Tennessee Market Highlights

October 1, 2021 Number: 39

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

Steady to \$2 lower

Slaughter Bulls

\$3 to \$5 lower

Feeder Steers

\$2 to \$7 lower

Feeder Heifers

\$2 to \$5 lower

Feeder Cattle Index: 153.78

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$122.65 was down \$0.99. The dressed price of \$195.16 was down \$1.30.

Corn

December closed at \$5.41 a bushel, up 15 cents since last Friday.

<u>Soybeans</u>

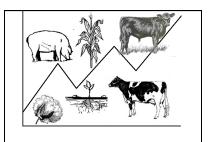
November closed at \$12.46 a bushel, down 39 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

December closed at \$7.55 a bushel, up 32 cents since last Friday.

<u>Cotton</u>

December closed at 104.53 cents per lb, up 8.54 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded \$1 lower compared to last week on a live basis. Prices on a live basis primarily ranged from \$122 to \$124 while dressed prices were mainly \$192 to \$197.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$122.65 live, down \$0.99 compared to last week and \$195.16 dressed, down \$1.30 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$107.11 live and \$167.68 dressed.

The finished cattle market has been similar to watching paint dry, but at the same time it has been similar to watching paint dry on the wall in a room with a bunch of three-year old children. The market has been so stagnant that it has been difficult to get excited one way or the other, but at the same time everyone in the industry is anticipating and waiting anxiously for the market to break to one side or the other. Prices in the month of October could still come under pressure, but the expectation moving through the fourth quarter of the year is for prices to gain a few dollars. Uncertainty abounds in the market, with consumers, and with the national government, and unfortunately, governmental decisions may be the biggest factor.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$292.70 down \$2.28 from Thursday and down \$11.59 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$264.69 down \$4.63 from Thursday and down \$11.66 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$28.01 compared to \$27.94 a week ago.

The Choice boxed beef cutout value is at its lowest point since the first week of August and appears to be headed lower. The market essentially has six to eight weeks to wade through until end of the year holiday buying by retailers, restaurants, and food service entities provides support. The market could easily slip below the \$250 level, but it is unlikely it will ever challenge the lows for the year. The national Restaurant Performance Index (RPI) value for August was released recently with the index value being 104.2. This is still a positive value indicating expansion in the industry and positive expectations. However, the August index value is the lowest value in six months. The RPI plunged during the onset of coronavirus and found itself in the mid-90s, which is a devastating value. However, tremendous improvement occurred the past year with the index reaching 106. There is tremendous uncertainty for restaurants as coronavirus continues to wreak havoc and as the cost of meat continues to increase, which likely means lower index values in the coming months.

OUTLOOK: Based on Tennessee weekly auction market data, steer prices were \$2 to \$7 lower compared to last week while heifer prices were \$2 to \$5 lower compared to a week ago. Slaughter cow prices were steady to \$2 lower while bull prices were \$3 to \$5 lower compared to the previous week. An increase in calf marketings showed up right on time this week as more calves started making their way to town. Producers with spring born calves are taking advantage of the favorable temperatures and relatively dry weather to pull calves out of pastures and set wheels under them. As this surge in cattle make their way to market, calf prices have declined dramatically the past couple of weeks and will likely continue to do so for a few more weeks. Based on average prices this week, 525 pound steers were valued between \$725 and \$750 per head. This value represents approximately a \$50 per head decline in value through the month of September. It is not likely prices will decline as much in October as they did in September, but another \$25 per head

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

for lightweight calves is within reason. This is the point at which producers must make the decision to market cattle as quickly as possible before prices deteriorate further or if they should hold calves for a few more months. The benefit to holding calves is added weight and the expectation of marketing calves at a higher price than today. In this particular year, there is a lot of grass in the Southeast United States, which means weight could be added inexpensively, but this may not be the case for areas of the country that have not had adequate precipitation. Another aspect of marketing cattle to be thinking about is the slaughter cow market. Slaughter cow prices have been strong most of the year, but they are now beginning to decline. If a producer must get rid of them then do it immediately. If a producer can hold on then it may be beneficial to hold them a couple months for prices to turn around.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: What is the most profitable calving season? Research from the University of Tennessee would indicate that a fall calving season generally returns higher profits than alternative calving seasons. That conclusion comes from the expectation that fall born calves will be marketed at times when cattle prices are strongest for certain weight classes of animals. The analysis shows that spring born calves generally have heavier weaning rates and cost less to

produce, but the revenue generated from those calves is extremely low relative to fall born calves. This almost makes it sound like a one size fits all. However, it is not even a one size fits most scenario. Producers must consider their entire production system as well as potential seasonality of other endeavors they are engaged in. Most people are not solely in the cattle business. Thus, many people are attempting to maximize return to a system of enterprises, which means this analysis may not fit every producer's system.

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 –October \$120.40 -0.18; December \$125.20 -0.53; February \$130.03 -0.63; Feeder cattle –October \$152.75 +0.20; November \$152.90 +0.00; January \$153.85 -0.33; March \$155.08 -0.30; December corn closed at \$5.42 up 4 cents from Thursday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

Soybeans were down; corn, cotton, and wheat were up for the week.

The USDA September 1 quarterly grain stocks estimates were a bit of a mixed bag. Soybean stocks were estimated higher than anticipated, while corn and wheat stocks were within and below pre-report estimates, respectively. Soybean stocks were estimated at 256 million bushels, 81 million bushels higher than the September WASDE estimate. November soy-

		Previous	Current	Change
e	USD Index	93.34	94.07	0.73
	Crude Oil	73.94	75.64	1.7
_	DЛA	34,777	34,357	-420

bean futures fell 45 cents, when the report was released, and moved lower to close the week. While the soybean stock number exceeded expectations, export sales purchases and South American crop progress will dictate price direction moving forward. Corn stocks were estimated at 1.236 billion bushels, 49 million bushels above the September estimate. Corn prices initially fell 20 cents before recovering on Thursday and Friday, closing close to pre-report prices. Wheat was a clear benefactor from the report. After initial volatility, wheat prices moved up from \$7.20 per bushel before the report, on Thursday, to a\$7.57 ¾ per bushel close on Friday October 1.

December cotton futures have blown through the psychological threshold of \$1 with ease. In two weeks, the December cotton futures contract has added a remarkable 15.51 cents. With futures at 104.53 cents, the path forward is uncertain. The last time cotton prices were this high was 2011 when futures prices broke through the \$2.00 level. While \$2 cotton is very unlikely (supply and demand dynamics, as currently known, would not indicate the likeliness of such a move) an advance to \$1.10 could be forthcoming, however cotton prices are not likely to remain above \$1.00 for an extended period. Finishing your 2021 crop pricing with prices above \$1.00 is a prudent marketing move.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Corn</u>

Ethanol production for the week ending September 24 was 0.914 million barrels per day, down 12,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 20.22 million barrels, up 0.109 million compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for September 17-23, 2021, were down compared to last week with net sales of 14.6 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 39% from last week at 26.6 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 40% of the USDA estimated total exports for the 2021/22 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 30%. Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated corn condition at 59% good-toexcellent and 15% poor-to-very poor; corn dented at 97% compared to 93% last week, 98% last year, and a 5-year average of 94%; corn mature at 74% compared to 57% last week, 73% last year, and a 5-year average 64%; and corn harvested at 18% compared to 10% last week, 14% last year, and a 5-year average of 15%. In Tennessee, corn condition was estimated at 82% good-to-excellent and 2% poor-to-very poor; corn dented at 100% compared to 98% last week, 100% last year, and a 5-year average of 100%; corn mature at 90% compared to 79% last week, 87% last year, and a 5-year average of 94%; and corn harvested at 43% compared to 31% last week, 38% last year, and a 5-year average of 62%. Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) weakened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, North-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 30 under to 56 under, with an average of 43 under the December futures at elevators and barge points. December 2021 corn futures closed at \$5.41, up 15 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$5.45 December 2021 Put Option costing 21 cents establishing a \$5.24 futures floor. For the week, December 2021 corn futures traded between \$5.24 and \$5.48. In Tennessee, new crop cash corn prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$4.79 to \$5.10.

Corn	Dec 21	Change	Mar 22	Change
Price	\$5.41	\$0.15	\$5.49	\$0.15
Support	\$5.26	\$0.05	\$5.34	\$0.04
Resistance	\$5.52	\$0.21	\$5.60	\$0.22
20 Day MA	\$5.25	\$0.01	\$5.33	\$0.00
50 Day MA	\$5.40	-\$0.02	\$5.48	-\$0.02
100 Day MA	\$5.49	-\$0.04	\$5.56	-\$0.04
4-Week High	\$5.48	-\$0.10	\$5.55	-\$0.09
4-WeekLow	\$4.97	\$0.00	\$5.06	\$0.00
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=

Dec/Mar and Dec/May future spreads were 8 and 13 cents. March 2022 corn futures closed at \$5.49, up 15 cents since last Friday. May 2022 corn futures closed at \$5.54, up 15 cents since last Friday.

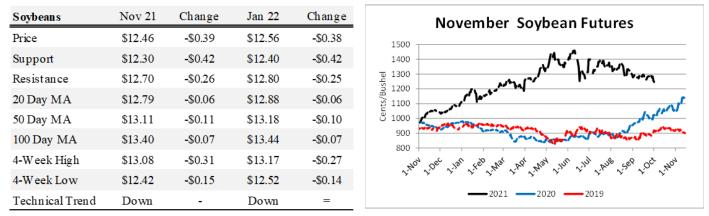
Soybeans

Net sales reported by exporters were up compared to last week with net sales of 40.2 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 93% compared to last week at 19.4 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 43% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2021/22 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 45%. Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated soybean condition at 58% good-to-excellent and 14% poor-to-very poor; soybeans dropping leaves at 75% compared to 58% last week, 72% last year, and a 5-year average of 66%; and soybeans harvested 16% compared to 6% last week, 18% last year, and a 5-year average 13%. In Tennessee, soybean condition was estimated at 75% good-to-excellent and 4% poor-to-very poor; soybeans dropping leaves at 48% compared to 37% last week, 50% last year, and a 5-year average of 61%; and soybeans harvested at 9% compared to 5% last week, 11% last year, and a 5-year average of 15%. Across Tennessee, average soybean basis weakened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, North-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 30 under to 70 under the November futures contract. Average basis at the end of the week was 57 under the November futures contract. November 2021 soybean futures closed at \$12.46, down 39 cents since last Friday. For the week, November 2021 soybean futures traded between \$12.42 and \$12.97. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$12.50 November 2021 Put Option which would cost 21 cents and set a \$12.29 futures floor. Nov/Dec 2021 soybean-to-corn

(Continued on page 4)

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

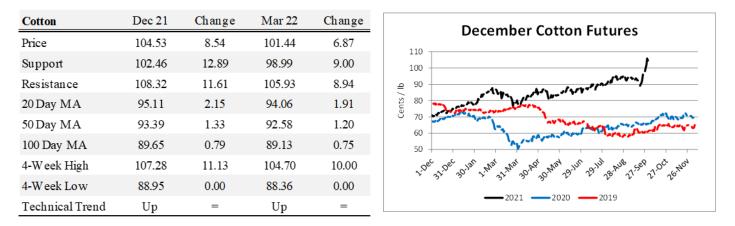
price ratio was 2.30 at the end of the week. In Tennessee, new crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$11.81 to \$12.58.



Nov/Jan and Nov/Mar future spreads were 11 and -14 cents. January 2022 soybean futures closed at \$12.56, down 38 cents since last Friday. March 2022 soybean futures closed at \$12.64, down 33 cents since last Friday. March 2022 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.3 at the end of the week.

<u>Cotton</u>

Net sales reported by exporters were up compared to last week with net sales 571,400 bales for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 7% compared to last week at 163,900 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 49% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2021/22 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 54%. Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for September 30 were 104.55 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 106.8 cents/ lb (31-3-35). Adjusted world price increased 6.33 cents to 83.92 cents.

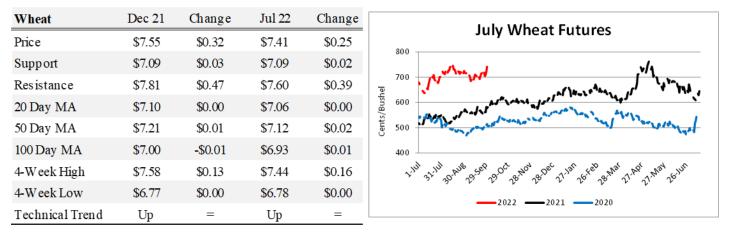


Nationally, this week's Crop Progress report estimated cotton condition at 65% good-to-excellent and 6% poor-to-very poor; cotton bolls opening at 60% compared to 48% last week, 65% last year, and a 5-year average of 64%; and cotton harvested at 11% compared to 9% last week, 13% last year, and a 5-year average of 14%. In Tennessee, cotton condition was estimated at 68% good-to-excellent and 12% poor-to-very poor; cotton bolls opening at 40% compared to 20% last week, 64% last year, and a 5-year average of 77%. December 2021 cotton futures closed at 104.53 cents, up 8.54 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 105 cent December 2021 Put Option costing 5.06 cents establishing a 99.94 cent futures floor. For the week, December 2021 cotton futures traded between 96.02 and 107.28 cents. Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were -3.09 cents and -4.09 cents. March 2022 cotton futures closed at 101.44 cents, up 6.87 cents since last Friday. May 2022 cotton futures closed at 100.44 cents, up 6.7 cents since last Friday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Wheat</u>

Wheat net sales reported by exporters were down compared to last week with net sales of 10.7 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 27% from last week at 13.6 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 47% 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 53%. In Tennessee, spot wheat prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.97 to \$6.16. December 2021 wheat futures closed at \$7.55, up 32 cents since last Friday. December 2021 wheat futures traded between \$7.01 and \$7.58 this week. December wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.4. Dec/Mar and Dec/Jul future spreads were 11 and -14 cents. March 2022 wheat futures closed at \$7.66, up 32 cents since last Friday. March wheat-to-corn futures price ratio was 1.4.



Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat planted at 34% compared to 21% last week, 33% last year, and a 5-year average of 32%; and winter wheat emerged at 9% compared to 3% last week, 9% last year, and a 5-year average of 8%. In Tennessee, winter wheat planted was estimated at 11% compared to 8% last week, 5% last year, and a 5-year average of 5%; and winter wheat emerged at 4% compared to 1% last week, 3% last year, and a 5-year average of 1%. New crop wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$6.67 to \$6.87. July 2022 wheat futures closed at \$7.41, up 25 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$7.50 July 2022 Put Option costing 66 cents establishing a \$6.84 futures floor.

Additional Information:

Links for data presented:

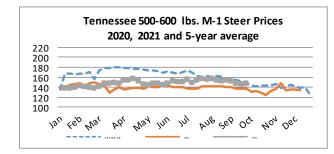
U.S. Export Sales - https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html

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, September 24, 2021Thursday, September 30, 2021						
_	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average		
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans	\$/bushel						
Northwest	12.20	12.23	12.07	12.14	11.86		
North Central	12.55	12.58	12.37	12.39	12.11		
West Central							
West	12.50	12.45	12.34	12.41	12.14		
Vississippi River	12.44	12.23	12.15	12.17	11.86		
ellow Corn							
Northwest	4.90	5.03	4.94	5.00	4.98		
North Central	4.82	4.95	4.88	4.94	4.92		
Nest Central	4.97	5.10	4.98	5.04	5.02		
West	4.94	5.07	4.95	5.03	4.99		
Vississippi River	4.92	4.85	4.81	4.83	4.81		
Wheat							
Northwest							
North Central							
West							
Mississippi River	6.38	5.97	5.98	6.00	6.16		
Cotton	\$/pound\$						
Memphis	94.74-96.99	96.80-99.05	98.78-101.03	100.69-102.94	104.55-106.8		



5-Area Finished Cattle Prices

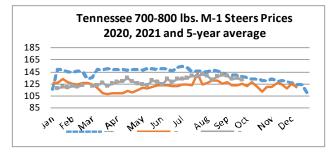
2020, 2021 and 5-year average

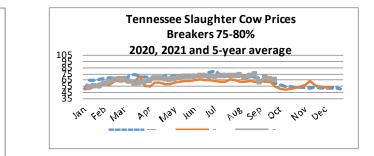
Ken,

m

121

e de la





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

500 0th NOV net

2UZ

	This Week			ending Monday, Sept Last Week's	Year Ago
	Low	High	Weighted Average		Weighted Average
	-		\$/cwt		
Steers: Medium/Larg			<i>+/ -</i> · · · · ·		
300-400 lbs	152.50	191.00	169.64	167.79	150.06
400-500 lbs	141.00	174.00	156.81	153.70	147.78
500-600 lbs	126.00	162.50	145.85	145.31	136.51
600-700 lbs	125.00	151.00	137.39	139.44	129.52
700-800 lbs	110.00	143.00	130.56	134.06	122.04
Steers: Small Frame #	±1-2				
300-400 lbs	135.00	170.00	148.06		
400-500 lbs	121.00	145.00	133.00		
500-600 lbs	119.00	119.00	119.00		
600-700 lbs	120.00		120.00		
Steers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #3				
300-400 lbs	130.00	172.00	155.88	147.90	139.69
400-500 lbs	120.00	164.00	139.91	140.55	135.84
500-600 lbs	109.00	145.00	132.33	130.58	126.47
600-700 lbs	109.00	140.00	122.63	123.43	118.89
700-800 lbs	127.00	134.00	129.20	126.63	114.43
Holstein Steers					
300-400 lbs					107.97
500-600 lbs					
700-800 lbs					89.95
Slaughter Cows & Bul	lls				
Breakers 75-80%	59.00	71.50	64.24	65.59	61.96
Boners 80-85%	56.50	73.00	63.13	64.34	60.58
Lean 85-90%	47.00	64.00	56.19	57.14	51.13
Bulls YG 1	80.00	100.00	91.57	93.39	86.45
Heifers: Medium/Lar					
300-400 lbs		146.00	134.96	141.33	130.03
400-500 lbs	114.00	145.00	132.58	136.30	124.37
500-600 lbs	113.00	141.00	126.06	130.51	121.14
600-700 lbs	108.00	134.00	120.39	125.86	118.57
Heifers: Small Frame					
300-400 lbs	110.00	140.00	125.69	118.21	
400-500 lbs	102.50	130.00	115.08		111.74
500-600 lbs	100.00	120.00	111.08	116.34	
600-700 lbs	117.00	117.00	117.00		
Heifers: Medium/Lar					
300-400 lbs	110.00	145.00	133.36	126.30	126.34
400-500 lbs	110.00	137.00	124.92	124.73	118.27
500-600 lbs	100.00	130.00	117.56	114.53	114.59
600-700 lbs	97.50	120.00	108.56	117.61	107.18

Cattle Receipts This week: 5,664

Wee

Week ago: 6,493

Year ago: 8,201

Link to report: <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2063.pdf</u>

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Browning Livestock Market Video/Internet Auction-Lafayette, TN 9/29/21 1 load of steers, 825 lbs., M&L 1&2, \$148.50

Hardin County Stockyard-Savannah, TN 9/29/21 61 Steers, 835 lbs., M&L 1&2, 100% Black/BWF, 5-6 Flesh, \$149.50

Lower Middle Tennessee Cattlemen's Association-Video Board Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 10/01/2021 For complete report:

https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3340.pdf

Graded Sheep & Goat Sale

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 9/27/21 Total Receipts: 850

For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2081.pdf

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

314 Morgan Hall • 2621 Morgan Circle • <u>arec.tennessee.edu</u> USDA / Tennessee Department of Agriculture Market News Service <u>https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/farms/news.html</u>

1-800-342-8206

Real. Life. Solutions.

