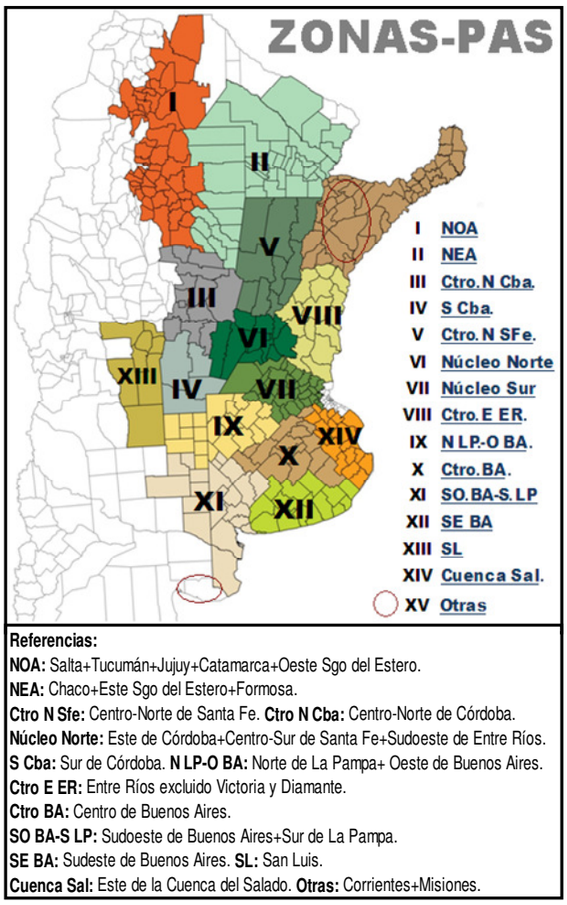
Weekly Ag Report

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE



Referencias:
NOA: Salta+Tucumán+Jujuy+Catamarca+Oeste Sgo del Estero.
NEA: Chaco+Este Sgo del Estero+Formosa.
Ctro N Sfe: Centro-Norte de Santa Fe. **Ctro N Cba:** Centro-Norte de Córdoba.
Núcleo Norte: Este de Córdoba+Centro-Sur de Santa Fe+Sudoeste de Entre Ríos.
S Cba: Sur de Córdoba. **N LP-O BA:** Norte de La Pampa+ Oeste de Buenos Aires.
Ctro E ER: Entre Ríos excluido Victoria y Diamante.
Ctro BA: Centro de Buenos Aires.
SO BA-S LP: Sudoeste de Buenos Aires+Sur de La Pampa.
SE BA: Sudeste de Buenos Aires. **SL:** San Luis.
Cuenca Sal: Este de la Cuenca del Salado. **Otras:** Corrientes+Misiones.

WEEK ENDED ON Oct. 17, 2013

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

WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAINS EXCHANGE

October, 17 2013

AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: OCTOBER 17 TO 23, 2013: HOT WEATHER AND PRECIPITATIONS OF VARYING INTENSITY FOLLOWED BY A SHARP TEMPERATURE DROP.

OUTLOOK SUMMARY

At the beginning of the current weather outlook, the presence of northerly winds will raise temperatures above normal over most of the agricultural area. Precipitations of varied intensity will be reported in the East while the Center and West will observe scarce values. Towards the end of the perspective, the passage of a storm front will clear the atmosphere leading to a moderate drop in temperatures. Frosts are likely to be reported in the far southeast part of the agricultural area.

WHEAT

The harvest of wheat 2013/14 has initiated, with isolated plots collected in the mid-north of Santa Fe, precisely in the surroundings of Villa Ocampo. Due to the severe drought and the high impact of low temperatures on late dates, the yields obtained are rather heterogeneous (0.4 to 2.0 TN/HA). Nevertheless, the surface collected is insignificant, and we will have to wait until the harvest is well under way to quantify the negative impact of the environmental conditions suffered by the crop.

Regions such as the NW and NE areas are a few days away from initiating the harvest, since some of the plots are nearing the end of their cycle.

Towards the south of the agricultural region, which is a major wheat Belt and concentrates more than 50 % of the crop surface, the framework is very different. This is due to the high availability of water on the plots since the start of the sowing; they are now passing through full stem elongation in very good conditions. Moreover, an optimal sanitary condition was reported in the regions under analysis, and due to high precipitations they were able to re-fertilize the plots in order to keep up the high yield potentials.

In the center of the agricultural region, some areas such as the west and north of Buenos Aires were able to revert the water deficit thanks to the precipitations accumulated during the last few weeks. Conversely, in the center and south of Santa Fe and part of the south of Cordoba, the crop did not offset the water stress it suffered during the vegetative phase, whereby the yield drop will be higher.

Upon this scenario, bearing in mind that the wheat belts are evolving positively, and most of the center of the agricultural region was able to offset water stress, we maintain our production estimation of 10,350,000 tons for the current season. If such volume is obtained, the Y-O-Y increase will be of 17.6 %.

WHEAT PLANTING				As of:	Oct. 17, 2013
2013/14 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Porcentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
Zone		2012/13	2013/14		
I	NOA	340.000	50.000	100,0	50.000
II	NEA	160.000	140.000	100,0	140.000
III	Ctro N Cba	265.000	320.000	100,0	320.000
IV	S Cba	130.000	156.000	100,0	156.000
V	Ctro N SFe	160.000	192.000	100,0	192.000
VI	Núcleo Norte	265.000	315.000	100,0	315.000
VII	Núcleo Sur	240.000	280.000	100,0	280.000
VIII	Ctro E ER	150.000	180.000	100,0	180.000
IX	N LP-OBA	260.000	300.000	100,0	300.000
X	Ctro BA	140.000	165.000	100,0	165.000
XI	SO BA-S LP	650.000	800.000	100,0	800.000
XII	SE BA	550.000	650.000	100,0	650.000
XIII	SL	3.000	4.000	100,0	4.000
XIV	Cuenca Sal	50.000	60.000	100,0	60.000
XV	Otras	7.000	8.000	100,0	8.000
	TOTAL	3.370.000	3.620.000	100,0	3.620.000

SUNFLOWER

The rains registered since our last post have partially relieved the water deficit in sectors of the west margin of the agricultural region, and they allowed for resuming the sowing at a good pace. For this reason, the incorporation of plots has increased by a 4% nationwide in the last seven days, thus expanding the sown area to 33.2 % of a surface estimated in 1,630,000 hectares for the ongoing season, and reducing the YOY gap to a -4.5 %.

In the mid-north of Santa Fe, the rainfalls observed last weekend reactivated the late sowing in several areas of the south and east of the region. The plots incorporated over the west margin (Ceres, Tostado and Villa Minetti) are starting to show the first pair of leaves under water deficit conditions.

Towards the north, in the NE area, the rains of last weekend continue to relieve the water deficit in parts of Chaco and the east of Santiago del Estero.

Finally, over the sunflower Belt area of the SE of Buenos Aires, the weekly assessment continues to reveal a slight YOY drop of surface, which is on occasions buffered by a small increase of the area dedicated to high oil type materials.

SUNFLOWER PLANTING				As of: Oct. 17, 2013	
2013/14 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Porcentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
	Zone	2012/13	2013/14		
I	NOA	-	-	-	-
II	NEA	370.000	230.000	100,0	230.000
III	Ctro N Cba	3.000	3.000	25,0	750
IV	S Cba	22.000	22.000	10,0	2.200
V	Ctro N SFe	195.000	150.000	97,0	145.500
VI	Núcleo Norte	7.500	7.000	35,0	2.450
VII	Núcleo Sur	7.000	9.000	21,0	1.890
VIII	Ctro E ER	9.500	5.000	30,0	1.500
IX	N LP-OBA	115.000	130.000	15,0	19.500
X	Ctro BA	27.000	45.000	25,0	11.250
XI	SO BA-S LP	460.000	480.000	7,0	33.600
XII	SE BA	475.000	440.000	15,0	66.000
XIII	SL	32.000	30.000	20,0	6.000
XIV	Cuenca Sal	73.000	75.000	25,0	18.750
XV	Otras	4.000	4.000	45,0	1.800
	TOTAL	**1.800.000**	**1.630.000**	**33,2**	**541.190**

CORN

The sowing of commercial corn continues to be delayed. Although there were rains in areas with a significant water deficit, the soils have not quite recovered moisture so as to guarantee the producers a proper planting of the crop.

So far, 18.5 % was planted out of an area estimated in 3,460,000 hectares for the ongoing season. In the last week there was a progress report of 4.9 percentile points, and a YOY decrease of -13.3 %.

The areas with the most significant sowing delays are Córdoba, the west of Buenos Aires, and the two Belt regions. In addition, this season is reporting the highest percentage of late sowings in its history. During the last few years, the late and early sowings were distributed in an 80/20 ratio respectively. This ratio is expected to tip even more towards late sowings this season, which is still in its early stages. Therefore, the new ratio will be adjusted to 60/40, leveraged by the absence of rains during the months of winter and beginning of the spring.

In the North Belt, the rains were heterogeneous, failing to offset the water deficit in the region. The situation is similar in the South Belt, where producers have not finished the covering tasks with early sowing materials.

Finally, the north of La Pampa-west of Buenos Aires continue to sow the crop taking advantage of the last days of the optimal sowing window, before deciding to transfer the remaining area to late dates of December. The same is observed in the center of Buenos Aires, where the sowing intentions are improving, and soil moisture is available.

CORN PLANTING				As of: Oct. 17, 2013	
2013/14 Season		Hectareage (Ha)		Porcentage	Hectares
Zonas		2012/13	2013/14	planted (%)	planted
I	NOA	265.000	238.500	0,4	954
II	NEA	285.000	296.400	0,7	2.075
III	Ctro N Cba	450.000	459.000	2,0	9.180
IV	S Cba	456.000	424.000	7,0	29.680
V	Ctro N SFe	147.000	141.100	27,5	38.803
VI	Núcleo Norte	459.000	408.500	30,0	122.550
VII	Núcleo Sur	410.000	348.500	41,3	143.756
VIII	Ctro E ER	151.000	151.000	52,3	78.898
IX	N LP-OBA	416.000	374.400	22,0	82.368
X	Ctro BA	225.000	218.300	41,3	90.049
XI	SO BA-S LP	107.000	105.900	7,5	7.943
XII	SE BA	94.000	94.000	4,3	3.995
XIII	SL	137.000	130.100	5,9	7.611
XIV	Cuenca Sal	57.000	51.300	29,8	15.262
XV	Otras	19.000	19.000	40,0	7.600
TOTAL		3.678.000	3.460.000	18,5	640.722

BARLEY

New rainfalls accumulated during the last fifteen days (20 to 50 mm) over the center, south and east of the province of Buenos Aires, maintain the barley crop in very good conditions. On the other hand, a great percentage of the plots have been re-fertilized in order to increase the potential of the crop. These regions combined harbor more than 80 % out of 1,270,000 hectares planted nationwide, and if there are no adverse climatic factors, such as late frosts, they expect good-to-very good productivities in the south of the agricultural region.

Other relevant areas, such as the South Belt and north of La Pampa-west of Buenos Aires, have gone through their initial stages with scarce moisture availability; nevertheless, the last few weeks have accumulated rains that allowed for offsetting the water stress that affected the crop.

Buenos Aires, October 17, 2013 ***Buenos Aires Grains Exchange***