. U.S. production is expected to increase in 2008/09, but very low carryin stocks will limit the increase in supplies. As competitors' wheat harvests become available for export, U.S. shipments are expected to slow. The 2008/09 June-May local marketing year is projected down 305 million bushels to 975 million. U.S. wheat exports are expected to be relatively strong early in the marketing year because the U.S. crop is harvested earlier than that in most other major exporting countries. Reduced competition is also expected from Australia until after its harvest starting in November 2008. U.S. outstanding sales for the 2007/08 year during the first week in May 2008 were triple last year's, indicating that U.S. wheat exports will start strong. However, as competitors' supplies become available, and their wheat prices decline, U.S. exports are expected to decline.

The June-May marketing year forecast for 2007/08 U.S. exports was increased 5 million bushels to 1,280 million bushels because the pace of recent shipments supported the increase, and, with just a few weeks remaining, it is possible to be more precise.

Figure 1

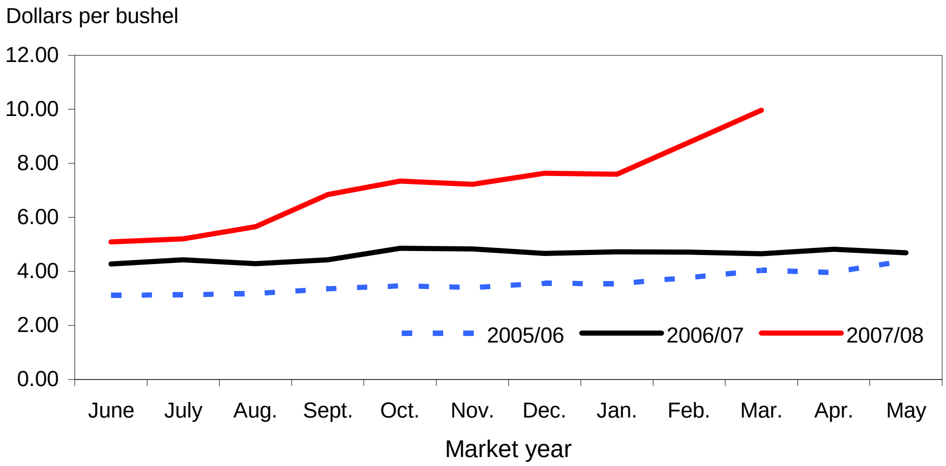
All wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 2

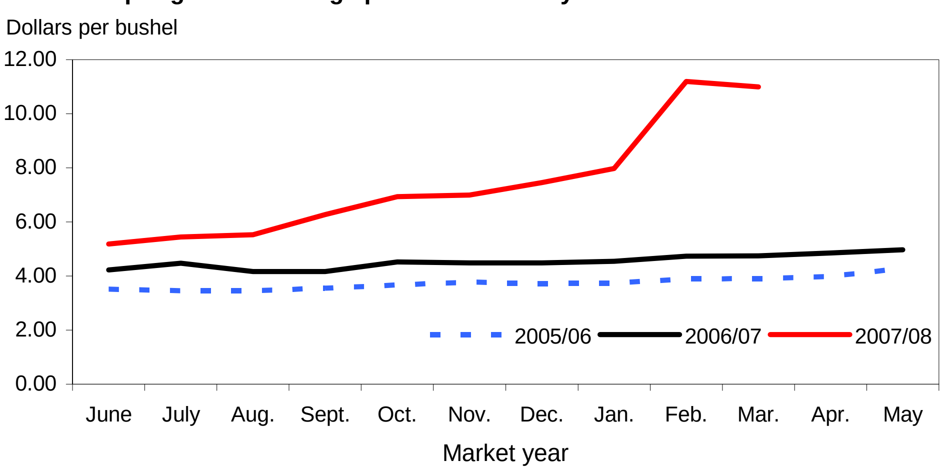
Hard red winter wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 3

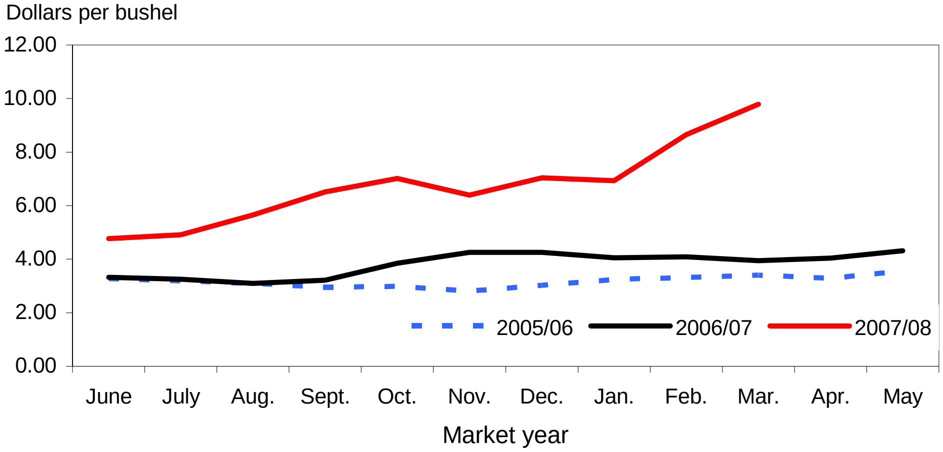
Hard red spring wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 4

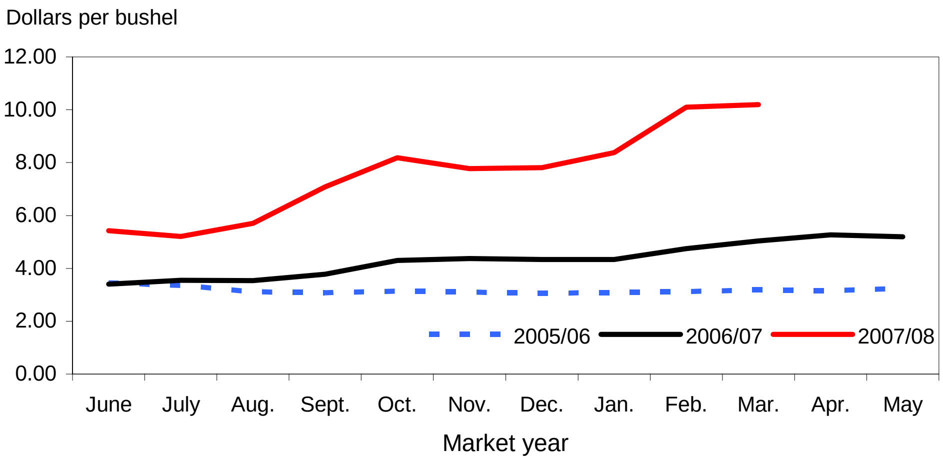
Soft red winter wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 5

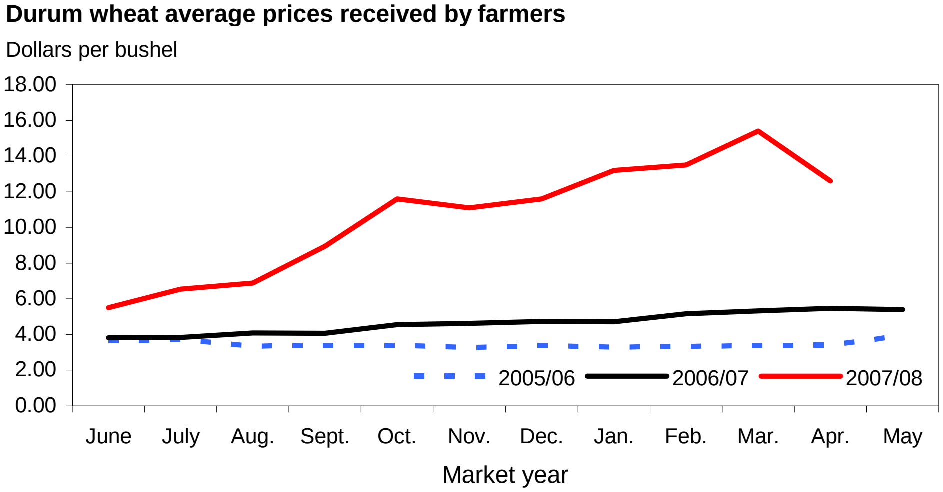
Soft white wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 6

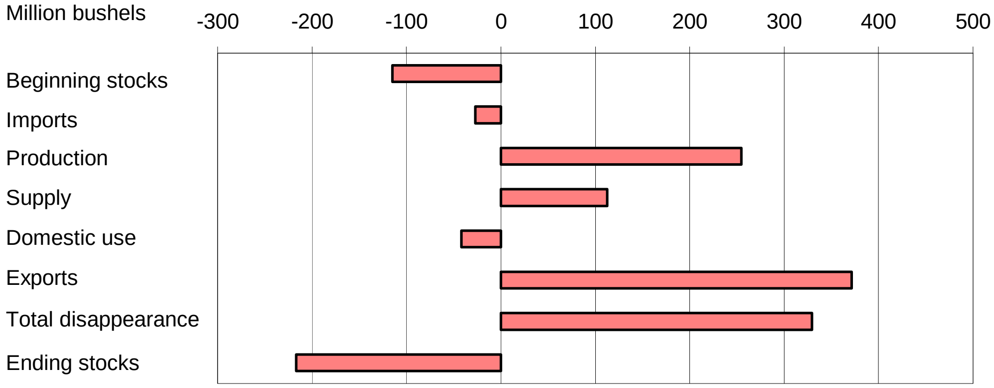
Durum wheat average prices received by farmers



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

Figure 7

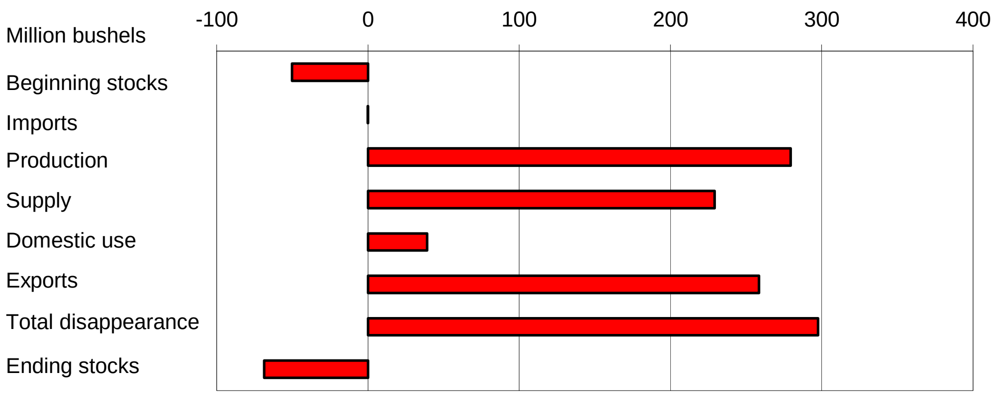
All wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



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

Figure 8

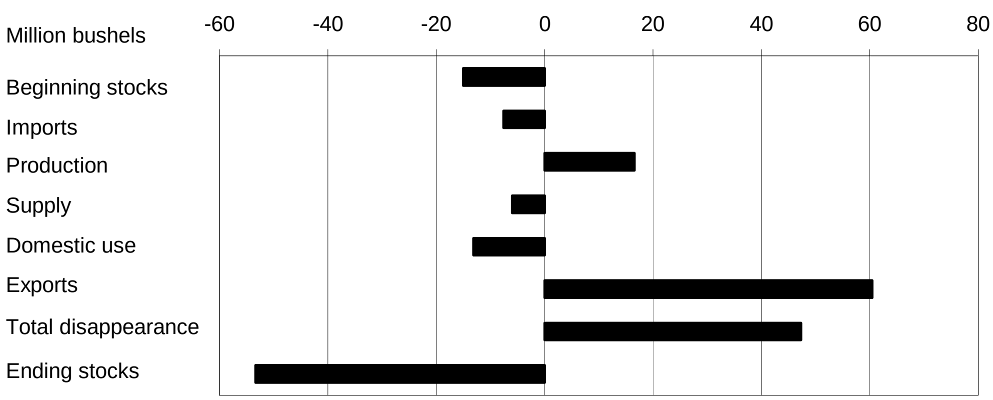
Hard red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



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

Figure 9

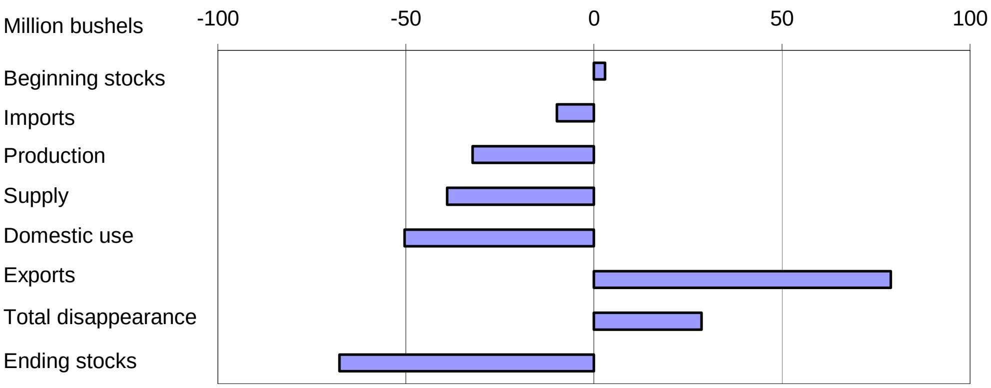
Hard red spring wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



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

Figure 10

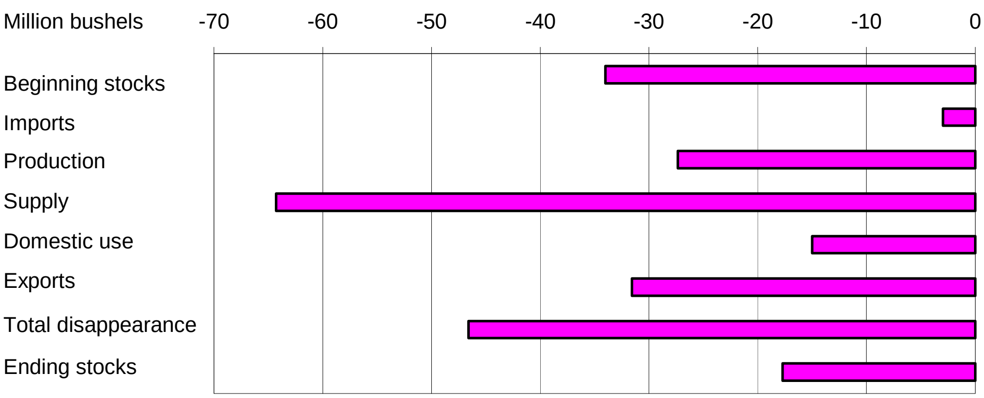
Soft red winter wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



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

Figure 11

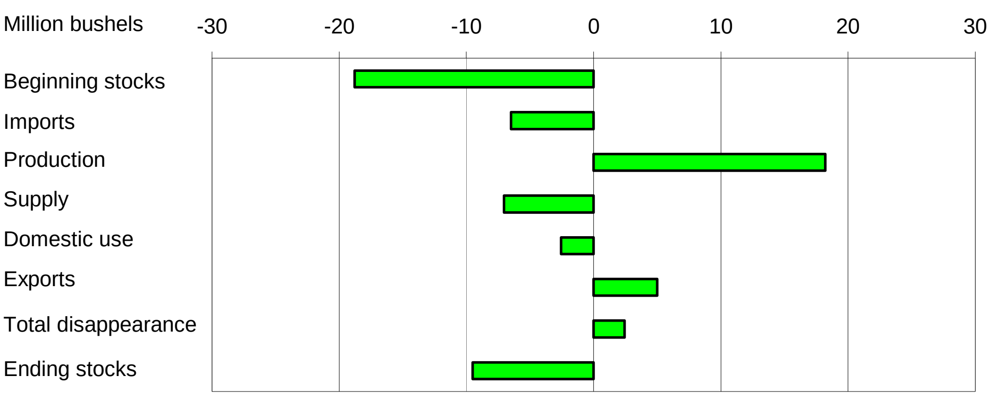
White wheat: U.S. supply and disappearance change from prior market year



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.*

Contacts and Links

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Data

Monthly tables from *Wheat Outlook* are available in Excel (.xls) spreadsheets at http://www.ers.usda.gov/briefing/wheat/data.htm. These tables contain the latest data on supply and disappearance, monthly food-use estimates, prices, exports, and imports.

Related Websites

WASDE
http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1194
Grain Circular, http://www.fas.usda.gov/grain_arc.asp
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Table 1--Wheat: U.S. market year supply and disapperance, 05/13/2008

Item and unit		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09
Area:								
Planted	Million acres	60.3	62.1	59.7	57.2	57.3	60.4	63.8
Harvested	Million acres	45.8	53.1	50.0	50.1	46.8	51.0	56.3
Yield	Bushels per acre	35.0	44.2	43.2	42.0	38.7	40.5	42.5
Supply:								
Beginning stocks	Million bushels	777.1	491.4	546.4	540.1	571.2	456.2	239.5
Production	Million bushels	1,605.9	2,344.8	2,158.2	2,104.7	1,812.0	2,066.7	2,392.0
Imports 1/	Million bushels	77.4	63.0	70.6	81.4	121.9	95.0	100.0
Total supply	Million bushels	2,460.4	2,899.2	2,775.3	2,726.1	2,505.1	2,617.9	2,731.5
Disappearance:								
Food use	Million bushels	918.6	911.9	909.6	917.1	937.8	950.0	960.0
Seed use	Million bushels	84.4	79.7	77.6	77.7	81.5	88.4	84.0
Feed and residual use	Million bushels	115.7	202.9	182.1	157.3	121.0	60.0	230.0
Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,118.7	1,194.4	1,169.2	1,152.2	1,140.3	1,098.4	1,274.0
Exports 1/	Million bushels	850.2	1,158.3	1,065.9	1,002.8	908.7	1,280.0	975.0
Total disapperance	Million bushels	1,968.9	2,352.8	2,235.2	2,155.0	2,048.9	2,378.4	2,249.0
Ending stocks	Million bushels	491.4	546.4	540.1	571.2	456.2	239.5	482.5
CCC inventory 2/	Million bushels	66.0	61.0	54.0	43.0	41.0	24.1	24.1
Stocks-to-use ratio		25.0	23.2	24.2	26.5	22.3	10.1	21.5
Loan rate	Dollars per bushel	2.80	2.80	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75
Contract/direct payment rate	Dollars per bushel	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52	0.52		0.52
Farm price 3/	Dollars per bushel	3.56	3.40	3.40	3.42	4.26	6.55	6.60-8.10
Government payments	Million dollars	1,172	1,237	1,218	1,151	1,120	1,118	
Market value of production	Million dollars	5,679	7,929	7,283	7,171	7,710	13,537	17,581

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/ Stocks owned by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Most CCC-owned inventory is in the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust.
3/ 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: 5/12/2008

Table 2--Wheat: U.S. market year supply and disappearance, 05/13/2008

Market year, item, and unit			All wheat	Hard red winter 1/	Hard red spring 1/	Soft red winter 1/	White 1/	Durum
2006/07	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	57.34	29.34	14.42	7.39	4.33	1.87
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	46.81	21.32	13.42	6.16	4.10	1.82
	Yield	Bushels per acre	38.71	31.99	32.22	63.32	62.02	29.46
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	571.19	214.84	132.00	106.00	78.00	40.35
	Production	Million bushels	1,812.04	682.08	432.34	390.17	253.98	53.48
	Imports 2/	Million bushels	121.87	1.06	49.56	19.81	9.96	41.49
	Total supply	Million bushels	2,505.09	897.97	613.90	515.97	341.94	135.31
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	937.83	365.70	236.00	165.00	85.00	86.12
	Seed use	Million bushels	81.48	35.87	19.29	16.60	6.15	3.56
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	120.99	50.34	-7.95	79.33	10.21	-10.94
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,140.29	451.91	247.35	260.93	101.36	78.74
	Exports 2/	Million bushels	908.65	281.48	249.55	146.04	196.58	35.00
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,048.94	733.39	496.90	406.97	297.94	113.74
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	456.15	164.58	117.00	109.00	44.00	21.57
2007/08	Area:							
	Planted acreage	Million acres	60.43	32.94	12.72	8.65	3.98	2.15
	Harvested acreage	Million acres	51.01	25.70	12.39	7.06	3.76	2.11
	Yield	Bushels per acre	40.52	37.42	36.24	50.72	60.33	33.94
	Supply:							
	Beginning stocks	Million bushels	456.15	164.58	117.00	109.00	44.00	21.57
	Production	Million bushels	2,066.72	961.59	448.90	357.90	226.65	71.69
	Imports 2/	Million bushels	95.00	1.00	42.00	10.00	7.00	35.00
	Total supply	Million bushels	2,617.88	1,127.17	607.90	476.90	277.65	128.26
	Disappearance:							
	Food use	Million bushels	950.00	395.00	233.00	150.00	85.00	87.00
	Seed use	Million bushels	88.39	36.03	21.24	20.58	6.36	4.18
	Feed and residual use	Million bushels	60.00	60.00	-20.00	40.00	-5.00	-15.00
	Total domestic use	Million bushels	1,098.39	491.03	234.24	210.58	86.36	76.18
	Exports 2/	Million bushels	1,280.00	540.00	310.00	225.00	165.00	40.00
	Total disappearance	Million bushels	2,378.39	1,031.03	544.24	435.58	251.36	116.18
	Ending stocks	Million bushels	239.48	96.14	63.66	41.32	26.29	12.07

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: 5/12/2008

Table 3--Wheat: U.S. quarterly supply and disappearance (million bushels), 05/13/2008

Market year and quarter		Production	Imports 1/	Total supply	Food use	Seed use	Feed and residual use	Exports 1/	Ending stocks
2000/01	Jun-Aug	2,228	20	3,198	239	1	318	288	2,353
	Sep-Nov		25	2,378	253	50	-24	293	1,806
	Dec-Feb		21	1,828	228	3	11	246	1,338
	Mar-May		23	1,361	230	25	-4	235	876
	Mkt. year	2,228	90	3,268	950	79	300	1,062	876
2001/02	Jun-Aug	1,947	26	2,849	234	3	238	218	2,156
	Sep-Nov		29	2,185	245	52	-23	288	1,623
	Dec-Feb		28	1,651	221	2	-7	225	1,210
	Mar-May		25	1,235	226	26	-26	231	777
	Mkt. year	1,947	108	2,931	926	83	182	962	777
2002/03	Jun-Aug	1,606	27	2,410	233	3	185	240	1,749
	Sep-Nov		23	1,772	238	55	-75	235	1,320
	Dec-Feb		13	1,333	219	3	14	190	907
	Mar-May		15	922	229	24	-8	186	491
	Mkt. year	1,606	77	2,460	919	84	116	850	491
2003/04	Jun-Aug	2,345	16	2,852	231	2	315	265	2,039
	Sep-Nov		18	2,057	240	53	-62	305	1,520
	Dec-Feb		13	1,533	216	2	3	291	1,021
	Mar-May		17	1,037	226	22	-54	296	546
	Mkt. year	2,345	63	2,899	912	80	203	1,158	546
2004/05	Jun-Aug	2,158	17	2,722	227	4	265	287	1,938
	Sep-Nov		19	1,957	236	47	-56	300	1,430
	Dec-Feb		18	1,448	218	2	3	240	984
	Mar-May		17	1,001	229	24	-31	239	540
	Mkt. year	2,158	71	2,775	910	78	182	1,066	540
2005/06	Jun-Aug	2,105	19	2,663	231	2	263	244	1,923
	Sep-Nov		20	1,944	238	51	-61	286	1,429
	Dec-Feb		20	1,450	219	1	4	252	972
	Mar-May		22	995	228	24	-49	220	571
	Mkt. year	2,105	81	2,726	917	78	157	1,003	571
2006/07	Jun-Aug	1,812	26	2,410	235	2	208	214	1,751
	Sep-Nov		29	1,780	243	56	-46	212	1,315
	Dec-Feb		31	1,346	225	1	26	237	857
	Mar-May		35	892	234	22	-67	246	456
	Mkt. year	1,812	122	2,505	938	81	121	909	456
2007/08	Jun-Aug	2,067	30	2,553	240	2	282	312	1,717
	Sep-Nov		21	1,738	245	60	-132	433	1,132
	Dec-Feb		24	1,156	227	2	-43	261	710
	Mkt. year	2,067	95	2,618	950	88	60	1,280	239
2008/09	Mkt. year	2,392	100	2,732	960	84	230	975	483

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: 5/12/2008

Table 4--Wheat: Monthly food disapperance estimates (1,000 grain-equivalent bushels), 05/13/2008

Mkt year and month 1/		Wheat ground for flour	+	Food imports 2/	+	Nonmilled food use 3/	-	Food exports 2/	=	Food use 4/
2006/07	Jun	70,780		2,376		2,000		1,181		73,974
	Jul	74,221		2,281		2,000		1,198		77,304
	Aug	81,118		2,347		2,000		1,776		83,688
	Sep	78,001		1,961		2,000		1,009		80,952
	Oct	79,831		2,617		2,000		1,704		82,744
	Nov	76,411		2,640		2,000		1,504		79,547
	Dec	71,723		2,466		2,000		1,764		74,425
	Jan	72,918		2,661		2,000		1,312		76,268
	Feb	72,340		2,130		2,000		1,953		74,517
	Mar	76,749		2,651		2,000		1,656		79,744
	Apr	75,365		2,371		2,000		2,109		77,628
	May	77,058		2,128		2,000		4,152		77,034
2007/08	Jun	73,725		2,263		2,000		2,376		75,613
	Jul	76,121		2,250		2,000		1,644		78,728
	Aug	83,195		2,156		2,000		1,823		85,528
	Sep	79,998		1,961		2,000		2,486		81,473
	Oct	82,745		2,383		2,000		2,959		84,168
	Nov	79,199		2,290		2,000		4,078		79,412
	Dec	74,341		2,217		2,000		2,653		75,905
	Jan			2,257				1,726		531
	Feb			2,066				1,999		67

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. See http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/Wheat/wheatfooduse.htm for more information.
Sources: Calculated using data from U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Flour Milling Products (MQ311A) and trade data.

Date run: 5/12/2008

Table 5--Wheat: National average price received by farmers (dollars per bushel) 1/, 05/13/2008

Month	All wheat		Winter		Durum		Other spring	
	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08
June	3.98	5.03	3.95	5.00	3.81	5.50	4.18	5.17
July	3.88	5.17	3.82	5.14	3.83	6.55	4.41	5.44
August	3.91	5.64	3.77	5.66	4.09	6.88	4.11	5.53
September	4.06	6.75	4.03	6.89	4.07	8.95	4.11	6.30
October	4.59	7.65	4.63	7.54	4.55	11.60	4.48	7.01
November	4.59	7.36	4.67	7.32	4.62	11.10	4.48	7.02
December	4.52	7.74	4.53	7.66	4.74	11.60	4.48	7.46
January	4.53	7.93	4.53	7.78	4.71	13.20	4.51	7.99
February	4.71	9.98	4.67	8.97	5.16	13.50	4.73	11.10
March	4.75	10.60	4.67	10.00	5.32	15.40	4.73	11.00
April	4.89	10.10	4.87	9.26	5.46	12.60	4.87	10.90
May	4.88		4.77		5.39		4.98	

1/ Preliminary mid-month, weighted-average price for current month.
Source: USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Agricultural Prices.

Table 6--Wheat: National average prices received by farmers by class (dollars per bushel), 05/13/2008

Month	Hard red winter		Soft red winter		Hard red spring		White	
	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08	2006/07	2007/08
June	4.27	5.10	3.32	4.77	4.23	5.18	3.40	5.42
July	4.43	5.20	3.25	4.91	4.47	5.44	3.55	5.21
August	4.28	5.65	3.10	5.65	4.17	5.53	3.54	5.70
September	4.43	6.85	3.22	6.51	4.16	6.27	3.78	7.08
October	4.86	7.35	3.85	7.01	4.52	6.94	4.30	8.19
November	4.83	7.23	4.26	6.39	4.49	7.00	4.37	7.77
December	4.67	7.63	4.26	7.04	4.49	7.46	4.33	7.81
January	4.73	7.60	4.05	6.93	4.54	7.98	4.34	8.38
February	4.71	8.77	4.09	8.65	4.73	11.20	4.75	10.10
March	4.66	9.97	3.94	9.79	4.74	11.00	5.04	10.20
April	4.82		4.04		4.85		5.27	
May	4.69		4.31		4.97		5.20	

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

Date run: 5/12/2008

Table 7--Wheat: Average cash grain bids at principal markets, 05/13/2008

Month	No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 hard red winter (13% protein) Kansas City, MO (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 2 hard red winter (ordinary protein) Gulf ports, LA 1/ (dollars per metric ton) 2006/07	2007/08
June	5.25	6.22	5.43	6.32	5.14	6.12	196.83	226.04
July	5.27	6.28	5.38	6.56	5.26	6.35	204.31	241.34
August	5.00	6.84	5.15	7.04	5.04	6.95	193.99	264.38
September	5.16	8.52	5.19	8.79	5.19	8.55	201.39	338.20
October	5.62	8.89	5.55	9.22	5.56	9.37	214.90	345.07
November	5.61	8.62	5.63	9.08	5.62	8.95	212.54	329.22
December	5.49	9.80	5.55	10.39	5.67	10.30	210.43	374.05
January	5.29	9.97	5.29	10.94	5.49	10.22	202.90	374.37
February	5.39	12.28	5.44	15.12	5.67	11.29	202.67	435.58
March	5.40	12.29	5.52	14.10	5.74	--	206.03	450.41
April	5.52	--	5.61	--	5.81	--	207.02	370.56
May	5.54		5.57		5.59		199.03	

Month	No. 1 dark northern spring (13% protein) Minneapolis, MN (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Minneapolis, MN (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 dark northern spring (14% protein) Portland, OR (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 hard amber durum Minneapolis, MN (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08
June	5.43	6.19	5.59	6.19	5.72	6.48	--	7.40
July	5.52	5.55	5.65	6.60	5.93	6.95	--	8.50
August	4.85	6.79	4.94	6.88	5.44	7.28	--	--
September	4.85	--	4.86	8.20	5.38	9.62	--	11.25
October	5.35	9.24	5.36	9.27	5.80	9.67	--	15.00
November	5.57	9.43	5.55	9.39	5.92	9.71	--	--
December	5.43	10.86	5.44	11.06	5.88	11.59	--	--
January	5.26	12.34	5.27	12.59	5.70	12.95	--	--
February	5.34	18.55	5.40	19.00	5.94	18.59	--	23.25
March	5.53	14.68	5.55	15.60	5.95	--	--	--
April	5.67	13.11	5.65	12.93	6.09	--	--	--
May	5.65		5.64		6.05		--	

Month	No. 2 soft red winter St. Louis, MO (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 2 soft red winter Chicago, IL (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 2 soft red winter Toledo, OH (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08	No. 1 soft white Portland, OR (dollars per bushel) 2006/07	2007/08
June	3.40	5.19	3.26	5.25	3.10	5.14	3.80	6.06
July	3.40	5.61	3.43	5.52	3.11	5.79	3.86	6.36
August	3.32	6.14	3.20	6.24	2.85	6.73	3.97	6.91
September	3.75	7.99	3.39	7.98	3.15	8.47	4.27	8.88
October	3.75	--	4.40	7.89	4.25	8.38	4.97	9.94
November	4.68	7.70	4.35	7.57	4.39	7.78	4.96	10.05
December	4.78	8.58	4.49	8.69	4.46	9.00	4.94	12.39
January	4.36	8.50	4.19	8.55	4.19	9.07	4.96	14.33
February	4.34	9.72	4.20	10.12	4.18	10.48	5.29	12.46
March	4.15	9.11	4.07	10.40	4.07	10.58	5.67	12.00
April	4.15	--	4.25	7.72	4.14	8.32	5.97	10.26
May	5.19		4.50		4.31		5.78	

-- = Not available or no quote.
1/ Free on board. Barge delivered to Louisiana gulf.
Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, State Grain Reports, http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsmnpubs/grains.htm.

Date run: 5/12/2008

Table 8--Wheat: U.S. exports and imports for last 6 months (1,000 bushels), 05/13/2008

Item		Sep 2007	Oct 2007	Nov 2007	Dec 2007	Jan 2008	Feb 2008
Exports	All wheat grain	149,168	158,064	116,504	82,343	87,539	84,414
	All wheat flour 1/	1,135	1,758	2,515	1,960	1,224	1,544
	All wheat products 2/	1,363	1,209	1,574	721	518	470
	Total all wheat	151,666	161,032	120,593	85,023	89,282	86,428
Imports	All wheat grain	5,045	4,741	4,778	4,919	6,258	6,301
	All wheat flour 1/	860	966	846	812	804	833
	All wheat products 2/	1,118	1,428	1,449	1,419	1,462	1,240
	Total all wheat	7,023	7,135	7,073	7,150	8,524	8,374

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; and ERS calculations using Census trade data.

Date run: 5/12/2008

Table 9--Wheat: U.S. exports, Census and export sales comparison (1,000 metric tons), 05/13/08

Importing country	2005/06		2006/07		2007/08 (as of 05/01/08)		
	Shipments				Shipments	Outstanding sales	Total
Data source	Census 1/	Export sales 2/	Census 1/	Export sales 2/	Export sales 2/		
Country:							
Japan	2,909	2,966	3,188	3,228	2,950	453	3,402
Nigeria	3,160	3,036	2,455	2,441	2,351	298	2,649
Mexico	2,654	2,564	2,265	2,138	2,414	315	2,729
Egypt	1,123	1,181	1,982	1,982	3,053	110	3,163
Philippines	1,650	1,676	1,648	1,739	1,367	315	1,681
South Korea	1,097	1,143	1,174	1,191	1,385	222	1,607
Taiwan	906	914	1,007	999	984	124	1,109
Iraq	2,278	2,338	898	799	1,913	400	2,313
EU-27	1,082	1,479	634	786	1,881	29	1,911
Yeman	502	501	711	709	997	0	997
Total grain	26,903	25,320	24,078	22,902	30,546	3,460	34,005
Total (including products)	27,461	25,370	24,766	22,950	30,590	3,463	34,053
USDA forecast of Census					34,840		

1/ Source is U.S. Census Bureau

2/ Source is Foreign Agricultural Service's weekly *U.S. Export Sales* report.

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service's, U.S. Export Sales: and U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau.