# Tennessee Market Highlights

August 12, 2022 Number: 32

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

# Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

\$2 to \$5 higher

Slaughter Bulls

Steady to \$2 higher

Feeder Steers

Unevenly steady

Feeder Heifers

Steady to \$3 higher

Feeder Cattle Index: 178.06

## Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$144.34 was up \$3.82. The dressed price of \$229.95 was up \$2.10.

## <u>Corn</u>

September closed at \$6.39 a bushel, up 29 cents since last Friday.

## <u>Soybeans</u>

September closed at \$15.35 a bushel, up 72 cents since last Friday.

## <u>Wheat</u>

September closed at \$8.06 a bushel, up 31 cents since last Friday.

## <u>Cotton</u>

December closed at 108.59 cents per lb, up 12.46 cents since last Friday.



# Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

**FED CATTLE:** Fed cattle traded \$3 to \$4 higher compared to last week on a live basis. Prices on a live basis were mainly \$140 in the South and \$146 to \$148 in the North while dressed prices were mainly \$229 to \$230.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$144.34 live, up \$3.82 compared to last week and \$229.95 dressed, up \$2.10 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$122.84 live and \$200.16 dressed.

Packers are willing bidders in the late summer market for finished cattle. Prices of finished cattle typically soften in August, but it would appear packers are concerned they may begin running short on cattle in the coming months. Thus, packers are attempting to source as many cattle as possible to capitalize on strong margins in today's market. The cattle feeder has captured significant leverage the past few months and their leverage will continue to grow as the quantity of calves declines. The current market dynamics will put the cattle feeder in the driver's seat the next few years, which will likely mean lower margins for packers. Thus, the reason packers are sourcing animals while margins are strong.

**BEEF CUTOUT:** At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$263.32 up \$0.22 from Thursday and down \$1.78 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$239.80 up \$2.34 from Thursday and up \$0.53 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$23.52 compared to \$25.83 a week ago.

The 2021 United States beef export market was a strong year for beef movement. However, each month of trade in 2022 has eclipsed the same month from 2021 on a quantity basis, which bodes well for the industry. U.S. beef and veal exports the first six months of the year are 7.4 percent greater than the same six months in 2021. The typical trading partners including Japan, South Korea, China, Canada and Mexico continue to be the primary destinations. The strong international market coupled with a strong domestic demand for beef is what has kept beef prices strong. There have certainly been questions if consumers would be willing to continue paying higher prices for beef, and the resounding response has continued to be yes from domestic and international consumers. It is uncertain if the international market will continue this torrid pace the second half of the year, but there is no reason to doubt it at this point. The only thing that may slow down exports is the reduced supply from a smaller cattle herd.

**OUTLOOK:** Based on Tennessee weekly auction average prices, steer prices were unevenly steady compared to last week while heifer prices were steady to \$3 higher compared to a week ago. Slaughter cow prices were \$2 to \$5 higher compared to a week ago while bull prices were steady to \$2 higher compared to the previous week. The yearling market has been strengthening through the summer months as is typical. The CME Feeder Cattle index price has increased \$13 per hundredweight since the first day of July and \$25 per hundredweight since the first day of June. That put the reading of the CME Feeder Cattle index just over \$178 earlier this week, which values an 800 pound steer at \$1,424 per head. This is the highest index reading since November 2015, and prices are likely to continue increasing for cattle that are ready to be placed on feed. The calf market has been resilient as well. The calf market tends to soften through the summer and even more so heading into the fall when the bulk of the spring born calves hit the market. Despite the seasonal trend being lower prices, lightweight

# Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

calf prices have been following yearling prices higher. Most classes of lightweight cattle are trading at prices just below their spring price peak and a clear \$15 to \$20 per hundredweight higher than a year ago. The calf price will want to follow yearling prices higher if yearling prices continue to increase, but the supply side will catch up to the market when the glut of calves make their way to town. This does not mean calf prices will decline. Rather calf prices are likely to stay the same or increase slightly if yearling cattle prices continue higher into the fall months. The slaughter cow market continues to be like a broken record, but in a good way. Slaughter cow prices have continued to hold their place and even push higher at times. It is clear that there is a strong demand for lean grinding beef and this is the primary source.

**ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK:** What should I do now that we have received rain and the cattle market is trending higher? This appears to be the question several people are asking right now. The summer started a little tough as drought plagued much of cattle country. That same drought continues

to linger in several regions, but some regions have experienced considerable relief as recent rains have rejuvenated pastures. Thus, producers have transitioned from the need to cull livestock to trying to figure out how to capitalize on the cattle market that has been trending higher. At the same time, these same producers are asking if they have enough hay to carry cattle through the winter. The best advice for producers in this situation is to remain stocked based on hay availability, because hay is already expensive and there is no guarantee the moisture will continue. The market is suggesting that heifer retention should begin, and it should do so rapidly. However, there is no reason to put oneself in a bad situation that has potential to get worse.

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 –August \$140.23 -0.38; October \$144.50 -0.60; December \$150.63 -0.45; Feeder cattle –August \$179.63 -0.33; September \$183.38 -1.23; October \$186.00 -0.85; November \$187.58 -0.80; September corn closed at \$6.40 up 11 cents from Thursday.

## Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

#### **Overview**

Corn, soybeans, cotton, and wheat were up for the week.

Futures markets rallied this week with December corn increasing 29 cents, November soybeans increasing 72 cents, and December cotton increasing 12.46 cents. Cottons remarkable rally opens the door for a return above \$1.20.

	Previous	Current	Change
USD Index	106.45	105.55	-0.90
Crude Oil	88.21	91.8	3.59
DЛА	32,749	33,694	945

This week the USDA released the August Crop Production and WASDE reports. The Crop Production report contained initial survey-based yield estimates. Nationally, corn, soybean, upland cotton, and winter wheat yields were projected at 175.4 bu/ acre, 51.9 bu/acre, 837 lbs/acre, and 47.9 bu/acre. There remains a great deal of yield uncertainty nationally as weather/ rainfall has been sporadic across large sections of the Corn Belt this growing season. As such, revisions to current yield estimates are likely to occur on future USDA reports. National estimated planted (and harvested) acreage for corn, soybeans, and cotton were: 89.8 million acres (81.8 million); 88.0 million acres (87.2 million); and 12.48 million acres (7.13 million). Cotton abandonment is projected at 42.8%, well above previous projections.

In Tennessee, the Crop Production Report estimated yields at 130 bu/acre (corn), 44 bu/acre (soybean), 869 lbs/acre (cotton), and 71 bu/acre (wheat). Across the state yields are highly variable, however in general crops are in better condition in the East than the West. Over the past two weeks parts of west Tennessee have received 3-7 inches of rain. The rain is likely too late to help with most corn yields but may provide benefit to cotton and soybeans. State yields will likely be revised in the September Crop Production report as the survey was conducted from July 25 to August 8 to capture expected yields as of August 1.

A summary of the August WASDE report can be found at: <u>https://arec.tennessee.edu/extension/tennessee-market-highlights/</u> monthly-crop-comments/.

## Corn

Ethanol production for the week ending August 5 was 1.022 million barrels per day, down 21,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 23.256 million barrels, down 138,000 compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for July 29 to August 4, 2022, were up compared to last week with net sales of 7.6 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year and 7.5

## Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

million bushels for the 2022/23 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 31% from last week at 27.8 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 98% 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 103%. Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) strengthened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, West-Central, North-Central, and Missis-sippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 7 to 50 over, with an average of 30 over the September futures at elevators and barge points. September 2022 corn futures closed at \$6.39, up 29 cents since last Friday. For the week, September 2022 corn futures traded between \$6.01 and \$6.40. Sep/Dec and Sep/Mar future spreads were 3 and 10 cents.



Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated corn condition at 58% good-to-excellent and 16% poor-to-very-poor; corn silking at 90% compared to 80% last week, 94% last year, and a 5-year average of 93%; corn dough at 45% compared to 26% last week, 53% last year, and a 5-year average of 49%; and corn dented at 6% compared to 7% last year and a 5-year average of 9%. In Tennessee, corn condition was estimated at 31% good-to-excellent and 37% poor-to-very poor; corn silking at 97% compared to 96% last week, 97% last year, and a 5-year average of 98%; corn dough at 78% compared to 67% last week, 77% last year, and a 5-year average of 80%; and corn dented at 32% compared to 13% last week, 39% last year; and a 5-year average of 29%. New crop cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.87 to \$6.39. December 2022 corn futures closed at \$6.42, up 32 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.50 December 2022 Put Option costing 48 cents establishing a \$6.02 futures floor. March 2023 corn futures closed at \$6.49, up 31 cents since last Friday.

## **Soybeans**

Net sales reported by exporters were up compared to last week with net sales cancelations of 2.5 million bushels for the 2021/22 marketing year and net sales of 17.5 million bushels for the 2022/23 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 77% compared to last week at 32.9 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 101% 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 104%. 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 50 under to 81 over, with an average basis of 11 over the September futures contract. September 2022 soybean futures closed at \$15.35, up 72 cents since last Friday. For the week, September 2022 soybean futures traded between \$14.53 and \$15.57. Sep/Nov and Sep/Jan future spreads were -81 and -75 cents. September 2022 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.40 at the end of the week.

## Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Soybeans	Sep 22	Change	Nov 22	Change
Price	\$15.35	\$0.72	\$14.54	\$0.46
Support	\$14.64	\$0.37	\$13.95	\$0.21
Resistance	\$15.73	\$0.78	\$14.94	\$0.48
20 Day MA	\$14.30	\$0.33	\$13.94	\$0.19
50 Day MA	\$14.60	-\$0.05	\$14.33	-\$0.09
100 Day MA	\$14.97	-\$0.01	\$14.63	-\$0.02
4-Week High	\$15.57	\$0.41	\$14.89	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$13.04	\$0.00	\$12.88	\$0.00
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=



Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated soybean condition at 59% good-to-excellent and 11% poor-to-very poor; soybeans blooming at 89% compared to 79% last week, 90% last year, and a 5-year average of 88%; and soybeans setting pods at 61% compared to 44% last week, 70% last year, and a 5-year average of 66%. In Tennessee, soybean condition was estimated at 42% good-to-excellent and 23% poor-to-very poor; soybeans blooming at 86% compared to 80% last week, 83% last year, and a 5-year average of 85%; and soybean setting pods at 59% compared to 47% last week, 60% last year, and a 5-year average of 63%. Nov/Dec 2022 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.26 at the end of the week. New crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$13.71 to \$14.79. November 2022 soybean futures closed at \$14.54, up 46 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$14.60 November 2022 Put Option which would cost 73 cents and set a \$13.87 futures floor. January 2023 soybean futures closed at \$14.60, up 43 cents since last Friday.

## **Cotton**

Net sales reported by exporters were up compared to last week with net sales of 102,400 bales for the 2021/22 marketing year and 38,400 bales for the 2022/23 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 6% compared to last week at 295,500 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 51% 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 47%. A total of 2,387,800 running bales in sales were carried over from the 2021/2022 marketing year, which ended July 31. Accumulated exports for the 2021/22 marketing year were 13,179,100 running bales, down 11 percent from the prior years' total of 14,882,100 running bales. Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for August 11 were 119.44 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 121.69 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted world price (AWP) was down 1.29 cents at 88.15 cents.

Cotton	Dec 22	Change	Mar 23	Change
Price	108.59	12.46	105.64	11.84
Support	98.73	6.07	96.29	5.64
Resistance	110.80	11.54	107.45	10.98
20 Day MA	95.85	3.14	92.76	3.47
50 Day MA	101.64	-2.08	97.85	-1.90
100 Day MA	111.14	-0.13	106.93	-0.07
4-Week High	108.59	10.94	105.64	10.74
4-Week Low	82.54	0.00	78.94	0.00
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=

Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated cotton condition at 31% good-to-excellent and 34% poor-to-very poor; cotton squaring at 95% compared to 89% last week, 87% last year, and a 5-year average of 93%; cotton setting bolls at 69% compared to 58% last week, 61% last year, and a 5-year average of 64%; and cotton bolls opening at 9% compared to 5% last year and a 5-year average of 9%. In Tennessee, cotton condition was estimated at 48% good-to-excellent and 21% poor-to-very poor; cotton squaring at 98% compared to 96% last week, 92% last year, and a 5-year average of 96%; cotton setting bolls at 82% compared to 66% last week, 63% last year, and a 5-year average of 77%; and cotton bolls opening at 1% compared to a 5-year average of 1%. December 2022 cotton futures closed at 108.59 cents, up 12.46 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2022

## Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

cotton futures traded between 95.14 and 108.59 cents. Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were -2.95 cents and - 4.72 cents. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 109 cent December 2022 Put Option costing 11.45 cents establishing an 97.55 cent futures floor. March 2023 cotton futures closed at 105.64 cents, up 11.84 cents since last Friday. May 2023 cotton futures closed at 103.87 cents, up 11.52 cents since last Friday.

## <u>Wheat</u>

Wheat net sales reported by exporters were up compared to last week at 13.2 million bushels for the 2022/23 marketing year. Exports for the week were up 113% compared to last week at 22.6 million bushels – a marketing year high. Wheat export sales were 40% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2022/23 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 41%. Nationally, the Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat harvested at 86% compared to 82% last week, 94% last year, and a 5-year average of 91%; spring wheat condition at 64% good-to-excellent and 8% poor-to-very poor; spring wheat harvested at 9% compared to 35% last year and a 5-year average of 19%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$7.19 to \$8.11. September 2022 wheat futures closed at \$8.06, up 31 cents since last Friday. September 2022 wheat futures traded between \$7.60 and \$8.20 this week. September wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.26. Sep/Dec and Sep/Jul future spreads were 16 and 36 cents.



December 2022 wheat futures closed at \$8.22, up 27 cents since last Friday. New crop wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$7.63 to \$8.28. July 2023 wheat futures closed at \$8.42, up 15 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing an \$8.50 July 2023 Put Option costing 101 cents establishing a \$7.49 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 Farmers by Elevators							
	Friday, August 5, 2022Thursday, August 11, 2022 Friday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday						
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average		
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans			\$/bushel				
Northwest	14.74	14.65	14.94	14.93	15.14		
North Central	15.54	15.45	15.74	15.73	15.94		
West Central							
West	14.42	14.34	14.62	14.66	14.87		
Mississippi River							
Yellow Corn							
Northwest	6.60	6.59	6.66	6.71	6.79		
North Central	6.20	6.19	6.23	6.31	6.39		
West Central							
West	6.36	6.35	6.42	6.47	6.55		
Mississippi River	6.42	6.41	6.48	6.53	6.61		
Wheat							
Northwest	7.16	7.20	7.22	7.45	7.56		
North Central	7.66	7.70	7.72	8.00	8.11		
West	7.41	7.45	7.47	7.65	7.76		
Mississippi River	7.88	7.90	7.88	8.03	8.09		
Cotton	\$/pound\$						
Memphis	110.68-112.93	110.58-112.83	113.54-115.79	115.75-118.00	119.44-121.6		









## **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		Last Week's	Year Ago	
	Low	High	Weighted Average	- Weighted Average	Weighted Average
-			\$/cwt		
Steers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #1-2				
300-400 lbs.	173.00	225.00	187.01	186.08	170.39
400-500 lbs.	161.00	210.00	180.58	183.37	160.13
500-600 lbs.	145.00	182.50	168.40	170.62	155.86
600-700 lbs.	140.00	175.00	164.40	163.58	146.57
700-800 lbs.	130.00	163.50	153.00	151.86	138.02
Steers: Small Frame #	<b>#1-2</b>				
300-400 lbs.					154.72
400-500 lbs.					144.00
500-600 lbs.				130.00	
600-700 lbs.					
Steers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #3				
300-400 lbs.	140.00	197.50	167.65	175.33	152.72
400-500 lbs.	125.00	182.50	165.00	164.63	147.36
500-600 lbs.	130.00	166.00	150.26	155.98	139.10
600-700 lbs.	120.00	155.00	144.30	142.65	131.44
700-800 lbs.	135.00	136.00	135.50	134.79	122.62
Holstein Steers	155.00	130.00	155.50	154.75	122.02
300-400 lbs.					
500-600 lbs.					
700-800 lbs.					
Slaughter Cows & Bul					
Breakers 75-80%	72.00	97.00	82.67	76.81	71.48
Boners 80-85%	65.00	97.00 97.00		74.02	70.75
Lean 85-90%			79.44		63.14
Bulls YG 1	43.00 89.00	85.00	68.60	67.02	96.65
		122.00	108.72	105.42	90.05
Heifers: Medium/Lar	-	178.00	162.10	150.40	145.07
300-400 lbs.			162.19	158.42	
400-500 lbs.	140.00	174.00	156.86	156.62	139.71
500-600 lbs.	129.00	160.00	147.97	146.05	133.61
600-700 lbs.	118.00	151.00	141.61	137.36	126.97
Heifers: Small Frame #1-2					
300-400 lbs.				130.83	
400-500 lbs.	135.00	144.00	139.39	115.00	120.00
500-600 lbs.				130.50	123.66
600-700 lbs.				125.00	
Heifers: Medium/Lar	ge Frame #2-3			123.00	
300-400 lbs.	120.00	150.00	139.08	147.75	135.97
400-500 lbs.	122.50	155.00			132.93
	109.00	153.00	141.51	141.26	132.95
500-600 lbs.			134.95	137.34	
600-700 lbs.	115.00	135.00	128.80	126.83	119.16

Cattle Receipts

This week:6,250

Week ago:5,135

Year ago:5,113

## Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

United Producers Inc Special Graded Feeder and Replacement Cattle Sale - Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 8/2/22 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams\_3460.pdf

East Tennessee Livestock Center Graded Feeder Cattle Sale -Sweetwater, TN Weighted Average Report for 8/5/22 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams\_2073.pdf

Hardin County Stockyard Video Auction- Savannah, TN Weighted Average Report for 8/10/22 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams\_3509.pdf

## **Graded Goat & Sheep Sales**

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 8/8/22 Total Receipts: For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams\_2081.pdf

## Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

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