Tennessee Market Highlights

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE June 11, 2021

Number: 23

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

steady to \$3 higher

Slaughter Bulls

steady to \$4 higher

Feeder Steers

steady

Feeder Heifers

steady

Feeder Cattle Index: 139.91

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$120.02 was up \$0.13. The dressed price of \$190.66 was down \$0.07.

Corn

July closed at \$6.99 a bushel, up 17 cents since last Friday.

<u>Soybeans</u>

July closed at \$15.44 a bushel, down 39 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

July closed at \$6.82 a bushel, down 5 cents since last Friday.

<u>Cotton</u>

July closed at 87.2 cents per lb, up 1.4 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded steady compared to last week on a live basis. Prices on a live basis were primarily \$119 to \$120 while dressed prices were mostly \$189 to \$191.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$120.02 live, up \$0.13 compared to last week and \$190.66 dressed, down \$0.07 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$104.84 live and \$166.65 dressed.

Finished cattle prices are stuck in a positive rut for this time of year. Week after week of steady prices is a good sign for cattle feeders, especially when prices would seasonally be declining. It has been said many times that prices can do one of three things, increase, decrease, or stay the same. Staying the same seems to be the bet that people should put their money on. The take away from this steady trade is that third and fourth quarter prices are shaping up to be fairly strong if prices seasonally increase going into the fourth quarter. The real question is if cattle feeders are gaining leverage or if packers are simply attempting to appease the masses since they are making large profit margins.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$337.77 down \$0.48 from Thursday and down \$1.73 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$305.51 down \$4.89 from Thursday and down \$7.49 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$32.26 compared to \$26.50 a week ago.

The Choice boxed beef price increased for 11 consecutive weeks moving from about \$228 to \$338. This week will mark the first week-over-week price decline and will likely mark the beginning of a slow summer price decline. There is no way to know how quickly and how much prices will decline. Some analysts think boxed beef prices will decline rapidly, but the price of boxed beef is likely to decline at a similar rate to the price increase. Thus, a person may have to decide for themselves if prices increased rapidly or not. Some concern is that domestic demand will take a hit with high retail prices of beef and that may be coupled with softer international demand. However, the demand side of beef appears to be solid, which is why prices are expected to decline over the next two to three months. Summer grilling and more restaurant business is expected to be a supporter of prices and thus moderating the speed of price decline. Regardless of the situation, packer margins will narrow, but they will continue to be largely positive.

OUTLOOK: Based on Tennessee weekly auction market data, steer and heifer prices were mostly steady compared to last week. Slaughter cow prices were steady to \$3 higher while bull prices were steady to \$4 higher compared to the previous week. Week to week variation in cattle prices is generally influenced by both the actual market price moving and the quality of cattle moving through the market. It is difficult to know which one had more influence on price changes from one week to the next without seeing the cattle. However, market reporters will often make a statement on the report to indicate if the quality of cattle was not up to its usual standard or if there were a higher percentage of high quality cattle going through the specific sale. This is valuable information when evaluating price changes from one week to the next. It also can help individual producers have a better idea of the true value of the cattle they have at home. The point is that many factors influence cattle prices and market reporters do their best to provide a good description of the cattle that were traded that week. People using USDA reports should read the commentary

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

provided in a report to better understand the prices presented in the report. With that said, feeder cattle futures technically represent the same quality animal every day, which means the price should be based on expected supply and demand. The market has again come under some pressure with part of the pressure stemming from strong corn prices. The futures market appears to be filled with uncertainty as uncertainty abounds in the feed market, consumer beef demand, and future supply of cattle. It is unlikely the volatility in the market will cease anytime soon, which means cattle producers will most likely have to market cattle into the uncertain market. It is important to keep an eye on prices each week to determine when a good time to market cattle will present itself.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: This week has been the week of questions from the media. The topics included high feed costs impact on producer decision making, marketing cattle through video sales, and the ongoing debate about packers, feedlots, and negotiated trade, but it would be prudent to briefly discuss the impact high feed prices are having on producers. Higher feed prices influence decision making from the cow-calf producer through the feedlot. However, those who feed a higher percentage of purchased feeds are impacted more than those with greater percentages of grazed forage. Specifically, a person who backgrounds cattle with purchased feed will likely feed less feed when prices increase and may even keep cattle a shorter time if grazed forage is a large portion of the diet. This means the cattle will likely be marketed at a lighter weight than is typical. Another thought is that stocker producers who graze cattle and supplement may simply purchase fewer cattle to stretch the grass further since they will likely feed less purchased feed. What changes will you make?

Please send questions and comments to <u>agriff14@utk.edu</u> or send a letter to Andrew P. Griffith, University of Tennessee, P.O. Box 160, 1000 Main Entrance Dr., Spring Hill, TN 37174.

FRIDAY'S FUTURES MARKET CLOSING PRICES: Friday's closing prices were as follows: Live/fed cattle –June \$118.70 +1.13; August \$120.03 +1.48; October \$125.78 +1.58; Feeder cattle – August \$151.18 +2.78; September \$153.53 +2.63; October \$155.48 +2.35; November \$157.15 +2.25; July corn closed at \$6.85 down 15 cents from Thursday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

Corn and cotton were up; soybeans were mixed; and wheat was down for the week.

Harvest futures prices for corn and soybeans are near contract highs. A valid argument (weather, exports, low US ending stocks, and strong domestic demand) can be made for prices to continue close to these levels as we move through the summer and into the fall. However, everyone in

	Previous	Current	Change
USD Index	90.15	90.07	-0.07
Crude Oil	69.49	70.1	0.61
DЛA	34,754	34,466	-288

agriculture knows how quickly prices can change. Last year at this time prices were abysmal, due to expected weak global demand, strong forecasted global production, and abundant stocks. Very few expected the tremendous rally that has been experienced in the last nine months.

Dramatic price corrections occur in both directions, so producers may want to consider some cheap protection in the futures market by purchasing out-of-the money put options. For example, a producer can purchase a \$12 November soybean put option for 6 cents. This sets an \$11.94 futures floor and allows the producer to benefit if the futures market continues to rally. To be clear, it seems very unlikely that prices will retreat to \$12 in the next four months, but if setting a futures price floor provides peace of mind then it may be well worth it.

The wheat marketing year came to an end on May 31 and accumulated exports for the season were reported at 911.5 million bushels, less than 1% below the previous marketing year total. Wheat exports have benefitted from increased global demand for feed grains, primarily from China. One factor that has potentially limited wheat exports is reduced US acres designated to wheat. In recent years, US wheat acreage has been near historic lows as farmers have planted corn and soybeans in favor of spring planted wheat. USDA NASS estimated 2021 wheat planted acres at 46.4 million acres compared to 62.5 million acres planted in 2000.

December cotton futures have rallied close to the contract high of 89.28 on February 25 and now appear poised to break the 90 cent barrier for the harvest contract. The June acreage report will provide information on the number of acres of cotton planted (Continued on page 3)

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

nationally and has the potential to move markets up or down. Currently, there is the expectation for a reduction of the March 31 Prospective Plantings report estimate of 11.894 million acres of upland cotton.

Futures prices below are as of Thursday June 10, 2021.

Corn

Ethanol production for the week ending June 4 was 1.067 million barrels per day, up 33,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 19.960 million barrels, up 0.372 million barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for May 28-June 3, 2021 were down compared to last week with net sales of 7.5 million bushels for the 2020/21 marketing year and 1.0 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same time period were down 23% from last week at 64.8 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 111% of the USDA estimated total exports for the 2020/21 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 97%. Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) weakened or remained unchanged at West, North-Central, West-Central, Mississippi River, and Northwest elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 15 over to 50 over, with an average of 30 over the July futures at elevators and barge points. July 2021 corn futures closed at \$6.99, up 17 cents since last Friday. For the week, July 2021 corn futures traded between \$6.69 and \$7.17. Jul/Sep and Jul/Dec future spreads were -61 and -83 cents. September 2021 corn futures closed at \$6.38, up 32 cents since last Friday.



Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated corn condition at 72% good-to-excellent and 5% poor-to-very poor; and corn emerged at 90% compared to 81% last week, 87% last year, and a 5-year average of 82%. In Tennessee, corn condition was 79% good-to-excellent and 4% poor-to-very poor; corn planted was estimated at 99% compared to 98% last week, 95% last year, and a 5-year average of 98%; and corn emerged at 96% compared to 87% last week, 85% last year, and a 5-year average of 98%; and corn emerged at 96% compared to 87% last week, 85% last year, and a 5-year average of 93%. In Tennessee, new crop cash corn prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.93 to \$6.42. December 2021 corn futures closed at \$6.16, up 25 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.20 December 2021 Put Option costing 69 cents establishing a \$5.51 futures floor.

Soybeans

Net sales reported by exporters were down compared to last week with net sales of 0.6 million bushels for the 2020/21 marketing year and 3.9 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 26% compared to last week at 10.2 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 109% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2020/21 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 98%. Across Tennessee, average soybean basis weakened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, and North-Central and strengthened at Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 3 under to 60 over the July futures contract. Average basis at the end of the week was 27 over the July futures contract. July 2021 soybean futures closed at \$15.44, down 39 cents since last Friday. For the week, July 2021 soybean futures traded between \$15.27 and \$16.23. Jul/Aug and Jul/Nov future spreads were -35 and -85 cents. July 2021 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.21 at the end of the week. August 2021 soybean futures closed at \$15.09, down 28 cents since last Friday.

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Soybeans	Jul 21	Change	Nov 21	Change
Price	\$15.44	-\$0.39	\$14.59	\$0.24
Support	\$15.13	-\$0.02	\$14.27	\$0.55
Resistance	\$15.91	-\$0.15	\$14.80	\$0.26
20 Day MA	\$14.48	-\$1.12	\$13.99	\$0.06
50 Day MA	\$15.12	\$0.17	\$13.56	\$0.24
100 Day MA	\$14.45	\$0.08	\$12.77	\$0.13
4-Week High	\$16.67	\$0.00	\$14.80	\$0.19
4-Week Low	\$14.89	\$0.00	\$13.25	\$0.00
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=



Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated soybean condition at 67% good-to-excellent and 6% poor-to-very poor; soybeans planted at 90% compared to 84% last week, 84% last year, and a 5-year average of 79%; and soybeans emerged at 66% compared to 62% last week, 65% last year, and a 5-year average of 59%. In Tennessee, soybean condition was 80%good-to-excellent and 3% poor-to-very poor; soybeans planted were estimated at 72% compared to 66% last week, 61% last year, and a 5-year average of 68%; and soybeans emerged at 59% compared to 47% last week, 42% last year, and a 5-year average of 68%; and soybeans emerged at 59% compared to 47% last week, 42% last year, and a 5-year average of 49%. In Tennessee, new crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$14.30 to \$14.90. November 2021 soybean futures closed at \$14.59, up 24 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$14.60 November 2021 Put Option which would cost 95 cents and set a \$13.65 futures floor. Nov/Dec 2021 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.37 at the end of the week.

<u>Cotton</u>

Net sales reported by exporters were down compared to last week with net sales of 108,200 bales for the 2020/21 marketing year and 21,400 bales for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same time period were down 30% compared to last week at 258,400 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 105% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2020/21 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 109%. Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for June 10 were 85.11 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 87.36 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted world price increased 2.58 cents to 72.36 cents. July 2021 cotton futures closed at 87.2, up 1.4 cents since last Friday. For the week, July 2021 cotton futures traded between 84.26 and 87.74 cents. Jul/Dec and Jul/Mar cotton futures spreads were 1.01 cents and 0.8 cents.



Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated cotton condition at 46% good-to-excellent and 15% poor-to-very poor; cotton planted at 71% compared to 64% last week, 76% last year, and a 5-year average of 78%; and cotton squaring at 9% compared to 6% last week, 12% last year, and a 5-year average of 11%. In Tennessee, cotton condition was 73% good-to-excellent and 10% poor-to-very poor; cotton planted was estimated at 96% compared to 92% last week, 83% last year, and a 5-year average of 93%; and cotton squaring at 8% compared to 3% last week, 5% last year, and a 5-year average of 8%. December 2021 cotton futures closed at 88.21 cents, up 2.33 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing

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an 89 cent December 2021 Put Option costing 7.02 cents establishing an 81.98 cent futures floor. March 2022 cotton futures closed at 88 cents, up 2.27 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

Wheat net sales reported by exporters were down compared to last week with net sales of 12.0 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same time period were up 145% from last week at 21.9 million bushels. 30.8 million bushels in sales were carried over from the 2020/2021 marketing year, which ended May 31. Accumulated exports for the 2020/21 marketing year ended May 31 were 911.5 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 23% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2021/22 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 24%. In Tennessee, spot wheat prices ranged from \$6.61 to \$7.04.



Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat condition at 50% good-to-excellent and 18% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat headed at 85% compared to 79% last week, 84% last year, and a 5-year average of 86%; winter wheat harvested at 2% compared to 6% last year and a 5-year average of 7%; spring wheat condition was estimated at 38% good-to-excellent and 25% poor-to-very poor; and spring wheat emerged at 90% compared to 80% last week, 79% last year, and a 5-year average of 86%. In Tennessee, winter wheat condition was estimated at 79% good-to-excellent and 2% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat coloring at 90% compared to 80% last week, 92% last year, and a 5-year average of 92%; and winter wheat harvested at 4% compared to 6% last year and a 5-year average of 88%. July 2021 wheat futures closed at \$6.82, down 5 cents since last Friday. July 2021 wheat futures traded between \$6.72 and \$7.04 this week. July wheat-to-corn price ratio was 0.98. Jul/Sep and Jul/Jul future spreads were -1 and 13 cents. September wheat-to-corn futures price ratio was 1.07. September 2021 wheat futures closed at \$6.81, down 11 cents since last Friday. July 2022 wheat futures closed at \$6.95, down 7 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$7.00 July 2022 Put Option costing 78 cents establishing a \$6.22 futures floor.

Additional Information:

Links for data presented:

U.S. Export Sales - <u>https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html</u> USDA FAS: Weekly Export Performance Indicator – <u>https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx</u> EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wprode_s1_w.htm</u> EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm</u> Upland Cotton Reports - <u>https://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc</u> Tennessee Crop Progress - <u>https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Tennessee/Publications/</u> <u>Crop_Progress & Condition/</u>

U.S. Crop Progress - <u>http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1048</u> USDA AMS: Market News - <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/search-market-news</u>

If you would like further information or clarification on topics discussed in the crop comments section or would like to be added to our free email list please contact me at <u>aaron.smith@utk.edu</u>.

		Prices Paid to Farme	rs by Elevators			
	Friday, June 4, 2021Thursday, June 10, 2021					
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
_	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans			\$/bushel			
Northwest	15.85	15.62	15.76	15.59	15.40	
North Central	16.04	15.80	16.00	15.73	15.54	
West Central						
West	16.44	16.20	16.40	16.05	16.04	
Vississippi River	16.20	15.94	16.14	15.97	15.84	
Yellow Corn						
Northwest	7.07	7.03	7.04	7.15	7.23	
North Central	7.13	6.99	7.00	7.06	7.14	
West Central						
West	7.33	7.29	7.30	7.33	7.49	
Mississippi River	7.18	7.08	7.09	7.20	7.28	
Wheat						
Northwest	6.69	6.61	6.66	6.63	6.65	
North Central	6.83	6.75	6.80	6.77	6.79	
West	7.12	7.04	7.03	7.00	7.02	
Vississippi River	7.05	6.96	7.00	6.97	6.99	
Cotton			\$/pound			
Memphis	83.55-85.80	82.11-84.36	82.89-85.14	84.37-86.62	85.11-87.36	







Futures Settlement Prices: Crops & Livestock

Corn: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/corn.html Soybeans: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean.html Wheat: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/wheat.html Soybean Meal: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/grain-and-oilseed/soybean-meal.html Cotton: https://www.theice.com/products/254/Cotton-No-2-Futures/data?marketId=5352193 Live Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/live-cattle.html Feeder Cattle: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/live-cattle.html Lean Hogs: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/livestock/lean-hogs.html Class III Milk: https://www.cmegroup.com/trading/agricultural/dairy/class-iii-milk.html

	This Week		ock Auctions for the wo	Last Week's	Year Ago
-	Low	High	Weighted Average		-
			\$/cwt		
Steers: Medium/Large			.,		
300-400 lbs	157.50	179.00	166.51	165.82	162.40
400-500 lbs	144.00	167.50	156.22	157.68	154.61
500-600 lbs	130.00	163.00	145.92	143.99	143.23
600-700 lbs	122.00	150.00	136.96	134.79	133.11
700-800 lbs	113.00	135.00	123.78	126.87	121.90
Steers: Small Frame #					
300-400 lbs					
400-500 lbs					136.12
500-600 lbs				130.84	128.99
600-700 lbs					
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #3				
300-400 lbs	134.00	165.00	142.65	159.20	148.70
400-500 lbs	122.50	152.00	141.28	144.66	141.76
500-600 lbs	120.00	145.00	129.89	133.38	126.90
600-700 lbs	120.00	130.00	124.56	124.48	122.52
700-800 lbs	110.00	117.00	113.33	118.26	
Holstein Steers					
300-400 lbs					
500-600 lbs				70.00	96.00
700-800 lbs				95.00	
Slaughter Cows & Bull	s				
Breakers 75-80%	62.00	75.00	69.24	69.67	63.16
Boners 80-85%	62.00	77.50	69.31	68.11	63.11
Lean 85-90%	47.00	73.00	61.91	59.65	54.13
Bulls YG 1	88.00	104.50	95.02	95.92	91.69
Heifers: Medium/Larg					
300-400 lbs	126.00	167.50	138.04	139.18	139.09
400-500 lbs	121.00	141.00	134.92	134.47	129.64
500-600 lbs	109.00	139.00	128.44	127.69	124.55
600-700 lbs	104.00	127.00	121.03	117.54	117.20
Heifers: Small Frame	#1-2				
300-400 lbs					
400-500 lbs					116.43
500-600 lbs				114.81	
600-700 lbs					
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #3				
300-400 lbs	122.00	139.00	131.62	133.00	128.24
400-500 lbs	120.00	132.50	127.34	128.33	122.00
500-600 lbs	110.00	122.50	116.43	121.54	111.53
600-700 lbs	108.00	108.00	108.00	108.23	104.92

Cattle Receipts

This week: 4,439

Week ago: 4,043

Year ago: 7,282

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Dickson Regional Livestock Center Video Auction-Dickson, TN

Weighted Average Report for 06/7/2021 Total Receipts: 5,259 1 Load of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 490 lbs., \$172.50 1 Load of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 550 lbs., \$170.00 2 Loads of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 675 lbs., \$147.00 2 Loads of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 775 lbs., \$135.25 2 Loads of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 800 lbs., \$135.00 12 Loads of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 800 lbs., \$135.00 12 Loads of Steers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 600 lbs., \$128.75 2 Loads of Heifers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 600 lbs., \$136.75 1 Load of Heifers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 675 lbs., \$133.75 11 Loads of Heifers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 759 lbs., \$126.32 1 Load of Heifers; M-L 1-2; est. wt. 800 lbs., \$123.50 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3467.pdf

East Tennessee Livestock Center Video Sales-Sweetwater, TN Report for 06/9/2021

1 Load of Steers, est. wt. 865 lbs., 95% L&M-1s and 5% L&M-2s, Medium flesh, 100% Black/BWF, \$134.10

1 Load of Holstein Steers, est. wt. 875 lbs., 100% #1s, Medium flesh, \$97.50

Graded Sheep & Goat Sale

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 6/7/21 Total Receipts: 1,458 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2081.pdf

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

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