



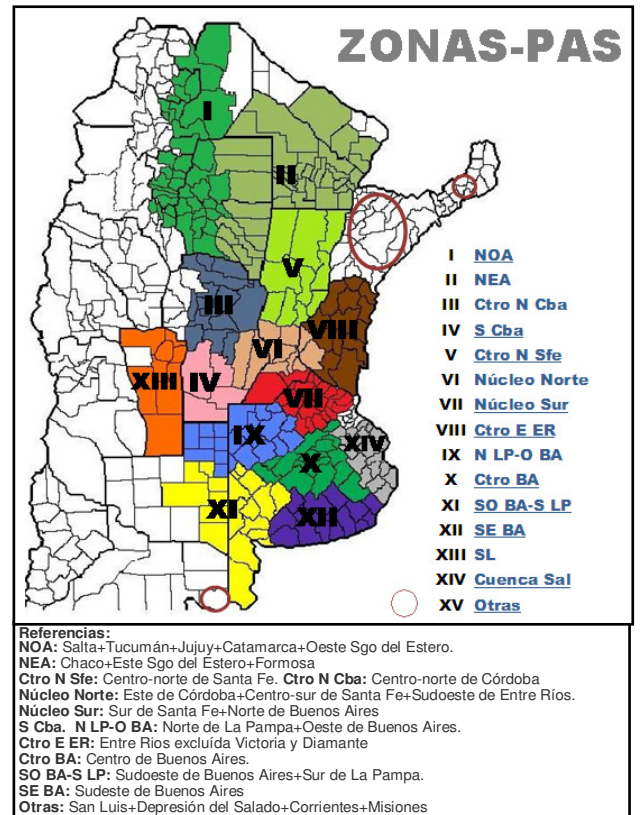
# Weekly Ag Report

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE

**WEEK ENDED ON Jun. 21, 2012**

## CROP REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS

Estimations and Agricultural Projections Department  
Buenos Aires Grain Exchange



## WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAINS EXCHANGE

June 21, 2012

### Outlook summary

**Weekly agricultural weather outlook: 21 to 28 June: Temperature rise and scarce precipitations followed by a significant drop in temperature values.**

At the beginning of the current outlook, northerly winds will moderately raise temperatures. A storm front will then cause strong winds and snowfall in the south of the Andes range. However, precipitations will be scarce over most of the agricultural area. The storm front will be followed by a cold air mass affecting most of the national agricultural area and leading to a significant drop in temperatures with frost likelihood along its path.

**Buenos Aires, June 21 2012**

**Buenos Aires Grains Exchange**

## WHEAT

The seeding of wheat has reported a steady weekly advance of 7.2 percentage points. Up to date, 32.5% of the national AG area has been planted, and the overall surface covered has reached 1.2 MHas. Comparing these progress levels with similar date last year, we identify a planting delay of nearly 20 percentage points. Such holdback is mainly due to the lack of proper conditions, i.e insufficient seedbed moisture in the North-center of Cordoba and part of the NE region. Also the West and Center of Buenos Aires present agronomic limitations, since there is excess of moisture and flooding in some cases, hampering appropriate implantation and later emergence. In addition to these obstacles, the overall situation surrounding the crop is contributing to the slow incorporation of wheat plots. Nevertheless, recent news in the commerce field may impact the seeding of the crop.

The NW region finished planting the crop during the past week. The NE region is still one week away from the incorporation of plots, while producers would rather reduce the wheat surface and destine the plots for sunflower or soybean, encouraged by the current margins from these two alternatives. Toward the North-center of Cordoba nearly 50 % of the area has been covered, and it is only a few weeks until resuming the seeding. This slowdown in the incorporation of plots is chiefly due to insufficient soil moisture in the north of the region. Over the main wheat-producing area (south of Buenos Aires) filedwork progresses at a slow pace, due to the cereal commercial framework uncertainty. This area has still a long seeding window, which makes the definition of a seeding area a bit uncertain. Under these circumstances we maintain our planted area estimate at **3.8 M Hectares** of wheat nationally.

## SOYBEAN

After the harvest of 98.6% of the suitable area, the national average yield receded again to finish at 2.19Tn/ha. The partial accrued volume now exceeds 39.3MTn, and once as much as 1.4% of the remaining surface has been collected, the current season is expected to finish with a national harvest overall of **39,9 Mtons**. Only 250,000 HAS remain to be collected, and a 90 % of this area concentrates in the province of Buenos Aires, where by the same time in previous cycles the harvest was already finished. This significant delay in the Buenos Aires region is due to the abundant rains accumulated during the Fall season, which have caused hydric excess and reduction of soil during the last 30 days. Meanwhile, during the last seven days collection has finished in the NE and South belt regions, reaching yield averages of 0.94 Tn/ha and 2.57Tn/ha respectively, and reporting individual drops of -62% and -22% from the production reached at the close of the previous campaign (NE 2.45 Tn/ha 2010/11 and South belt 3.28 Tn/ha 2010/11). As reported by this annual comparison, the fall of the regional average yield is much more significant over the NE region than in the South belt, which is due to the strong thermo-hydric impact on the provinces of Chaco and Santiago del Estero during February and March. Finally the harvest advanced by 1.8 percentage points from our previous issue, and it is expected to gain continuity in the next few days, since low precipitation levels are expected over most of the national AG area within the next seven days.

## SOYBEAN HARVEST

2011/12 SEASON

As of: Jun. 21, 2012

Zone	Hectareage (ha)			Percentage harvested	Hectares harvested	Yeld (1) (qq/ha)	Production (Tn)	
	Sown	Lost	Harvestable					
I	NOA	1.260.000	25.000	1.235.000	99,0	1.222.862	15,1	1.851.995
II	NEA	1.930.000	350.000	1.580.000	100,0	1.580.000	9,4	1.480.220
III	Ctro N Cba	2.330.000	21.200	2.308.800	100,0	2.308.800	20,5	4.729.225
IV	S Cba	1.400.000	41.000	1.359.000	100,0	1.359.000	15,5	2.101.250
V	Ctro N SFe	1.116.000	7.500	1.108.500	99,5	1.102.703	21,4	2.355.646
VI	Núcleo Norte	3.410.000	1.000	3.409.000	100,0	3.409.000	28,1	9.574.235
VII	Núcleo Sur	2.670.000	16.000	2.654.000	100,0	2.654.000	25,7	6.812.862
VIII	Ctro E ER	1.140.000	2.000	1.138.000	100,0	1.138.000	21,2	2.414.456
IX	N LP-OBA	1.550.000	110.000	1.440.000	96,6	1.390.875	28,8	4.005.406
X	Ctro BA	565.000	67.000	498.000	92,4	459.990	27,6	1.270.074
XI	SO BA-S LP	328.000	11.000	317.000	93,9	297.809	20,2	600.627
XII	SE BA	740.000	1.800	738.200	83,0	612.709	22,3	1.368.578
XIII	SL	137.000	4.000	133.000	100,0	133.000	13,0	172.508
XIV	Cuenca Sal	222.000	1.500	220.500	96,5	212.774	22,2	471.310
XV	Others	52.000	1.000	51.000	100,0	51.000	19,4	99.055
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>18.850.000</b>	<b>660.000</b>	<b>18.190.000</b>	<b>98,6</b>	<b>17.932.522</b>	<b>21,9</b>	<b>39.307.447</b>

## CORN

In the last seven days the threshing of commercial corn has reported progress of 4.6 percentage points. Likewise the annual delay has been reduced by 1 percentage point to finish this week at -12.2 points. The harvest of the crop is slow in comparison to the previous cycle, and this is mainly due to a larger number of late and second implanted plots, which are now at their physiological maturity stage and losing grain moisture. Overall, a little more than 2.5 million hectares were collected (72% of surface). Also, there is report of an increase in the national average yield as the combine harvesters advance over the late plots in the North-center and South of Cordoba, the East-center of Entre Rios, West of Buenos Aires, and in the North and South Belts, where plots productivity per hectare ranges from good to very good, as opposed to the yields of corn planted on earlier dates.

Up to date, the in-farm accrued volume exceeds 12.4 M tons. There is still 1 million hectares to be collected, sitting mostly in the NW and NE areas, Cordoba and West-center of Buenos Aires, which will surely finish threshing during the month of August. Under these circumstances we maintain our estimated production estimate at **19,3M Tons** for the current cycle.

# CORN HARVEST

2011/12 SEASON

As of: Jun. 21, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (ha)			Percentage harvested	Hectares harvested	Yeld (1) (qq/ha)	Production (Tn)
		Sown	Lost	Harvestable				
I	NOA	255.000	15.000	240.000	39	92.710	46,6	431.587
II	NEA	270.000	20.000	250.000	44	108.925	41,3	450.030
III	Ctro N Cba	475.000	16.000	459.000	61	280.875	56,6	1.589.839
IV	S Cba	500.000	67.500	432.500	75	325.625	35,3	1.148.320
V	Ctro N SFe	160.000	28.000	132.000	71	93.600	48,2	451.025
VI	Núcleo Norte	527.000	14.500	512.500	98	503.225	60,5	3.044.050
VII	Núcleo Sur	460.000	40.500	419.500	95	399.816	47,7	1.907.840
VIII	Ctro E ER	165.000	20.000	145.000	93	134.160	47,0	631.102
IX	N LP-OBA	535.000	69.000	466.000	66	308.000	49,1	1.512.435
X	Ctro BA	136.000	30.000	106.000	53	56.488	48,3	272.798
XI	SO BA-S LP	107.000	22.000	85.000	38	32.518	36,1	117.494
XII	SE BA	85.000	3.500	81.500	56	45.840	63,0	288.605
XIII	SL	115.000	15.000	100.000	78	78.265	41,3	323.123
XIV	Cuenca Sal	60.000	4.000	56.000	96	53.850	40,7	219.168
XV	Others	20.000	0	20.000	50	10.000	47,4	47.400
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3.870.000</b>	<b>365.000</b>	<b>3.505.000</b>	<b>72,0</b>	<b>2.523.896</b>	<b>49,3</b>	<b>12.434.816</b>

## GRAIN SORGHUM

Favorable weather during the last two weeks has fostered harvest progress. Within this period there was a marked progress of 14.9 percentage points; therefore, 76.5 % of the planted area has been collected so far. The overall accumulated production is around 3.2 M TN. Forecasts predict dry and cold weather for next week, so the harvest is expected to advance without interruption. The productive belts of the SW of Buenos Aires and South of La Pampa have posted strong harvest progress, with varying yields ranging from 1,5 to 3,8 Tn/ha. The NE region reports a harvest progress of 70 %, with varying and regular yields, since the summer crop plantings have suffered droughts in this area. Under these conditions we maintain our production estimate at **4.3 M TN**.

# GRAIN SORGHUM HARVEST

2011/12 SEASON

As of: Jun. 21, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (ha)			Percentage harvested	Hectares harvested	Yeld (1) (qq/ha)	Production (Tm)
		Sown	Lost	Harvestable				
I	NOA	22.572	2.257	20.315	72	14.627	31	45.343
II	NEA	216.281	25.954	190.327	70	133.229	28	373.041
III	Ctro N Cba	129.960	12.996	116.964	91	106.437	49	521.542
IV	S Cba	42.408	6.361	36.047	68	24.512	50	122.559
V	Ctro N SFe	195.552	25.422	170.130	90	153.117	41	627.781
VI	Núcleo Norte	51.546	4.124	47.422	99	46.948	61	286.383
VII	Núcleo Sur	24.067	722	23.345	87	20.310	60	121.861
VIII	Ctro E ER	120.059	10.500	109.559	91	99.699	50	498.493
IX	N LP-OBA	45.936	8.728	37.208	58	21.581	52	112.220
X	Ctro BA	8.894	1.067	7.827	45	3.522	45	15.849
XI	SO BA-S LP	134.992	24.299	110.693	42	46.491	32	148.772
XII	SE BA	6.435	322	6.113	35	2.140	44	9.414
XIII	SL	52.326	2.616	49.710	74	36.785	42	154.498
XIV	Cuenca Sal	28.500	570	27.930	70	19.551	50	97.755
XV	Others	20.859	417	20.442	80	16.353	39	63.778
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1.100.387</b>	<b>126.354</b>	<b>974.033</b>	<b>76,5</b>	<b>745.302</b>	<b>42,9</b>	<b>3.199.291</b>