

What the Market is Telling us to Sow This Year



Malcolm Bartholomaeus

Founder of Callum Downs Commodity News Former Editor Profarmer Australia

Pool Management, Grain Sales, EPR Estimates, Pool Reports, Editor Weekly Newsletters

Market Signals

- Most growers around the world react to their most recent experience.
- Durum prices high last harvest lets plant durum this year.
- Barley prices high Lets plant barley this year.
- Canola prices low lets cut canola area
- Pulse prices high lets plant more lentils, peas, chickpeas and faba beans



Market Signals

- High prices fix high prices
- Expect most crops that had high prices for the 2014/15 harvest to have lower prices by the end of 2015
- Expect lentil, pea, faba bean, chickpea, durum and barley prices to all fall.
- Expect canola prices to be higher.
- Expect wheat to be neutral
- But should this change our planting decisions?



Global Wheat

- Wheat production is set to fall year on year
- A big crop in the EU is not expected to be repeated. Winter wheat plantings are down. Increased spring wheat plantings amy not cover it.
- EU yields back to average
- Black Sea production down with poor establishment and winterkill and inability to fully replant in spring
- US winterkill issues, but less is in drought and yield likely to lift, but area down.
- Canadian production might not lift with strong pulse prices and small lift in canola area.

Global Wheat Situation

Global Balance Sheet				
	Prodn	Use	Stocks	S/U Ratio
09/10	687.01	654.27	202.50	30.95%
10/11	652.37	655.66	197.94	30.19%
11/12	697.04	697.08	198.89	28.53%
12/13	658.54	679.79	175.59	25.83%
13/14	716.10	704.20	187.49	26.62%
14/15	724.76	714.53	197.71	27.67%
15/16	705.00	710.00	192.71	27.14%



Best Bet Wheat Prices

- With a small easing in global stocks and maybe a bit of support from a softer A\$, we might see a modest year on year lift in the A\$ value of US futures.
- Lets assume a \$15/t lift from \$250/t to \$265/t.
- Basis levels should pull back from the levels seen in 2014. Maybe from A\$40/t back to A\$20/t.
- That will give us an APW wheat price of \$285/t Pt Adelaide – unchanged on 2014.



Worst Case Wheat Prices

- Wheat futures fall year on year eg A\$5/t
- Basis falls to zero as Australia has a reasonable season and has to compete with strong exports from the EU and Black Sea
- APW prices come in at \$245/t at harvest, down \$40 per tonne year on year.
- Right now this is the direction the market is heading. Will it last?
- US Futures already close to levels seen briefly in 2014 and then back to 2010 levels.
- Spot cash prices have already been down to \$250/t, a loss of \$47/t since the harvest peak

CBOT Futures

Nearby Futures (USc/bu) 950 900 WHIM 850 ŝ 800 8 750 and the Dec Futures 700 650 600 550 500 450 21/08/12 -31/12/13 -30/10/12 10/01/13 21/03/13 31/05/13 09/08/13 12/03/14 22/05/14 31/07/14 09/10/14 18/12/14 12/06/12 18/10/13 02/03/15





Barley

- After years of low prices a pull back in production has triggered a rally in price.
- Barley/canola is a good fit in the UK as the shorter growing season barley gives better planting times for winter canola to follow.
- We can expect global barley production to lift in 2015/16



Barley Pricing

- Assume feed barley returns to \$50/t under APW wheat.
- Last harvest it was close to \$30/t
- The 2007 to 2013 average is \$65
- That puts F1 Barley at \$235/t for 2015, down \$30 -\$35/t year on year.
- Malt premium \$40/t
- Has been as low as \$20/t
- That puts Malt Barley at \$275/t \$10/t under APW



Feed Barley Should Remain Strong





Canola

- Global canola production tipped to fall for the first time in 5 years by 3.5%
- Main reduction in the EU (the largest producers) where a drop in area and reduced yields will pull production back by as much as 11.7%.
- Last year's EU output was a record as well, so not likely to be repeated.
- Australian crop likely to be smaller.
- Canadian crop might hold or lift a little.
- Global soybean production also likely to pull back from record levels.



Canola Pricing

- Assume a \$20/t year on year price lift
- That means prices should get back to \$500/t, but that's still low.
- Canola at \$500 and wheat at \$285 puts the ratio at 1.75
- Canola at \$500 and barley at \$235 puts the ratio at 2.13
- Canola is not that attractive relative to cereals unless prices move well above \$500/t



Canola

Current Canola Prices Benchmarked





Pulses

- Old season prices are red hot at the moment
- Driven by shortfalls in India, and mid year Ramadan demand.
- Production expected to recover in India.
- Peas are a better performer for Canadian farmers than all other crops except durum
- Lentil stocks to rundown ahead of the Australia and Canadian harvests



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