

# Sunflower

August 24, 2015



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## Week in Review

### CROP PROGRESS

State	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 yr Av
<b>N. Dakota</b>				
<i>Blooming</i>	99	94	90	92
<i>Petals Dry</i>	29	11	3	19
<i>Bracts Yellow</i>	4	---	---	---
<b>S. Dakota</b>				
<i>Blooming</i>	93	76	82	90
<i>Petals Dry</i>	15	---	2	14
<b>Texas</b>				
<i>Harvested</i>	37	30	44	19
<b>Kansas</b>				
<i>Blooming</i>	78	52	70	79
<i>Petals Dry</i>	10	3	2	20

Source: USDA NASS

### SUNFLOWER CROP CONDITIONS

State	VP	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
<b>N. Dakota</b>	0	8	20	64	8
<b>S. Dakota</b>	0	2	20	74	4
<b>Minnesota</b>	0	2	34	55	9
<b>Colorado</b>	0	5	30	50	15
<b>Kansas</b>	1	2	30	60	7

Source: USDA NASS (not all states reporting)

### GROWER REPORT

Bismarck, ND area producer Clark Coleman is excited about this year's sunflower crop. He says his 1,200 acres of oil sunflowers survived strong winds over the weekend, and the inch of rain that fell was welcome. Coleman says his sunflowers dropped their petals about two weeks ago, putting this year's crop about two weeks ahead of last year's. He's looking forward to starting sunflower harvest as early as the end of September.

### REDUCING BLACKBIRD DAMAGE

Petals are beginning to drop on sunflowers, and that means it's time to start thinking about blackbirds. Research finds that as much as half of the blackbird damage to ripening sunflower happens in the first two weeks after petal drop. These are blackbirds that have been reared locally are in the process of developing their long range flying feathers. That makes these birds difficult to move, but there are ways to lower damage, including cattail management, cannons, harassment, desiccants, and repellants. These can be even more effective when used in combination. For more information on blackbird control, visit [www.sunflowernsa.com/growers/black-birds/](http://www.sunflowernsa.com/growers/black-birds/).

### SUNFLOWER SURVEY TRAINING

A sunflower survey training session will be held on Thursday, September 3 at the NDSU Carrington Research Extension Center from 12:30-3:30. The annual REC row crop tour will follow the sunflower training. The training will include discussion about identifying sunflower disease, insect damage, weeds, as well as hands on training in the field. To sign up for the training, email [hans.kandel@ndsu.edu](mailto:hans.kandel@ndsu.edu).

### Markets

Thoughts of large global oilseed supplies and not enough demand are pressuring oilseed prices. Also, concern about the Chinese economy and potential for a currency war in emerging markets has weighed on commodity prices. CBoT soybean contracts dipped below \$9.00 for the first time since 2009. Some traders think this suggests that prices could possibly slide to a range of \$8.50-\$8.75 in the weeks ahead. USDA's report from earlier this month pegged the US soybean crop much higher than most trade analysts thought. There are doubts from many that the forecast is on the money but until another report is released next month this is what the market is trading on. China's stock market continues to tumble. The economic troubles there has raised worries the Chinese government may lower the Yuan some more. The devaluation is raising trader concerns about Chinese demand for oilseeds this fall and into 2016. Weather and crop conditions will be the main traded features in the near term. Oilseeds are in the most important reproductive time frame between now and the first week of September. Weather forecasts for the Midwest bear watching hot, dry weather is in the 6- to 10-day outlook.

## SUNFLOWER OIL EXPORTS INCREASE

Sunflower oil exports for October 2014 to June 2015 are slightly up from the same time period a year ago. So far, 23,375 metric tons (MT) of sunflower oil have been exported, compared to 21,404 MT at this time last year. Canada and Japan are the top importers. 14,756 MT has been exported to Canada so far this marketing year, and 4,286 MT to Japan.

## EXPORTS OF SUNFLOWER KERNEL INCREASE

Exports of sunflower kernel are on the rise to Canada, Mexico, and Korea, in fact, exports to Mexico and Korea have more than doubled from last year. From October 2014 to June 2015, Mexico imported 1,791 metric tons (MT), compared to 809 MT at the same time last year. Exports to Korea increased from 835 MT from October 2013 to June 2014 to 1,901 MT from October 2014 to June 2015. From October 2014 to June 2015, Canada imported 2,946 MT of sunflower kernel, compared to 2,344 MT during the same time frame a year ago. Overall, sunflower kernel exports are up from 8,053 MT a year ago to 9,118 MT so far this marketing year. Spain remains the top importer of in-shell sunflower, importing 16,514 MT from October 2014 to June 2015. In-shell exports are down slightly from a year ago, at 44,558 MT compared to 49,755 MT from October 2013 to June 2014.

## AUGUST/SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF THE SUNFLOWER COMING SOON

Be watching your mailbox for the August/September 2015 issue of our magazine, *The Sunflower* – it should be arriving soon. This first issue of the 2015-16 publishing year features a summary of this year's NSA Summer Seminar, a look at a unique research project at USDA-ARS Mandan involving sunflower, some natural air drying reminders, a profile on southwest North Dakota producer Brent Roth, and much more. And if you haven't signed up for a digital copy of the magazine, now is a great time to do that. Visit our website, [www.sunflowernsa.com/mms/](http://www.sunflowernsa.com/mms/), click "sign up" and follow the directions. If you're already subscribed to our newsletter, just log into your account and sign up for the digital edition of the magazine – you'll receive your first copy soon!

## upcoming events

**September 3, 2015** – National Sunflower Survey Training, NDSU REC, Carrington, ND

**January 12-13, 2016** – NSA Research Forum, Fargo, ND

**June 28-30, 2016** – NSA Summer Seminar, Bismarck, ND

## Sunflower Week In Review – markets at a glance

WEEKLY PRICES recorded on Monday, August 24, 2015 (\$/CWT)

	Deliver	Last Year	Last Week	This Week	Change	2015 NEW Crop
Chicago Oil	Nearby	32.74	29.06	26.55	-2.51	26.86
Fargo, ND	NuSun	17.35	18.30	17.15	-1.15	17.05
Enderlin, ND	NuSun	17.35	NQ	NQ	---	17.15
Goodland, KS	NuSun	16.10	17.90	16.75	-1.15	16.75

US CRUDE OIL VALUES (dollars per 100 lb. internal U.S. locations)

	Last Year	Last Week	This Week	Change
Soybean Oil	33.47	28.56	26.05	-2.51
Cotton Oil (pbsy)	65.00	46.06	43.55	-2.51
Corn Oil	38.50	44.50	44.50	NC

Prices recorded here are believed to be reliable at the time of publication. Individual companies have the right to correct any errors that may occur. Contact these facilities for complete market details.

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