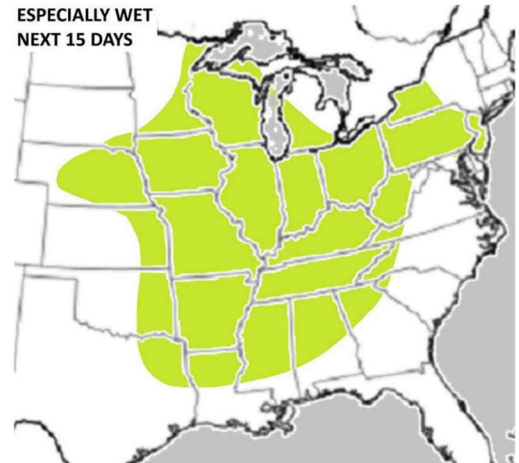


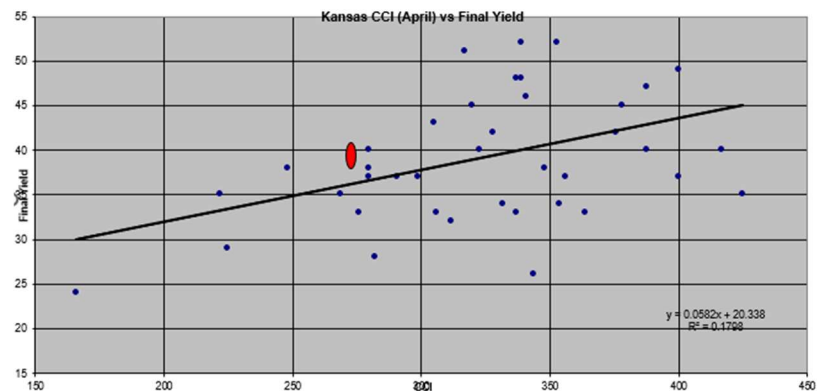
## Weather

In the Corn Belt, a mostly dry pattern will persist through early Thursday to allow a massive push in planting progress, but two notable storm systems will bring widespread, near to above-normal precipitation starting late Thursday and continuing through Monday night, while the northern Plains face a significant accumulating snow threat for the April 26-27 period. Temperatures across the central United States will remain exceptionally warm through Thursday before a stark battle zone of air masses creates an exceptionally cold threat for the northern Plains and western Corn Belt during the April 24-28 period, followed by cooler air covering a much broader portion of the eastern United States into early May. In the Hard Red Winter wheat belt, severe crop stress will persist through Friday with temperatures topping 90 degrees and extensive red flag fire warnings; critical relief is forecasted to arrive starting Saturday and extending into early May, though the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles will likely be short-changed on beneficial moisture. The Mid-South will remain dry into tomorrow before a badly-needed wet pattern commences on Friday, with the rainfall during the April 27 to May 1 period looking exceptionally impressive to effectively reverse recent soil moisture deficits.

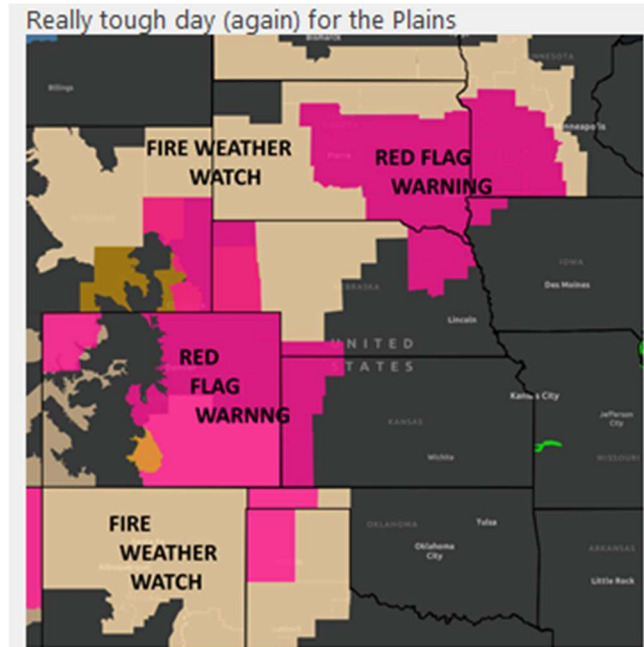
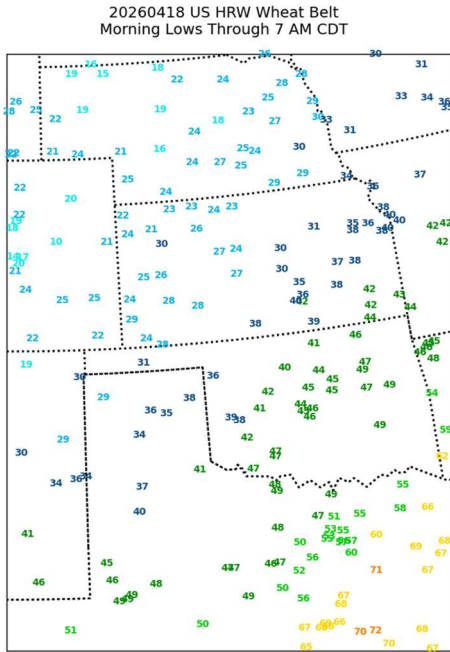


## Grains

Going to expound on Zach's write up yesterday and go into more detail on HRW crop prospects. I went through scatters on all the major growing states after ratings were out and came up with a 601 milbus HRW crop – down from 804 milbus last year. Ratings are currently slightly below 22/23 in KS. For KS I am using a 40 yield and 89% hvst vs 22/23 when 90% was harvested and yield was 37 bu/a. Scatter included – the condition index is 270 vs 280 in 22/23. Anecdotal reports suggest harvested area could be considerably less in KS/OK and that even irrigated wheat is not holding up. Temps were a bit lower than expected Sat am with low – mid 20's seen in western KS, sw CO, and sw NE. Overall KS was 76% jointed (ahead of 51% ave) with nw areas 54%. Temps of 24 F or lower is the benchmark for damage and there were readings below that in nw areas. The market set back after initial gains Sunday night as better rain is expected in western growing areas starting Saturday. We have already had freezes this year on top of drought a lot of hot/windy conditions. Harvested area could be the key to final crop size. All eyes will be on the upcoming pattern change and if it materializes and produces enough to save the crop.



	US HRW Supply/Usage					USDA	USDA	MB	MB
	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26	2026/27
Carry-in	516	506	428	356	223	274	402	402	433
Production	845	659	750	531	596	773	804	804	601
Imports	2	4	4	5	18	6	6	5	5
<b>Total supply</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1169</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>1054</b>	<b>1212</b>	<b>1211</b>	<b>1039</b>
Seed	24	26	26	29	27	26	26	26	26
Domestic Mill	378	377	411	374	384	387	390	390	390
Feed/Residual	78	-1	72	42	18	25	30	35	25
Exports	376	340	317	224	134	215	320	327	275
<b>Total Use</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>826</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>716</b>
Carry-out	506	428	356	223	274	402	447	433	323

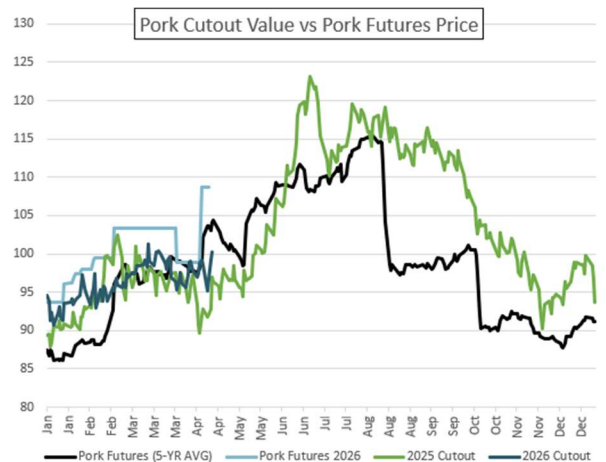
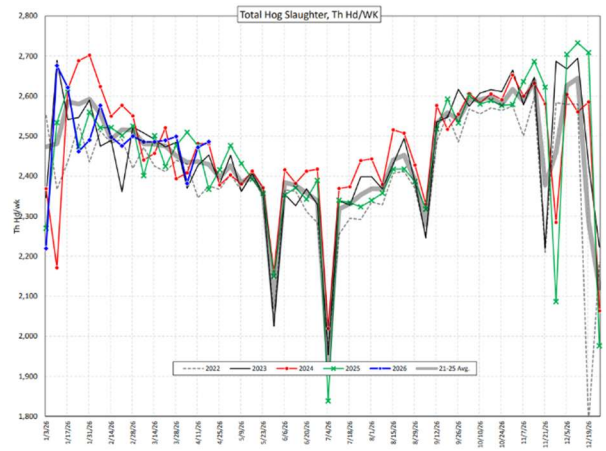


Grains commentary provided by Megan Bocken. For questions or comments, Megan can be reached by email at [megan@bockentrading.com](mailto:megan@bockentrading.com) or on Trillian at [megan@nesvick.com](mailto:megan@nesvick.com).

## Livestock

Pork futures are already trading above their seasonal average by a healthy margin heading into late April. What's driving it? More importantly, has the move gone far enough? The seasonal setup is straightforward: weekly hog slaughter typically peaks in March and declines steadily into July as the spring pig crop works through the system, and that tightening supply backdrop is the engine behind the rally we see in hog prices almost every year. We haven't really started that decline yet – kills through mid-April have been running roughly in line with prior years – but the seasonal downturn is right in front of us. The pork cutout has already started to reflect it, grinding back up to ~\$100/cwt after dipping into the mid-\$90s earlier this month. A year ago, the cutout was sitting at roughly the same level at this point and went on to rally nearly \$28 into early July.

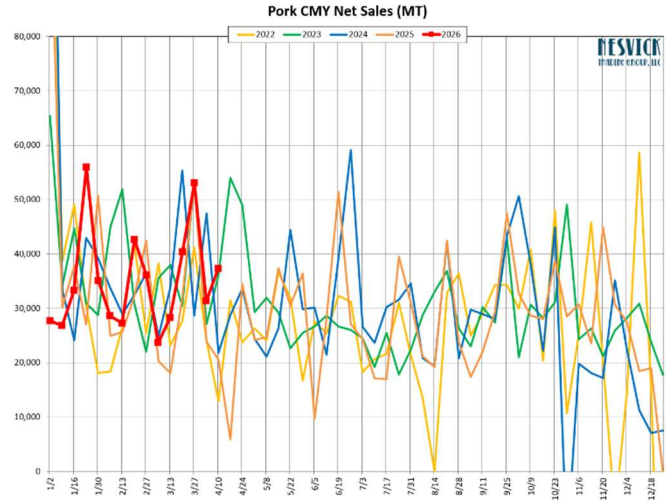
But here's where this year gets interesting. Disease pressure in the hog herd has been running well above normal this winter – PEDv positivity on sow farms hit its highest level since 2022 back in January, and PRRSV wean-to-market rates are up sharply year-over-year. PEDv kills nearly all infected newborn piglets, so this isn't a marginal drag on the pig crop – it's a real hit to future supply, and the elevated PRRSV only compounds the problem. The breeding herd has been flat, which starts to make more sense when you consider that producers may be replacing losses rather than genuinely expanding. Geographically, this has spread from the east coast through the midwest, so it's not a localized issue that one region absorbs quietly.



The upshot is a seasonal supply decline that should run deeper and longer than normal – potentially well into October rather than bottoming out in the summer months.

Export demand has been supportive as well – not exceptional, but solid enough that it's not giving the bears any ammunition on the demand side. When you combine a normal seasonal kill reduction with disease-driven supply losses and a steady export bid, the supply-demand math tilts bullish in a hurry.

So the futures market has already moved higher, and it's moved for good reason. The question is whether the current premium over seasonal norms fully reflects what's coming on the supply side from here into fall. If the disease impact plays out the way the geographic spread suggests it will, I don't think it does.



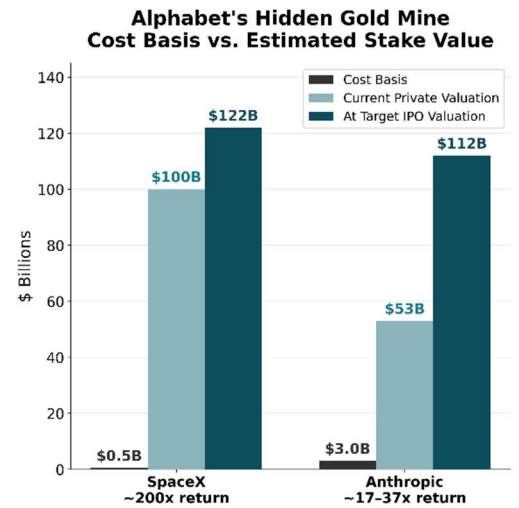
*Livestock commentary provided by Zachary Davis. For questions or comments, Zachary can be reached by email at [zdavis@nesvick.com](mailto:zdavis@nesvick.com) or on Trillian at [zdavis@nesvick.com](mailto:zdavis@nesvick.com).*

### Macro/Financials

A routine filing in Alaska just revealed that Google held a 6.11% stake in SpaceX at the end of 2025. That number has likely diluted to ~5% after the xAI merger in February, but at SpaceX's target IPO valuation of \$2 trillion, it's still worth north of \$100 billion. Google paid ~\$500 million for that position back in 2015. That's a 200x return on a bet most people forgot they even made a decade ago.

But SpaceX isn't the only mega-IPO sitting on Alphabet's balance sheet. Google also owns ~14% of Anthropic (the company behind Claude) built up through a series of investments starting in 2022 that totaled just north of \$3 billion. Anthropic's last private round in February valued it at \$380 billion, but the company has reportedly been fielding offers north of \$800 billion and turning them down. At the high end, Google's Anthropic stake alone could be worth ~\$112 billion. Combined with SpaceX, Alphabet is sitting on something like \$200–\$234 billion in unrealized gains from \$3.5 billion in total cost basis.

The company reported \$24.1 billion in net gains on equity securities for all of 2025, largely from these private holdings – and both IPOs haven't even happened yet.



Here's what I find most interesting about this, though. Whether Google intended it or not, they've quietly assembled significant financial exposure to three of the four major AI models. Gemini is their in-house bet; Claude is Anthropic's, and they own 14% of it; and through SpaceX's merger with xAI, they now have exposure to Grok – a position that started as a space investment but became an AI play. The only major model they're not touching is OpenAI. So, if Gemini wins the AI race, Google wins on product; if Claude or Grok takes share instead, Google still books tens of billions in gains. It's an unusual position, where they profit regardless of which model comes out on top.

Now, these are paper gains, not cash – lockup periods will prevent any selling for 90–180 days after listing, and post-IPO volatility could swing these positions by tens of billions in either direction. Google also has no board seats or voting rights at Anthropic and only holds a single board seat at SpaceX, so this is a financial hedge, not a strategic one. But Alphabet's Q1 earnings drop on April 29, and I'd expect the private equity gains line to draw more attention than usual given how

much of this story has surfaced in the last few days. If both IPOs land in the second half of this year, that line item could become one of the more closely watched numbers in the entire Mag 7.

*Macro/Financials commentary provided by Zachary Davis. For questions or comments, Zachary can be reached by email at [zdavis@nesvick.com](mailto:zdavis@nesvick.com) or on Trillian at [zdavis@nesvick.com](mailto:zdavis@nesvick.com).*

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

- MBA Mortgage Applications – 6:00 AM
- EIA Energy Stocks – 9:30 AM

Thanks for reading,

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