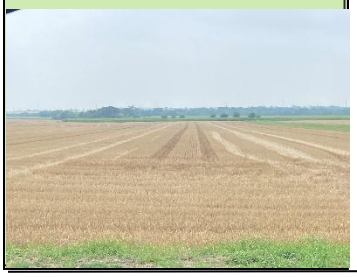
Wheat Outlook

October 1, 2025
Volume 34, Number 68

Today's Newsletter



Market Situation

Small Grains 2025 Summary. Supply estimates for the 2025 U.S. wheat crop in the September World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates were for a crop of 1.927 billion bushels from 36.6 million harvested acres averaging 52.7 bushels per acre.

That crop was revised higher in today's Small Grains Summary. The acres harvested percentage increased from 80.6% to 82.2% so that even with a small decrease in planted acres, harvested acres increased by 600,000.

The revised yield estimate for 2025 is higher by 0.6 bushels to 53.3 bushels per acre. The revised production total of 1.985 billion bushels is 58 million bushels higher than the September WASDE.

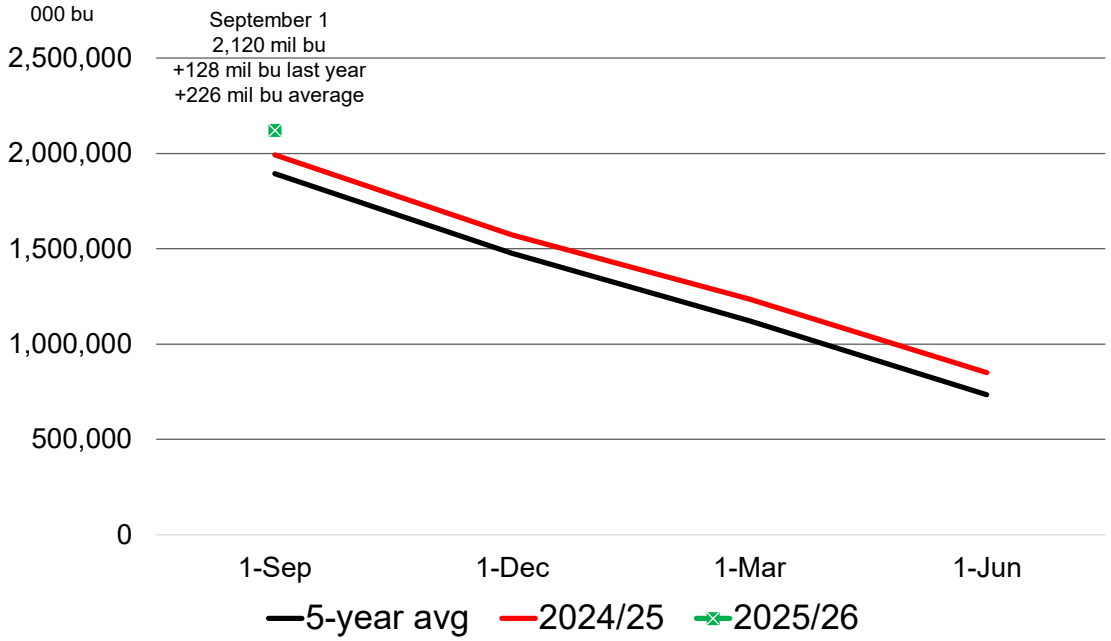
Earlier estimates called for a 2025 wheat crop that was 52 million bushels smaller than 2024 (1.979 billion bushels). Instead, this year's crop is bigger by 6 million bushels. The impact of this bigger crop is reflected in the next report, September 1 Grain Stocks.

US WHEAT SUPPLY AND USE			Small Grains Summary		
			2025	Sep 2025 to Summary 2025	
AREA			9/30/2025	Net Δ	% Δ
	Planted	mil acres	45.3	-0.1	-0.15%
	Harvested	mil acres	37.2	0.6	1.73%
	Percent Harvested		82.2%	1.5%	
YIELD	Harvested acre	bu/ac	53.3	0.6	1.35%
SUPPLY					
	Beginning stocks	mil bu			
	Production	mil bu	1,985	57.5	3.50%

Grain Stocks. The Grain Stocks report for wheat in all positions on September 1 shows 2.120 billion bushels, up 123 million bushels from September 1, 2024 of 1.992 billion bushels. This is the largest September 1 wheat inventory since 2.158 billion bushels in 2020.

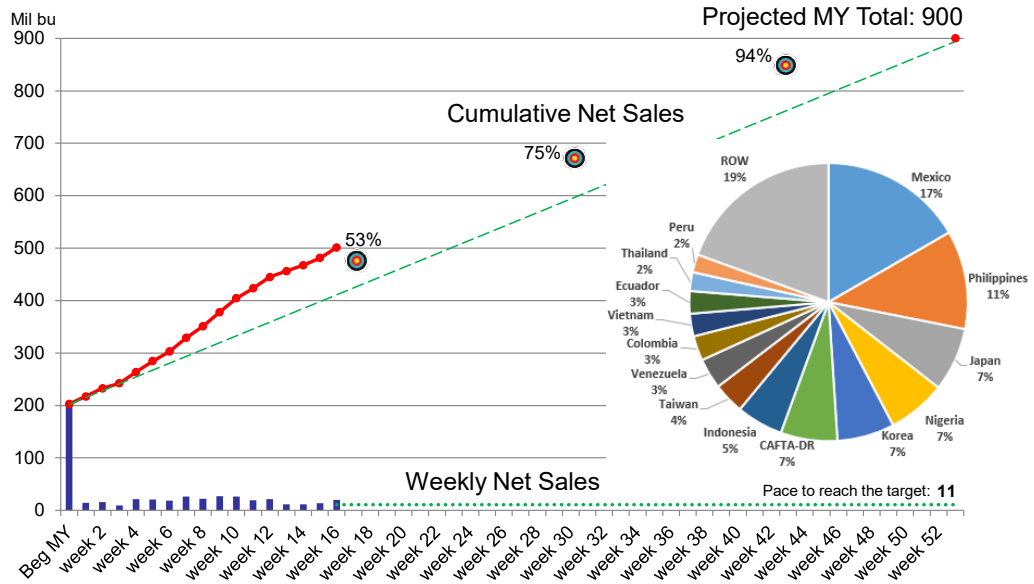
The October WASDE will incorporate this updated production information as well as any adjustments to use categories to generate a new estimate of marketing year ending stocks. A possible increase in use could come from exports where sales have been running above a normal pace.

U.S. Wheat Stocks



USDA, NASS: Grain Stocks, September 30, 2025

2025/26 U.S. All Wheat Export Sales Commitments

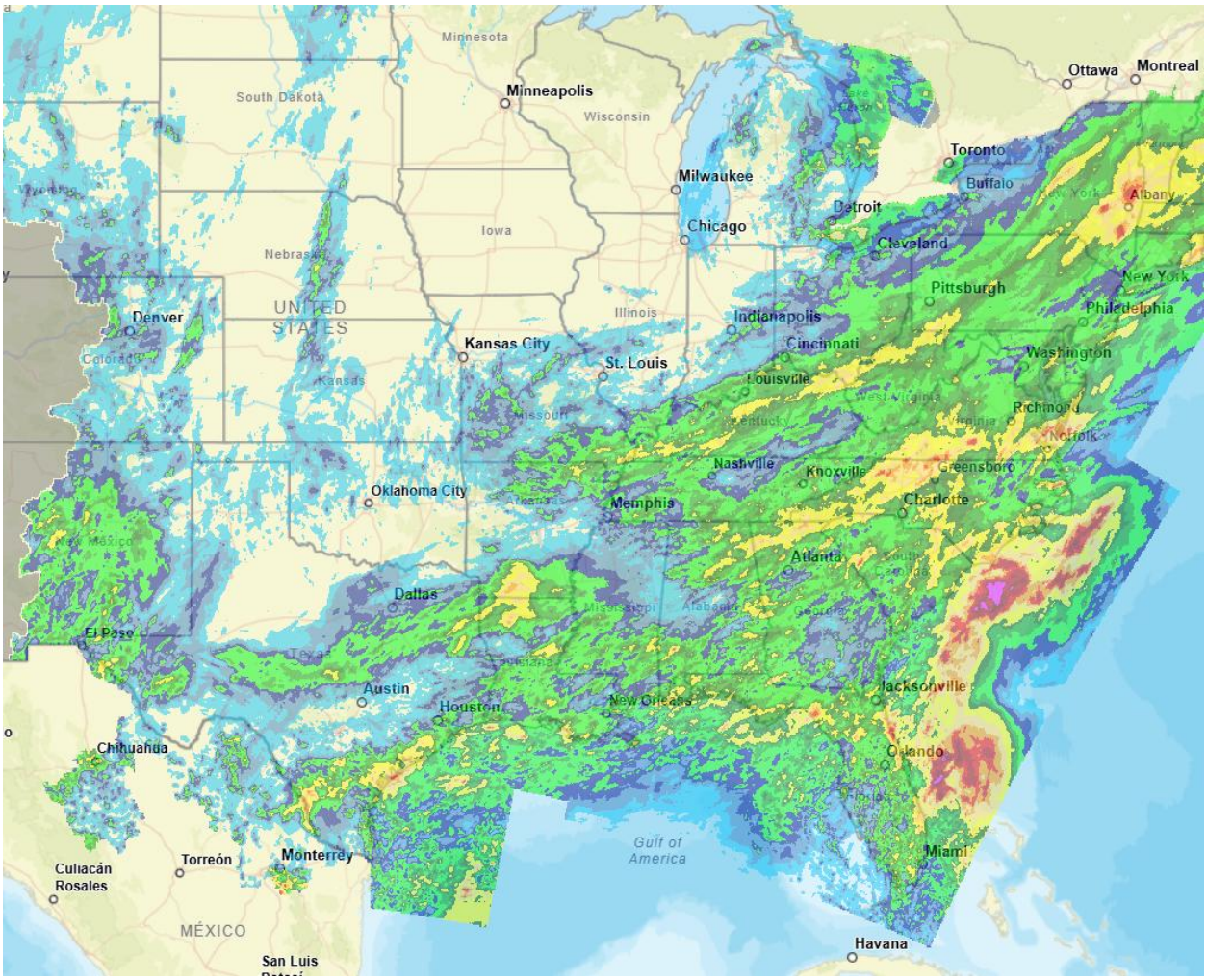


Export Sales Commitments reported for 9/18/2025: 20 million bushels (Philippines, 4.3 mil bu)
Total Export Sales Commitments this marketing year: 501 million bushels
56% of the 2025/26 MY Export Sales Target of 900 million bushels (September WASDE)
Normal pace of sales: 53% by the end of September (477mil bu)

USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service: 9/25/2025

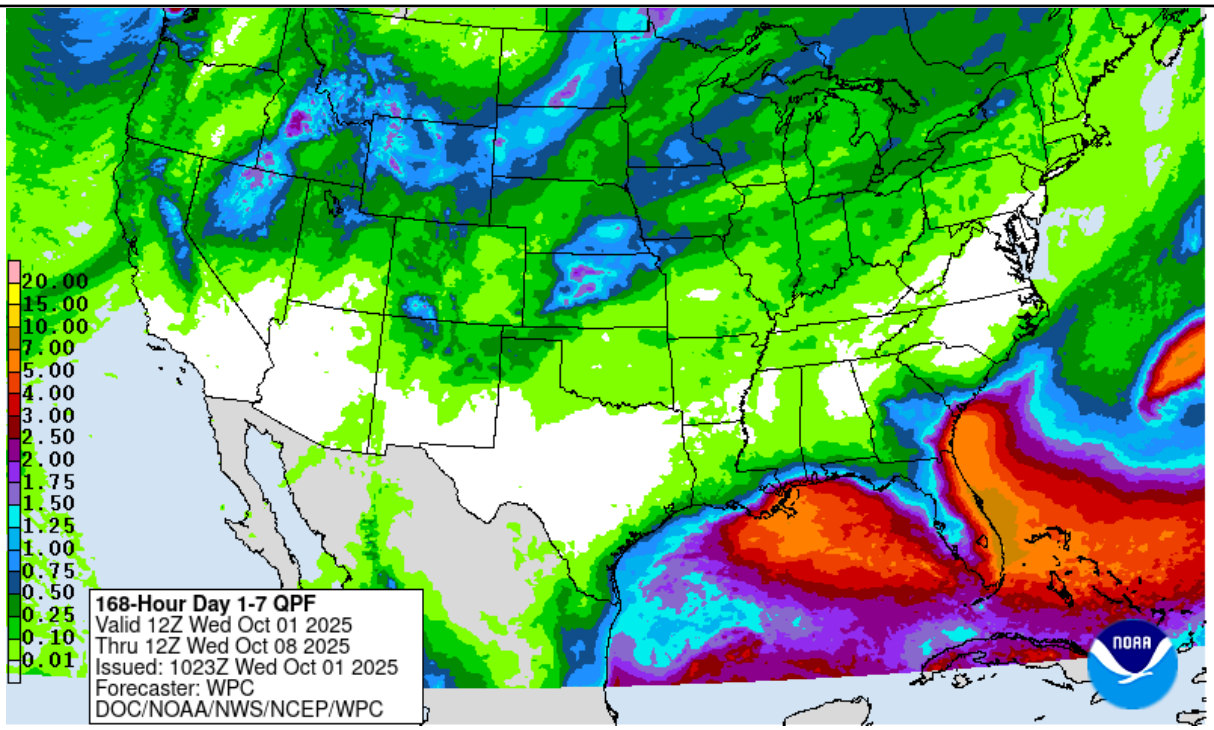
Crop Condition and Progress. The 2025 spring wheat crop season is wrapping up with harvest reported last week at 96%. Winter wheat planted reported this week is 34%, near the five-year average of 36%.

Weather. Precipitation totals the last 7 days show some rainfall spread across soft red winter wheat growing areas. Most of the Southern Plains (hard red winter wheat) were dry.



The forecast for the next 7 days (10/1-10/8) shows better rainfall prospects from the Texas and Oklahoma Panhandles, across much of Kansas, into southeast Nebraska.

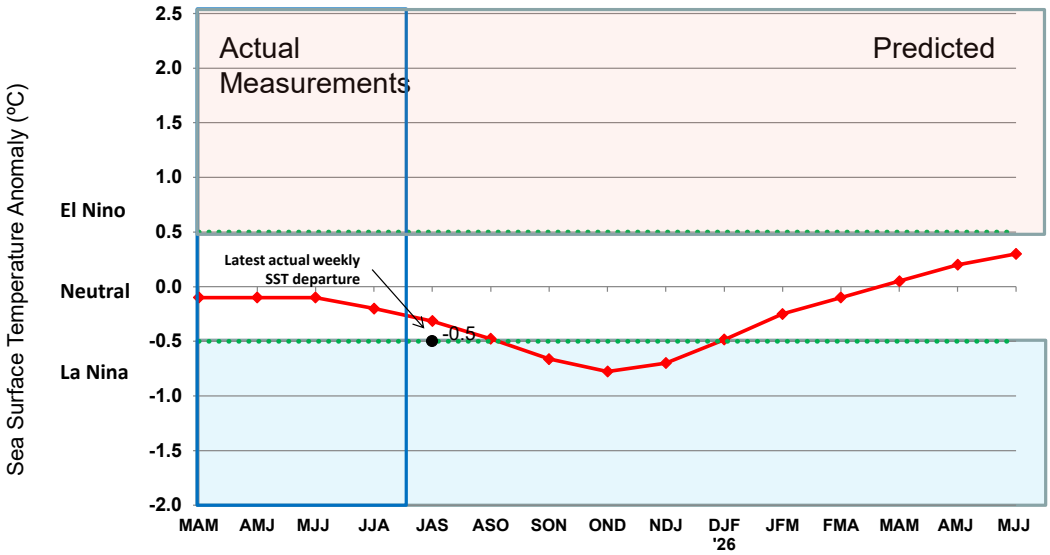
The ENSO alert status is a La Nina Watch. The sea surface temperature departure from normal this week is -0.5°C. Temperature deviations are forecast to move cooler by late fall with the greatest likelihood to now enter La Nina territory.



Oceanic Nino Index (ONI)

ENSO Alert System Status: La Niña Watch

CPC: A transition from ENSO-neutral to La Niña is likely in the next couple of months, with a 71% chance of La Niña during October - December 2025. Thereafter, La Niña is favored but chances decrease to 54% in December 2025 - February 2026.



El Niño/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) Diagnostic Discussion, September 29, 2025
http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_advisory/
Australian Bureau of Meteorology, http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/

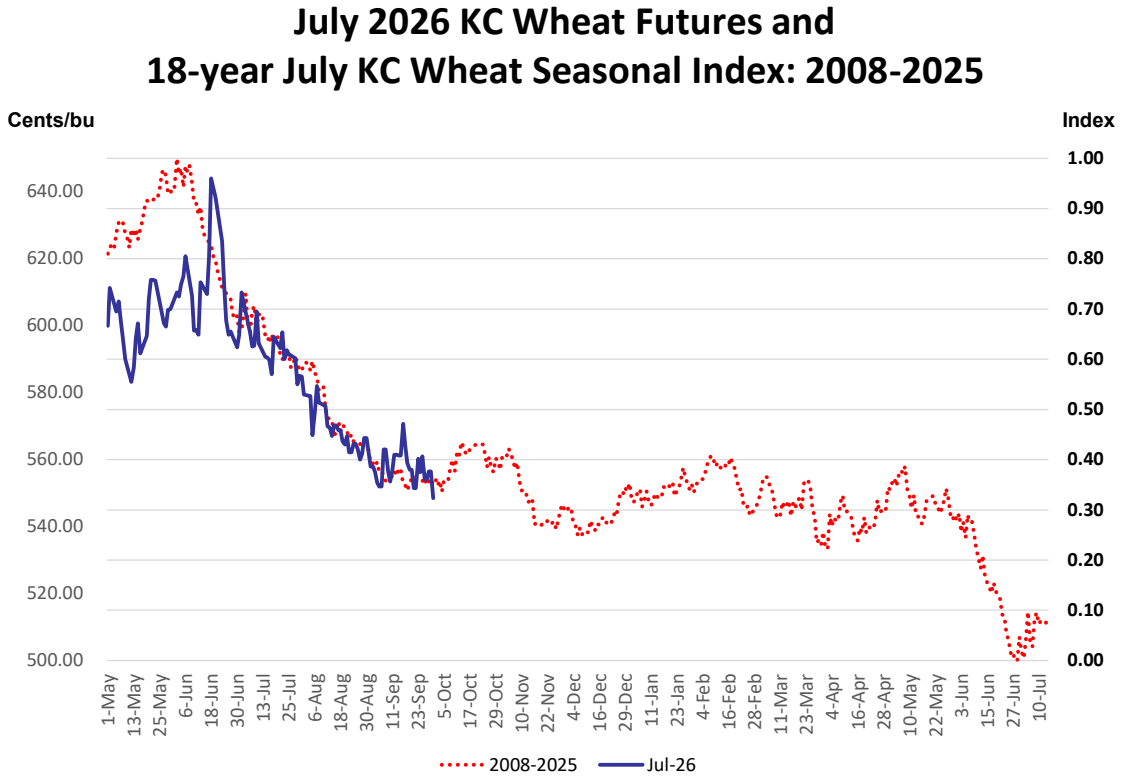
Cash Wheat Prices, $/bu.

	Nearby KC Futures	Avg TX cash elevator	basis	Houston Port	basis	Elevator to Export Spread
September 4	5.06	4.00	-1.07	5.76	0.70	-1.76
September 11	5.10	4.10	-1.00	5.80	0.70	-1.70
September 17	5.16	4.16	-1.00			
September 25	5.12	4.12	-1.00	5.82	0.70	-1.70
September 30	4.98	3.98	-1.00	5.68	0.70	-1.70
10-year avg			-0.32		0.82	1.14

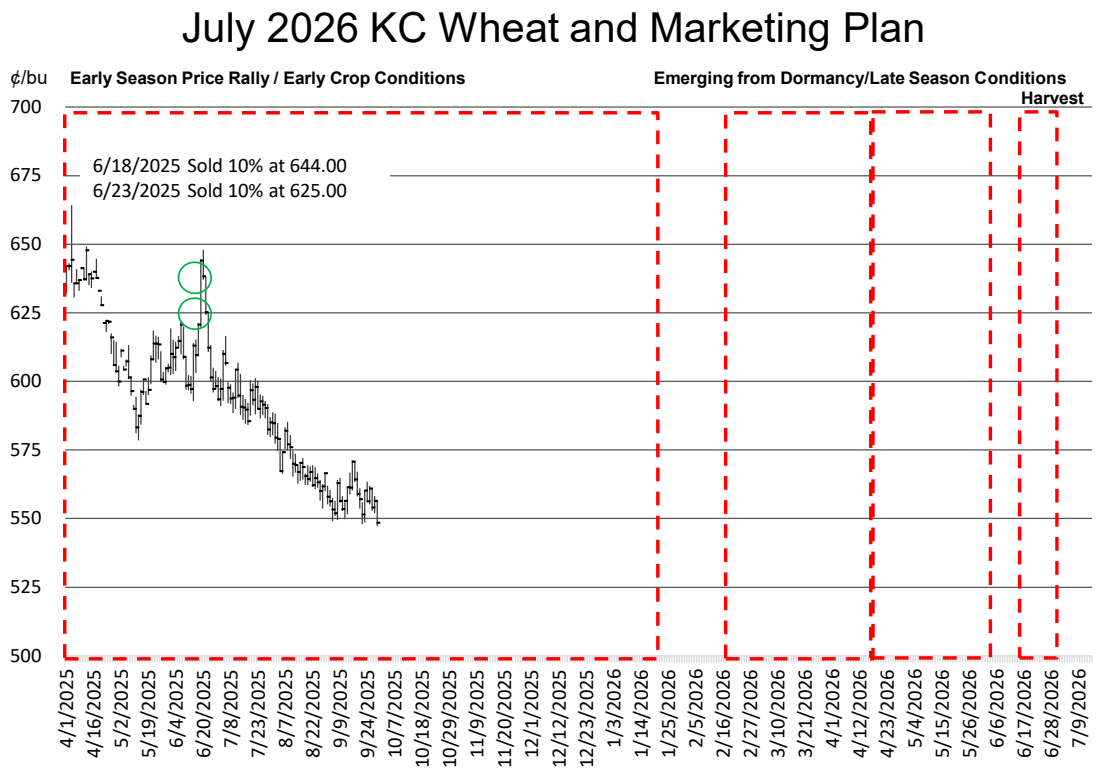
USDA, AMS, Market News: TX cash = average (North, Central, and South Panhandle); Houston Port, StoneX

Marketing Strategies

Seasonal Index. The seasonal index for the July Kansas City Wheat futures contract shows prices typically declining from the spring before the crop is planted to the end of the calendar year. Better pricing opportunities often come in the spring associated with early crop condition concerns followed by late-season weather risk before the seasonal price decline into harvest.



Wheat Marketing Plan. I have hedged the first 20% of the 2026 crop.



Upcoming Reports/Events

October 3	September Employment Situation
October 7	Short-term Energy Outlook
October 9	WASDE Crop Production
October 15	Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics
October 22-23	Master Marketer Developing a Marketing Plan—2026, Wharton, Texas https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/agec-ev-035
October 30	Gross Domestic Product, 3rd Quarter 2025 (Advance Estimate)
November 12-13	Master Marketer Developing a Marketing Plan—2026, Weslaco, Texas https://agriliferegister.tamu.edu/agec-ev-036
January 4-10	The Executive Program for Agricultural Producers, San Antonio https://tepap.tamu.edu/

Mark Welch, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Economist
600 John Kimbrough Blvd, Suite 330B
College Station, Texas 77843
Tel. (979)845-8011
Fax. (979)845-4906
JMWelch@tamu.edu