

Meeting summary

Quick recap

This meeting focused on agricultural market conditions and crop updates, with participants discussing recent weather impacts including hail damage to crops and the effects of rain and wind on bean fields. Josh shared details about crop damage assessments, noting that some areas experienced up to 60% hail damage, and discussed the challenges of finding and assessing damaged fields multiple times. The group reviewed current market trends, with Josh explaining that commodity prices were waiting for news from upcoming reports, particularly the quarterly stocks report and official acreage numbers coming out next Tuesday. They discussed weather conditions showing good growing conditions with adequate moisture, though there were concerns about potential excessive heat in some areas of Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana heading into July. The conversation covered potential farm relief packages being considered by Congress, with discussions of payments ranging from \$8-10 per acre for soybeans up to potentially \$100 per acre for corn in some areas, though Josh noted that maximum payments would be capped at \$89.44 per acre. The conversation ended with updates on marketing progress, showing most participants were around 30-50% sold on corn for 2026, with wheat and soybeans more aggressively marketed, and discussions of basis levels and carry trade opportunities for storing grain.

Next steps

Josh

- Finalize and sell any remaining 2025 grain (corn, soybeans, wheat) by July 1st to complete the marketing year.
- Monitor the upcoming heat wave and its potential impact on pollination, especially for corn and soybeans, and adjust marketing strategies accordingly.
- Review and update the 2026 and 2027 marketing plans, considering current price targets (e.g., \$4.75 for corn, \$7 for wheat) and potential carry in the market.
- Analyze the potential ARC/PLC payments for 2025 crops based on updated reference prices and yields, and communicate accurate payment estimates to the group.
- Monitor the June 30th USDA quarterly stocks and acreage reports for any changes in production or ending stocks that could impact market prices.
- Stay informed about the potential passage of the new farm relief package and its implications for per-acre payments.

Summary

Crop Market and Growing Conditions

Josh discussed the current market conditions for crops, noting that prices have been stable after a drop off from last year and are waiting for news to move in either direction. He reported good

growing conditions with adequate moisture for most areas, though there are drought concerns in Nebraska and parts of South Dakota. Josh mentioned that wheat harvest is approaching the 50% mark, which typically signals a seasonal price bump, and highlighted potential heat concerns in Iowa, Illinois, and Indiana heading into July.

Market Conditions and Commodity Outlook

Josh discussed current market conditions, noting that while short-term weather is favorable for crops, commodity prices are being affected by downward pressure from oil prices due to the Strait of Hormuz situation. He mentioned an upcoming quarterly stocks report next Tuesday that will provide official planted acreage data, which could potentially shift market numbers. Josh also covered potential farm relief legislation being proposed by Trump, which could include funding for higher input costs and disaster relief, though specific details are still pending.

PLC Payment Calculations Discussion

Josh discussed PLC payment calculations based on recent yield data, explaining that while wheat payments appear accurate at around \$32 per acre, corn and soybean payments are lower than initially expected at \$16 and \$10 respectively. He clarified that the maximum possible payment for corn in Clay County would be \$89.44, not \$100 as suggested by AgCountry, due to the 10% cap on ARC county payments. Josh noted that while some counties in southern Minnesota received higher payments, the maximum rate for Clay County would be \$89, and soybean payments were expected to be in the \$8-10 range.

Crop Conditions and Market Updates

Josh provided an update on crop conditions and market trends, noting that corn yields are still expected to reach 180+ bushels per acre despite slight declines, while soybeans show similar conditions to last year's production. He discussed market dynamics including potential changes from next week's acreage report and supply-demand balance, with traders waiting for news about production levels or ending stocks. Josh reported that most grain sales for 2025 are complete, with current prices tracking about 40 cents better on wheat and 50 cents better on soybeans compared to last year, though corn prices are only 20-30 cents better.