

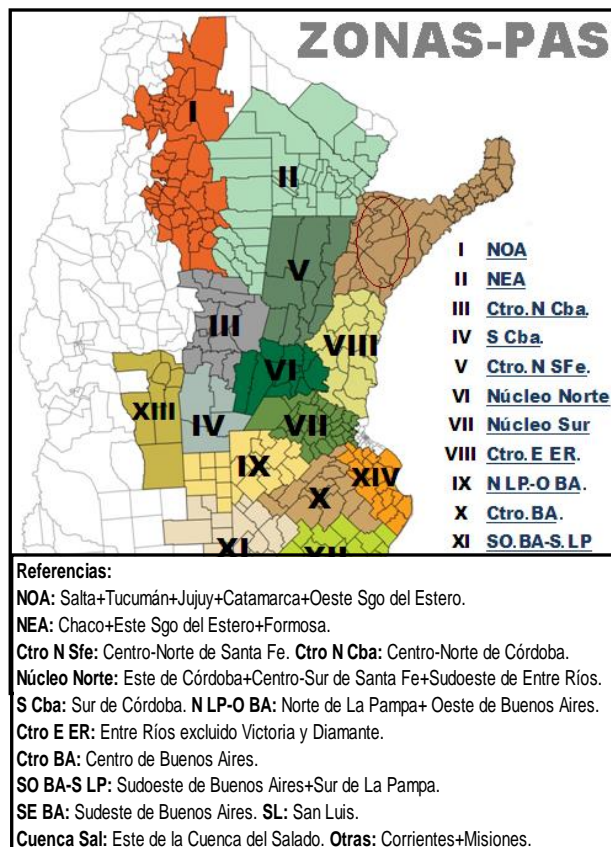


Weekly Ag Report

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE

WEEK ENDED ON Dec. 17, 2015

CROP REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS
 Estimations and Agricultural Projections Department
 Buenos Aires Grain Exchange



OUTLOOK SUMMARY WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE

December 17, 2015

AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: DECEMBER 17 TO 23, 2015: VERY WARM WEATHER, COUPLED WITH PRECIPITATION OF VARYING INTENSITY, AND HEAVY SHOWERS OVER THE ARGENTINEAN FLUVIAL LITTORAL, FOLLOWED BY A MODERATE TEMPERATE DROP.

At the beginning of the perspective, northerly winds will impact over most part of the agricultural area, bringing abundant atmospheric humidity and cloudiness, and leading to high maximum temperatures. At the same time, the passage of a Pampero front will bring precipitations of varying intensity over most part of the Ag. region. Eastern Paraguay, southern Brazil, the northeast of the Pampas region, and Mesopotamia will report severe storms that could increase the likelihood of river floods. The front will be followed by the entrances of winds coming from the southwest that will bring a sharp temperature drop in the south of the Ag. region, while the north will remain under the influence of tropical winds.

SOYBEAN

Some area recovery was observed in the last few weeks. Consequently, part of such area will likely be planted with soybeans in the next days in the north provinces and margins of the west of the ag region, aided by good water supplies. This expansion of soybeans areas is also affected by a rebound of late corns planting intention, both on open fallow lands and on wheat and barley stubbles, harvested in the center of the agricultural region. In addition, heavy rainfalls in the last weeks have worsened water excess conditions in different parts of the main growing region in the north, and to a lesser degree in the main south growing region, thus reducing summer crops planting area in the short term. Based on such factors, soybeans planting projection amounts to **20, 100,000 Ha**, up by 300,000 Ha from initial projection (19.8 Mha projected as of Oct 19, 2015), and reporting a slight YOY advance of 0.5 % (planting 2014/15: 20, 000,000 Ha). National planting progress posted 72.4 %, accounting for more than 14.5M planted hectares.

SOYBEAN PLANTING				As of: Dec. 17, 2015	
2014/15 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Percentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
Zone		2013/14	2014/15		
I	NOA	900.000	800.000	8,7	69.790
II	NEA	1.500.000	1.410.000	9,4	132.312
III	Ctro N Cba	2.200.000	2.300.000	67,0	1.540.420
IV	S Cba	1.700.000	1.750.000	82,9	1.451.175
V	Ctro N SFe	1.300.000	1.400.000	87,2	1.220.800
VI	Núcleo Nort	3.270.000	3.000.000	98,7	2.959.960
VII	Núcleo Sur	2.730.000	2.600.000	91,7	2.384.375
VIII	Ctro E ER	1.250.000	1.300.000	95,4	1.240.360
IX	N LP-OBA	1.850.000	2.200.000	81,3	1.788.800
X	Ctro BA	650.000	760.000	74,0	562.580
XI	SO BA-S LP	520.000	600.000	26,6	159.750
XII	SE BA	1.680.000	1.580.000	50,6	799.850
XIII	SL	180.000	180.000	58,3	105.000
XIV	Cuenca Sal	220.000	170.000	69,1	117.540
XV	Otras	50.000	50.000	40,0	20.000
TOTAL		20.000.000	20.100.000	72,4	14.552.712

CORN

Already within optimal planting window for late and second corn plots in most of the country, planting intention is observed on a bullish trend this season. Such increase is associated to both late planting incorporations and second plantings. On the one hand, variations in indifference yields, and the release of plots by winter crops harvest (wheat+barley) produced an increase of corn area, to the detriment of second planting soybeans. On the other hand, crop area might also be increased in the north of the country in the next few weeks, as rainfalls replenish plot moisture. However, flooded fields and fallow lands which were closed for soybeans are limiting this area increase. Consequently, initial planting intention is increased by **2, 850,000 Ha** for season 2015/16, around -16 % less than last season (year 2014/15: 3.4 MHa). Planting progress accounts for 59.3 % of area, an overall 1.7 MHa.

CORN PLANTING		As of: Dec. 17, 2015			
2015/16 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Percentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
Zonas		2014/15	2015/16		
I	NOA	230.000	195.370	2,0	3.910
II	NEA	360.000	316.800	24,0	76.032
III	Ctro N Cba	540.000	437.400	32,0	139.968
IV	S Cba	390.000	315.900	48,0	151.632
V	Ctro N SFe	140.000	112.000	32,0	35.840
VI	Núcleo Norte	365.000	273.750	92,5	253.219
VII	Núcleo Sur	300.000	222.000	91,0	202.020
VIII	Ctro E ER	137.000	108.230	83,8	90.643
IX	N LP-OBA	370.000	325.600	80,0	260.480
X	Ctro BA	179.000	170.050	88,0	149.644
XI	SO BA-S LP	98.000	98.000	96,3	94.325
XII	SE BA	92.000	92.000	97,8	89.930
XIII	SL	123.000	110.700	77,5	85.793
XIV	Cuenca Sal	52.000	49.400	92,5	45.695
XV	Otras	24.000	22.800	44,0	10.032
TOTAL		3.400.000	2.850.000	59,3	1.689.162

SUNFLOWER

Sunflower harvest continues over the NE Area, precisely in the center of the province of Chaco. Nationwide harvested area this far is still insignificant, and it corresponds to plots incorporated at the start of the optimal window in the region. Yields obtained are ranging between 1.6 and 2 Tn/Ha, with yield expectations on early plots sitting slightly below regional average, as a consequence of an extended water stress period from early spring. Toward the mid-north of Santa Fe, early plots are nearing harvest, with expected yields close to 2.2 Tn/Ha, while late plots are finishing grain filling stages. Good weather observed in late spring continues to produce optimal conditions for grain filling, thus allowing for yields above regional average. The town of Llambí Campbell has made applications to accelerate plot release, and it should be ready to initiate harvest in the next few days.

GRAIN SORGHUM

Commercial grain sorghum planting is in progress. So far, 545,000 Ha were planted, accounting for 64.1 % of national area, which is estimated this season at 850,000 Ha. Therefore, planting progress in the last 14 days posted 22.5 %, an increase which is due to good weather conditions, as well as to the fact that soybeans planting -a priority of producers- is at its final stage. The NW Area, the only region which has not yet started planting, is expecting new rainfalls to initiate fieldwork. On the other hand, crop plots already planted nationwide present favorable growing conditions. Nevertheless, there is still excess observed along the central strip of the agricultural region and the Littoral, which is slowing down planting fieldwork, and might hamper normal development of sorghum plots.

GRAIN SORGHUM PLANTING				As of: Dec. 17, 2015	
2014/15 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Percentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
Zone		2013/14	2014/15		
I	NOA	24.000	23.500	0,0	-
II	NEA	190.000	200.000	15,0	30.000
III	Ctro N Cba	100.000	100.000	60,0	60.000
IV	S Cba	34.000	36.500	90,0	32.850
V	Ctro N SFe	150.000	146.000	92,0	134.320
VI	Núcleo Norte	32.000	31.000	95,0	29.450
VII	Núcleo Sur	17.000	17.000	85,0	14.450
VIII	Ctro E ER	65.000	62.000	87,5	54.250
IX	N LP-OBA	40.000	40.000	90,0	36.000
X	Ctro BA	8.000	10.000	86,0	8.600
XI	SO BA-S LP	80.000	80.000	85,0	68.000
XII	SE BA	7.000	7.000	80,0	5.600
XIII	SL	52.000	50.000	70,0	35.000
XIV	Cuenca Sal	29.000	29.000	70,0	20.300
XV	Otras	22.000	18.000	90,0	16.200
TOTAL		850.000	850.000	64,1	545.020

WHEAT

Wheat harvest has started to spread over the south of the ag region, posting the first harvest progress results in different locations of Buenos Aires and La Pampa. Simultaneously, harvest is finished in the mid-north of Córdoba and Santa Fe. So far, nationwide harvest accounts for 50.4 % of suitable area, posting week-on-week advance for 9.5 %, and a YOY decrease of -15.2 %. Likewise, national average yield posted 2.6 Tn/Ha, accruing a partial volume of almost 4.5 MTn. As the combines advance into the main wheat areas of the south of Buenos Aires, expected yields continue to post above initial expectations. If such trend continues, projected production of **9,500,000 Tn** this season may be increased.

WHEAT HARVEST						As of: Dec. 17, 2015		
2015/16 Season		Hectareage (Ha)			Percentage Harvested (%)	Hectares Harvested	Yield (qq/Ha)	Production (Tn)
Zone		Sown	Lost	Harvestable				
I	NOA	203.000	30.000	173.000	100,0	173.000	12,8	220.706
II	NEA	210.000	16.000	194.000	100,0	194.000	17,3	336.520
III	Ctro N Cba	490.000	38.000	452.000	100,0	452.000	23,4	1.056.366
IV	S Cba	205.000	35.000	170.000	60,0	102.000	25	258.400
V	Ctro N SFe	185.000	14.000	171.000	100,0	171.000	24,1	411.540
VI	Núcleo Norte	320.000	20.000	300.000	95,0	285.000	35,7	1.018.400
VII	Núcleo Sur	250.000	41.000	209.000	75,0	156.750	36,7	575.795
VIII	Ctro E ER	115.000	7.000	108.000	90,0	97.200	32,4	315.252
IX	N LP-OBA	330.000	7.000	323.000	10,0	32.300	36	116.280
X	Ctro BA	120.000	10.000	110.000	26,0	28.600	37	106.964
XI	SO BA-S LP	685.000	15.000	670.000	5,0	33.500	24	79.060
XII	SE BA	530.000	-	530.000	0,0	-	-	-
XIII	SL	5.000	200	4.800	50,0	2.400	22	5.280
XIV	Cuenca Sal	42.000	18.000	24.000	10,0	2.400	25	6.000
XV	Otras	10.000	800	9.200	100,0	9.200	20,4	18.722
TOTAL		3.700.000	252.000	3.448.000	50,4	1.739.350	26,0	4.525.285