

Date: 8.11.14

Loewen and Associates

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Morning Ag Markets Matt Hines

Limit down for cattle 2 days in a row was not a good way to end last week. Most of the week cattle futures were steady to mixed with higher cash prices paid for calves and feeders early in the week and prices remained steady at least throughout. The Russian ban on all food imports from the U.S. could have started the fire sell to the end the week but Russia has purchased little to no beef from the U.S. since 2012 and they rank as our 23rd best food customer. Overall, Russia imports 40% of its total food supply. Packers saved quite a bit last week paying \$3 to \$6 lower than the week previous. Bids surfaced by Thursday morning and continued to fade through the end of the week.

For the week, August live cattle -\$4.75, August feeders -\$4.95 and August lean hogs -\$3.80.

Cattle slaughter from Friday estimated at 114,000 head, even with a week ago but down 7,000 from a year ago. For the week, 573,000 head, down 1,000 from the week previous and down 55,000 from a year ago. Our year to date difference out to 7.0% less now.

Boxed beef cutouts sharply lower on very light demand

Choice Cutout__260.45 -1.96

Select Cutout 253.00 -2.26

Feeder Index:___222.33 -1.61

Hog slaughter from Friday estimated at only 345,000, up 82,000 from a week ago but down 34,000 from a year ago. For the week, 1,919,000 head, up 52,000 from the week previous but down 106,000 from a year ago. Year to date difference remains at 4.8% less.

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Lean Index.__120.99 -1.23
Pork carcass cutout___124.99 -1.43
IA-S.MN direct avg__114.32 -.45
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Opening calls this morning are mixed to lower for cattle and hog futures. The charts took a nasty hit last week along with cash prices and cutout values. This slide could well continue this week with more long liquidation. Early offers in the cattle pits are limit lower.

Back and forth in the grain pits, extended forecasts continue to control the corn and soybean markets. Friday though soybeans charged ahead led by commercials buying the August contract while in delivery and quite a bit of spread activity in the both the soybean and meal pits. Wheat was on a roll for the first half of the week and lost 20 to 30 cents the last 2 days. Crop quality in Europe along with the Ukraine/Russia situation will continue to impact the wheat futures.

For the week, September corn finished - ¾, December +1 ¼, August soybeans +69 ¾, November +26 ¼, September KC wheat -3, September Chicago wheat +15

Overnight grains were mixed, corn crawled back in the green finishing up 1 while wheat could not and finished 1 to 4 lower in all three pits. Soybeans continue the tale of two crops, old crop up 12 and new crop down 1.

The NASS production estimates along with S&D's and World S&Ds will be issued in the Aug crop report Tues mid-morning. The following survey estimates were provided by Bloomberg News

	U.S. Production		Prior USDA	Forecasts
	Average	Range	2014	2013
Corn	14.250	13.936-14,612	13.860	13.925
Corn Yield	170.2	168.0-173.9	165.3	158.8
Soybeans	3.815	3.582-3.951	3.800	3.289
Soybean Yield	45.5	42.8-47.0	45.2	43.3
	Wheat Production		USDA Estimates	
	Average	Range	2014	2013
All U.S. Wheat	2,015	1,988-2,068	1,992	2,130
All Winter Wheat	1,372	1,320-1,413	1,367	1,534
Spring Wheat	581	566-634	565	534
Durum Wheat	60	53-65	60	62

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Corn Soybeans Wheat	Average 2,034	1,777-2,492 200-522	USDA July Forecast 1,801	
	US 2013-14 Average	Ending Socks Est	imates Previous USDA	
Corn		1,196-1,300		
Soybeans		125-145	140	
	World 2014-15 Ending Stocks Estimates			
	Average	Range	July 11 USDA	
Corn	192.43	186.7-201.00	188.05	
Soybeans	85.80	82.00-88.75	85.31	
Wheat	190.81	187.50-195.40	189.54	
	World 2013-14 Ending Stocks Estimates Average Range Previous USDA			
Corn	Average	173.00-175.00		
Soybeans		67.00-68.00		
DOYDCAIIS	07.27	07.00 00.00	07.21	

USDA announced this morning more new crop soybeans to China, 168,000 MT.

Weather continues to look beneficial for fall crops with normal temperatures for most of the Corn Belt, some above normal forecasted for the North, and decent rain coverage especially for the middle of August.

Crop conditions released later today could show improvement in the soybean crop which would be bearish to prices come Tuesday morning but don't expect much of a break either direction until after the supply and demand report at 11.

December corn still holding support at \$3.60 with resistance at \$3.77. November soybeans have support at \$10.54 with resistance at \$11.07 with a decent uptrending line from last week's trade. September KC wheat is holding onto a low so far at \$6.11 with resistance right around \$6.60.

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