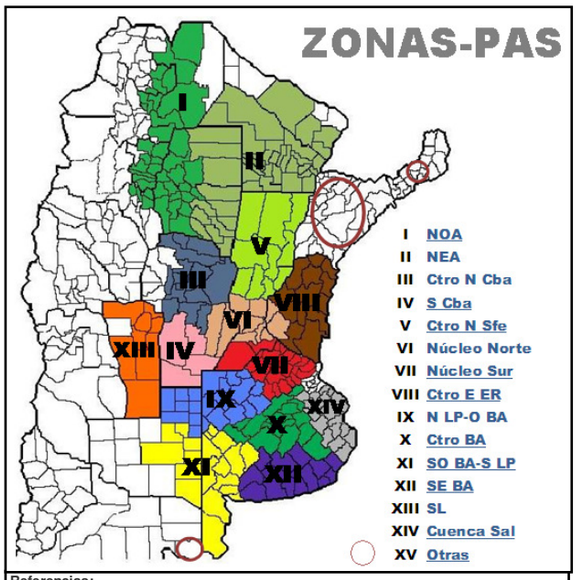
Weekly Ag Report

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.
Núcleo Sur: Sur de Santa Fe+Norte de Buenos Aires
S Cba. N LP-O BA: Norte de La Pampa+Oeste de Buenos Aires.
Ctro E ER: Entre Rios excluída 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
Otras: San Luis+Depresión del Salado+Corrientes+Misiones

WEEK ENDED ON Oct.18, 2012

CROP REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS

Estimations and Agricultural Projections Department
Buenos Aires Grain Exchange

WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAINS EXCHANGE

October 18, 2012

OUTLOOK SUMMARY

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: OCTOBER 18 TO 25, 2012
THERMAL OSCILLATION AND GENERALIZED PRECIPITATIONS

The current perspective begins with scattered rainfalls, followed by southerly winds and a subsequent drop in temperatures. Tropical winds will soon raise temperatures above average for this time of year. Towards the end of the first part of the perspective, the entrance of a Pampero front will bring precipitations of varied intensity: NOA, Paraguay, the northeast-end of the Pampeana region, the north of Mesopotamia and the north of Uruguay will observe abundant /very abundant precipitations (25 to over 100 mm), with severe local storms and likelihood of hail, winds and showers. The east of Cuyo, The northeast of La Pampa and most of Buenos Aires will observe moderate to abundant precipitations (10 to 50), with the possibility of local storms. The rest of the area will observe moderate to scarce rainfalls (less than 25mm).

Buenos Aires, September 20, 2012 ***Buenos Aires Grains Exchange***

WHEAT

Rainfalls over the last seven days have continued to overflood soil cultivations in the vast majority of the agricultural zone. Such being the scenario, La Pampa and Córdoba maintain optimum water conditions so far to date, with current chances of reaching high yield potentials.

However, on the East end of the country, the same rains have brought about problems in areas of Buenos Aires province which, after a brief pause in rains, has started to accumulate hydro excesses in vast areas of the central and western region. Despite that, wheat-producing nucleouses located in the Southeast and Southwestern area of the province of Buenos Aires, where 40% of the national surface has been planted during the present cycle, have not registered significant grain losses as a result of accumulated rains during the cultivation cycle.

In the Northern region of the country, planted grains have reached physiological maturity and the harvest is getting increasingly fluid in such region, where, average yield is close to 0.9 Tn/ha, after a collection that has been slighlty below 20% of the suitable surface. The neighbouring Northeast reagion shows a more modest trillage advance, but with a better average yield (1.7 Tn/ha), thanks to the hydro recovery registered during the critical cultivation phase, in terms of need for water .....Middle-Northern Santa Fe has also registered the first harvesting progresses in its eastern dome, reaching an average yield of 2.0 Tn/ha.

It should be worth pointing out that, given the humidity conditions prevailing in a considerable part of the southern and central agricultural zone, more fungic deseases have been revealed, such as rost pests and foliar spots, coupled with some other problems related to insects with bedbugs and plants lice. Given this condition and the state of cultvitatio in the different agricultual regions under analysis, our projection for national production remains at 10,120,000 tons for the ongoing seeding period.

CORN

Corn seeding with commercial purposes has slowed down due to the constant rainfalls throughout most of the national agricultural zone. However, over the last seven days a 6.9-percentage-point progress was registered, thus showing an interannual decrease of 11 points. Thus, the national coverage progress made is 31.8% of the surface that has been estimated to cover 3,400,000 hectares for the ongoing seeding period.

Those zones that have been most seriously affected by rainfalls are on the east end of the national area (Eastern Santa Fe, Middle-East Entre Ríos), as well as the Northern Nucleous, Middle-Northern Córdoba and La Pampa, where average milimiters of accumulated water are above 120 mm, reaching peaks of 300 mm, and where excess soil moisture hinders fildwork.

Additionally, problems are still coming up with early-seeded lots, which have now been negatively influenced by the high volumes of water. These excessive levels of water pose problems for plant stands, to such an extent that some plots might even be seeded again.

Regarding plagues, the attack of cutworm (isocas) is now beginning to worry producers. Similar conditions can be observed in Southern Córdoba, where isocas and bedbugs are the two plagues that are increasingly affecting cultivations.

CORN PLANTING

2012/13 SEASON

As Of: Oct. 18, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (ha)		Percentage	Hectares
		2011/12	2012/13	Planted (%)	Planted
I	NOA	255.000	255.000	0,0	-
II	NEA	270.000	256.500	4,6	11.671
III	Ctro N Cba	475.000	427.500	9,0	38.475
IV	S Cba	500.000	415.000	22,0	91.300
V	Ctro N SFe	160.000	147.000	58,8	86.436
VI	Núcleo Norte	527.000	432.000	75,7	326.808
VII	Núcleo Sur	460.000	363.000	63,8	231.413
VIII	Ctro E ER	165.000	151.000	66,5	100.415
IX	N LP-OBA	535.000	454.000	29,0	131.660
X	Ctro BA	136.000	122.000	20,0	24.400
XI	SO BA-S LP	107.000	107.000	6,0	6.420
XII	SE BA	85.000	89.000	12,8	11.348
XIII	SL	115.000	105.000	6,7	7.056
XIV	Cuenca Sal	60.000	57.000	18,7	10.659
XV	Otras	20.000	19.000	8,0	1.520
	TOTAL	3.870.000	3.400.000	31,8	1.079.580

SUNFLOWER

Rainfalls registered over a great fraction of Buenos Aires and La Pampa have delayed planting. However, a 4.3 percent progress has been registered in the last seven days, thus reaching 37.7% out of 2,000,000 hectares that had been estimated for 2012/13 seeding period. In terms of absolute numbers, some 750 thousand hectares were seeded at a national level. The inter-annual seeding progress remains firm, in the region of 6.4 point for this week.

In the Northern region of the country (Chaco and Santiago del Estero) early planted grains going through healthy reproductive stages can be observed. The remaining seeded surface by the end of August puts an end to the vegetative phase.

In the Northern area of the province of Buenos Aires and Northern La Pampa seeding began some days ago, though the cultivation intention for this grain is low. Damages produced by pigeons over the last periods, coupled with water excesses in a vast part of this zone, have taken their toll on the producer's seeding intention for oil-seed products.

SUNFLOWER PLANTING

2012/13 Season

As Of: Oct. 18, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (he)		Percentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
		2011/12	2012/13		
II	NEA	270.000	370.000	100,0	370.000
III	Ctro N Cba	3.000	3.000	45,0	1.350
IV	S Cba	22.500	22.000	15,0	3.300
V	Ctro N SFe	175.000	195.000	100,0	195.000
VI	Núcleo Norte	7.500	7.500	43,0	3.225
VII	Núcleo Sur	7.000	7.000	29,0	2.030
VIII	Ctro E ER	10.000	11.500	37,0	4.255
IX	N LP-OBA	185.000	178.000	21,0	37.380
X	Ctro BA	46.000	49.000	18,0	8.820
XI	SO BA-S LP	465.000	478.000	10,0	47.800
XII	SE BA	550.000	557.000	9,0	50.130
XIII	SL	37.000	37.000	19,0	7.030
XIV	Cuenca Sal	78.000	81.000	27,0	21.870
XV	Otras	4.000	4.000	55,0	2.200
	TOTAL	1.860.000	2.000.000	37,7	754.390

MALTING BARLEY

The recent precipitations reported over most of Buenos Aires, La Pampa, southern Córdoba, south-central Santa Fe and Entre Rios have fostered the good development of crops. Due to the good soil moisture conditions during planting, producers expect high yields, in some cases even higher than the historical average. Many plots, however, have reported diseases, especially net blotch (**Drechslera tere) Producers are applying the necessary fungicides, in order to prevent potential yield losses.**

The excessive precipitations reported during August led to area losses in most of Buenos Aires. Besides, the low temperatures reported over the last two weeks have delayed the normal development of crops. Those crops in the north and south of the main barley-producing areas are going through their grain-filling stage reporting good/very good conditions. We estimate yields above 4-4,5 TN/ha. Under good weather conditions, harvest could begin during early or mid-November.