

31-Mar-14

USDA Stocks and Plantings March 31st 2014

US Stocks as of March 1st (Mill Bus)	Range of Trade Estimates	Average Estimate	USDA Today	Difference vs trade	Mar 2013		
Soybeans	955-1,087	989	992	3	998		
Corn	6,861-7,540	7'099	7'006	-93	5'400		
Wheat	985-1,115	1'042	1'056	14	1'235		
US Planting Intentions ('000 acres)	Range of Trade Estimates	Average Estimate	USDA Today	Difference vs trade	Outlook Conference	Mar 2013	Final 2013
Soybeans	78,500-83,600	81'075	81'493	418	79'500	77'126	76'533
Corn	90,500-94,500	92'748	91'691	-1'057	92'000	97'282	95'365
Spring Wheat	11,000-13,500	12'270	12'009	-261	-	12'701	11'596
Durum	2,000-2,300	1'794	1'799	5	-	1'751	1'470
Winter Wheat	41,800-44,000	42'157	42'007	-150	-	41'988	43'090
All Wheat	54,800-57,500	56'277	55'815	-462	55'500	56'440	56'156

Soybeans: Stocks: In line with trade estimates. The major change was the switch in on farm-off farm ownership from last year.
Plantings: A new record and above both trade and USDA's Outlook number. All other things equal, using USDA's Outlook yield and demand numbers would push 2014/15 end stocks to 350-400 Mbu (see below).
Conclusion: Normal weather argues big downside to new crop prices, but the funds won't let go of old crop - yet.

Corn: Stocks: About 100 Mbu below trade guesses, which is a much smaller divergence than in previous years..
Plantings: Below both average trade guesses and USDA's Outlook number. If correct linear trendline yield is used, 2014/15 end stocks look very different with a whole planting and growing season still to come (see below).
Conclusion: Dec 2014 at \$5.00 still looks rich even with only trendline yield, and will look even richer if El Nino appears but the funds remain believers – for now.

Wheat: Stocks: Right on trade guesses.
Plantings: Both winter and spring planting came in below trade guesses.
Conclusion: Wheat didn't really react - struggling with apparent calm in the Black Sea and the much wetter GFS forecast for the Plains.

Bottom Line: The report is behind us, the Goldman roll starts Friday, after which its weather watching and the funds.

CORN	2014/15		Using Linear Trend Yield		BEANS	2014/15	
	Outlook	Mar 31				Outlook	Mar 31
Avg Planted	92.0	91.3	91.3		AP	79.5	81.5
Avg H'vest	84.6	83.9	83.9		AH	78.5	80.5
Yield	165.3	165.3	158.5		Yield	45.2	45.2
Crop	13'985	13'865	13'300		Crop	3'550	3640
C.In	1'481	1'481	1'481		C.In	150	150
Imps	25	25	25		Imps	15	15
Supply	15'491	15'371	14'806		Supply	3'715	3'805
Feed/R	5'400	5'400	5'400		Crush	1'725	1'725
FSI	6'430	6'430	6'430		SR	105	105
Exports	1'550	1'550	1'550		Exports	1'600	1'600
Demand	13'380	13'380	13'380		Demand	3'430	3'430
C.Out	2'111	1'991	1'426		C.Out	285	375

Corn and Bean S&D's only adjusted for acreage. Demand numbers are left unchanged for comparison purposes.

Feed/R = Feed & Residual
FSI = Food, Seed & Industrial

SR = Seed & Residual