

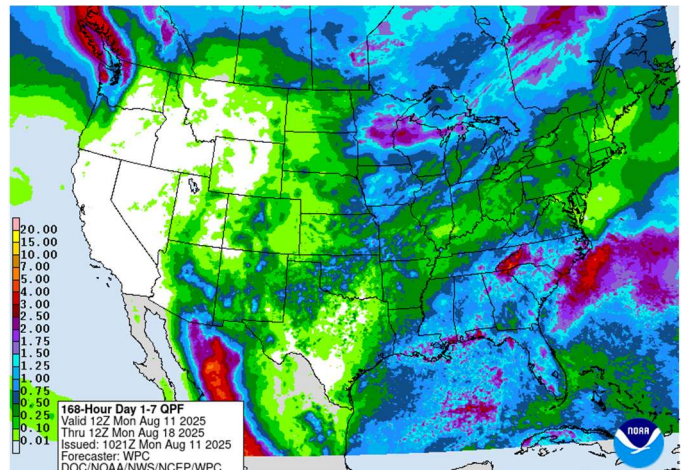
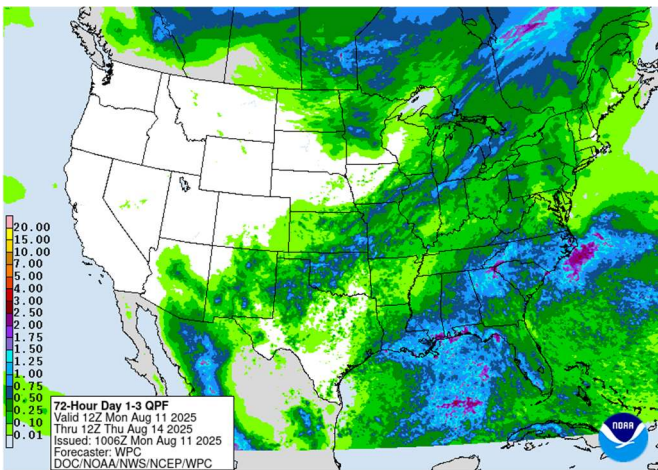
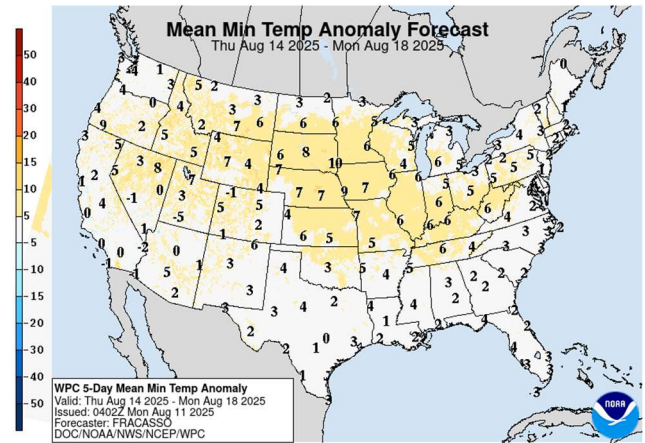
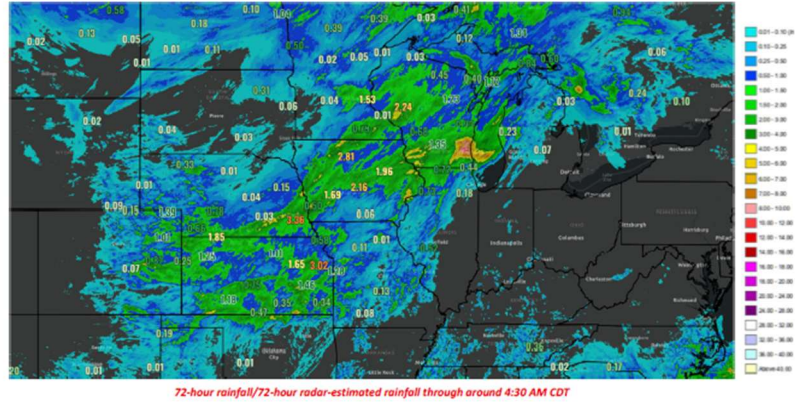
## Weather

Weekend rain was about as expected to a touch light, affecting mainly IA, MN, WI. Some of the weather was severe. Weekend temps were in the high 80's/low 90's in the main Corn Belt with a lot of 90 and 100 F heat seen in the S Plains, MO, Delta and Mid-South.

The work week ahead has rain in the N Plains and S Plains over the next 24 hours. The best rains for the week in the Corn Belt will also be today and tomorrow, favoring southeast IA, northern half of IL and northern IN. The next rain event looks to fall on the weekend and mainly affect IA, MN, WI. The extended maps look drier this morning.

Temps should be mostly seasonable/slightly above normal for the next few days before warming back up on Thursday for five days – 4-8 degrees above normal. Overnight lows are forecast in the 70-75 range. It looks to turn cooler Aug 20 (which is a change from last week) to more normal temps.

There are better rain chances for the Mid-South going forward but nothing like the wet pattern that is needed. Rain in the N Plains should continue to be normal to above normal. The pattern in the S Plains is drier after today.



## Grains

Wheat's turn. The average trade guess for all-wheat production is 1922 milbus vs 1929 in July. The average trade estimate seems high to me for Other Spring as crop ratings have come down. I am roughly 30 milbus lower than the average trade guess and closer to 40 below the USDA's July forecast.

US Wheat Production						
million bushels						
	MB	Informa	Ave trade est	USDA Aug 12	USDA July	Year Ago
<b>HRW</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>#N/A</b>	<b>756</b>		<b>755</b>	<b>770</b>
<b>SRW</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>#N/A</b>	<b>337</b>		<b>337</b>	<b>342</b>
<b>White</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>#N/A</b>	<b>252</b>		<b>254</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>Winter Total</b>	<b>1345</b>	<b>1327</b>	<b>1344</b>		<b>1345</b>	<b>1348</b>
<b>Other Spring</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>497</b>		<b>504</b>	<b>542</b>
<b>Durum</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>80</b>		<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>All Wheat</b>	<b>1892</b>	<b>1874</b>	<b>1922</b>		<b>1929</b>	<b>1971</b>

The US Balance sheet is rather unexciting even with a lower crop than last year. I am also attaching the by-class balance sheet. The HRW balance continues to look heavy although I may need to raise exports. The SRW and HRS S&D's are on the tighter side.

WHEAT: U.S. SUPPLY AND DEMAND (JUNE - MAY MARKETING YEAR)									
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	11-Jul USDA 2023/24	MB 2024/25	11-Jul USDA 2024/25	MB 2025/26	11-Jul USDA 2025/26
Planted Area	45.5	44.5	46.7	45.8	49.6	46.1	46.1	45.4	45.4
Harvest Area	37.4	36.6	37.1	35.5	37.1	38.5	38.5	36.6	36.6
Yield	51.7	49.7	44.3	46.5	48.7	51.2	51.2	51.7	52.6
Carry-in	1080	1028	845	674	570	696	696	851	851
Production	1,932	1,820	1,646	1,650	1,804	1,971	1,971	1,892	1,929
Imports	104	100	96	122	138	149	149	120	120
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>3115</b>	<b>2948</b>	<b>2588</b>	<b>2446</b>	<b>2512</b>	<b>2816</b>	<b>2816</b>	<b>2864</b>	<b>2899</b>
Seed	62	64	58	68	62	62	62	64	62
Domestic Mill	962	961	971	972	961	975	975	975	977
Feed/Residual	95	85	88	76	86	103	103	130	120
Exports	969	994	796	761	706	826	826	825	850
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>2088</b>	<b>2104</b>	<b>1913</b>	<b>1876</b>	<b>1815</b>	<b>1966</b>	<b>1965</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>2009</b>
Carry-out	1028	845	674	570	696	851	851	870	890
Carryout/use	49.2%	40.1%	35.2%	30.4%	38.3%	43.3%	43.3%	43.6%	44.3%

As far as world changes Tuesday, the USDA could raise EU and Australian production slightly. Ukraine looks too high at 22 mmt, with yields suggesting something closer to 20 mmt. The Russian crop could be light at 83.5, but their export forecast of 46 mmt looks too high by 3-5 mmt. Their July forecast for Canadian production of 35 mmt could come down by 1-2 mmt.

U S Durum Wheat Supply/Usage					USDA	MB	USDA	MB
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Carry-in	42	27	24	28	21	21	28	28
Production	69	38	64	59	80	80	80	80
Imports	37	40	51	45	51	51	40	40
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>148</b>
Seed	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
Domestic Mill	88	79	85	83	86	86	85	85
Feed/Residual	3	-14	0	-2	16	16	5	5
Exports	28	14	23	27	19	19	25	20
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>113</b>
Carry-out	27	24	28	21	28	28	30	35
U S White Wheat Supply/Usage					USDA	MB	USDA	MB
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Carry-in	95	70	54	74	85	85	80	80
Production	303	201	272	234	276	276	286	286
Imports	7	5	7	6	7	7	5	5
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>372</b>
Seed	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	5
Domestic Mill	85	83	85	84	85	85	85	85
Feed/Residual	-26	-14	-22	-12	-26	-26	0	-15
Exports	270	148	190	152	222	222	190	200
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>281</b>	<b>275</b>
Carry-out	70	54	74	85	80	80	90	97
U S HRS Supply/Usage					USDA	MB	USDA	MB
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Carry-in	280	235	142	155	190	190	218	218
Production	531	297	446	465	503	503	469	435
Imports	47	43	56	63	79	79	65	65
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>718</b>
Seed	17	12	17	15	15	15	16	17
Domestic Mill	263	245	266	253	261	261	262	255
Feed/Residual	59	-33	-8	-10	28	28	15	0
Exports	284	209	214	235	250	250	240	240
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>623</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>512</b>
Carry-out	235	142	155	190	218	218	219	206
U S SRW Supply/Usage					USDA	MB	USDA	MB
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Carry-in	105	85	99	90	126	126	127	125
Production	266	361	336	449	342	342	337	337
Imports	5	3	4	6	5	5	5	5
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>545</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>467</b>
Seed	13	13	14	11	12	12	12	13
Domestic Mill	148	154	163	156	155	155	155	160
Feed/Residual	61	71	65	91	63	63	65	65
Exports	69	112	107	158	117	117	120	115
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>353</b>
Carry-out	85	99	90	126	127	125	117	114
U S HRW Supply/Usage					USDA	MB	USDA	MB
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Carry-in	506	428	356	223	274	274	398	398
Production	659	750	537	596	770	770	755	755
Imports	4	4	5	18	6	6	5	5
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>1169</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>1051</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>1157</b>
Seed	26	26	29	27	27	27	26	26
Domestic Mill	377	411	374	384	388	388	390	390
Feed/Residual	-1	72	42	18	22	22	35	75
Exports	340	317	224	134	218	218	275	250
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>655</b>	<b>726</b>	<b>741</b>
Carry-out	428	356	223	274	398	398	431	416

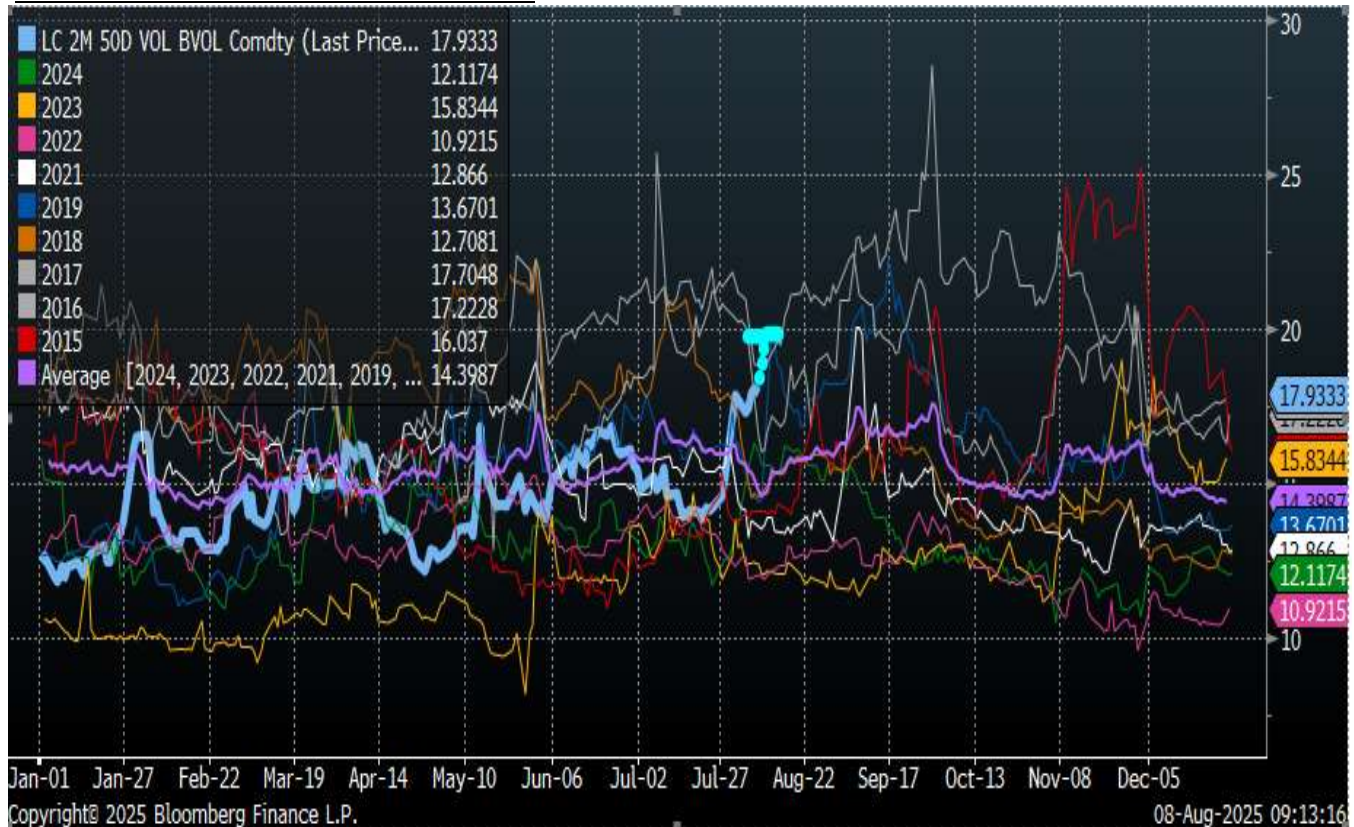
Grains commentary provided by Megan Bocken. For questions or comments, Megan can be reached at [megan@bockentrading.com](mailto:megan@bockentrading.com) or on Trillian at [megan@nesvick.com](mailto:megan@nesvick.com).

## Livestock

Live cattle futures have had a steady and consistent upward trend. When markets are trending, they are typically marked by lower volatility parameters. This generally happens because, statistically, the market is confident and predictable in its pattern. However, over the past month, options volatility has risen to higher levels. Levels that in the past were marked by panic and uncertainty. Closing at roughly 20%, today's volatility compares to 2021, 2018, 2019, and 2015. What is interesting about all four of these years' high volatility levels is that they were years when live cattle prices were hitting historical lows, convinced by emotion that things would get decidedly worse. However, this panic options buying marked the transition for the market from historical lows to recovering out of those depths of despair. Today's market people seem more confident than ever that prices will continue marching higher; however, option volatility might be telling us a different story. If the market were truly confident about higher prices, volatility would be much lower, typically something around 12%-14%. Today's 20% volatility means changes are coming.

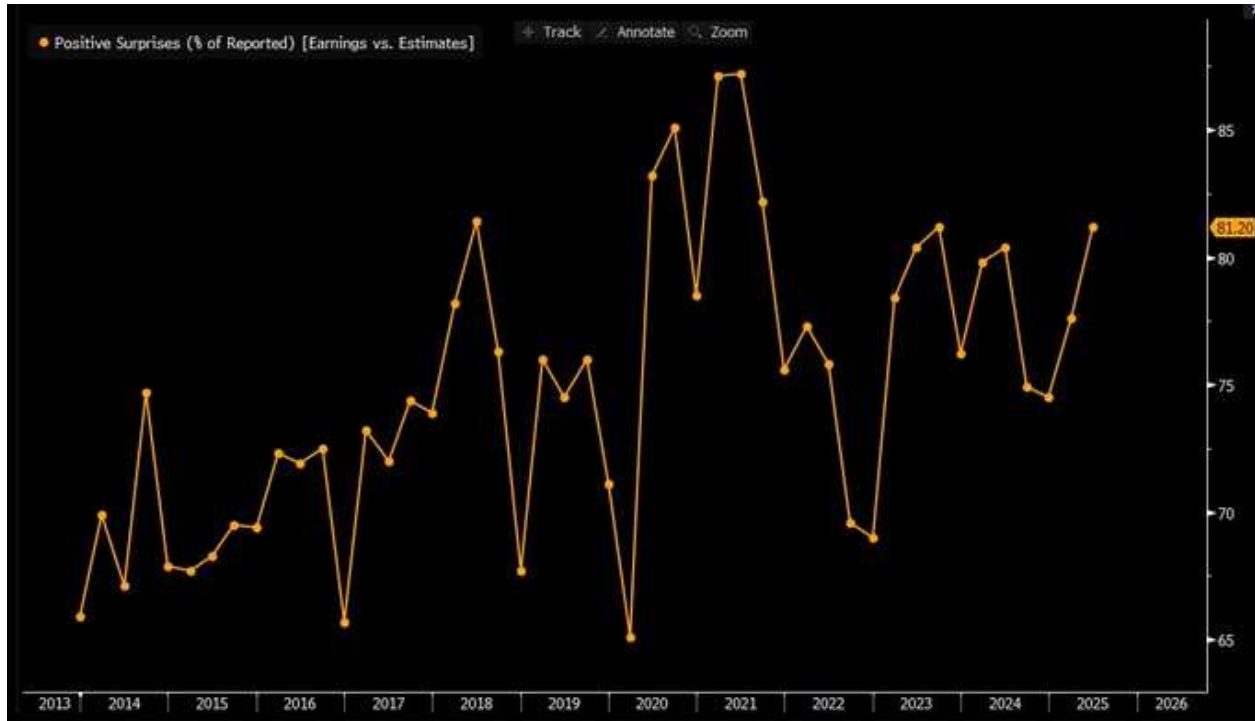
One might be tempted to sell this volatility as it sits today, but as this chart below shows, when the market moves into action, today's already-high 20% volatility can get even higher. Considering today's all-time record highs for both cash and futures, it wouldn't surprise me to see volatility hit 30%. However, the concept of change is what might be most important to understand.

### LIVE CATTLE OPTIONS IMPLIED VOLATILITY



Livestock commentary provided by Scott Shepard. For questions or comments, Scott can be reached at [Scott@mnrcapital.us](mailto:Scott@mnrcapital.us) or on Trillian at [scott@nesvick.com](mailto:scott@nesvick.com).

## Financials



Let's take a look at this chart above (earnings vs estimates). It's definitely making the rounds on my news feeds as I write this morning (8/8/25). 82% of the companies in the S&P 500 have beaten earnings expectations during Q2. That ties Q3 of 2021 for the largest beat percentage. Add to that, +12% YoY EPS growth, revenue +6% YoY. Led by tech and financials. So why have companies been crushing it? It sounds like, from what I've read, the main culprit has been low expectations due to tariff influences. Setting the bar low and then beating that number seems like a good way to make money.

*Financials commentary written by Mark Sigman. For questions or comments, Mark can be reached at [msigman@nesvick.com](mailto:msigman@nesvick.com) or on Trillian at [msigman@nesvick.com](mailto:msigman@nesvick.com).*

### Today's Calendar (all times Central)

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

Thanks for reading.

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