



# MARYLAND GRAIN & LIVESTOCK REPORT

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<b>WEEKLY GRAIN COMMENTARY</b>		<b>Kevin McNew</b>	<b>Adjunct Professor, UMD-College Park</b>	

Grain prices plunged to new lows, as global recession woes and increasing world supplies paint a bleak picture for the ag complex. Crude oil managed to trade down to three year lows this week and that along with an anemic weekly grain export sales report set the tone for a bearish outcome. The market bulls are hoping for a slow up in the decline of the energy markets or a solution to the global credit situation to be resolved to stop the financial pain the market is having on their positions. They are also looking to Southern Hemisphere weather to eventually provide some support as well. Argentina has been reported to have turned back to a drier pattern since getting some much welcomed precipitation this past week while Southern Brazil is still dry although rains are expected to move into some of those areas by late this and early next week. Corn weekly export sales were at 392,000 MT, toward the low end of trade expectations and 44% below what we need to average. Year-to-date sales are currently 47% behind last year's pace versus the USDA projecting a 22% decline. Over the past three days the USDA has reported 445,000 MT of old and 130,000t of new crop has been sold to Mexico. Mexico's Agriculture Minister also announced on Thursday that they expect to produce a corn crop of 26.5mmt in 2009, up 6% from the 2008 harvest of 25.0mmt. Yellow corn will make up approximately 1.0 MMT of the total while the balance will be white for domestic food use. For soybeans, weekly export sales for the week ending November 27<sup>th</sup> reported net 08/09 bean sales of 359,800 MT, a marketing-year low. China remains the number one buyer at 298,000 MT, which included 165,000 MT that had been previous reported as sales to unknown destinations, making net new sales of only 133,000 MT. Meal sales topped expectations at 106,000 MT while soyoil sales disappointed at 2,700 MT. Year-to-date total commitments for soybeans is 644.9 million bushels compared to last year's commitments of 667.3 million. Accumulated shipments stand at 350 million, up from last year's of 307.3 million bushels. Overall, the mood is bearish and the market will likely drift lower until signs of buying returns.

### CASH GRAINS – REGIONAL – (\$/bu) DEALERS AVERAGE CASH QUOTES

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02
Western, MD	3.95	3.70	7.94	7.36	3.53	3.05	3.38	3.23
Central, MD	3.71	3.25	7.82	7.20	3.27	3.18	----	----
Southern, MD	3.90	3.48	8.37	7.70	----	----	----	----
Upper E. Shore	4.08	3.66	8.52	7.85	----	----	----	----
Lower E. Shore	4.20	3.71	8.68	7.97	----	----	----	----

### FORWARD CONTRACT PRICE – REGIONAL (\$/bu) for Harvest Delivery Dealer's Avg. Quotes

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02	11/18	12/02
Western MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Central MD	4.27	3.64	8.35	7.36	4.25	3.62	----	----
Southern MD	4.19	3.74	----	----	4.38	3.96	2.44	2.15
Upper E Shore	4.32	3.87	8.56	7.85	4.38	4.06	2.49	2.20
Lower E Shore	4.48	3.94	8.69	8.01	4.35	3.95	2.76	2.47

### GRAIN FUTURES – CME Group - Settle - December 4, 2008 (Cents & Quarter – cents/bushel)

Corn		Soybeans		Wheat		Soybean Meal <sup>1/</sup>	
DEC08	322'0	JAN09	811'6	DEC08	477'0	DEC08	245'9
MAR09	337'6	MAR09	815'6	MAR09	491'0	JAN09	244'2
MAY09	348'6	MAY09	823'6	MAY09	505'0	MAR09	243'9
JUL09	359'0	JUL09	832'6	JUL09	519'4	MAY09	245'9
SEP09	370'0	AUG09	842'0	SEP09	541'2	JUL09	249'1
DEC09	383'6	SEP09	862'0	DEC09	561'2	AUG09	250'9

1/ Price Unit: Dollars and cents/ton (100 tons (2,000 lbs/ton))

### HAY AND STRAW

New Holland, PA - \$/ton – December 1, 2008

Alfalfa	Mixed Hay	Timothy	Grass	Straw
125.00 - 270.00	120.00 - 350.00	110.00 - 265.00	130.00 - 225.00	70.00 - 225.00

Westminster, MD - December 2, 2008 - \$/bale

Alfalfa	Alfalfa Mix	Timothy	Timothy Mix	Grass Mix	Straw
1.00 - 4.50	1.10 - 5.90	1.30 - 5.00	1.40 - 4.90	1.10 - 4.30	1.20 - 3.10

<b>POULTRY</b>							
<b>Negotiated price for truck lot of ready-to-cook, ice-pack, Grade A Fryers (\$ per CWT) – Week Ending – December 6, 2008</b>							
		<b>Current Week</b>	<b>Prev. Week</b>	<b>Prev. Month</b>	<b>Prev. Year</b>		
<b>N.Y. Weighted Avg.</b>		77.86	74.81	72.90	68.38		
<b>12 City Composite</b>		82.36	81.37	79.75	72.13		
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS - Westminster, MD - December 2, 2008 - \$/cwt</b>							
<b>Sheep</b>	40.00 - 70.00	<b>Lambs</b>	Under 50 lbs	135.00 - 180.00			
Heavy Yearlings	70.00 - 120.00		50 - 80 lbs	110.00 - 135.00			
Too Fat	20.00 - 37.50		90 - 130 lbs	100.00 - 135.00			
<b>TERMINAL MARKETS HOGS - December 4, 2008</b>				<b>DIRECT MARKET HOGS - Westminster, MD - December 2, 2008</b>			
<b>* Base Price Range</b>	<b>Carcass Basis</b>	<b>Weighted</b>	<b>Butcher Hogs</b>		<b>Sows</b>		
	<b>Base 185 lb Hog</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>#2</b>	40.50	Heavy Weights	39.00 - 47.00	
<b>Iowa, Minn</b>	45.00 - 56.00	53.85	Heavy Weights	44.00 - 46.50	Light Weights	27.00 - 38.00	
<b>Eastern Corn belt</b>	51.00 - 57.00	54.68					
						<b>Boars</b>	
						Heavy Weights	7.00
* Base price is the price from which no discounts are subtracted and no premiums are added.							
<b>MARKET HOGS - Millsboro, DE - (\$/CWT) - November 11, 2008 32.00 Next sale date - December 9, 2008</b>							
<b>FEEDER PIGS - Gumboro, DE - (\$/CWT) - November 11, 2008 Next sale date - December 9, 2008</b>							
Under 30 lbs	90.00 - 130.00	40 - 49 lbs	60.00 - 70.00				
30 - 39 lbs	50.00 - 110.00	50 - 59 lbs	50.00 - 57.00				
<b>CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE GROUP (cwt) - December 4, 2008</b>							
<b>CATTLE –LIVE FUTURES</b>				<b>HOGS-LEAN FUTURES</b>			
DEC08	83.05	JUN09	81.45	DEC08	57.23	MAY09	77.50
FEB09	83.15	AUG09	81.00	FEB09	63.80	JUN09	79.20
APR09	85.20	OCT09	84.45	APR09	69.90	JUL09	79.00
<b>STOCKER – FEEDER CATTLE – (\$/cwt)</b>							
<b>Winchester, VA – December 1, 2008</b>				<b>Westminster, MD - December 2, 2008</b>			
<b>Steers</b>	300 - 400 lbs	88.00					
	400 - 500 lbs	85.00 - 91.00					
	500 - 600 lbs	77.00 - 87.00		<b>Steers</b>	400 - 500 lbs	52.00 - 60.00	
	600 - 700 lbs	76.50 - 86.00			600 - 700 lbs	71.00	
	700 - 800 lbs	78.50 - 82.50					
<b>Heifers</b>	300 - 400 lbs	73.00 - 82.00					
	400 - 500 lbs	68.00 - 74.00		<b>Heifers</b>	200 - 300 lbs	54.00 - 97.00	
	500 - 600 lbs	61.00 - 69.75			400 - 500 lbs	51.00 - 70.00	
	600 - 700 lbs	62.00 - 69.00			600 - 700 lbs	51.00 - 55.00	
<b>SLAUGHTER CATTLE (\$/cwt)</b>							
<b>Westminster, MD - December 2, 2008</b>				<b>Fed Heifers</b>			
<b>Sltr. Cows</b>				Choice	84.00 - 88.75		
Breakers	45.75 - 51.50			Select	N/A		
Boners	39.25 - 45.25			Holsteins	N/A		
Thin/Slow	37.50 & Down			<b>Hols. Bull Calves to Feed</b>			
				#1	70.00 - 80.00		
<b>Fed Steers</b>				#2	40.00 - 55.00		
Choice & Prime	86.00 - 88.75			<b>Culls</b>	10.00 - 27.50		
Low Choice	82.75 - 84.50						
Select	79.50 - 81.25			<b>Hols. Heifers</b>			
Holsteins: x-bred thin	53.00 - 56.50			<b>#2 thin</b>	190.00		
<b>Lancaster, New Holland &amp; Vintage – December 4, 2008</b>							
<b>Sltr. Steers:</b>				<b>Sltr. Heifers:</b>			
Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1260 - 1510 lbs	89.00 - 92.50		Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1310 - 1495 lbs	88.00 - 92.00	
Full/YG 4-5		87.00 - 88.50		Choice 2- 3	1305 - 1485 lbs	86.00 - 88.00	
Choice 2- 3	1240 - 1500 lbs	86.00 - 89.00					
Full/YG 4-5		83.00 - 84.50					
Hi Sel & Lo Ch 2-3	1195 - 1480 lbs	83.00 - 86.00		<b>Sltr. Cows:</b>	<b>Percent Lean</b>	<b>Avg. Dressing</b>	
<b>Hols. Steers:</b>				Premium White	65 - 75	48.00 - 51.00	
Hi Ch & Pr 2-3	1435 - 1615 lbs	77.00 - 79.00		Breakers	75 - 80	45.00 - 48.00	
Choice 2- 3	1425 - 1593 lbs	74.00 - 77.00		Boners	80 - 85	42.00 - 45.00	
Hi Sel & Lo Ch 2-3	1295 - 1580 lbs	71.00 - 74.00		Lean	88 - 90	38.00 - 42.00	
Select 1-2	1190 - 1500 lbs	68.00 - 71.00					

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