Tennessee Market Highlights

October 18, 2024 Number: 42

UTEXTENSION INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

Trends for the Week Compared to a Week Ago

Slaughter Cows

\$1 to \$3 higher

Slaughter Bulls

\$3 to \$4 higher

Feeder Steers

\$3 to \$8 higher Feeder Heifers

steady

Feeder Cattle Index: 250.25

Fed Cattle

The 5-area live price on Thursday of \$187.53 up \$0.45 compared to last week and \$296.22 dressed, up \$0.32.

Corn

December closed at \$4.04 a bushel, down 11 cents since last Friday.

<u>Soybeans</u>

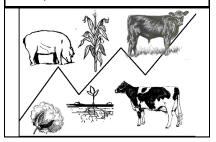
November closed at \$9.70 a bushel, down 35 cents since last Friday.

<u>Wheat</u>

December closed at \$5.72 a bushel, down 27 cents since last Friday.

<u>Cotton</u>

December closed at 70.99 cents per lb, down 1.22 cents since last Friday.



Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew P. Griffith

FED CATTLE: Fed cattle traded steady to \$1 higher on a live basis compared to last week. Prices were mainly \$187 to \$189 on a live basis. Dressed trade was mainly \$296.

The 5-area weighted average prices thru Thursday were \$187.53 live, up \$0.45 compared to last week and \$296.22 dressed, up \$0.32 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$186.11 live and \$293.79 dressed.

Steady finished cattle prices are a welcome sign for cattle feeders as they should be making a profit on most of the cattle being marketed. Both cattle feeders and packers are satisfied with a slower marketing rate at this time as fewer cattle to place on feed lends itself to keeping cattle on feed longer while poor profitability at the packer level has that sector wanting to slow down since it is all but a blood bath on the financial side. As the market moves through the fourth quarter there is likely to be more of the same since fewer and fewer cattle will be placed on feed. There is a good chance the holiday season will support prices at some point, but the price will likely relapse moving into the first quarter of 2025.

BEEF CUTOUT: At midday Friday, the Choice cutout was \$320.59 up \$1.33 from Thursday and up \$9.54 from a week ago. The Select cutout was \$294.75 up \$1.23 from Thursday and up \$7.61 from last week. The Choice Select spread was \$25.84 compared to \$19.84 a week ago.

The Choice beef cutout value has increased more than \$18 per hundredweight the past two weeks. Much of this is due to packers managing slaughter rates and the quantity of beef available on any given day or week. At the same time, the Choice Select spread has widened considerably. The widening of the Choice Select spread points to consumer desire for higher quality beef. The escalation of wholesale beef prices and the widening of the Choice Select spread may be a little earlier than normal or at least early to have such large price jumps. Again, some of these tendencies are due to how packers are managing slaughter rates, but the strong demand for Choice beef is all due to consumer demand. American consumers continue to display their preference for beef that has more marbling than beef with less marbling. This does not mean Select beef is not demanded, but there is less pull on Select beef from the broader audience. This will be on full display as winter months come and there is more need for Select grade roasts.

OUTLOOK: Based on weekly auction market averages, steer prices were \$3 to \$8 higher compared to last week while heifer prices were steady compared to the previous week. Slaughter cow prices were \$1 to \$3 higher compared to the previous week's weighted average price while bull prices were \$3 to \$4 higher compared to the prior week. Calf prices continue moving in a contraseasonal direction as the spring calf crop makes its way to town. It is rare to see calf prices escalate as the market moves into the fourth quarter of the year, but this is no ordinary year. The market price of calves and feeder cattle attempted to encourage cattle producers to retain heifers this year to grow the cattle herd. However, most producers have been challenged with drought and "marginal profits" this year, which has resulted in little to no heifer retention. As the market hits its stride as it relates to calf marketings, buyers are acting like rebid dogs, because they are not sure how tight calf supplies really are. This means it is a get what a person can get while they can get it mentality. There is no problem with this mentality as it is unlikely calf

Livestock Comments by Dr. Andrew Griffith

(Continued from page 1)

prices will soften anytime soon. The opposite side of the coin is that calf prices may not increase in December and early January as rapidly as would normally be expected. Heifer marketings will be watched closely by industry participants to see how many heifers may be retained from this calf crop for beef cow replacement. From a prognostication standpoint, there will not be many heifers retained due to the aforementioned challenges. With that being said, slaughter cow marketings have slowed to a snail's pace. This does mean producers are keeping cows at home, but they are not replacing those that have already been shipped in previous years. This price movement may result in more questions than answers. For beginners, if prices are increasing now, how high will they be in the spring? Second, if prices increase into the spring, what will feeder cattle and finished cattle have to be to present a profit opportunity?

ASK ANDREW, TN THINK TANK: A question was asked recently concerning NCBA's survey concerning taxes on American cattlemen. The survey results were likely as one would expect and that is that most people prefer less of a tax burden to more of a tax burden. The primary concerns were having a

stepped-up basis when land is passed to the next generation, like-kind exchange of property when one property is sold and another is purchased, section 179 deduction which allows machinery for the business to be depreciated, bonus depreciation which allows for depreciation to be accelerated, section 199A small business deduction, and estate tax provisions. Most of these are concerns for family farms as they work to build a business to pass to the next generation of farmers. Many of these tax provisions are imperative to reduce the cost of one generation exiting the business and the next generation entering the business. These are concerns that individuals should share with their elected officials so they can address these issues when they arise.

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 \$187.63 +1.00; December \$187.33 +1.15; February \$188.13 +1.15; Feeder cattle –October \$248.33 +1.60; November \$247.60 +1.85; January \$245.50 +2.38; March \$244.78 +2.33; December corn closed at \$4.05 down 2 cents from Thursday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Overview

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

December corn futures are 30 cents off the recent highs, however basis has improved in several Tennessee location offsetting part of the futures price declines. Dramatically different yields across the state will influence local cash prices. Currently, USDA estimates average corn yield in Tennessee at 153 bushels per acre (20 bushels per acre lower than 2023),

however there is tremendous variability across the state with higher yields in the Northwest portion of the state and lower yields in the Southeast. There is also tremendous variability field-to-field depending on timeliness of moisture and planting conditions. Tennessee is projected to harvest 230,000 fewer acres of corn compared to last year. Combined with the 20 bushel per acre decline in yield results in a decrease in state corn production of 53 million bushels. This dramatic change will facilitate more corn entering the state than in recent years as demand by livestock, poultry, ethanol, and industrial use increases year-over-year.

Soybean prices have been in free fall since October 1st. The November soybean contract has closed down 12 of the past 15 trading days, declining over 90 cents. Key support remains near \$9.60 with the current contract low of \$9.55 established August 16. Rain in Brazil coupled with improved production forecasts have been a key factor in the price declines. Increased projected South American production will adversely affect US soybean export prospects, particularly to China as Brazil has become the dominate supplier for the Chinese soybean market. US soybean exports need a robust pace before the South American crop enters the world market in February/March.

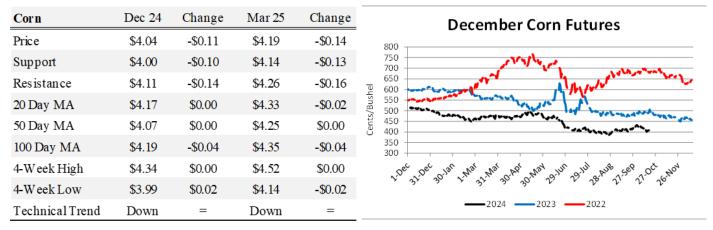
March cotton futures are 2 cents off recent highs, trading below 74 cents at the end of the week. Recent hurricanes have likely caused a loss of production of 500,000+ bales, however demand remains the primary issue for price improvements. Any rally towards 80 cents will need to be fueled by improved export demand in 2025. There continues to be a 2-cent spread between the nearby futures contract and the March contract.

		Previous	Current	Change
~~	USD Index	102.68	103.30	0.62
	Crude Oil	75.56	69.35	-6.21
	DЛA	42,864	43,276	412

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

<u>Corn</u>

Across Tennessee, average corn basis (cash price-nearby futures price) strengthened or remained unchanged at Northwest, West, West-Central, North-Central, and Mississippi River elevators. Overall, basis for the week ranged from 40 under to 15 over, with an average of 10 under the December futures at elevators and barge points. Ethanol production for the week ending October 11 was 1.042 million barrels per day, up 4,000 from the previous week. Ethanol stocks were 22.275 million barrels, up 0.121 million barrels compared to last week. Corn net sales reported by exporters for October 4-10 were net sales of 87.6 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 53% compared to last week at 19.8 million bushels. Corn export sales and commitments were 34% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (September 1 to August 31) compared to the previous 5-year average of 36%. The Crop Progress report estimated corn condition at 64% good-to-excellent and 12% poor-to-very poor; corn mature at 94% compared to 87% last week, 93% last year, and a 5-year average of 89%; and corn harvested at 47% compared to 30% last week, 42% last year, and a 5-year average of 39%. In Tennessee, corn condition was estimated at 46% good-to-excellent and 24% poor-to-very poor; corn mature at 99% compared to 98% last week, 98% last year, and a 5-year average of 99%; and corn harvested at 88% compared to 80% last week, 80% last year, and a 5-year average of 81%. Cash prices ranged from \$3.61 to \$4.22 at elevators and barge points. December 2024 corn futures closed at \$4.04, down 11 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2024 corn futures traded between \$3.99 and \$4.15. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$4.05 December 2024 Put Option costing 9 cents establishing a \$3.96 futures floor.



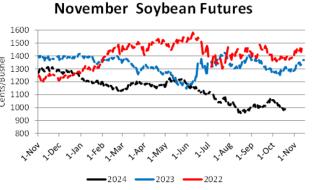
Dec/Mar and Dec/Dec future spreads were 15 and 31 cents. March 2025 corn futures closed at \$4.19, down 14 cents since last Friday. December 2025 corn futures closed at \$4.35, down 15 cents since last Friday.

Soybeans

Across Tennessee the average soybean basis strengthened or remained unchanged at Northwest, West, North-Central, West-Central, and Mississippi River elevators and barge points. Basis ranged from 59 under to 30 over the November futures contract, with an average basis at the end of the week of 9 under. Soybean net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 62.6 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 9% compared to last week at 68.1 million bushels. Soybean export sales and commitments were 43% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (September 1 to August 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 53%. The Crop Progress report estimated soybeans dropping leaves at 95% compared to 90% last week, 96% last year, and a 5-year average of 92%; and soybeans harvested at 67% compared to 47% last week, 57% last year, and a 5-year average of 51%. In Tennessee, soybean condition was estimated at 42% good-to-excellent and 22% poor-to-very poor; soybeans dropping leaves at 91% compared to 83% last week, 89% last year, and a 5-year average of 87%; and soybeans harvested at 62% compared to 51% last week, 43% last year, and a 5-year average of 39%. Cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$9.32 to \$10.21. November 2024 soybean futures closed at \$9.70, down 35 cents since last Friday. For the week, November 2024 soybean futures traded between \$9.68 and \$10.08. Nov/Dec 2024 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.40 at the end of the week.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

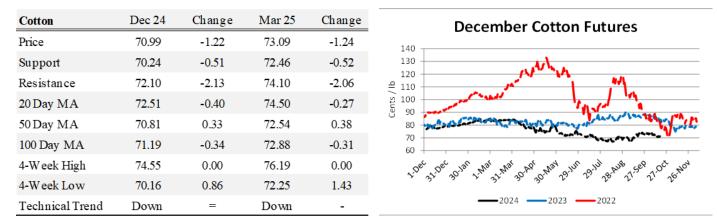
Soybeans	Nov 24	Change	Jan 25	Change
Price	\$9.70	-\$0.35	\$9.82	-\$0.39
Support	\$9.52	-\$0.39	\$9.67	-\$0.39
Resistance	\$10.04	-\$0.26	\$10.11	-\$0.36
20 Day MA	\$10.25	-\$0.06	\$10.42	-\$0.07
50 Day MA	\$10.06	-\$0.04	\$10.23	-\$0.04
100 Day MA	\$10.51	-\$0.11	\$10.67	-\$0.11
4-Week High	\$10.69	\$0.00	\$10.87	\$0.00
4-Week Low	\$9.68	-\$0.29	\$9.80	-\$0.35
Technical Trend	Down	=	Down	=



Nov/Jan and Nov/Nov future spreads were 12 and 50 cents. January 2025 soybean futures closed at \$9.82, down 39 cents since last Friday. November 2025 soybean futures closed at \$10.20, down 35 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be achieved by purchasing a \$10.20 November 2025 Put Option which would cost 69 cents and set a \$9.51 futures floor. Nov/ Dec 2025 soybean-to-corn price ratio was 2.34 at the end of the week.

<u>Cotton</u>

North Delta upland cotton spot price quotes for October 18 were 65.75 cents/lb (41-4-34) and 67.76 cents/lb (31-3-35). Adjusted World Price (AWP) decreased 1.17 cents to 59.24 cents. Cotton net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 159,800 bales for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were down 39% compared to last week at 57,800 bales. Upland cotton export sales were 49% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (August 1 to July 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 60%. The Crop Progress report estimated cotton condition at 34% good-to-excellent and 34% poor-to-very poor; cotton bolls opening at 88% compared to 82% last week, 86% last year, and a 5-year average of 86%; and cotton harvested at 34% compared to 26% last week, 31% last year, and a 5-year average of 30%. In Tennessee, cotton condition was estimated at 41% good-to-excellent and 28% poor-to-very poor; cotton bolls opening at 95% compared to 91% last week, 89% last year, and a 5-year average of 88%; and cotton harvested at 35% compared to 19% last week, 22% last year, and a 5-year average of 22%. December 2024 cotton futures closed at 70.99 cents, down 1.22 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2024 cotton futures traded between 70.16 and 72.2 cents. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a 71 cent December 2024 Put Option costing 1.38 cents establishing a 69.62 cent futures floor.



Dec/Mar and Dec/May cotton futures spreads were 2.10 cents and 3.54 cents. March 2025 cotton futures closed at 73.09 cents, down 1.24 cents since last Friday. May 2025 cotton futures closed at 74.53 cents, down 1.18 cents since last Friday.

Crop Comments by Dr. Aaron Smith

Wheat

Wheat net weekly sales reported by exporters were net sales of 18.5 million bushels for the 2024/25 marketing year. Exports for the same period were up 9% compared to last week at 14.4 million bushels. Wheat export sales were 56% of the USDA estimated total annual exports for the 2024/25 marketing year (June 1 to May 31), compared to the previous 5-year average of 60%. Wheat cash prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.14 to \$5.25. December 2024 wheat futures closed at \$5.72, down 27 cents since last Friday. The December wheat-to-corn price ratio was 1.42. December 2024 wheat futures traded between \$5.70 and \$6.01 this week. March 2025 wheat futures closed at \$5.92, down 29 cents since last Friday.



Dec/Mar and Dec/Jul future spreads were 20 and 37 cents. The Crop Progress report estimated winter wheat planted at 64% compared to 51% last week, 65% last year, and a 5-year average of 66%; and winter wheat emerged at 35% compared to 25% last week, 36% last year, and a 5-year average of 38%. In Tennessee winter wheat planted was estimated at 31% compared to 20% last week, 23% last year, and a 5-year average of 26%; and winter wheat emerged at 11% compared to 2% last week, 8% last year, and a 5-year average of 11%. July cash contracts at elevators and barge points ranged from \$5.24 to \$6.05. July 2025 wheat futures closed at \$6.09, down 30 cents since last Friday. Downside price protection could be obtained by purchasing a \$6.10 July 2025 Put Option costing 53 cents establishing a \$5.57 futures floor.

Additional Information:

Links for data presented:

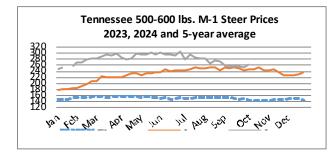
U.S. Export Sales - <u>https://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/esrd1.html</u>

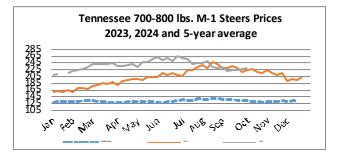
USDA FAS: Weekly Export Performance Indicator – <u>https://apps.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/esrpi.aspx</u> EIA: Weekly ethanol Plant Production - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_pnp_wprode_s1_w.htm</u> EIA: Weekly Supply Estimates - <u>https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/pet_sum_sndw_a_EPOOXE_sae_mbbl_w.htm</u> 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>

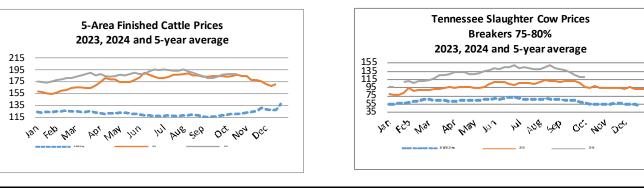
U.S. Crop Progress - <u>http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/MannUsda/viewDocumentInfo.do?documentID=1048</u> USDA AMS: Market News - <u>https://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/search-market-news</u>

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>.

	Friday, October 11, 2024Thursday, October 17, 2024						
	Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		
	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average		
No. 2 Yellow Soybeans	s\$/bushel\$/bushel						
Northwest	9.45		9.32	9.32	9.41		
North Central	9.71		9.66	9.65	9.74		
West Central							
West	10.14		10.21	10.10	10.19		
Mississippi River	9.81		9.82	9.79	9.88		
Yellow Corn							
Northwest	3.89		3.75	3.86	3.88		
North Central	3.76		3.61	3.65	3.67		
West Central							
West	4.11		4.06	4.20	4.22		
Mississippi River	3.96		3.95	4.06	4.08		
Wheat							
Northwest							
North Central	5.34		5.15	5.20	5.25		
West							
Mississippi River							
Cotton			\$/pound				
Memphis	66.71-68.71	65.53-67.53	65.12-67.12	65.76-67.76	65.75-67.7		







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

	nessee Reported Livestock Auctions for the wee This Week			Last Week's Year Ago		
-	Low	High		Weighted Average	•	
-			\$/cwt			
Steers: Medium/Large						
300-400 lbs	275.00	352.00	313.46	312.65	262.52	
400-500 lbs	255.00	320.00	289.40	281.92	251.92	
500-600 lbs	240.00	280.00	257.29	259.76	242.14	
600-700 lbs	227.50	260.00	245.21	244.56	227.14	
700-800 lbs	210.00	257.00	231.37	228.03	223.60	
Steers: Small Frame #		237.00	251.57	220.05	225.00	
300-400 lbs	265.00	295.00	281.18		203.47	
400-500 lbs	205.00				203.47	
500-600 lbs				234.83		
600-700 lbs				234.06		
Steers: Medium/Large		225.00	204.04	275 20	225.25	
300-400 lbs	240.00	325.00	281.01	275.38	225.35	
400-500 lbs	222.50	292.00	259.50	261.25	217.69	
500-600 lbs	200.00	260.00	237.57	235.68	210.78	
600-700 lbs	205.00	250.00	225.90	226.85	204.91	
700-800 lbs	187.50	225.00	211.74	206.02	200.55	
Holstein Steers						
300-400 lbs						
500-600 lbs						
700-800 lbs						
Slaughter Cows & Bul	ls					
Breakers 75-80%	113.00	131.00	122.52	118.60	96.00	
Boners 80-85%	110.00	131.00	120.72	117.31	92.29	
Lean 85-90%	100.00	116.00	107.91	105.29	82.63	
Bulls YG 1	133.50	160.00	148.97	148.11	120.38	
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #1-2					
300-400 lbs	245.00	300.00	273.54	260.52	222.07	
400-500 lbs	232.50	280.00	253.71	248.02	218.95	
500-600 lbs	216.00	260.00	242.76	234.60	209.96	
600-700 lbs	187.00	242.50	226.18	226.14	198.66	
Heifers: Small Frame	#1-2					
300-400 lbs	245.00	250.00	247.50	232.50	210.91	
400-500 lbs	192.50	240.00	222.86	224.63	171.79	
500-600 lbs	199.00	220.00	209.63	212.02	193.23	
600-700 lbs	200.00	206.00	202.85	198.25		
Heifers: Medium/Larg	ge Frame #2-3					
300-400 lbs	215.00	265.00	247.53	247.74	205.38	
400-500 lbs	200.00	265.00	238.50	229.18	194.69	
500-600 lbs	187.50	240.00	222.40	218.79	182.73	
600-700 lbs	180.00	222.50	207.06	206.08	179.71	

Cattle Receipts

This week:7,441

Week ago:7,192

Year ago:7,601

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

East Tennessee Livestock Center Graded Holstein Steer Sale - Sweetwater, TN 10/11/24 Total Receipts: 345 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2072.pdf

Dickson Regional Livestock Center - Dickson, TN

10/14/24 56 Steers; 898 lbs; 100% Blk/BWF; M&L #1; 5 flesh; value added; \$235.00 55 Steers; 997 lbs; 100% Blk/BWF; M&L #1; 5 flesh; value added; \$230.00

East Tennessee Livestock Center Video Sale

- Sweetwater, TN 10/16/24 1 load out of 76 steers from BQA certified producer; Est weight 885 lbs; 95% L&M-1s and 5% L&M-2s; 100% BLK/BWF; \$239.75

Knoxville Livestock Center - Knoxville, TN

10/15/24 1 load ML 1 preconditioned Steers; 836 lbs.; medium flesh; mixed colors; \$238.00

Hardin County Stockyard - Savannah, TN 10/16/24 83 steers; 637 lbs; M&L #1; 71 Blk/BWF 11 ChX, 5 flesh; value added; \$287.00

Graded Sales, Video Board Sales, Video Sales & Loads

Columbia Graded Sheep and Goat Sale-Columbia, TN Weighted Average Report for 10/14/24 Total Receipts: 1,254 For complete report: https://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/ams_2081.pdf

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

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