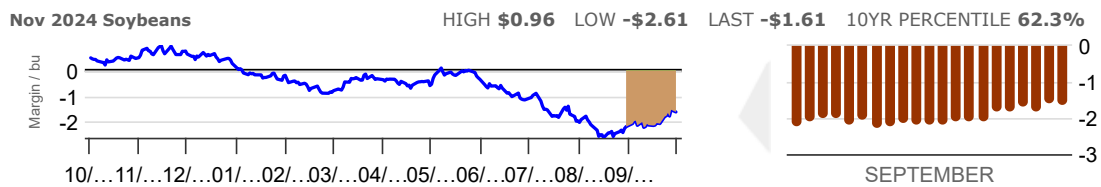


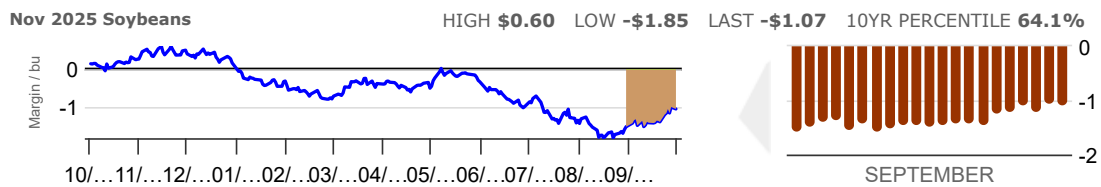
Soybeans Margin Watch: September



Corn futures traded higher in the second half of September as harvest ramps up across the country. USDA on September 30 released its quarterly Grain Stocks report. Old crop soybean stocks on September 1 totaled 342 million bushels. This was 29 percent higher than a year ago and slightly smaller than the average pre-report estimate of 354 million. Off-farm stocks were 20 percent higher than last September while soybean stocks stored on farms were 54 percent higher than last year. Indicated disappearance for the June-August time period was 628 million bushels, 18 percent higher than the same time period last year. USDA indicated 26 percent of the U.S. soybean crop was harvested through the week ending September 29. This was 13 percent ahead of the previous week and 8 points ahead of the 5-year average. Scheduled processing plant maintenance at the end of the summer may have been more widespread and longer lasting than expected. NOPA indicated its members crushed 15.008 million bushels of soybeans in August. This was below the lower end of the range of trade estimates and the lowest monthly total since September 2021. Soybean stocks were also below the range of trade estimates at 1.138 billion pounds and marked the lowest August stock level since 2004. Soybean export shipments have been relatively lackluster in the first couple weeks of the marketing year and currently sit about 12 million bushels behind the historical pace needed to meet USDA's annual forecast. Outstanding export sales continue to accumulate but remain about 22 percent behind average for this point in the year. Soybean meal outstanding sales, on the other hand, are at 10-year highs for this point in the year primarily on strong demand from Canada, Colombia, and the Philippines. Market attention will remain focused on domestic harvest progress and the October WASDE report. Our customers have leaned on flexible positions throughout the growing season. They are maintaining protection to lower prices but freshening up coverage to position themselves to benefit should the market continue to move higher.



The estimated yield for the Nov 2024 crop is 67 bushels per acre and the non-land operating cost is \$513 per acre. Land cost for Nov 2024 is estimated at \$275 per acre¹. Basis for the Nov 2024 crop is estimated at \$-0.42 per bushel.



The estimated yield for the Nov 2025 crop is 68 bushels per acre and the estimated operating cost is \$490 per acre. Land cost for Nov 2025 is estimated at \$300 per acre¹. Basis for the Nov 2025 crop is estimated at \$-0.4 per bushel.

¹ The Soybeans Margin Watch yield, land and non-land operating cost values are based upon central Illinois low productivity farmland crop estimates in the "Historic Corn, Soybean, Wheat, and Double-crop Soybeans" report published by the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois.

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