



October 18, 2018

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For more information on the contents of this newsletter or the U.S. Grains Council, its mission and programs, please contact Alvaro Cordero at (202) 789-0789.

The U.S. Grains Council is a private, non-profit partnership of producers and agribusinesses committed to building and expanding international markets for U.S. barley, corn, grain sorghum and their products. The Council is headquartered in Washington, D.C. and has ten international offices that oversee programs in more than 50 countries. Financial support from our private industry members, including state checkoffs, agribusinesses, state entities and others, triggers federal matching funds from the USDA resulting in a combined program value of more than \$26 million.

## Chicago Board of Trade Market News

| Week in Review: CME Corn December Contract |   |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|
| \$/Bu                                      | Friday<br>October 12  | Monday<br>October 15  | Tuesday<br>October 16  | Wednesday<br>October 17   | Thursday<br>October 18  |
| <b>Change</b>                              | 4.500   | 4.500   | -3.000   | -1.000  | -3.5000   |
| <b>Closing Price</b>                       | 373.75  | 378.25  | 375.25   | 374.25  | 370.75  |
| <b>Factors Affecting the Market</b>        | Corn moved higher after USDA's slightly bullish WASDE and good weekly exports. Sales slowed last week but shipments reached 63.2 million bushels, keeping exports up 67% YTD. Outside markets were slightly higher after a volatile week. | Snow and rain in the Midwest added to harvest challenges this weekend, prompting a higher day at the CBOT. The harvest pace is keeping basis and futures firm. The U.S. dollar fell 12 bps while U.S. equities were largely steady. | Drier weather forecasts and expectations for better harvest progress created selling in corn today. U.S. corn made only 5% harvest progress last week, reaching 39% completion. U.S. equities were sharply higher after last week's performance. | Slow trading left December corn to drift lower with a drier weather forecast in place for the U.S. Ethanol prices remain low while stocks build, which could pressure corn demand. Corn basis remains steady/firm. The U.S. dollar rose 56 bps. | Export sales data left the market weaker. Shipments were 15.1 million bushels, sufficient to keep YTD totals up 80%. Drier weather continues to allow harvest progress, which may temper recent basis strength. |

**Outlook:** December corn futures are continuing their seasonal grind higher after last week's slightly bullish WASDE and excellent YTD export performance. December futures are up 1.5 cents from last week (+0.4 percent) after selling pressure late this week pulled the market back from recent highs.

This week's USDA *Export Sales* report featured 0.3825 MMT of new-crop corn sales and exports of 1.1 MMT. YTD bookings (exports plus unshipped sales) reached 21.088 MMT, up 41 percent from this time last year. U.S. corn remains competitive on the world market and foreign exchange rates will likely be a key determinant of near-term export performance.

The U.S. Midwest has suffered more rain and snow that delayed harvest progress. On Monday, the USDA said farmers advanced the harvest 5 percent from the prior week, a slower-than-normal pace for early-October. The harvest stands at 39 percent complete (versus 35 percent on average) with 96 percent of U.S. corn rated "mature".

The slower harvest pace has reduced farmer selling and kept basis levels stronger-than-normal. Cash corn prices averaged \$3.32/bushel this week, in-line with last week and 31 cents higher than this time last year. With the weather expected to improve in the coming days, accelerating the harvest, cash prices could see more pressure as farmers become more aggressive sellers.

From a technical standpoint, December corn futures are slowly trending higher. Earlier this week, the market closed above the technically-important 100-day moving average but closed below this market today. Funds are estimated to be net short the corn market and were active sellers when futures neared \$3.75/bushel. Demand, particularly from ethanol and exports, remains key to determining the market's direction. If commercials continue to view current prices as a good value, corn futures are likely to continue their seasonal march higher.

# CBOT December Corn Futures



Source: Prophet X

**Current Market Values:**

| <b>Futures Price Performance: Week Ending October 18, 2018</b> |               |               |                   |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <b>Commodity</b>   | <b>18-Oct</b> | <b>12-Oct</b> | <b>Net Change</b> |
| <b>Corn</b>  |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 370.75        | 373.75        | -3.00             |
| Mar 19   | 383.00        | 385.75        | -2.75             |
| May 19   | 390.25        | 392.75        | -2.50             |
| Jul 19   | 395.75        | 397.75        | -2.00             |
| <b>Soybeans</b>  |               |               |                   |
| Nov 18   | 863.50        | 867.50        | -4.00             |
| Jan 19   | 877.75        | 881.75        | -4.00             |
| Mar 19   | 890.50        | 894.50        | -4.00             |
| May 19   | 903.75        | 907.75        | -4.00             |
| <b>Soymeal</b>   |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 316.30        | 316.90        | -0.60             |
| Jan 19   | 318.20        | 318.00        | 0.20              |
| Mar 19   | 317.40        | 317.20        | 0.20              |
| May 19   | 315.60        | 315.20        | 0.40              |
| <b>Soyoil</b>  |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 29.02         | 29.39         | -0.37             |
| Jan 19   | 29.25         | 29.63         | -0.38             |
| Mar 19   | 29.49         | 29.89         | -0.40             |
| May 19   | 29.76         | 30.17         | -0.41             |
| <b>SRW</b>   |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 513.00        | 517.25        | -4.25             |
| Mar 19   | 533.50        | 537.50        | -4.00             |
| May 19   | 545.75        | 549.25        | -3.50             |
| Jul 19   | 551.75        | 555.50        | -3.75             |
| <b>HRW</b>   |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 514.75        | 524.25        | -9.50             |
| Mar 19   | 539.00        | 548.25        | -9.25             |
| May 19   | 552.25        | 560.50        | -8.25             |
| Jul 19   | 557.75        | 567.25        | -9.50             |
| <b>MGEX (HRS)</b>  |               |               |                   |
| Dec 18   | 585.00        | 596.00        | -11.00            |
| Mar 19   | 595.00        | 602.25        | -7.25             |
| May 19   | 601.50        | 608.25        | -6.75             |
| Jul 19   | 608.00        | 614.00        | -6.00             |

\*Price unit: Cents and quarter-cents/bu (5,000 bu)

## U.S. Weather/Crop Progress

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**U.S. Drought Monitor Weather Forecast:** Mostly dry conditions will prevail across the contiguous U.S., with the threat of additional heavy rain confined to Texas. Showers will accompany a strong cold front over the eastern third of the nation Friday into Saturday, but amounts will be generally light. This same front will bring sharply colder weather on gusty winds as well rain and high-elevation snow showers to the northeastern

quarter of the nation. In contrast, high pressure will maintain mostly dry weather across the central and western U.S., save for lingering rain and snow showers over the Four Corners States. The NWS 6- to 10-day outlook for October 23-27 calls for near- to above-normal precipitation over much of the nation, with the greatest likelihood of wetter-than-normal conditions in the Pacific Northwest, southern Plains, and eastern Gulf Coast. Drier-than-normal weather will be limited to the Great Lakes and Northeast. Warmer-than-normal weather across the eastern half of the nation — save for warmth across the central and eastern Gulf Coast — will contrast with above-normal temperatures from the northern Plains to the Pacific Coast States.

Follow this link to view current U.S. and international weather patterns and future outlook: [Weather and Crop Bulletin](#).

## U.S. Export Statistics

| U.S. Export Sales and Exports: Week Ending October 11, 2018 |                  |              |                      |                       |                       |
|---|------------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Commodity   | Gross Sales (MT) | Exports (MT) | YTD Exports (000 MT) | YTD Bookings (000 MT) | % Change YTD Bookings |
| Wheat   | 493,900          | 491,000      | 7,493.3              | 12,114.7              | -18%                  |
| Corn  | 658,900          | 1,100,400    | 7,277.4              | 21,088.2              | 41%                   |
| Sorghum   | 0                | 1,400        | 68.7                 | 157.5                 | -89%                  |
| Barley  | 0                | 300          | 16.7                 | 55.6                  | 48%                   |

**Corn:** Net sales of 382,500 MT for 2018/2019--a marketing-year low--were down 62 percent from the previous week and 72 percent from the prior 4-week average. Increases were reported for Mexico (162,500 MT, including decreases of 61,200 MT), Colombia (133,000 MT, including 119,500 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 2,700 MT), Japan (119,600 MT, including 68,200 MT switched from unknown destinations and decreases of 8,600 MT), Guatemala (73,300 MT), and South Korea (68,100 MT, including 65,000 MT switched from unknown destinations). Reductions were reported for unknown destinations (326,500 MT), the Dominican Republic (18,000 MT), and Chile (1,500 MT). Exports of 1,100,400 MT were primarily to Mexico (452,100 MT), Japan (147,700 MT), Colombia (126,300 MT), Egypt (111,200 MT), and South Korea (68,300 MT).

*Optional Origin Sales:* For 2018/2019, decreases of 115,000 MT were reported for Vietnam (65,000 MT) and unknown destinations (50,000 MT). The current outstanding balance of 849,000 MT is for South Korea (481,000 MT), unknown destinations (303,000 MT), and Vietnam (65,000 MT).

**Barley:** No net sales were reported for the week. Exports of 300 MT were to Taiwan (200 MT) and Vietnam (100 MT).

**Sorghum:** No net sales were reported for the week. Exports of 1,400 MT were reported to Mexico.

### U.S. Export Inspections: Week Ending October 11, 2018

| Commodity (MT) | Export Inspections |               | Current Market YTD | Previous YTD | YTD as Percent of Previous |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
|                | Current Week       | Previous Week |                    |              |                            |
| Barley         | 294                | 196           | 4,037              | 14,514       | 28%                        |
| Corn           | 996,643            | 1,384,779     | 6,836,495          | 3,912,310    | 175%                       |
| Sorghum        | 50,378             | 62,780        | 121,862            | 370,313      | 33%                        |
| Soybeans       | 1,157,787          | 594,363       | 4,723,314          | 7,250,492    | 65%                        |
| Wheat          | 450,980            | 447,561       | 7,816,179          | 10,650,513   | 73%                        |

Source: USDA/AMS. \*Marketing Year is June 1-May 31 for wheat and barley and Sept. 1-Aug. 31 for corn, sorghum and soybeans. Week-to-week reports will vary due to exporter reported conditions & cancellations to previous week's reports.

### USDA Grain Inspections for Export Report: Week Ending October 11, 2018

| Region                               | YC             | % of Total  | WC            | % of Total  | Sorghum       | % of Total  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| Lakes                                | 19,432         | 2%          | 0             | 0%          | 0             | 0%          |
| Atlantic                             | 0              | 0%          | 0             | 0%          | 0             | 0%          |
| Gulf                                 | 656,449        | 71%         | 64,230        | 87%         | 47,499        | 94%         |
| PNW                                  | 133,922        | 15%         | 0             | 0%          | 0             | 0%          |
| Interior Export Rail                 | 112,830        | 12%         | 9,780         | 13%         | 2,879         | 6%          |
| <b>Total (Metric Tons)</b>           | <b>922,633</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>74,010</b> | <b>100%</b> | <b>50,378</b> | <b>100%</b> |
| White Corn Shipments by Country (MT) |                |             | 74,010        | to Mexico   |               |             |
| <b>Total White Corn (MT)</b>         |                |             | <b>74,010</b> |             |               |             |
| Sorghum Shipments by Country (MT)    |                |             |               |             | 47,499        | to Sudan    |
|                                      |                |             |               |             | 2,879         | to Mexico   |
| <b>Total Sorghum (MT)</b>            |                |             |               |             | <b>50,378</b> |             |

Source: USDA, World Perspectives, Inc.

## FOB

### Yellow Corn (USD/MT FOB Vessel)

| YC FOB Vessel<br>Max. 15.0%<br>Moisture | GULF          |                    | PNW           |                    |
|---|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|
|   | Basis (#2 YC) | Flat Price (#2 YC) | Basis (#2 YC) | Flat Price (#2 YC) |
| November                                | 0.58+Z        | \$168.79           | 0.87+Z        | \$180.21           |
| December                                | 0.63+Z        | \$170.76           | 0.93+Z        | \$182.57           |
| January                                 | 0.59+H        | \$174.01           | 0.90+H        | \$186.21           |

### #2 White Corn (U.S. \$/MT FOB Vessel)

| Max. 15.0% Moisture | November | December | January |
|---------------------|----------|----------|---------|
| Gulf                | \$185.50 | \$185.50 | \$190   |

| <b>Sorghum (USD/MT FOB Vessel)</b>      |              |                   |              |                   |
|---|--------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| #2 YGS FOB Vessel<br>Max 14.0% Moisture | <b>NOLA</b>  |                   | <b>TEXAS</b> |                   |
|   | <b>Basis</b> | <b>Flat Price</b> | <b>Basis</b> | <b>Flat Price</b> |
| <b>November</b>                         | 0.95+Z       | \$183.36          | 0.75+Z       | \$175.48          |
| <b>December</b>                         | 0.95+Z       | \$183.36          | 0.75+Z       | \$175.48          |
| <b>January</b>                          | 0.95+H       | \$188.18          | 0.75+H       | \$180.30          |

| <b>Corn Gluten Feed Pellets (CGFP) (FOB Vessel U.S. \$/MT)</b> |                 |                 |                |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|  | <b>November</b> | <b>December</b> | <b>January</b> |
| <b>New Orleans</b>   | \$170           | \$167.50        | \$165          |
| <i>Quantity 5,000 MT</i>                                       |                 |                 |                |
| <b>Corn Gluten Meal (CGM) (FOB Vessel U.S. \$/MT)</b>          |                 |                 |                |
| <b>Bulk 60% Pro.</b>   | <b>November</b> | <b>December</b> | <b>January</b> |
| <b>New Orleans</b>   | \$525           | \$515           | \$500          |
| <i>*5-10,000 MT Minimum</i>                                    |                 |                 |                |

| <b>DDGS Price Table: October 18, 2018 (USD/MT)</b><br>(Quantity, availability, payment and delivery terms vary) |                 |                 |                |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Delivery Point</b><br><b>Quality Min. 35% Pro-fat combined</b>   | <b>November</b> | <b>December</b> | <b>January</b> |
| Barge CIF New Orleans   | 174             | 177             | 180            |
| FOB Vessel GULF   | 188             | 190             | 194            |
| Rail delivered PNW  | 209             | 211             | 214            |
| Rail delivered California   | 212             | 214             | 217            |
| Mid-Bridge Laredo, TX   | 210             | 212             | 215            |
| FOB Lethbridge, Alberta   | 191             | 194             | 197            |
| 40 ft. Containers to South Korea (Busan)  | 229             | 230             | 232            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Taiwan (Kaohsiung)   | 226             | 226             | 228            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Philippines (Manila)   | 238             | 238             | 239            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Indonesia (Jakarta)  | 233             | 233             | 235            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Malaysia (Port Kelang)   | 234             | 234             | 236            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Vietnam (HCMC)   | 241             | 240             | 242            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Japan (Yokohama)   | 239             | 239             | 241            |
| 40 ft. containers to Thailand (LCMB)  | 233             | 233             | 234            |
| 40 ft. Containers to China (Shanghai)   | 230             | 231             | 235            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Bangladesh (Chittagong)  | 266             | 267             | 270            |
| 40 ft. Containers to Myanmar (Yangon)   | 267             | 267             | 272            |
| KC Rail Yard (delivered ramp)   | 189             | 189             | 191            |
| Elwood, IL Rail Yard (delivered ramp)   | 187             | 188             | 191            |

Source: WPI, \*Prices are based on offer indications only; terms of delivery, payment and quality may vary from one supplier to another, impacting the actual value of the price.

## **Distiller's Dried Grains with Solubles (DDGS)**

**DDGS Comments:** Cash corn stands at \$3.31/bushel this week, while FOB ethanol plant DDGS values increased again from last week to \$145.60/MT. The DDGS/cash corn value is 5 percent higher than its two-year average. DDGS values were up early in the week following the rally in soybean meal prices. As of the

market's close today, prices at the Gulf are up from last week (+\$3/MT) while U.S. rail rates are unchanged to slightly up.

Southeast Asian buyers have been actively inquiring about DDGS for November-December delivery. Sales to Indonesia and Vietnam were reported as well as Bangladesh. DDGS container rates to Southeast Asia are down \$4/MT on average, with Vietnam showing the largest drop (-\$3/MT) from last week and currently at \$241/MT for November delivery. Container rates to Japan are down \$5/MT from last week.

## Country News

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**Brazil:** The weather is favorable for first crop corn planting, and emergence and development and has hit 44 percent in the Centre South region. That is up 6 percent on the week and ahead of the 37 percent accomplished by this time last year, and ahead of the 5-year average of 38 percent. The government food statistics agency Conab says the output for corn in 2018/19 will rise 12.75 percent to 91.08 MMT. (AgriCensus; Reuters)

**Canada:** Barley in western Canada was shorted on moisture during the summer and now is too wet and snowy to be harvested. A continuation of these weather conditions will downgrade the crop to feed grade. (Bloomberg)

**China:** An estimated 50,000 pigs (0.011 percent of all pigs) have been slaughtered in the effort to combat an outbreak of African Swine Fever (AFS). With 433 million pigs, China has half the world's stock of swine. The AFS problem is not large enough to cause a feed demand issue but is being watched. The corn auction in Heilongjiang province cleared 16.4 percent of the volume offered. (AgriCensus; Reuters)

**EU:** Corn harvesting is benefiting from drier-than-average weather. The German corn crop is larger than was expected but is still 40 percent smaller than last year. The harvest in France is estimated at 65 percent. The front month Euronext contract for corn is €174/MT and a reported cargo of 25 KMT of Bulgarian corn priced at €170/MT is believed to be in route to the French Atlantic port of La Pallice. Ukraine's corn, which loads shipboard at €164.75/MT, may be the next to arbitrage even this slight price advantage. (Reuters; AgriCensus)

**Jordan:** The state grain buying agency has tendered for 120 KMT of feed barley to be sourced from optional origins. Jordan bought a Panamax of Russian barley. (Reuters; AgriCensus)

**South Korea:** Nonghyup Feed Inc. (NOFI), the nation's largest animal feed maker, has issued a tender to purchase 16 KMT of corn gluten feed. (Reuters)

**Ukraine:** Corn harvesting has reached the half-way point with dry weather facilitating fast paced combining. Yields to date are reportedly impressive. The corn crop is expected to be just under 30 MMT, or 20 percent larger than the 2017/18 crop. Meanwhile, 713,000 hectares have been sown thus far to winter barley. (Reuters; AgriCensus)



## Ocean Freight Markets and Spread

| Bulk Freight Indices for HSS — Heavy Grain, Sorghum and Soybeans* |                       |                             |  |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Route and Vessel Size   | Current Week (USD/MT) | Change from Previous Report | Remarks  |
| 55,000 U.S. Gulf-Japan  | \$49.75               | Up \$0.25                   | Handymax at \$50.25/MT   |
| 55,000 U.S. PNW-Japan   | \$27.75               | Unchanged                   | Handymax at \$28.25/MT   |
| 66,000 U.S. Gulf-China  | \$48.75               | Up \$0.25                   | North China  |
| PNW to China  | \$27.00               | Unchanged                   |  |
| 25,000 U.S. Gulf-Veracruz, Mexico                                 | \$18.25               | Unchanged                   | 3,000 MT daily discharge rate  |
| 35-40,000 U.S. Gulf-Veracruz, Mexico                              | \$16.00               | Unchanged                   | Deep draft and 6,000 MT/day discharge rate.                          |
| 25/35,000 U.S. Gulf-East Coast Colombia                           | \$22.25               | Down \$0.25                 | West Coast Colombia at \$30.50                                       |
| From Argentina  | \$36.50               | Down \$0.25                 |  |
| 40-45,000 U.S. Gulf-Guatemala                                     | \$31.00               | Down \$0.25                 | Acajutla/Quetzal-8,000 out   |
| 26-30,000 U.S. Gulf-Algeria                                       | \$37.00               | Unchanged                   | 8,000 MT daily discharge   |
|   | \$38.25               | Unchanged                   | 3,000 MT daily discharge   |
| 25-30,000 US Gulf-Morocco   | \$39.50               | Unchanged                   | Discharge rate: 5,000  |
| 55,000-60,000 U.S. Gulf-Egypt<br>PNW to Egypt                     | \$33.75               | Unchanged                   | 55,000-60,000 MT   |
|   | \$33.00               | Unchanged                   | Russia Black Sea-Egypt \$18.00                                       |
| 60-70,000 U.S. Gulf-Europe-Rotterdam                              | \$21.50               | Up \$0.50                   | Handymax at +\$1.75 more   |
| Brazil, Santos-China  | \$40.50               | Up \$0.25                   | 54-59,000 Supramax-Panamax<br>60-66,000 Post Panamax<br>60-66,000 MT |
| Brazil, Santos-China  | \$39.75               | Up \$0.25                   |  |
| Itacoatiara-Port Upriver North Brazil                             | \$43.25               | Up \$0.25                   |  |
| 56-60,000 Argentina/Rosario-China<br>Deep Draft                   | \$45.00               | Up \$0.25                   | Upriver with BB top-off \$47.50                                      |

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

\*Numbers for this table based on previous night's closing values.

## Ocean Freight Comments

**Transportation and Export Report: Jay O'Neil, O'Neil Commodity Consulting:** The Baltic indices were mixed this week as paper traders again tried to push things upward but could not gather enough support to hold the market gains, and physical markets did not want to follow. All-in-all, the markets were largely dull and continue to be rangebound. Nothing new or exciting to report for now.

We are likely looking at a 3 percent growth in the total Dry-Bulk vessel fleet this year verses an estimated cargo growth of 2.5 percent. Vessel scrapping activity has slowed to a trickle and this certainly does not support higher rates in this sector. However, the biggest vessel operating cost influence will be the required switch to low-sulfur fuels by 2020.

| Baltic-Panamax Dry-Bulk Indices |           |           |            |                |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| October 18, 2018                | This Week | Last Week | Difference | Percent Change |
| Route                           |           |           |            |                |
| P2A: Gulf/Atlantic – Japan      | 22,936    | 22,464    | 472        | 2.1%           |
| P3A: PNW/Pacific– Japan         | 13,265    | 13,638    | -373       | -2.7%          |
| S1C: U.S. Gulf-China-S. Japan   | 25,450    | 25,475    | -25        | -0.1%          |

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

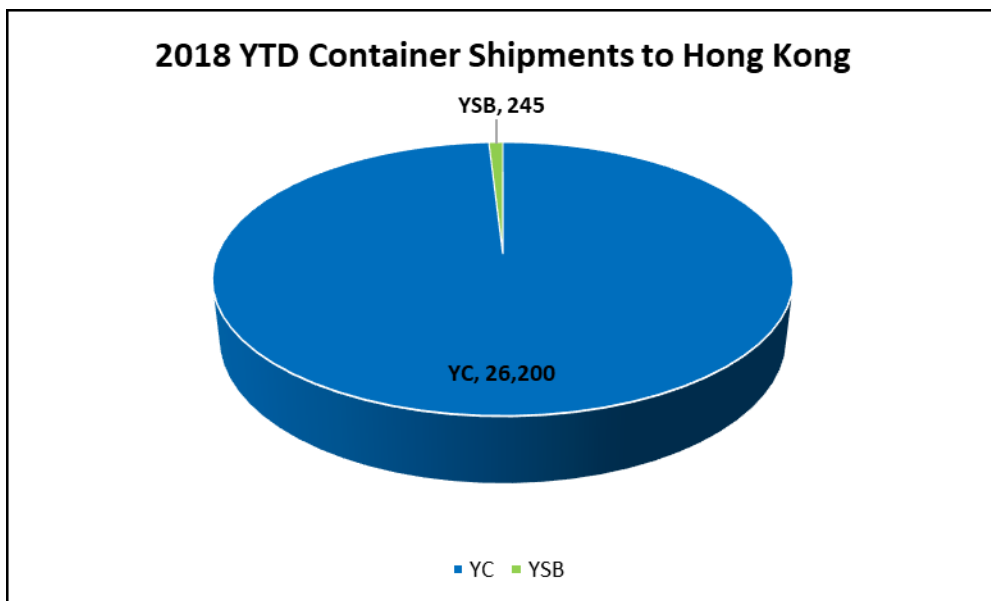
| Capesize Vessel Freight Values<br>Western Australia to South China (iron ore) |               |
|---|---------------|
| Four weeks ago:   | \$7.45-\$7.70 |
| Three weeks ago:  | \$7.20-\$7.25 |
| Two weeks ago:  | \$7.95-\$9.30 |
| One week ago:   | \$7.95-\$8.60 |
| This week   | \$8.70-\$9.00 |

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

| U.S.-Asia Market Spreads |         |         |               |           |           |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| October 18, 2018         | PNW     | Gulf    | Bushel Spread | MT Spread | Advantage |
| #2 Corn                  | 0.89    | 0.55    | 0.34          | \$13.39   | PNW       |
| Soybeans                 | 0.40    | 0.27    | 0.13          | \$4.78    | PNW       |
| Ocean Freight            | \$27.00 | \$48.75 | 0.55-0.59     | \$21.75   | November  |

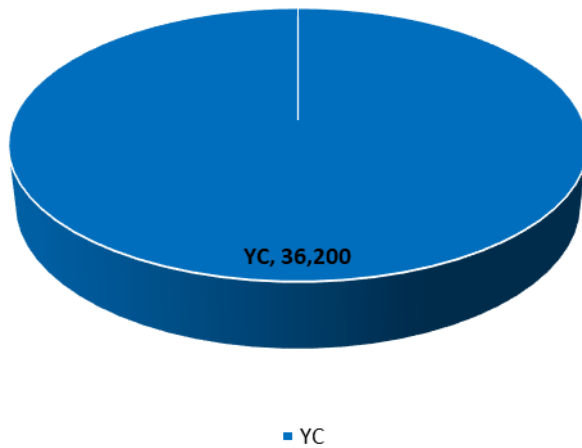
Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

The charts below represent 2018 YTD totals versus 2017 annual totals for container shipments to Hong Kong.



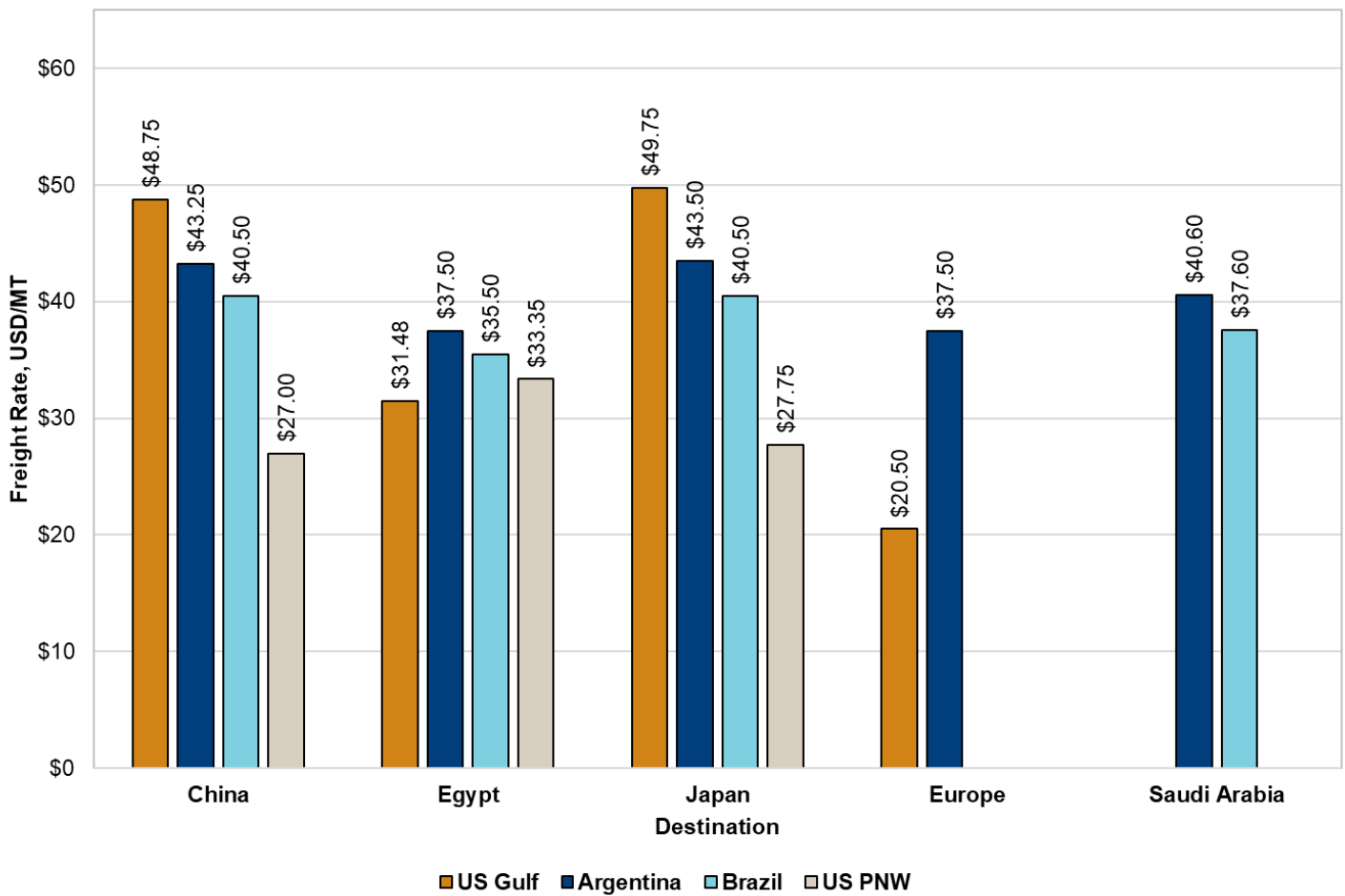
Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

### 2017 Container Shipments to Hong Kong



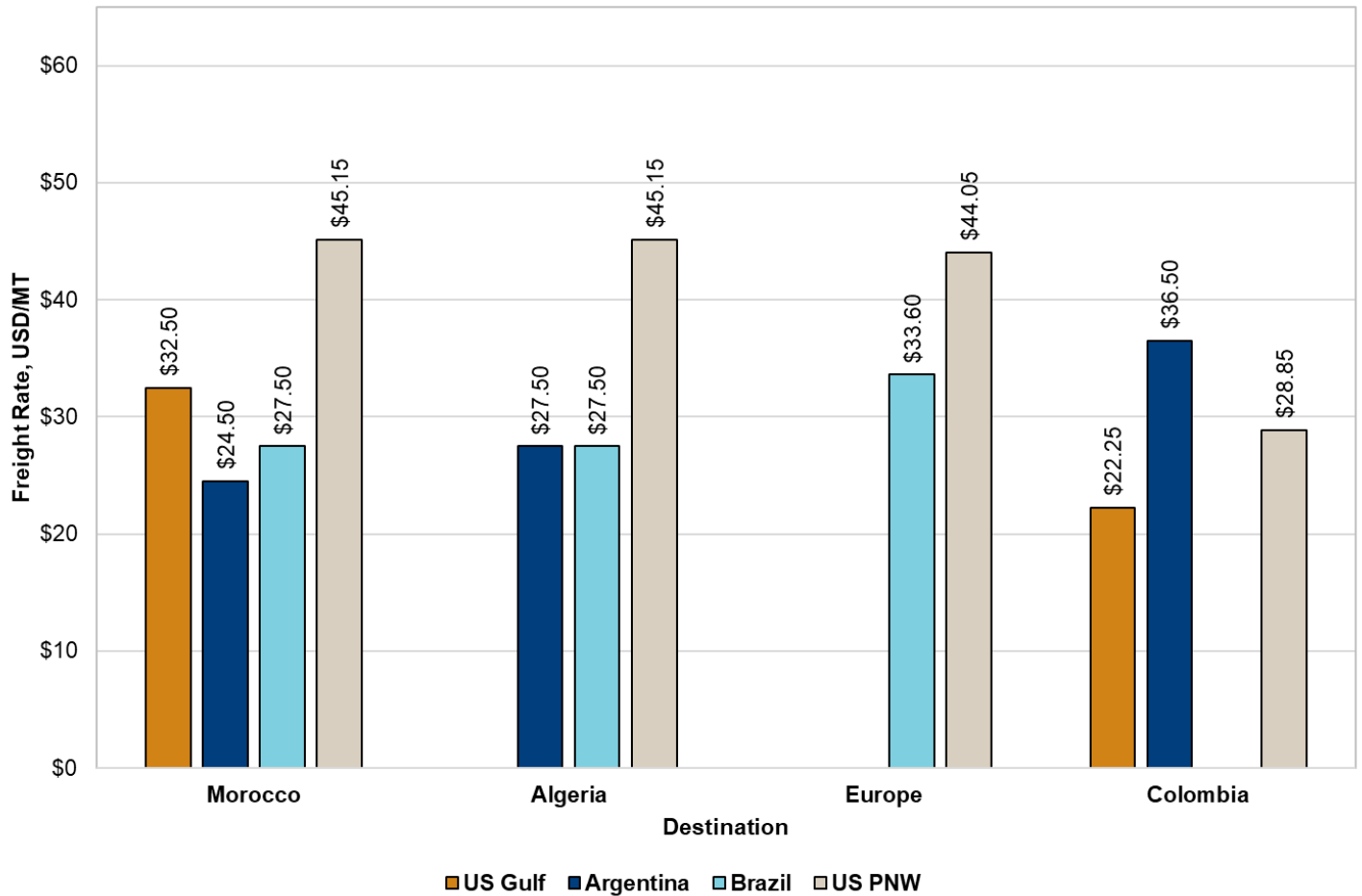
Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

### International Freight Rates by Origin, October 18, 2018, Supramax/Panamax Vessels, USD/MT



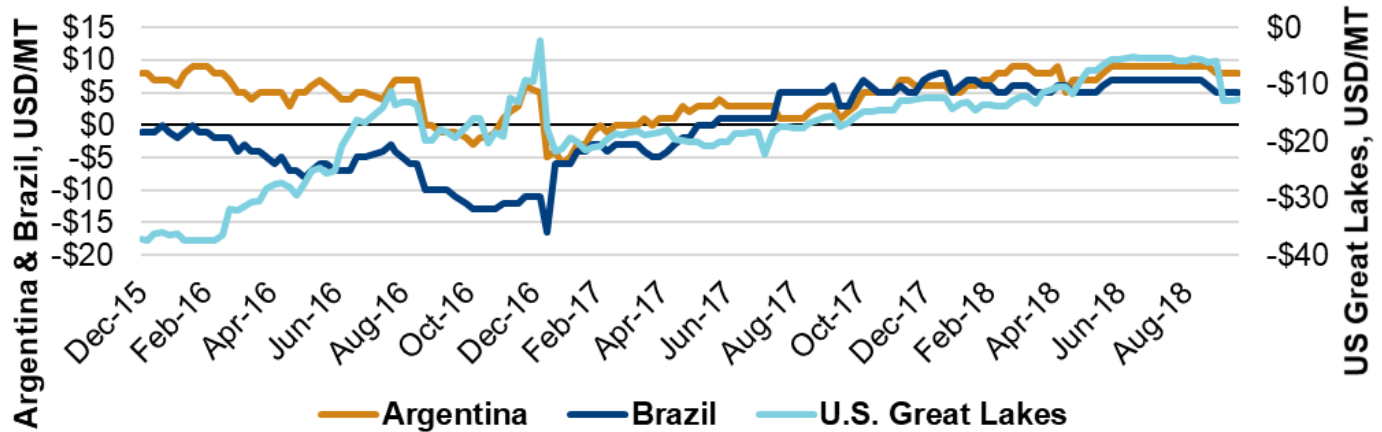
Source: DTN, O'Neil Commodity Consulting and World Perspectives, Inc.

**International Freight Rates by Origin, October 18, 2018,  
Handysize Vessels, USD/MT**



Source: DTN, O'Neil Commodity Consulting and World Perspectives, Inc.

**U.S. Gulf to Morocco Freight Rate Premium/Discount to  
Competing Origins**



Source: DTN, O'Neil Commodity Consulting and World Perspectives, Inc.

## Interest Rates

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| <b>Interest Rates (%): October 18, 2018</b> |                     |                  |                   |
|---|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|   | <b>Current Week</b> | <b>Last Week</b> | <b>Last Month</b> |
| <b>U.S. Prime</b>                           | 5.25                | 5.25             | 5.00              |
| <b>LIBOR (6 month)</b>                      | 2.63                | 2.63             | 2.57              |
| <b>LIBOR (1 year)</b>                       | 2.96                | 2.96             | 2.88              |

Source: [www.bankrate.com](http://www.bankrate.com)