Wheat Margin Watch: July



Wheat prices and margins were stronger the past two weeks as weather issues have drawn down global production projections. The E.U. and Russia are suffering the most. Russia's latest production estimate is close to 20 million metric tons below last year, while the E.U. is off 17 million from projections made in June. Back home the U.S. spring wheat conditions are off the charts with ratings hovering near 80% in the good and excellent categories. Countering these top shelf ratings, a recent Wheat Quality Council spring wheat crop tour found average yields at 41.1 bpa, while ahead of last year's 38.1, but notably short of their 5-year average of 45.4 bpa, bringing into question the robust conditions. The wheat market points to the August NASS yield projection to arbitrate the differences.



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¹ The Wheat 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.