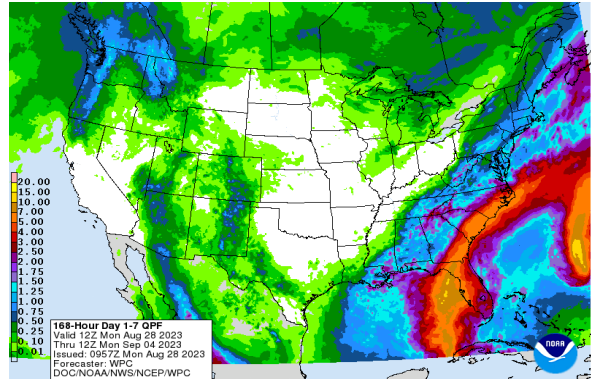


**Weather**

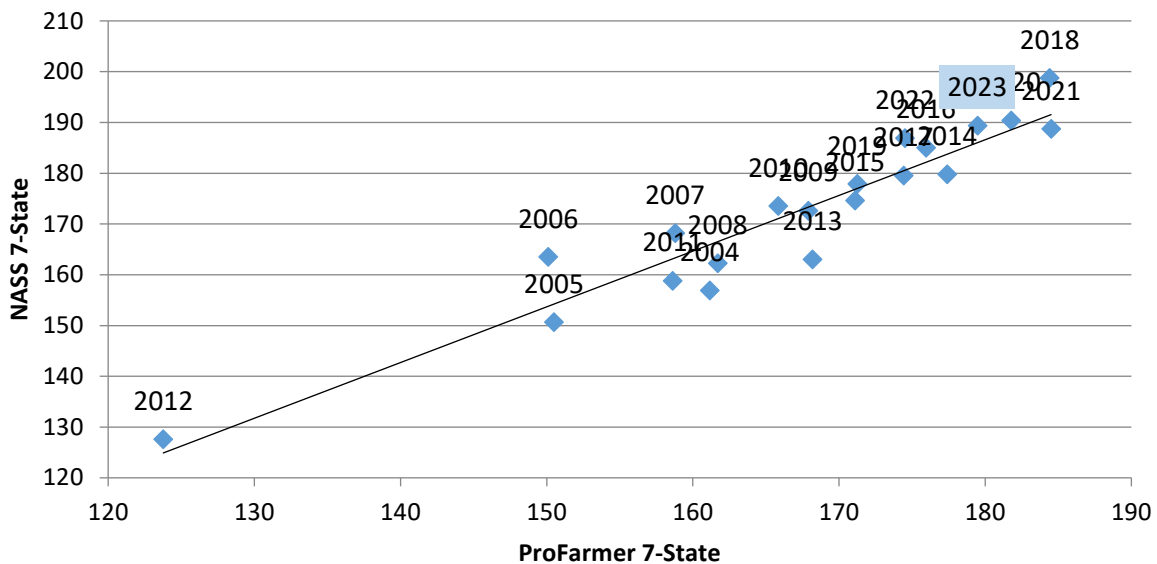
7-day QPF shown at right. We're looking for at least a week of completely dry weather in the Corn Belt. Most areas will see longer than that, but some rains will develop late in the 6-10 day period and could continue in the 11-15 day period. These rains might produce near normal rainfall for extreme northern portions of the Corn Belt during that period. The remainder of the Corn Belt would likely continue to see below normal precipitation. We'll see relatively mild temps in the next few days, but a return of heat is likely later this week. We should see highs of 90+ return to western areas by Friday and widespread 90s will be seen during the weekend.



**Crops**

One quick chart this morning. ProFarmer's tour is behind us and I wanted to look at what their tour data might imply in the grand scheme of things. Let me first state that I pay no attention to the national production estimate they issued on Friday. The only thing we can say about it is that it consistently comes in under the USDA numbers. Their tour data, however, is usually pretty helpful and I want to focus on that this morning. During the past week I emailed implications from the individual state totals, but this morning I want to take the tour data in aggregate. The chart below plots the 7-state weighted yield across the PF tour vs. the 7-state weighted NASS Sep estimate. The highlighted 2023 figure uses the Aug estimate. The tour data's yields actually line up fairly well with what NASS gave us last month. Taken as gospel, this might imply some small downside vs. the prior figure among these 7-states...but nothing overly dramatic.

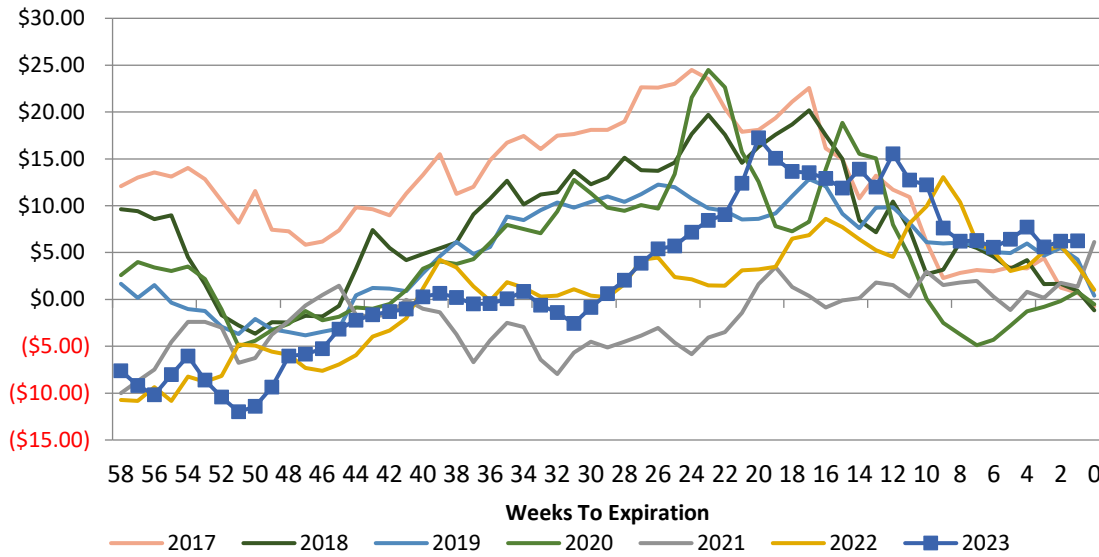
**PF 7-State Yield vs. NASS 7-State Yield (Sep)**



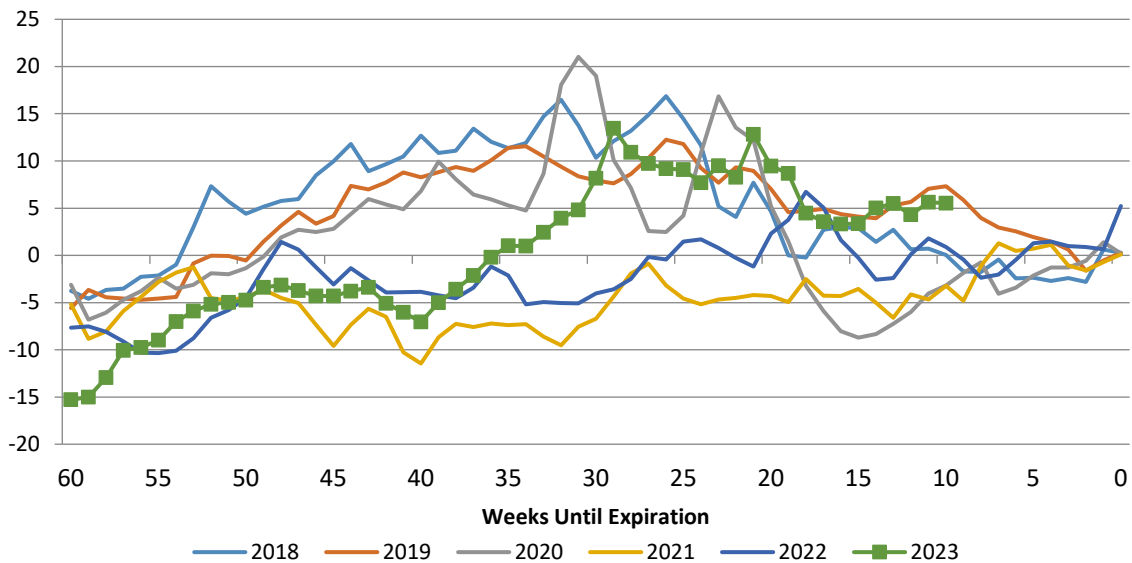
**Livestock**

I haven't looked at cattle basis in a long while. Charts below. Basis is very strong across the entire curve. I've only shown Aug and Oct here, but further deferred contracts are similar. I find it especially interesting to see how strong Aug basis is right now so near expiration.

**August Live Cattle Basis History**

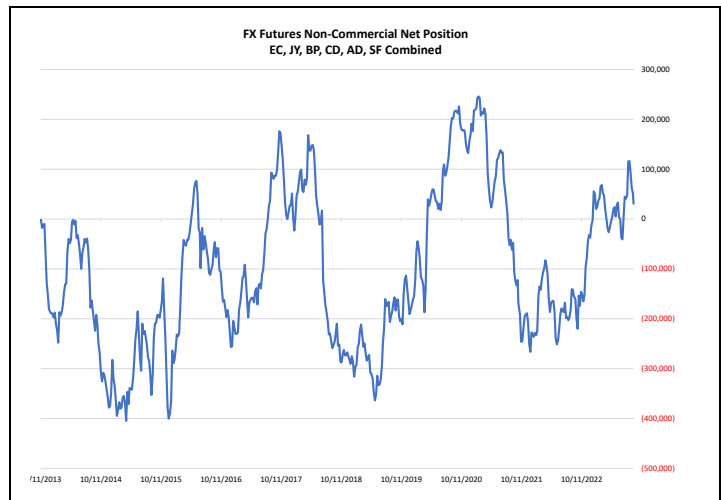


**October Live Cattle Basis History**



### Financials

The chart at the right looks at the combined non-commercial (spec) positioning across major currency futures markets. The idea here is to get an overall idea of how the market is positioned vs. the dollar. When the market is long these other currencies, they're obviously short the dollar, and vice-versa. You can see from the chart at the right that the positioning isn't anything extreme at the moment. A modest short bias to the dollar, but not anything that stands out. I find this a bit interesting considering how interesting the charts look right now. The chart below looks at the Euro. We had already broken the downtrend line a few weeks ago and now we're on the verge of breaking very important technical support in the form of the 200-day MA. I would have thought that might encourage bigger positioning than what appears to be taking place at the moment.

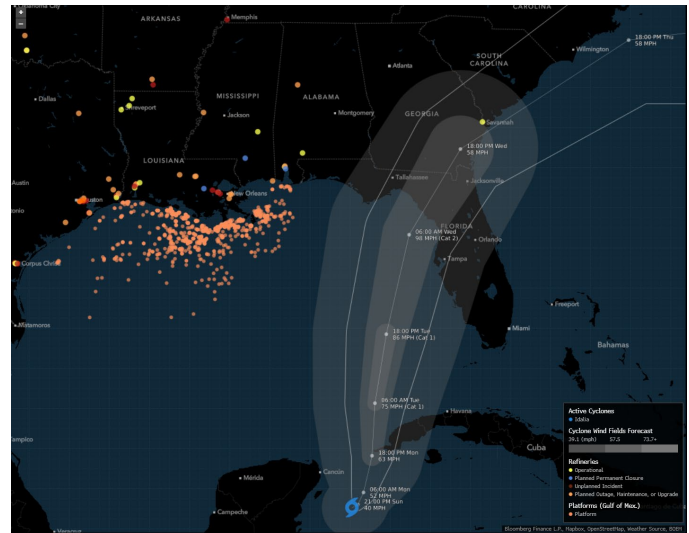


No major economic data on tap today. We do have Fed Vice Char Barr giving a speech today, but the topic is on banking services so I doubt he'll touch on monetary policy.

## Energy

A little bit of good news vs. bad news for US oil & gas infrastructure this morning. The good news is that the current storm in the Gulf, soon-to-be Hurricane Idalia, is going to miss all of the major infrastructure in the Gulf. The map at the right shows the current forecast for the storm and all the dots to the west show the various offshore oil platforms and refineries in the region. Nothing of significance appears to be in the path. I suppose it is possible we do get some rigs briefly shut-in, but nothing major.

The bad news is the significant fire at the Marathon refinery at Garyville, LA. This is the third largest refinery in the US. That being said, the refinery is not entirely offline. I have not seen any reliable estimates on how much capacity has been lost at this point and no word on when operations will return to normal.



## Today's Calendar (all times Central)

- Export Inspections – 10:00am
- Crop Progress – 3:00pm

Thanks for reading.

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