

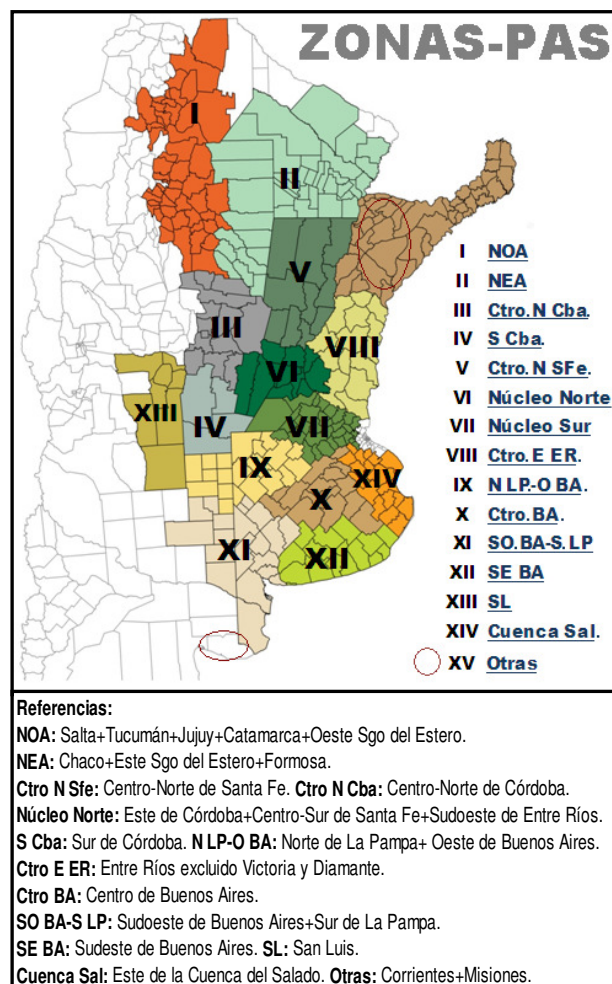


Weekly Ag Report

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE

WEEK ENDED ON May. 16, 2013

CROP REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS
Estimations and Agricultural Projections Department
Buenos Aires Grain Exchange



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAINS EXCHANGE

MAY 16, 2013

AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: MAY 16 TO 22, 2013: SIGNIFICANT TEMPERATURE DROP AND PRECIPITATIONS OVER THE NORTHEAST OF THE AGRICULTURAL AREA.

OUTLOOK SUMMARY

The current perspective begins with the entrance of a southerly cold air mass. This condition will lead to a significant drop in temperature: Northwestern Paraguay, most of Mato Grosso do Sul, northern Paraná, and Sao Paulo will report minimum temperatures above 10 °C; southern Paraná, the northeast of Santa Catarina, most of Paraguay, eastern NOA, eastern Cuyo, most of the Chaco region, northern Misiones, the coastal area of Buenos Aires, central and western La Pampa and eastern Uruguay will observe minimum temperatures ranging from 5 to 10°C, with little chances of hail; central NOA, central Cuyo, most of the Mesopotamia region, most of the Pampas region, most of the Uruguayan agricultural area, the southeast of Paraguay, most of Estados de Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul will observe minimum temperatures ranging from 0 y 5°C, with chances of local hail; western NOA, western Cuyo, southeast of Entre Ríos, the hilly area in Buenos Aires and part of Uruguay will report areas with minimum temperatures below 0°C, with generalized hails. Precipitations will concentrate over the northeast of the agricultural area, being scarce over the rest of the area: The eastern part of Paraguay, most of Southern Brazil, the north of the Mesopotamia region and the northern-end area of Uruguay will observe precipitations of varied intensity, from moderate to abundant (10 to 50 mm); The rest of the agricultural area will observe scarce precipitations (less than 10 mm) with localized moderate values (10 to 25 mm). Later, winds will return to the north, leading to a moderate raise in maximum temperatures.

WHEAT

The wheat planting season of 2013/14 has begun, and there have been local variations since our pre-season report last April. These changes stem from different factors, such as hydric availability, price, commercialization, stock of seeds and the gross margin of the cereal crop among other. All these variables in combination have reduced the seeding intentions of some regions such as the NW and the NE areas. Simultaneously, other regions of relevant surface contribution have slightly increased their wheat areas, thus compensating the reductions planned for the north provinces.

Under these circumstances our estimation of planting surface nationwide remains unchanged for the 2013/14 season, as compared to our pre-seasonal report. In conclusion, the planting area will be of **3,900,000** hectares, which represents an increase of 8.3 % from the surface planted during the previous season (2012/13: 3.6 MHa planted).

Up to date, some specific plots have been covered near the regions of Metán, Salta, and some isolated areas of Tucumán. The NE area presents a similar situation, where only a few plots were incorporated near the towns of Villa Ángela, San Bernardo, La Tigra (Chaco), which have enough surface moisture to guarantee the planting of the crop.

At the same time, a few hectares were incorporated in the SW end of Buenos Aires, more precisely, in the district of Carmen de Patagones. The mid-north of Córdoba is another region that reports insufficient seeding progress.

SOYBEAN

After harvesting 90.2 % of the suitable surface, the national collection of soybeans is in its final phase. Up to the present report it is estimated that more than 17 M hectares were collected, making a weekly progress of 10.9 %, and a YOY increase of 6.9% compared to the same period last season. The national average yield continues to fall slowly, reaching 2.64 Tn/Ha this week; such productivity accrued a partial volume of nearly 45.2 million tons, which is close to 48,500,000 tons projected for the closing of the season.

Currently, there are 1.86 M hectares to be harvested, 50 % of which belong to second seeding plots located in the Buenos Aires region. As the harvest advances on these plots, the national average yield will continue to drop until finishing next to 2.55 Tn/Ha at the closing of the season.

On the other hand, the estimated loss of surface nationwide amounts to 700,000 hectares, which represents 3.5 % out of 19.7 million hectares planted. 46 % of such losses correspond to plots that will not be harvested in the provinces of the NW area, while another 20 % of the losses nationwide is in the NE area. The remaining surface losses are distributed in the rest of the agricultural region, and they are a consequence of different climatic factors such as floods, hail, hydric deficit and frosts.

SOYBEAN HARVEST

2012/13 SEASON

As of: May. 16, 2013

Zone		Hectareage (ha)			Percentage harvested	Hectares harvested	Yeld (1) (qq/ha)	Production (Tm)
		Sown	Lost	Harvestable				
I	NOA	1.360.000	320.000	1.040.000	90,3	938.600	8,6	805.794
II	NEA	2.010.000	140.000	1.870.000	76,3	1.425.875	14,8	2.111.636
III	Ctro N Cba	2.500.000	20.000	2.480.000	97,8	2.425.440	23,4	5.663.959
IV	S Cba	1.440.000	22.000	1.418.000	99,0	1.403.820	21,3	2.987.186
V	Ctro N SFe	1.150.000	15.000	1.135.000	93,2	1.057.820	30,6	3.240.222
VI	Núcleo Norte	3.400.000	50.000	3.350.000	99,8	3.344.640	36,1	12.085.179
VII	Núcleo Sur	2.680.000	12.000	2.668.000	97,5	2.602.100	34,7	9.026.887
VIII	Ctro E ER	1.200.000	8.000	1.192.000	97,8	1.165.776	22,0	2.561.474
IX	N LP-OBA	1.360.000	12.000	1.348.000	89,5	1.206.460	28,3	3.418.865
X	Ctro BA	418.000	13.000	405.000	75,0	303.851	24,9	757.843
XI	SO BA-S LP	415.000	15.000	400.000	69,2	276.800	16,8	465.000
XII	SE BA	1.337.000	50.000	1.287.000	51,6	664.414	21,3	1.416.198
XIII	SL	155.000	8.000	147.000	99,6	146.412	17,3	253.870
XIV	Cuenca Sal	215.000	9.000	206.000	60,5	124.630	23,9	298.447
XV	Others	60.000	6.000	54.000	97,0	52.380	18,2	95.440
TOTAL		19.700.000	700.000	19.000.000	90,2	17.139.018	26,4	45.187.999

CORN

So far the harvest of corn for commercialization has reported progress for 46 % of the suitable area. The weekly progress has posted an increase of 5.5%, while the YOY decrease remains at -7% on average compared to the previous harvest. In total numbers, some 12.8 million tons were collected, yielding an average of 7.72 Tn/Ha nationwide, and posting a drop of 0.2 Tn/Ha down from last week. However, this decrease is within expected parameters. This bearish trend is normal and it will continue in the next reports, since our harvest estimation is expected to render a productivity near to 7.1 Tn/Ha on average.

On the other hand, seven out of the fifteen PAS areas have finished the harvest of early plots (III, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII and XV), as well as the north of La Pampa-west of Buenos Aires, which is also about to finish harvesting. So far the productivity levels obtained are good, especially taking into account the climatic events observed during most of the crop cycle.

In the last seven days, most of the harvest work of late and second seeding plots was focused on the north and south belt regions, the mid-north and south of Córdoba, mid-north of Santa Fe, and the mid-east of Entre Ríos.

The largest number of late planted hectares is in the mid-north and south of Córdoba, as well as in the north of La Pampa-west of Buenos Aires. The region is expecting very good yields, with averages above historical numbers for each of the areas.

Under these circumstances, we maintain our production estimation at **24,800,000** tons for the ongoing season. If such volume is obtained, it will report a productivity record for commercial corn, ranking 15.4 % above the harvest of the previous season (2011/12: 21.5 M Tn).

CORN HARVEST

2012/13 SEASON

As Of: May. 16,2013

Zone		Hectareage (Ha)			Percentage Harvested	Hectares Harvested	Yield (qq/Ha)	Production (Tn)
		Sown	Lost	Harvestable				
I	NOA	265.000	21.200	243.800	3	6.360	30,0	19.080
II	NEA	285.000	7.980	277.020	14	39.809	35,8	142.648
III	Ctro N Cba	450.000	1.800	448.200	36	160.200	65,9	1.056.285
IV	S Cba	456.000	3.648	452.352	47	211.584	66,7	1.411.457
V	Ctro N SFe	147.000	4.410	142.590	63	89.670	69,3	621.291
VI	Núcleo Norte	459.000	1.744	457.256	81	369.128	90,8	3.196.822
VII	Núcleo Sur	410.000	1.311	408.689	67	275.730	93,3	2.571.332
VIII	Ctro E ER	151.000	2.008	148.992	70	103.985	58,5	608.819
IX	N LP-OBA	416.000	3.859	412.141	38	156.946	84,4	1.324.980
X	Ctro BA	225.000	0	225.000	53	118.800	83,8	995.400
XI	SO BA-S LP	107.000	0	107.000	26	28.088	58,3	163.790
XII	SE BA	94.000	0	94.000	19	17.578	85,2	149.813
XIII	SL	137.000	0	137.000	29	39.456	55,6	219.244
XIV	Cuenca Sal	57.000	1.454	55.547	76	42.297	83,0	351.000
XV	Otras	19.000	342	18.658	44	8.153	51,6	42.063
TOTAL		3.678.000	49.756	3.628.244	46,0	1.667.782	77,2	12.874.024

Buenos Aires, May, 16, 2013

Buenos Aires Grains Exchange