

Hog Prices: ↓ Soymeal: ↓
Corn: ↓ CDN Dollar: ↑

Forward contract prices opened mostly lower this morning. US cash markets are expected to start this week lower. The of influence Hurricane Florence last week has delayed the slaughter of about 200,000 hogs which will need to be dealt with in the next few weeks. The pork carcass cut-out found support last week, in part, due to lower pork production associated with the storm, gaining close to 10% of its value. However, these price gains are likely to be short lived as pork production is expected to spike this week when the North Carolina plants restart operations. A Smithfield spokesperson said that the Tar Heel production facility was 'undamaged', but delays may still occur due to ongoing flooding and damage to transportation infrastructure. Lean hog futures are down sharply from Friday's highs, with renewed concern over burdensome supplies coming in the next two months. The market will be watching for developments in NAFTA negotiations close to the end of the week, which will only contribute more price volatility unless a preliminary deal can be reached.

Canadian delivered soymeal prices opened lower this morning. US soybean futures are starting the week off on a lower note as trade topics once again dominate the newsreels. While only rumors and speculation at this point, there is talk that the additional \$200 billion worth of Chinese goods targeted for the next round in tariffs will be announced in the 'near future' and go into effect in October. There is also talk that the initial 25% levy will be throttled back to 10%. In any event, a ramping up of hostilities will likely prevent any potential rallies from gaining much steam. While there have been frost warnings further north, US crop watchers have not yet reported any damaging frost threats in important growing areas.

US corn futures opened lower this morning. Like beans, US corn futures are starting the week off lower. Massive speculation regarding NAFTA talks in the US press on whether or not Canada will 'join' the new US/Mexico deal while Canadian press more accurately describes a situation where Canadian negotiators, while working on negotiating a new NAFTA deal, are not rushing to meet any US, political deadlines. Regardless, the uncertainty will remain the longer the talks drag on and as long as the frosty trade relationship between US and Mexico remains (due to the initial steel and aluminum tariff spat), it will be difficult for the corn trade to gain much momentum upward.

US Slaughter	
2.315 mil.	Last Week
2.460 mil.	Year Ago
Daily Prices	
W. Corn Belt	\$49.07
National	\$56.32
Iowa/S. MN.	\$49.21
ML Signature 5	\$123.76
HyLife (prev. day)	\$128.84
TCP/BP2	\$123.76
BoC Rate (Noon) prev. day	
\$1.3033 CAD / \$0.7673 USD	
Cash Prices Week Ending September 15, 2018	
Signature 3	112.30/50.94
Signature 4	123.35/55.95
Signature 5 Brandon	117.83/53.45
h@ms Cash	116.33/52.77
HyLife	124.45/56.45
TCP/BP2 Moose Jaw/Langley	105.19/47.71
2018 Top-Up Estimate	
\$5.66 ckg (call for details)	
ISO Weans	\$28.11 US Avg.
Feeder Pigs	\$31.32 US Avg.

Forward Range (at opening)	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Maple Leaf Sig. #5		126.59 127.34	119.02 123.59	118.67 122.35	121.91 138.63	141.90 145.18	143.73 149.22	150.95 158.20	156.91 169.43	167.98 180.61	174.52 177.01	171.71 177.48
Soymeal Wpg/S.Man	438	435	439	439	443	442	442					

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