

**AG NOTES**  
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**FARMERS MARKET**

We're still going. We project to keep on into October with fall season vegetables. And the summer stuff keeps hanging in there.

Come see us on Thursday afternoons at 2:30 pm at the Pavilion next to the big blue water tower at the Celebration.

**WHAT'S THE MARKET?**

These comments were shared by Drs. Andrew Griffith and Aaron Smith, livestock and crop economists with UT Extension. (If I have any comments, they'll be in parentheses.)

Fed cattle traded mainly \$1 lower compared to last week on a live basis. Prices on a live basis primarily ranged from \$124 to \$126 while dressed price were mainly from \$199 to \$203.

The 5-area weighted average prices through Thursday were \$124.73 live, down \$1.00 compared to last week and \$200.81 dressed, down \$0.97 from a week ago. A year ago, prices were \$100.86 live and \$160.56 dressed.

Based on Tennessee weekly auction market data, steer prices were steady to \$3 lower compared to last week while heifer prices were steady to \$5 lower compared to a week ago. Harvest cow and bull prices were steady compared to the previous week.

There was limited information in which to base trends due to the Labor Day holiday. However, based on the markets reported this week, it was clear the calf and feeder cattle markets were softer this week. The cash price decline is to be expected given the nearby feeder cattle futures contract price has declined more than \$7 since the beginning of September.

It appears fourth quarter optimism for feeder cattle has waned as the November feeder cattle futures contract price is \$10 lower than its contract high experienced in August.

On the crop side, corn, cotton, soybeans, and wheat were down for the week. On Friday the USDA released updated supply and demand estimates for principal row crops. (Sounds like a bigger crop than expected for corn.)

Estimated national average corn yield was increased 176.3 bu/acre. Harvested acres were also projected to increase 600,000 to 85.1 million acres. Increased exports and feed and residual use partially offset the production increase, however projected ending stocks were increased 166 million bushels. The national marketing year average price was revised down 30 cents to \$5.45/bu, but still \$1.00/bu higher than last year's estimated average.

Soybean yield was estimated up at 50.6 bu/acre. Harvested acres expected were decreased 300,000 to 86.4 million acres (still, a big crop). US marketing year ending stocks are now projected at 185 million bushels, up 30 million compared to the previous month. The marketing year average price is now projected at \$12.90, down 80 cents compared to the August projection.

December 2021 corn futures closed at \$5.17, down 7 cents since last Friday. For the week, December 2021 corn futures traded between \$4.97 and \$5.26. In Tennessee, new crop cash corn prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$4.50 to \$4.76.

November 2021 soybean futures closed at \$12.86, down 6 cents since last Friday. For the week, November 2021 soybean futures traded between \$12.62 and \$13.05. In Tennessee, new crop cash soybean prices at elevators and barge points ranged from \$12.09 to \$12.45.

## **THE KIDS**

Well, it's back to school for them like all the other kids in the country. Hank and Ford are at different schools now, since Hank moved up to the Middle School. They will be in separate schools from now on, except for maybe when Hank is a senior and Ford is a freshman. They are really growing up! Our Ford is playing baseball this fall, and he's loving it. Getting better at it. And his academics are good, too.

Hank decided he wanted to try football as well as baseball, and he played in his first football game last Friday. This is a training league for them to learn the different positions and match up their skills with the right job and I'm impressed with this. He's got good teaching coaches and good support. Hank played running back for his shift on the field, and he made a good block in the back field and a nice seven-yard gain his one-time to carry the ball. But he had to come out of the game with an injury to his knee and we're all crossing our fingers that it's not serious. He goes to the doctor early this week so we'll find out shortly. He'll be fine, just impatient to get back out there.

And Piper is so full of life, and so happy most of the time, except when she's tired or hungry like the rest of us. She loves her friends and teachers and she is so energetic and enthusiastic it's hard not to smile while watching her interact with everyone. She loves going to the barn and tending to the horses, cows, goats and pups. They react to her kindness and chatter in a positive way.

Meme and Grandee are pretty fond of them all, in case you haven't picked up on that!