

Sunflower

Highlights

June 8, 2015



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Markets

Oil continues to gain on meal. Soybean oil futures are at the highest level since late last fall. Market chatter about potentially lower Canadian canola supplies and higher demand for palm oil is helping soybean values on the CBoT. The new proposed US mandate for biofuel is also supportive to oil values. Meal prices have fallen on talk of lower Chinese domestic soybean prices and increased South American soybean supplies. The world oilseed market is expected to be more oil driven in 2015 rather than meal. Oil stocks are tighter than a year ago. This is all positive news for sunflower prices. Most market analysts feel US soybean prices should trend lower unless the US 2015 summer weather causes production issues. There is still time to plant sunflower to utilize the excess moisture in the soil. Sunflower may be planted until late June and hybrid seed is still available. Crushers are offering new crop contracts that have cash and or Act of God (AOG) production clauses. Weather and planting progress reports will continue to be the main market drivers in the near term.

CROP PROGRESS

Planting is way ahead of schedule in North Dakota, where 76 percent of the sunflower crop is reported planted. That compares to 55 percent last year and 56 percent on average. 33 percent of the sunflower planted in North Dakota is already emerged as well. Minnesota is also ahead of average, with 90 percent of the sunflower acres planted.

| State | This Week | Last Week | Last Year | 5 yr Av |
|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| N. Dakota | | | | |
| Planted | 76 | 55 | 55 | 56 |
| Emerged | 33 | 3 | --- | --- |
| S. Dakota | | | | |
| Planted | 27 | 12 | 47 | 41 |
| Emerged | 1 | --- | --- | --- |
| Texas | | | | |
| Planted | 88 | 68 | 92 | 77 |
| Colorado | | | | |
| Planted | 11 | 8 | 31 | 40 |
| Kansas | | | | |
| Planted | 22 | 6 | 34 | 35 |
| Minnesota | | | | |
| Planted | 90 | 84 | 54 | 78 |

Source: USDA NASS

GROWER REPORT

If you ask Mohall, ND area producer Jeff Oberholtzer how his sunflower planting is going, he'll give you a one word answer: done. Oberholtzer finished planting nearly 1,500 acres of sunflower last week. He says so far, this has been an uneventful year, and he's hoping that continues. He says they've had just enough moisture so far, and now he's hoping for a stretch of warm weather.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS PLANNED FOR SUMMER SEMINAR

It's a good time to be in the sunflower business and things are changing every day. We've got two panels lined up to kick off this year's Summer Seminar that will provide a glimpse into the future of sunflower products and breeding advances. The day begins at 8:30 a.m. with a panel discussion called "Trends in Sunflower Products: What does the future hold?" Panelists include Mark Jirik with Cargill, Brian Matter of CHS Inc. and Kent Johnson of SunOpta. They'll cover confection in-shell, kernel, oil, and birdfeed. That discussion will be followed by another panel discussion, "Breeding Advances in Sunflower: What's coming and what's possible?" Brent Hulke with USDA-ARS, Jim Gerdes of Nuseed, and Joel Schaefer of CHS Sunflower will lead this panel discussion from 10:30 to 12:00. Breakout sessions are planned on other topics for the afternoon. Check out the full schedule at www.sunflowernsa.com/events/. You can also register there. Click on the "Register Now" button to begin registration. We can't wait to see you at Madden's on Gull Lake in Brainerd, MN on June 23-25 for this informative and fun event.

www.sunflowernsa.com

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