



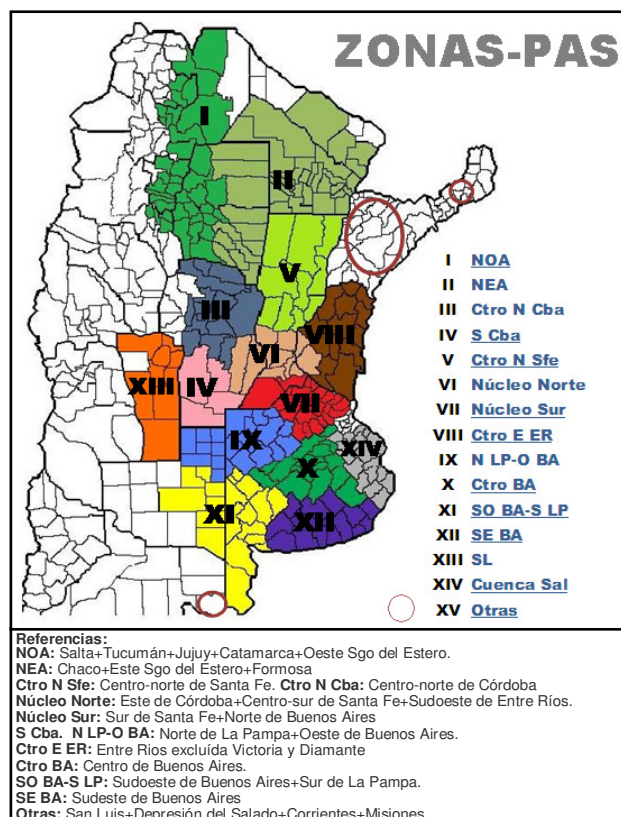
Weekly Ag Report

BUENOS AIRES GRAIN EXCHANGE

WEEK ENDED ON Sep.20, 2012

CROP REPORT - HIGHLIGHTS

Estimations and Agricultural Projections Department
Buenos Aires Grain Exchange



WEEKLY AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK

BUENOS AIRES GRAINS EXCHANGE

SEPTEMBER 20, 2012

OUTLOOK SUMMARY

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL WEATHER OUTLOOK: SEPTEMBER 20 TO 26 2012: SPRING BEGINS WITH RISING TEMPERATURES FOLLOWED BY SCARCE PRECIPITATIONS AND A SHARP TEMPERATURE DROP

At the beginning of the current weather outlook, winds will rotate to the North. This condition will gradually raise temperature to levels above normal for this time of year in the North and Center of the country. The South, however, will report temperatures below normal. Most of the Conosur will observe scarce precipitations. Significant values will only affect the North of southern Brazil: Most of the Argentine and Uruguayan agricultural areas, the south of Paraná, most of Santa Catarina, the North and East of Rio Grande do Sul and most of Paraguay will report precipitations of less than 10mm; The Northeast of Paraguay, and the South of Brazil will receive moderate to abundant rainfalls (10 to 50mm). Later on in the perspective, winds will rotate to the South due to the entrance of a Pampero front which will expand into most of the Conosur. Temperatures will consequently drop to values below normal with likelihood of frosts.

Buenos Aires, September 20, 2012

Buenos Aires Grains Exchange

WHEAT

After the rains of this week, the plots remain in very good hydric conditions, evolving through the stages where the crops demand the largest amount of water. However, the situation in the Mid-West of Buenos Aires, and in the Salado basin, is quite different, since the hydric excess hampers the conditions of the crop, both in low fields and seeded plots, with insufficient draining capacity. These areas report partial and total losses of wheat.

On the other hand, the Northwest region has reported the first harvest of the season. Precisely in the district of General San Martín, which lies in the North tip of the province of Salta, where some plots have suffered the lack of rains during the crop cycle, and high temperature registers during the grain filling stage. Therefore, the resulting productivity is now ranging around 1,000 kg/ha.

The North and South belt regions continue to monitor the plots in order to assess the impact of fungal diseases (especially yellow spots and blight) which are present after the rainfalls, and also to decide on the right time to make the necessary applications. Towards the *Litoral* region, especially the Mid-East of Entre Ríos, the wheat area is going through different development stages: most plots are elongating stems, the late-seeded plots are tillering, and a small percentage of early seeded fields are beginning the heading stage.

CORN

During the last seven days there has been significant progress in the corn seeding works for commercialization. This is mainly due to the sufficient supply of moisture in the fields, as well as to the fact that the main corn-producing area is at its optimal seeding window. Therefore, we can report a national progress rate of 5% of the area estimated as 3.4 Million hectares for the ongoing season (-12% vs 2011/12 season), which account for a total of around 170 thousand hectares. The weekly progress rate finishes at 2.8 percentage points, and the YOY advance is of -2.7 points.

The largest weekly progress values were reported in the North and South belt areas, as well as in the Mid-East of Entre Ríos, where the fieldwork has slowed down its pace in the last few hours due to the precipitations and the steep fall of average temperature. Nevertheless, the first plots were incorporated this week in the NE area, North of La Pampa, and West and Center of Buenos Aires; the two latter regions are seeding high fields, where the ground allows for the passing of machinery and the water does not hamper the normal implantation of the crop.

The Mid-North of Córdoba continues with the covering work, and they expect a heavier use of machinery towards the weekend. The reports indicate that this season will have a larger percentage of late seeded plots, since the producers are looking for better stability on the grounds that this region showed the best performance in previous seasons.

CORN PLANTING

2012/13 SEASON

As Of: Sep. 20, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (ha)		Percentage Planted (%)	Hectares Planted
		2011/12	2012/13		
I	NOA	255.000	0	255.000,0	-
II	NEA	270.000	8.336	270.000,0	8.336
III	Ctro N Cba	475.000	9.405	475.000,0	9.405
IV	S Cba	500.000	6.640	500.000,0	6.640
V	Ctro N SFe	160.000	22.050	160.000,0	22.050
VI	Núcleo Norte	527.000	66.096	527.000,0	66.096
VII	Núcleo Sur	460.000	20.056	460.000,0	20.056
VIII	Ctro E ER	165.000	29.596	165.000,0	29.596
IX	N LP-OBA	535.000	4.540	535.000,0	4.540
X	Ctro BA	136.000	1.464	136.000,0	1.464
XI	SO BA-S LP	107.000	0	107.000,0	-
XII	SE BA	85.000	0	85.000,0	-
XIII	SL	115.000	2.520	115.000,0	2.520
XIV	Cuenca Sal	60.000	0	60.000,0	-
XV	Otras	20.000	0	20.000,0	-
TOTAL		3.870.000	170.703	3870000,0	170.703

SUNFLOWER

During the last seven days, the seeding progress has dwindled nationwide, reporting a weekly advance rate of only 1%. The seeding is practically finished in the NE area and the Mid-North of Santa Fe. The other regions which today concentrate the covering work are reporting irrelevant surface numbers nationwide. Nevertheless, in early October a faster advance of the implantation work is expected, starting in the South of Córdoba, North of La Pampa, and West of Buenos Aires, spreading towards the productive belts of the South of Buenos Aires and La Pampa by mid-October. So far, 28% out of 2 million hectares estimated for the ongoing cycle were covered. The YOY advance rate remains steady, finishing this week at 5.4 percentage points. In total, around 560 thousand hectares were seeded nationwide, out of which more than 75% were incorporated with an adequate hydric supply.

SUNFLOWER PLANTING

2012/13 Season

As Of: Sep. 20, 2012

Zone		Hectareage (he)		Percentage planted (%)	Hectares planted
		2011/12	2012/13		
II	NEA	270.000	370.000	99,0	366.300
III	Ctro N Cba	3.000	3.000	22,0	660
IV	S Cba	22.500	22.000	0,0	0
V	Ctro N SFe	175.000	195.000	97,0	189.150
VI	Núcleo Norte	7.500	7.500	20,0	1.500
VII	Núcleo Sur	7.000	7.000	0,0	0
VIII	Ctro E ER	10.000	11.500	12,0	1.380
IX	N LP-OBA	185.000	178.000	0,0	0
X	Ctro BA	46.000	49.000	0,0	0
XI	SO BA-S LP	465.000	478.000	0,0	0
XII	SE BA	550.000	557.000	0,0	0
XIII	SL	37.000	37.000	0,0	0
XIV	Cuenca Sal	78.000	81.000	0,0	0
XV	Otras	4.000	4.000	22,0	880
TOTAL		1.860.000	2.000.000	28,0	559.870

MALTING BARLEY

New rainfalls over the central belt of the national agricultural area have eased the development of the plots implanted with Barley. Conversely, the moisture excess from August, coupled with these precipitations, is creating the perfect conditions for the proliferation of fungal diseases, which must be treated to avoid damage to the potential yield.

On the other hand, there is evidence of a yellowing of basal leaves, resulting from the excess of water in the plot. In the North and South belt regions, most of the plots are finishing the stem elongation phase, while the rest are still tillering in very good conditions. The area was re-fertilized in search of boosting the harvest yield. In the Center and West of Buenos Aires there are losses of area and drops in the harvest yield, due to the hydric excess produced in August. Some plots were completely covered by water, while most of the remaining plots show water ponds filling varying percentages of their surface, depending on the region.