Tennessee Market Highlights

November 17, 2023 Number: 46

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

steady to \$1 higher

<u>Slaughter Bulls</u>

steady

Feeder Steers

\$8 to \$15 lower

Feeder Heifers

\$3 to \$9 lower

Feeder Cattle Index: 228.76

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$177.86 was down \$2.25. The dressed price of \$281.85 down \$4.29.

<u>Corn</u>

December closed at \$4.67 a bushel, up 3 cents since last Friday.

<u>Soybeans</u>

January closed at \$13.40 a bushel, down 7 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

December closed at \$5.50 a bushel, down 25 cents since last Friday.

<u>Cotton</u>

December closed at 78.92 cents per lb, up 1.6 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded \$2 lower on a live basis compared to last week with live prices mainly between \$177 and \$178 while dressed prices were mainly \$281 to \$282.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$177.86 live, down \$2.25 compared to last week and \$281.85 dressed, down \$4.29 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$152.68 live and \$241.79 dressed.

The Slip 'N Slide is game for many age groups, and it is generally a game meant for the summer months. On the cattle side, the Slip 'N Slide for finished cattle prices tends to coincide with late summer and early fall, but it has decided to show up a little later than normal this year as cattle prices have slipped the past couple of weeks and will likely continue to do so. This marks the second year in which finished cattle prices remained strong throughout the summer months, but contrary to a year ago, prices are finding a way to decline this year. Thus, cattle markets and the Slip 'N Slide have the same warning: "Use by adults and teens can result in neck injury and paralysis." Many in the industry are feeling a little pain right now.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$293.78 down \$0.94 from Thursday and down \$6.15 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$269.86 up \$2.21 from Thursday and up \$1.94 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$23.92 compared to \$32.03 a week ago.

O holiday season, where art thou? As the country heads towards Thanksgiving when turkey and ham are center stage for many consumers, the question is when will retailers begin supporting beef prices by purchasing for end of the year holidays. It is not uncommon for retailers and food service entities to begin purchasing beef prior to Thanksgiving as they prepare for end of the year meat protein movement. As Choice box prices continue to soften, it is clear there is not a strong pull on high quality cuts at this time. However, it is important to note there is more than a month for beef to be moved between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thus, there is still time to see some strengthening. If Choice box prices are to be supported, the expectation is for the support to come primarily from the rib primal and secondarily from the loin. The big question is if consumers are willing to be active enough buyers such that beef prices can be pushed higher. The best guess at this time is that beef prices will turn and head back to \$300 but not much more.

OUTLOOK: Based on Tennessee weekly auction price averages, steers prices were \$8 to \$15 lower compared to last week while heifer prices were \$3 to \$9 lower compared to a week ago. Slaughter cow prices were steady to \$1 higher than last week's weighted average price while bull prices were steady compared to the previous week. The CME feeder cattle index value peaked at \$254.10 per hundredweight on September 20th and remained close to the \$250 price point through October 12th. Over the past five weeks, the CME feeder cattle index value has declined more than \$21 per hundredweight. The reason these dates are important is because of the price action on the futures market relative to the cash market (i.e. CME feeder cattle index). For example, the January feeder cattle futures contract price started its price decline from its apex around September 20th. The January contract price declined \$12.53 from September 20th through October 12th, but there was little to no change in the cash price as determined by the CME feeder cattle index. Alternatively, January feeder cattle

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

futures prices have declined \$27 the past five weeks, which is consistent with the \$21 decline in cash prices. These price declines in the feeder cattle market have slowly bled into the calf market, and the trends from this week's trade demonstrate that skid well. What is there to learn? First, high markets do not stay high indefinitely. Second, there is more risk of a price decline when prices are high than when prices are low. If one does not agree with that then maybe a more correct statement is that high prices can decline more than a lower price can. Third, there is a place for price risk management in every operation. There is certainly going to be opposition to that statement, but failure to use it may simply mean unrealized profits, which are difficult to prove unless considering alternative decisions and their outcomes. Lastly, the futures market can be misleading at times and that is why using current cash prices, seasonal tendencies and the futures market all aid in decision making.

The November cattle on feed report for feedlots with a 1000 head or more capacity indicated cattle and calves on feed as of November 1, 2023 totaled 11.93 million head, up 1.7% compared to a year ago, with the pre-report estimate average expecting a 1.9% increase. October placements in feedlots totaled 2.16 million head, up 3.8% from a year ago with the pre-report estimate average expecting placements up 6.1%. October marketing's totaled 1.76 million head down 2.6% from 2022 with pre-report estimates expecting a 2.0% decrease in marketings. Placements on feed by weight: under 700 pounds up 2.5%, 700 to 899 pounds up 4.8%, 900 pounds and over up 5.6%.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

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

This week the March corn contract set a new contract low of \$4.76 $\frac{1}{2}$ on November 13th. The March contract has traded mostly sideways since August 3rd with a range of \$4.76 to \$5.22. USDA's projected corn carryover

into the 2024/25 marketing year of 2.156 billion bushels will limit upside potential in corn futures markets unless exports increase, and stocks are reduced. The concern for producers, with corn held in storage, is the downside risk in the futures market. Setting a futures market price floor or hedging crop in storage and letting basis improve would be a less risky strategy than holding corn unpriced into 2024. Each operation will need to evaluate risk versus reward, but protecting against the downside should be strongly considered.

For soybean futures prices, South America is firmly in the driver seat. US production of 4.129 billion bushels and projected ending stocks of 245 million bushels leaves very limited room for USDA to increase projected US exports of 1.755 billion bushels. So far, the production year in Brazil has been a mixed bag in terms of weather. Areas in the North have been too dry, areas in the South too wet. South American weather forecasts have the potential to create volatility in soybean futures markets as the regions production will be key to satisfying international demand for soybeans, oil, and meal.

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: Cooperative marketing was a discussion topic this week with many lessons to be learned from the conversation. Cooperative marketing is similar to any relationship or partnership in that communication is key to keeping everyone on the same page. For instance, when producers come together to cooperatively market cattle then it is important that expectations of what thresholds animals must meet is in writing and distributed to all parties involved in the cooperative marketing endeavor. Additionally, it is imperative to consider changes that could improve cattle marketing outcomes. These decisions can either be made by the collective group if it is a small number of people or a board that is a subset of a much larger marketing group. Regardless, cooperative marketing participants should routinely consider changes that could improve the marketing outcomes for the collective group. The most important part is that marketing cooperative participants be active in the marketing of cattle and not just bystanders leaning on others.

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 –December \$175.75 +1.00; February \$176.80 +1.48; April \$178.43 +1.33; Feeder cattle –January \$228.50 +1.00; March \$230.98 +0.88; April \$234.50 +0.80; May \$237.78 +0.73; December corn closed at \$4.67 down 8 cents from Thursday.

or		Previous	Current	Change
	USD Index	105.69	103.84	-1.86
	Crude Oil	77.15	75.7	-1.45
J-	DЛА	34,214	34,962	748

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Soybean meal futures have exploded to the upside. Since October 11, January soybean meal futures are up 16.4%, compared to soybean oil (down 2%) and soybeans (up 5.3%). USDA estimates domestic crushing of 2.3 billion bushels of soybeans this marketing year. Increased meal demand and crush could help pull soybean futures prices higher or increase basis offerings this winter.

The good news in cotton futures is the March contract held at 78 cents last week, establishing solid price support moving forward. The bad news is there is strong resistance established at 84 cents. So markets are likely to trade between 78 and 84 cents, absent increased export demand or a production disruption in the southern hemisphere.

<u>Corn</u>

Ethanol production for the week ending November 10 was 1.047 million barrels per day, up 5,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 20.954 million barrels, down 35,000 barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for November 3-9 were net sales of 71.2 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year – a marketing year high. Exports for the same period were down 17% compared to last week at 26.9 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 40% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 46%. Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) weakened or remained unchanged at West, Northwest, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 60 under to 15 over, with an average of 17 under the December futures at elevators and barge points.



The Crop Progress report estimated corn harvested at 88% compared to 81% last week, 92% last year, and a 5-year average of 86%. In Tennessee, corn harvested was estimated at 97% compared to 96% last week, 100% last year, and a 5-year average of 98%. Cash prices ranged from \$4.28 to \$5.04 at elevators and barge points. December 2023 corn futures closed at \$4.67, up 3 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2023 corn futures traded between \$4.61 and \$4.80. Dec/Mar and Dec/May future spreads were 18 and 29 cents. March 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.85, up 6 cents since last Friday. May 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.96, up 8 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$5.20 December 2024 Put Option costing 46 cents establishing a \$4.74 futures floor.

Soybeans

Across Tennessee average soybean basis strengthened or remained unchanged at Northwest, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points and weakened at West elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 58 under to 15 over the January futures contract, with an average basis at the end of the week of 15 under. Soybean net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 144 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 11% compared to last week at 73.2 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 59% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 63%.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Soybeans	Jan 24	Change	Nov 24	Change
Price	\$13.40	-\$0.07	\$12.83	\$0.04
Support	\$13.21	\$0.08	\$12.71	\$0.12
Resistance	\$13.70	-\$0.17	\$13.01	-\$0.11
20 Day MA	\$13.40	\$0.13	\$12.82	\$0.09
50 Day MA	\$13.27	-\$0.01	\$12.72	\$0.00
100 Day MA	\$13.46	\$0.03	\$12.73	\$0.03
4-Week High	\$13.98	\$0.14	\$13.16	\$0.07
4-Week Low	\$12.97	\$0.27	\$12.49	\$0.14
Technical Trend	Up	=	Up	=



The Crop Progress report estimated soybeans harvested at 95% compared to 91% last week, 96% last year, and a 5-year average of 91%. In Tennessee, the Crop Progress report estimated soybeans harvested at 87% compared to 80% last week, 86% last year, and a 5-year average of 78%. January 2024 soybean futures closed at \$13.40, down 7 cents since last Friday. For the week, January 2024 soybean futures traded between \$13.36 and \$13.98. Cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$13.55 to \$14.12. March 2024 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.80 at the end of the week. Jan/Mar and Jan/Nov future spreads were 16 and -57 cents. March 2024 soybean futures closed at \$13.56, down 4 cents since last Friday. November 2024 soybean futures closed at \$12.83, up 4 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$13.00 November 2024 Put Option which would cost 88 cents and set a \$12.12 futures floor. Nov/Dec soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.51 at the end of the week.

<u>Cotton</u>

North Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for November 16 were 77.38 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 79.63 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted world price (AWP) was down 0.39 cents at 64.23 cents. Cotton net weekly sales reported by exporters were 328,200 bales for the 2023/24 marketing year and 30,400 bales for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 25% compared to last week at 112,900 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 63% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 68%.



The Crop Progress report estimated cotton harvested at 67% compared to 57% last week, 70% last year, and a 5-year average of 63%. In Tennessee, the Crop Progress report estimated cotton harvested at 86% compared to 76% last week, 82% last year, and a 5-year average of 75%. December 2023 cotton futures closed at 78.92 cents, up 1.6 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2023 cotton futures traded between 76.82 and 79.88 cents. March 2024 cotton futures closed at 81.51 cents, up 2.01 cents since last Friday. May 2024 cotton futures closed at 82.19 cents, up 1.91 cents since last Friday. Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were 2.59 cents and 3.27 cents. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 79 cent December 2024 Put Option costing 5.92 cents establishing a 73.08 cent futures floor.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Wheat</u>

Wheat net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 6.5 million bushels for the 2023/24 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 131% compared to last week at 11.4 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 63% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2023/24 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 66%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$4.88 to \$5.59. December 2023 wheat futures closed at \$5.50, down 25 cents since last Friday. December 2023 wheat futures traded between \$5.47 and \$5.85 this week. December wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.18. Dec/Mar and Dec/Jul future spreads were 25 and 55 cents. March 2024 wheat futures closed at \$5.75, down 24 cents since last Friday.



The Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat condition at 47% good-to-excellent and 17% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat planted at 93% compared to 90% last week, 95% last year, and a 5-year average of 93%; and winter wheat emerged at 81% compared to 75% last week, 80% last year, and a 5-year average of 80%. In Tennessee, winter wheat condition was estimated at 50% good-to-excellent and 9% poor-to-very poor; winter wheat planted at 74% compared to 63% last week, 84% last year, and a 5-year average of 58%. July 2024 wheat futures closed at \$6.05, down 23 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.10 July 2024 Put Option costing 50 cents establishing a \$5.60 futures floor. New crop wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.80 to \$6.07.

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 - https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wprode_s1_w.htm EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm Upland Cotton Reports - https://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/epasReports?area=home&subject=ecpa&topic=fta-uc Tennessee Crop Progress - https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Tennessee/Publications/ Crop_Progress & Condition/ U.S. Crop Progress - http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1048 USDA AMS: Market News - https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/search-market-news

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	ers by Elevators			
	Friday, November 10, 2023Thursday, November 16, 2023					
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans	\$/bushel\$					
Northwest		13.25	13.32	13.33	13.08	
North Central		13.73	13.80	13.75	13.45	
West Central						
West		13.95	14.05	13.97	13.68	
Vississippi River		13.70	13.90	13.85	13.58	
Yellow Corn						
Northwest		4.65	4.66	4.58	4.62	
North Central		4.17	4.18	4.11	4.15	
Nest Central						
West		4.92	4.93	4.83	4.83	
Vississippi River		4.82	4.85	4.75	4.73	
Wheat						
Northwest		5.14	5.07	4.96	4.89	
North Central		5.44	5.47	5.36	5.29	
West						
Vississippi River		5.59	5.52	5.41	5.34	
Cotton						
Memphis	74.07-76.32	74.23-76.48	75.68-77.93	75.91-78.16	77.38-79.63	







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

Prices on Tennessee Reported Livestock Auctions for the week ending Monday, November 13, 2023							
	This Week		Last Week's	Year Ago			
	Low	High	Weighted Average	Weighted Average	Weighted Average		
			\$/cwt				
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #1-2						
300-400 lbs	210.00	310.00	260.12	257.13	180.80		
400-500 lbs	205.00	290.00	256.06	256.49	176.87		
500-600 lbs	194.00	277.50	244.99	238.80	166.81		
600-700 lbs	187.00	252.00	224.77	226.07	156.57		
700-800 lbs	170.00	239.00	212.44	220.67	146.93		
Steers: Small Frame #	1-2						
300-400 lbs	190.00	262.50	221.06	229.10	167.11		
400-500 lbs	185.00	240.00	226.99	227.19	135.26		
500-600 lbs	207.50	220.00	213.69	218.33	135.69		
600-700 lbs				186.85			
Steers: Medium/Large	e Frame #3						
300-400 lbs	195.00	282.00	243.35	225.02	168.45		
400-500 lbs	190.00	252.00	226.29	205.15	159.57		
500-600 lbs	175.00	240.00	217.29	211.28	148.65		
600-700 lbs	174.00	230.00	200.22	204.67	140.16		
700-800 lbs	154.00	220.00	202.06	196.44			
Holstein Steers							
300-400 lbs							
500-600 lbs							
700-800 lbs							
Slaughter Cows & Bul	S						
Breakers 75-80%	72.50	104.00	91.89	91.55	66.54		
Boners 80-85%	75.50	98.00	87.79	88.70	64.95		
Lean 85-90%	57.00	89.00	78.34	79.28	52.48		
Bulls YG 1	77.00	123.00	113.18	112.67	91.76		
Heifers: Medium/Larg	e Frame #1-2						
300-400 lbs	175.00	275.00	224.51	222.84	157.19		
400-500 lbs	170.00	260.00	215.52	218.58	149.90		
500-600 lbs	162.00	245.00	208.91	212.22	142.19		
600-700 lbs	159.00	226.00	191.90	199.03	135.48		
Heifers: Small Frame	Heifers: Small Frame #1-2						
300-400 lbs	135.00	235.00	199.21	205.00	143.85		
400-500 lbs	132.50	220.00	201.49	207.74	136.16		
500-600 lbs	135.00	215.00	178.17	188.09	116.33		
600-700 lbs	161.00	185.00	180.20	173.00	101.23		
Heifers: Medium/Large Frame #2-3							
300-400 lbs	119.00	245.00	215.19	209.84	142.44		
400-500 lbs	160.00	226.00	202.28	194.50	136.05		
500-600 lbs	134.00	220.00	196.97	186.93	130.93		
600-700 lbs	135.00	207.50	184.01	182.31	125.83		

Cattle Receipts

This week:8,724

Week ago:7,439

Year ago:6,078

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

East Tennessee Livestock Center Graded Feeder Cattle Sale-Sweetwater, TN 11/10/23 Total Receipts: 692 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2073.pdf

Browning Livestock Market Video/Internet Auction -Lafayette, TN 11/15/23 Total Receipts: 298 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3467.pdf

Hardin County Stockyard - Savannah, TN 115 Steers, 905 lbs, M&L 1, 113-Black/BWF 2-ChX, 5-6 Flesh, \$215.00 72 Heifers, 637 lbs, M&L 1&2, 37-Black/BWF 26-Red/RWF 9-ChX, 4-5 Flesh, \$214.75

Hardin County Stockyard Video Auction - Savannah, TN 11/15/23 Total Receipts: 275 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_3509.pdf

Warren Co. Livestock Graded Sale - McMinnville, TN 11/15/23 Total Receipts: 1,324 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2079.pdf

Graded Goat & Sheep Sale

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 11/13/23 Total Receipts: 1,769 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.

