

Wheat Outlook

March 28, 2025

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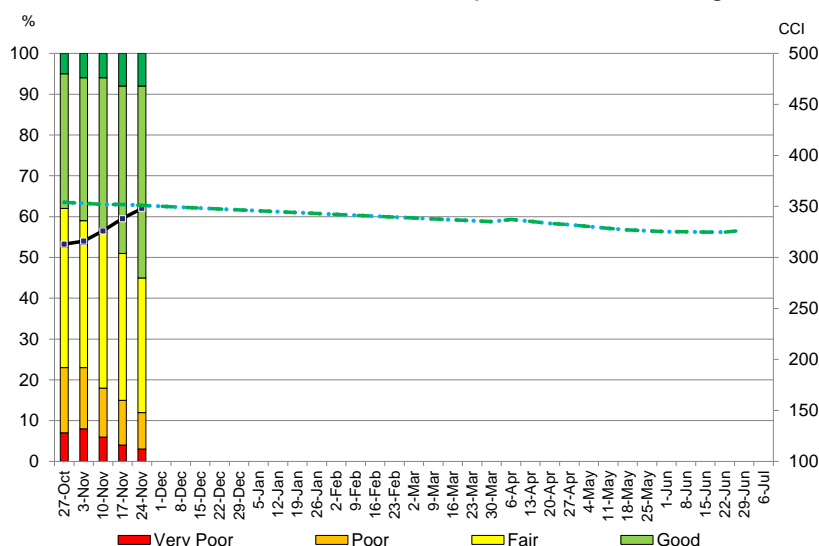
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Market Situation

Crop Progress and Condition. National winter wheat condition ratings will resume on April 7. Conditions were improving in late-November, and typically the crop condition index shows some decline from spring through harvest.

2025 U.S. Winter Wheat Crop Condition Ratings



USDA Crop Progress, November 25, 2024

Condition rating updates this week (% good and excellent and change from last report): Kansas 49%, +1; Oklahoma 37%, -9; Texas 31%, +3; Colorado 66%, +6. The Southern Plains crop index was up 2 points to 326, down from 347 in November.

2025 Southern Plains Weighted Wheat Crop Condition Index 100% very poor = 100; 100% excellent = 500

	Kansas, 55%	Oklahoma, 18%	Texas, 14%	Colorado, 13%	Index
October 27	317	285	285	321	307
November 3	316	302	271	335	310
November 10	337	305	289	331	324
November 17	343	320	327	356	338
November 24	349	336	337	364	347
December 31	333			362	
January 19			322		
January 26			321		
February 2	339	317	311	346	332
February 9			309		
February 16			300		
February 23		307	304		
March 2	344	296	295	359*	330
March 10	337	323	282	359*	330
March 16	331	310	283	356	324
March 23	334	302	288	363	326
Change	+3	-8	+5	+7	+2

*End of February

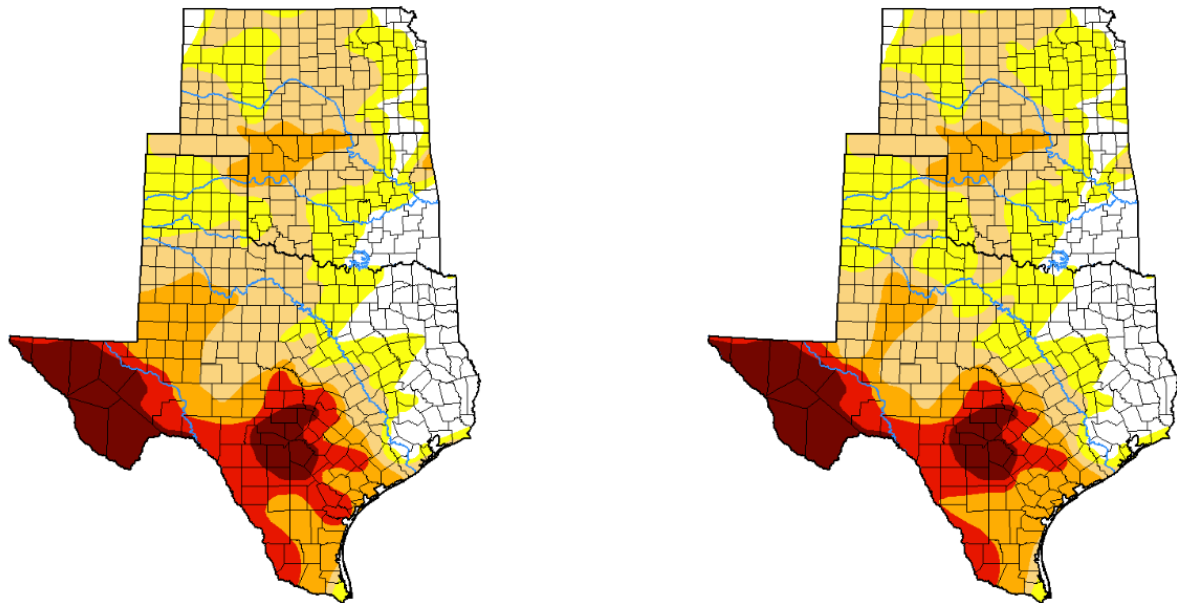
Southern Plains accounts for about 25% of national winter wheat production

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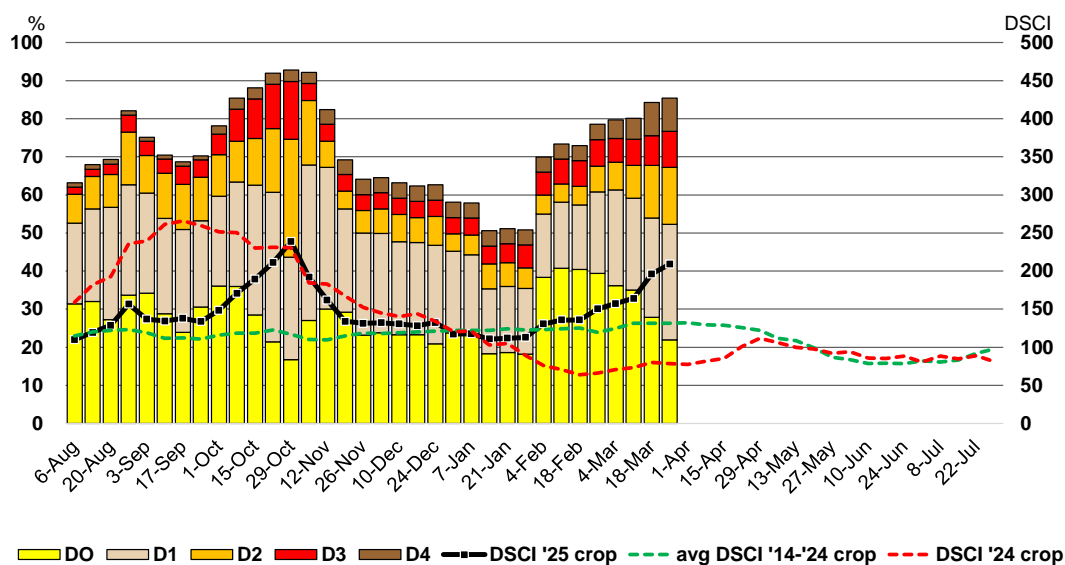
Weather. The area of the Southern Plains experiencing drought conditions increased to 85% this week. The drought severity index increased 13 points to 209. The reading last year at this time was 78. The average for this week of wheat growing season is 132. Since the end of February, the area rated D3 (extreme) and D4 (exceptional) has increased from 11% to 18%.



Southern Plains Drought Monitor 3/25/2025

Drought Classification

None D0 (Abnormally Dry) D1 (Moderate Drought) D2 (Severe Drought) D3 (Extreme Drought) D4 (Exceptional Drought)



Drought Severity and Coverage Index (DSI) = (D0*1)+(D1*2)+(D2*3)+(D3*4)+(D4*5);
min 0--no drought conditions reported; max 500--100% under exceptional drought conditions

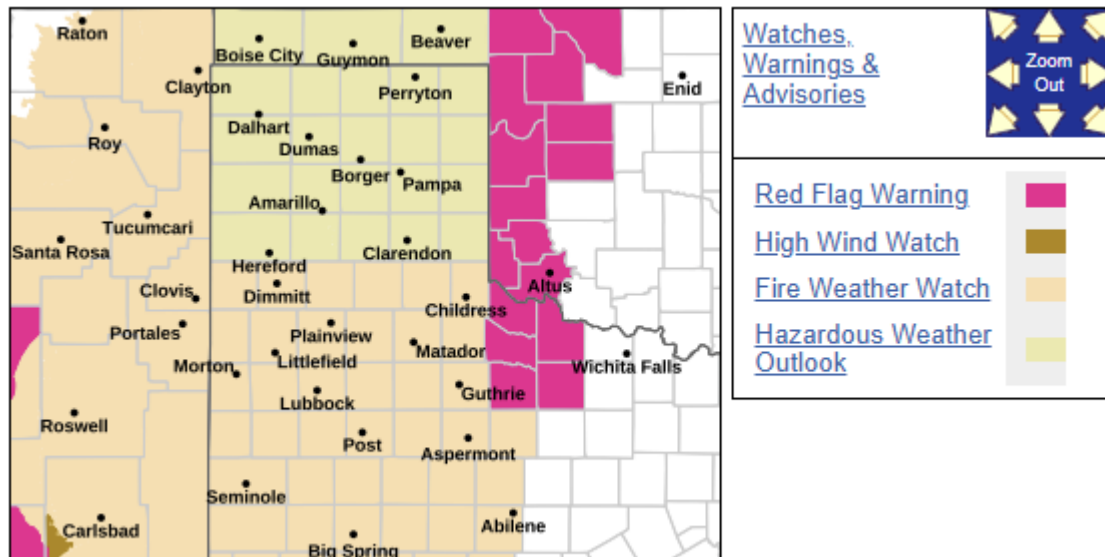
Drought Monitor, 3/27/2025, Southern Plains Climate Hub, <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

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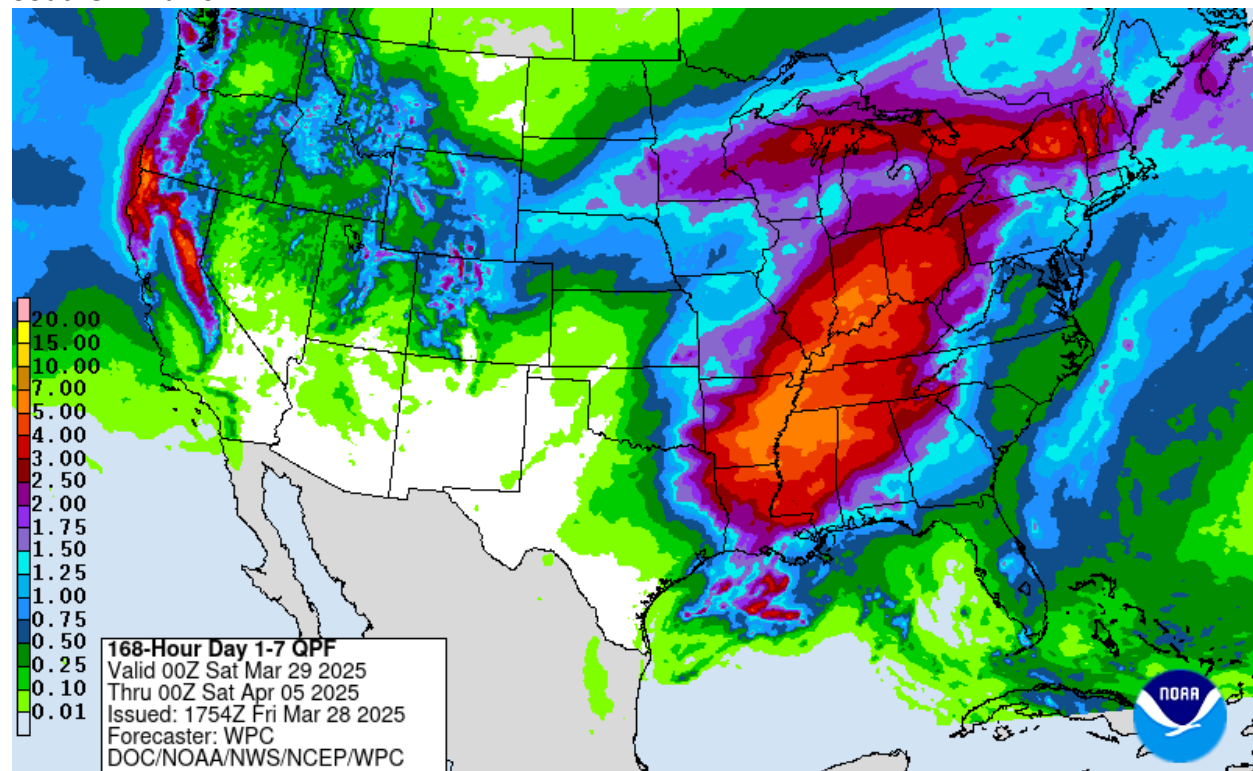
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High winds and low humidity continue to cause elevated fire weather conditions and red flag warnings for the Texas Panhandle and South Plains, the Oklahoma Panhandle and line of counties in western Oklahoma.



Last Map Update: Fri, Mar 28, 2025 at 1:36:27 pm CDT

Highest rainfall potential the next 7 days (3/29-4/5/2025) is for the eastern edge of the Southern Plains.



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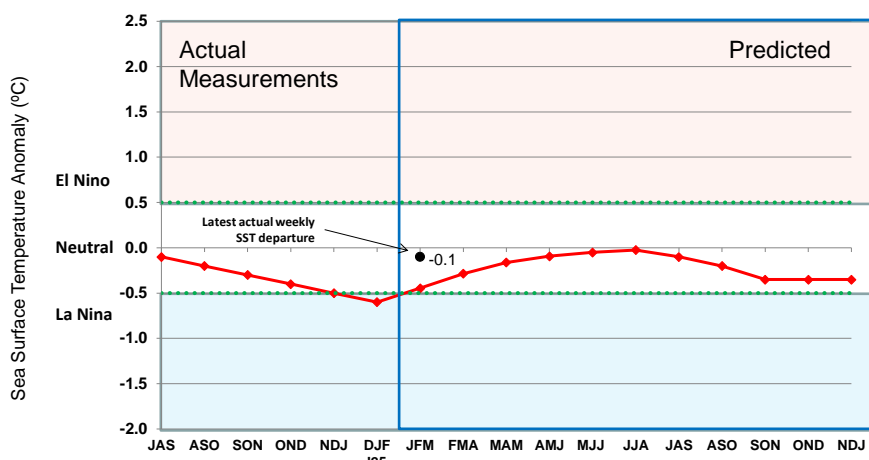
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La Nina conditions are now present but we are past the low point of this current cycle. The current sea surface temperature departure from normal this week is -0.1°C . This La Nina is forecast to continue through February-April then transition back to neutral March-May.

Oceanic Nino Index (ONI) ENSO Alert System Status: La Nina Advisory

CPC: ENSO-neutral is favored to develop in the next month and persist through Northern Hemisphere summer (62% chance in June-August 2025).



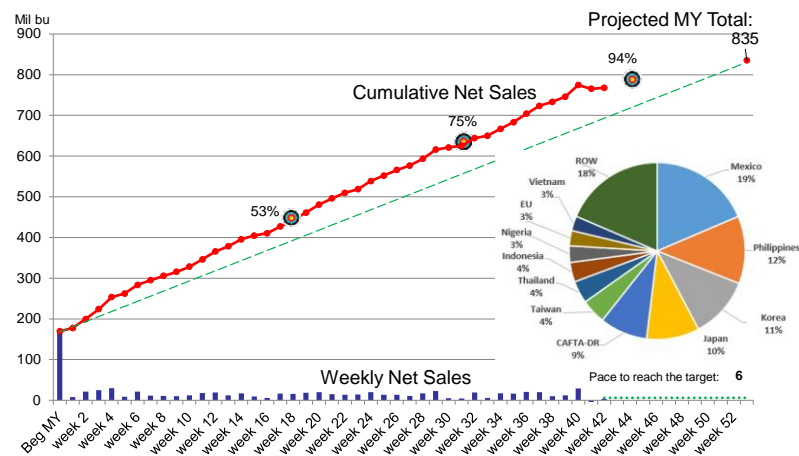
El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Discussion, March 24, 2025

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/ensio_advisory/

Australian Bureau of Meteorology, <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ensio/>

Grain Use. All wheat export sales for the week of March 20 were 4 million bushels, below the pace needed to reach the marketing year target, but we are about at the level we should be at this point in the marketing year: 93% of the total on the books, 94% normal by the end of March.

2024/25 U.S. All Wheat Export Sales Commitments



Export Sales Commitments reported for 3/20/2025: 4 million bushels (Japan, 2.6 mil bu)

Total Export Sales Commitments this marketing year: 775 million bushels

93% of the 2024/25 MY Export Sales Target of 835 million bushels (March WASDE)

Normal pace of sales end of March: 94% (799 mil bu)

USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service: 3/27/2025

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Cash Wheat Prices, \$/bu.

	Nearby KC Futures	Avg TX cash elevator	basis	Houston Port	basis	Elevator to Export Spread
February 27	5.71	4.77	-0.95			
March 6	5.66	4.60	-1.06			
March 13	5.88	4.85	-1.03			
March 20	5.87	4.84	-1.03	6.42	0.56	-1.58
March 27	5.66	4.63	-1.04	6.20	0.54	-1.58
10-year avg			-0.45		0.75	-1.20

USDA, AMS, Market News: TX cash = average (North, Central, and South Panhandle); Houston Port, StoneX

Commitment of Traders. Speculative traders in the grain markets were pretty consistent in adjustments to their portfolios this week. In Kansas City wheat, corn, and soybeans traders lightened up on bets for higher prices (reduced the number of long contracts held) and increased bets that prices would go down (increased the number of short contracts held). Traders in Chicago wheat added to both sides of the market, more so on the bearish side by adding more shorts than longs.

	Wheat--SRW				Wheat--HRW			
	Long	Short	Net Long	Price	Long	Short	Net Long	Price
2/25/2025	109,657	171,708	(62,051)	572.75	51,278	56,328	(5,050)	591.75
3/4/2025	116,367	201,209	(84,842)	536.75	50,098	77,673	(27,575)	548.50
3/11/2025	120,935	199,008	(78,073)	556.75	52,893	89,087	(36,194)	572.00
3/18/2025	116,964	193,443	(76,479)	565.00	55,013	84,666	(29,653)	606.25
3/25/2025	121,763	204,311	(82,548)	543.25	52,273	85,137	(32,864)	569.25
Change	4,799	10,868	(6,069)	(21.75)	(2,740)	471	(3,211)	(37.00)

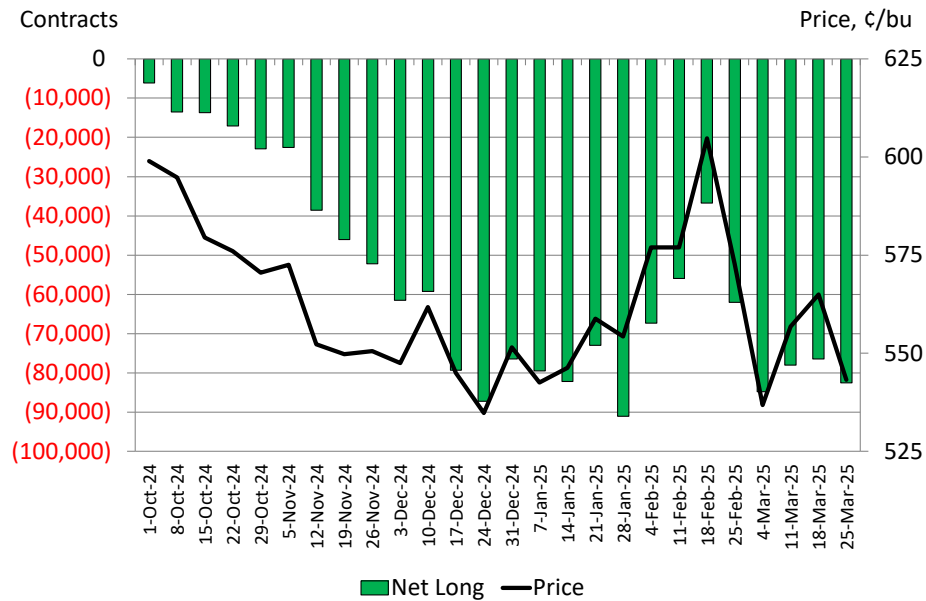
	Corn				Soybeans			
	Long	Short	Net Long	Price	Long	Short	Net Long	Price
2/25/2025	597,706	156,545	441,161	479.75	160,652	171,202	(10,550)	1031.25
3/4/2025	492,878	157,440	335,438	451.50	161,354	195,637	(34,283)	999.00
3/11/2025	449,005	180,648	268,357	470.25	165,758	177,898	(12,140)	1011.25
3/18/2025	441,602	202,226	239,376	458.75	167,323	175,600	(8,277)	1012.75
3/25/2025	416,135	215,764	200,371	457.75	161,713	176,123	(14,410)	1001.75
Change	(25,467)	13,538	(39,005)	(1.00)	(5,610)	523	(6,133)	(11.00)

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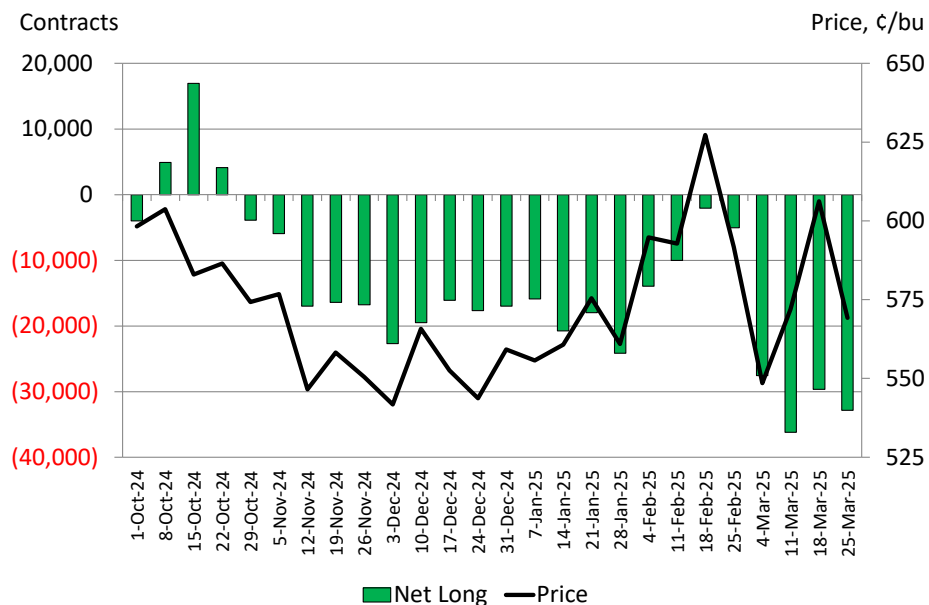
Non-commercial Investment in CBOT Wheat, 3/25/2025



CFTC Legacy Report, Futures Only

<https://www.cftc.gov/MarketReports/CommitmentsofTraders/index.htm>

Non-commercial Investment in KC Wheat, 3/25/2025



CFTC Legacy Report, Futures Only

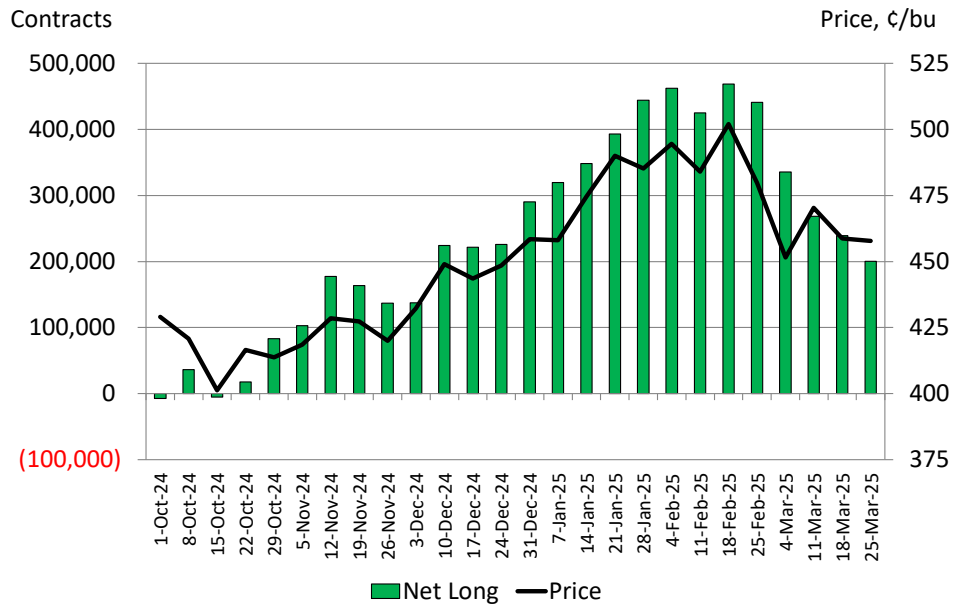
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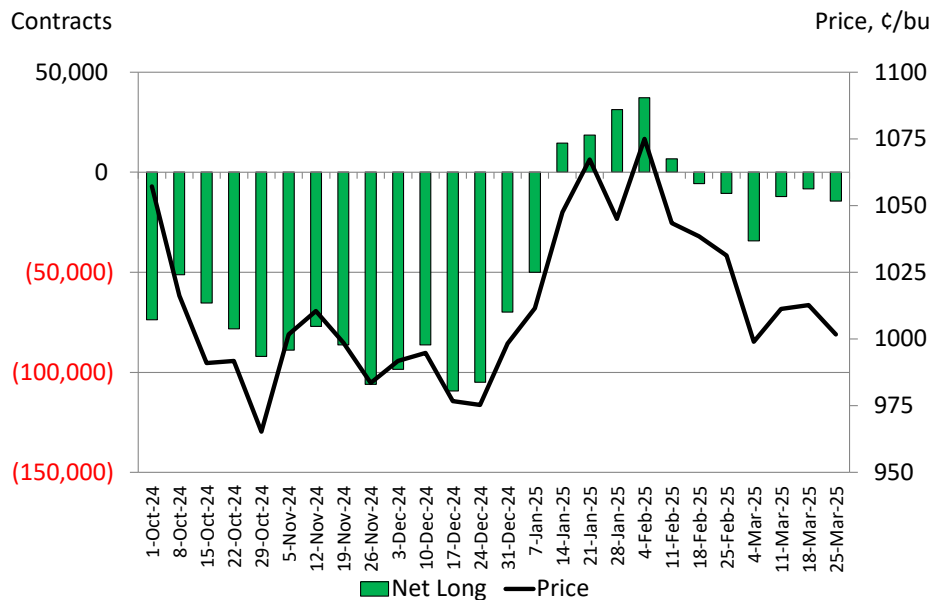
Non-commercial Investment in Corn, 3/25/2025



CFTC Legacy Report, Futures Only

<https://www.cftc.gov/MarketReports/CommitmentsofTraders/index.htm>

Non-commercial Investment in Soybeans, 3/25/2025



CFTC Legacy Report, Futures Only

<https://www.cftc.gov/MarketReports/CommitmentsofTraders/index.htm>

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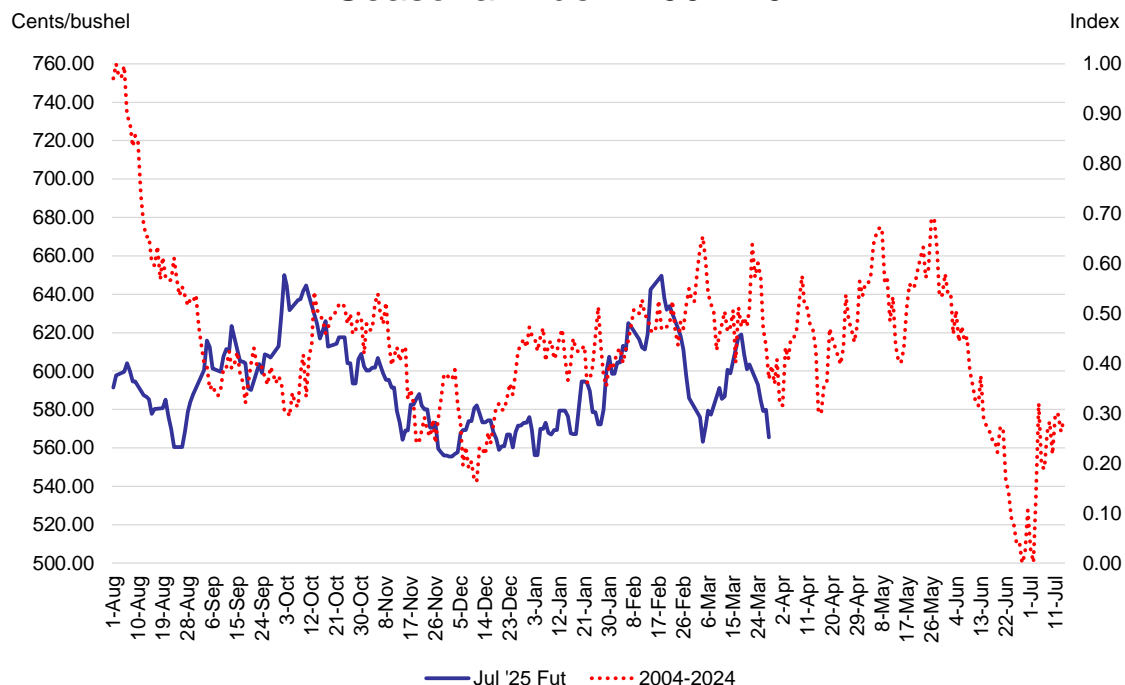
For March 25, based on whether the net long number (long contracts held minus short contracts held) is positive or negative and whether that net long number increased or decreased compared to the week before, speculators were:

- more bearish Chicago soft red winter wheat,
- more bearish KC hard red winter wheat,
- less bullish corn, and
- more bearish soybeans.

Marketing Strategies

Seasonal Index. The seasonal index for the July Kansas City Wheat futures contract shows prices typically declining from August to the end of the calendar year. Prices tend to trend upwards in late-winter associated with crop condition concerns, topping out in February/March as the crop breaks dormancy. Another price rally in April/May is often associated with late-season weather risk before the seasonal price decline into harvest.

2025 July KC Wheat Futures and Seasonal Index: 2004-2024



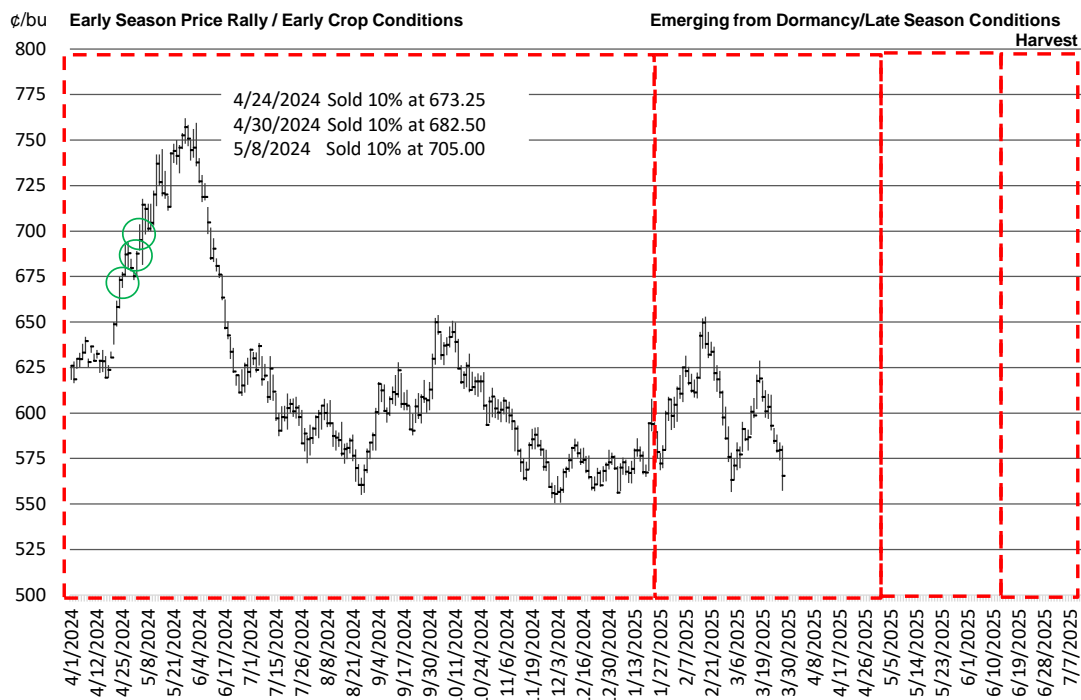
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Wheat Marketing Plan. For the 2025 wheat crop, I am 30% sold. We are in the time frame when I look to add to sales.

July 2025 KC Wheat and Marketing Plan



Upcoming Reports/Events

March 31	Prospective Plantings Grain Stocks
April 4	Employment Situation March 2025, Bureau of Labor Statistics
April 7	Crop Progress reports resume
April 8	Short-term Energy Outlook
April 10	Crop Production WASDE Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics
April 23-24	Master Marketer: Building a Marketing Plan: Grain, Cotton, Livestock, Weslaco

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