

Sunflower

Week in Review

July 13, 2015



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Markets

Markets have been focused on fears of a slower world economy, talk of slower US soybean export demand, prospects for larger 2016 South American oilseed crops and better US weather in soggy areas of the Midwest. Adding further pressure was Greece's rejection of an austerity package with a big debt payment looming again coupled with losses in China's stock market which raised doubts about that country's economy. Last week *Oil World* reported that meal prices and feed grains have the greatest potential for price declines. Vegetable oil prices are expected to see only limited downward potential at current levels. The combined decline of world production of rapeseed oil and sun oil; reduced supplies of olive oil and below average growth in world palm oil production should support this. This is good news for high oil bearing crops such as sunflower. Now that the USDA planted acres report is factored into the market, buyers will anxiously watch crop production prospects before making longer term purchases. August to early September is the critical time frame for oilseeds. The next important USDA report for sunflower is in October. USDA will provide an updated estimate for oil and non-oil sunflower production.

CROP PROGRESS

Sunflowers are beginning to bloom in North Dakota – 2% of the sunflowers planted there are already blooming. In Kansas, 1% of the sunflowers are also reported blooming. Meantime, South Dakota reports 89% of the state's sunflowers are emerged, which is slightly ahead of last year. In both North and South Dakota, the majority of the sunflowers are in good to excellent condition – 77% in North Dakota and 76% in South Dakota. 80% of Colorado's sunflower crop is reported in good to excellent condition.

State	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 yr Av
N. Dakota				
<i>Blooming</i>	2	0	--	--
S. Dakota				
<i>Emerged</i>	89	72	83	--
Texas				
<i>Planted</i>	97	93	100	97
Kansas				
<i>Planted</i>	94	90	95	95
<i>Emerged</i>	85	73	88	87
<i>Blooming</i>	1	--	2	5

Source: USDA NASS

SUNFLOWER CROP CONDITIONS

State	VP	Poor	Fair	Good	Ex
N. Dakota	0	6	17	72	5
S. Dakota	0	1	23	73	3
Minnesota	0	1	38	55	6
Colorado	0	0	20	43	37
Kansas	0	2	30	60	8

Source: USDA NASS (not all states reporting)

SECONDARY DOWNY MILDEW INFECTIONS

NDSU pathologists have been hearing a lot of reports about downy mildew of sunflower appearing in many fields in the area. Unusually, much of this is *secondary infection* – also called local lesions. While the systemically infected plants are stunted and will not likely yield, plants with secondary infections are likely just fine. Secondary infections are not considered economically important and no action is needed. The infection will not spread and new leaves should not be infected. Consequently, the sunflowers will appear to 'grow out' of the disease. For more information please visit www.ag.ndsu.edu/cpr/plant-pathology/sunflower-downy-mildew-07-10-14.

GROWER REPORT

This is the first year Don Schommer has grown high oleic sunflowers, and so far the Munich, ND producer likes what he sees. He was able to get 650 acres of high oleic sunflower planted in early May and he says now they are all about five feet tall and just starting to bud. He says they're not blooming yet, but he expects they will be in the next two weeks. A half an inch of rain over the weekend and warm temperatures the past week were just what the flowers needed, and he says they look excellent and healthy.

SCOUT FOR BANDED SUNFLOWER MOTH AND SUNFLOWER MOTH

The IPM Survey scouts captured the first banded sunflower moths in pheromone traps located in Richland, Ramsey and Cavalier Counties of North Dakota last week so emergence is beginning. Sunflower should be scouted for banded sunflower moth eggs when most of the plants in the field are at plant stage R3 (distinct bud elongated 3/4 inch above the nearest leaf, yellow ray petals not visible). For more about banded sunflower moth, see the NDSU Extension YouTube video on Banded Sunflower Moth Egg Scouting – you can find it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=exH6DFTLjsA. The current threshold (economic injury level) for banded sunflower moth eggs is based on insecticide treatment costs, plant populations and sunflower market prices. The excel spreadsheet that calculates the threshold is available on the NDSU Extension Entomology website: www.ag.ndsu.edu/cpr/entomology/banded-sunflower-moth-and-sunflower-moth-flying-07-09-15. The first migratory sunflower moth also was detected in the pheromone trap located in Richland County, North Dakota only one moth per trap per week. When sunflowers start to flower, scouting will be a necessity. The economic threshold for sunflower moth is one to two adults per five plants at the onset of bloom (R5.1) or within seven days of the adult moth's first appearance. There is an economic threshold based on pheromone traps and it is set at 28 moths per trap per week (or 4 moths per trap per day). The early blooming fields will be targeted by both banded sunflower moth and sunflower moth.

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS DAY AT USDA-ARS MANDAN SITE

The public is invited to celebrate Friends and Neighbors Day at the USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Laboratory from 2 to 5:30 p.m. on July 16. You can learn about local ag research, take a tour, and check out the exhibits researchers have been working on. The laboratory is located south of the Heart River on ND Highway 6 at 1701 10th Ave. SW in Mandan ND.

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upcoming events

July 16, 2015 – Friends and Neighbors Day, USDA-ARS Mandan, 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, July 13, 2015 (\$/CWT)

	Deliver	Last Year	Last Week	This Week	Change	2015 NEW Crop
Chicago Oil	Nearby	36.75	32.64	32.65	+.01	33.20
Fargo, ND	NuSun	20.45	22.00	22.00	NC	18.70
Enderlin, ND	NuSun	20.45	23.35	23.75	+.40	18.80
Goodland, KS	NuSun	18.10	19.10	19.10	NC	19.10

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

	Last Year	Last Week	This Week	Change
Soybean Oil	37.38	32.14	32.24	+.10
Cotton Oil (pbsy)	71.88	47.74	47.74	NC
Corn Oil	42.00	43.00	43.00	NC

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