

# Grain Report

24 April 2026



**DELIVERING**  
*for* **DAIRY**

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# Summary

## Driving prices up

- Export demand for Australian grain has remained relatively elevated despite the lift in shipping costs, as Australia maintains a freight advantage into key Asian markets.
- Weather concerns in New South Wales and southern Queensland, alongside continued slow grower selling and tightening supply, have been pushing wheat markets higher.
- Barley prices have strengthened as supply continues to dwindle, with northern buyers increasingly assessing the feasibility of sourcing grain from the southern states.

## Driving prices down

- The Australian Dollar has maintained its strength above 71 US cents over the past week, which is limiting the competitiveness of Australian grain in export markets.
- Despite production concerns for the coming season, wheat markets continue to face downwards pressure from the strong supply environment from the 2025/26 season. The USDA estimated global production at 844 million tonnes in 2025/26, up almost 45 million tonnes from the record the previous year, while world ending stocks were tipped increase to their highest level since 2020/21.

## Global trade news

- US wheat futures have moved higher on the back of concerns regarding the condition of the US winter wheat crop. The latest US Crop Progress report estimated that the area of the winter wheat crop considered to be in good-to-excellent condition has fallen to 30%, down 4% week-on-week and 17% below the five-year average for this time of year.
- Jordan's state grain importer, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Supply (MIT), has secured 60,000 tonnes of milling wheat for US\$273.99 per tonne (delivered in market) with delivery scheduled for August.
- Algeria's state grain importer, the Inter-professional Office of Cereals (OAIC), has purchased 400,000 tonnes of durum wheat for approximately US\$330 per tonne (delivered in market). It is estimated that 375,000 tonnes are to be sourced from Canada, with the remaining 25,000 tonnes to be sourced from the US.
- Tunisia's state grain importing company, Office National des Fourrages (ONF), has secured 27,000 tonnes of corn for US\$267.09 per tonne (delivered in market).

## Local news

- Winter crop planting is well underway in some areas ahead of the traditional ANZAC Day start, although dry conditions in the north and minimal rain on the horizon is cause for concern across most growing regions. The Bureau of Meteorology is forecasting a drier than average three-months ahead for most of Australia's cropping areas, while reports of a potential "super El Niño" are adding further uncertainty this season.

# Regional commentary

## Atherton Tablelands

- Wheat: Up \$15 (\$400 to \$410/tonne). Barley: Up \$30 (\$405 to \$415/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$525 to \$535/tonne). Sorghum: Steady (\$395 to \$405/tonne).
- The northern growing regions have experienced another dry week with temperatures reaching into the mid-20s. The forecast for the next week includes looks to be much of the same, with only a very low chance of rain.
- Wheat bids lifted sharply this week with upwards pressure coming from the ongoing uncertainty brought by the conflict in the Middle East including increased freight costs, diesel values and fertiliser markets.
- Barley prices increased, with limited grower engagement and a tightening supply putting pressure on local markets.
- Sorghum prices were steady to higher with consistent local demand from feedlots seeking alternatives to higher-priced cereal grains.

## Darling Downs

- Wheat: Up \$15 (\$420 to \$430/tonne). Barley: Up \$30 (\$425 to \$435/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$505 to \$515/tonne). Sorghum: Up \$5 (\$355 to \$365/tonne).
- The northern growing regions have experienced another dry week with temperatures reaching into the mid-20s. The forecast for the next week includes looks to be much of the same, with only a very low chance of rain.
- Wheat bids lifted sharply this week with upwards pressure coming from the ongoing uncertainty brought by the conflict in the Middle East including increased freight costs, diesel values and fertiliser markets.
- Barley prices increased, with limited grower engagement and a tightening supply putting pressure on local markets.
- Sorghum prices were steady to higher with consistent local demand from feedlots seeking alternatives to higher-priced cereal grains.

## North Coast NSW

- Wheat: Up \$20 (\$395 to \$405/tonne). Barley: Up \$10 (\$385 to \$395/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne). Sorghum: Up \$5 (\$355 to \$365/tonne).
- The northern growing regions have experienced another dry week with temperatures reaching into the mid-20s. The forecast for the next week includes looks to be much of the same, with only a very low chance of rain.
- Wheat bids lifted sharply this week with upwards pressure coming from the ongoing uncertainty brought by the conflict in the Middle East including increased freight costs, diesel values and fertiliser markets.
- Barley prices increased, with limited grower engagement and a tightening supply putting pressure on local markets.
- Sorghum prices were steady to higher with consistent local demand from feedlots seeking alternatives to higher-priced cereal grains.

## Central West NSW

- Wheat: Up \$5 (\$325 to \$335/tonne). Barley: Up \$20 (\$340 to \$350/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$495 to \$505/tonne). Sorghum: Steady (\$360 to \$370/tonne).
- Growers in the Central West had a warm and sunny week with no rainfall recorded. Similar conditions are forecast for the week ahead with some cool overnights leading to daytime temperatures in the 20s.
- Wheat bids lifted sharply this week with upwards pressure coming from the ongoing uncertainty brought by the conflict in the Middle East including increased freight costs, diesel values and fertiliser markets.
- Barley prices increased, with limited grower engagement and a tightening supply putting pressure on local markets.
- Sorghum prices were steady to higher with consistent local demand from feedlots seeking alternatives to higher-priced cereal grains.

## Bega Valley

- Wheat: Steady (\$380 to \$390/tonne). Barley: Up \$20 (\$330 to \$340/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$470 to \$480/tonne).
- The southern growing regions had cooler and partly cloudy weather conditions over the past week with no meaningful rainfall recorded. The next week is forecast to have warm sunny conditions with temperatures reaching the high 20s. Some growers have commenced sowing, however, with topsoil starting to dry out and no rain forecast many are reassessing their plans.
- Wheat prices were steady to higher as increased freight pricing found an equilibrium, while demand remains steady including a lift from buyers in northern regions looking for additional supply.
- Barley bids were mixed as individual locations experience strong demand compared to others. Price movements are being driven by domestic demand with export moves having little influence at this time.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## Goulburn/Murray Valley

- Wheat: Steady (\$345 to \$355/tonne). Barley: Down \$15 (\$320 to \$330/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$470 to \$480/tonne).
- The southern growing regions had cooler and partly cloudy weather conditions over the past week with no meaningful rainfall recorded. The next week is forecast to have warm sunny conditions with temperatures reaching the high 20s. Some growers have commenced sowing, however, with topsoil starting to dry out and no rain forecast many are reassessing their plans.
- Wheat prices were steady to higher as increased freight pricing found an equilibrium, while demand remains steady including a lift from buyers in northern regions looking for additional supply.
- Barley bids were mixed as individual locations experience strong demand compared to others. Price movements are being driven by domestic demand with export moves having little influence at this time.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## **Gippsland**

- Wheat: Up \$10 (\$375 to \$385/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$355 to \$365/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$485 to \$495/tonne).
- The southern growing regions had cooler and partly cloudy weather conditions over the past week with no meaningful rainfall recorded. The next week is forecast to have warm sunny conditions with temperatures reaching the high 20s. Some growers have commenced sowing, however, with topsoil starting to dry out and no rain forecast many are reassessing their plans.
- Wheat prices were steady to higher as increased freight pricing found an equilibrium, while demand remains steady including a lift from buyers in northern regions looking for additional supply.
- Barley bids were mixed as individual locations experience strong demand compared to others. Price movements are being driven by domestic demand with export moves having little influence at this time.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## **Southwest Victoria**

- Wheat: Up \$5 (\$310 to \$320/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$300 to \$310/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$470 to \$480/tonne).
- The southern growing regions had cooler and partly cloudy weather conditions over the past week with no meaningful rainfall recorded. The next week is forecast to have warm sunny conditions with temperatures reaching the high 20s. Some growers have commenced sowing, however, with topsoil starting to dry out and no rain forecast many are reassessing their plans.
- Wheat prices were steady to higher as increased freight pricing found an equilibrium, while demand remains steady including a lift from buyers in northern regions looking for additional supply.
- Barley bids were mixed as individual locations experience strong demand compared to others. Price movements are being driven by domestic demand with export moves having little influence at this time.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## **Southeast South Australia**

- Wheat: Steady (\$340 to \$350/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$325 to \$335/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$505 to \$515/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$515 to \$525/tonne).
- Growers in South Australia had a week of slightly cooler temperatures with isolated rainfall recorded in some areas but not enough to make a difference. The week ahead is forecast for warm weather with a small chance of showers, which will encourage seeding that is underway.
- Wheat bids were steady to lower, there is a tightening local supply and increased demand coming from the eastern states; however, growers remain engaged at this point.
- Barley prices were unchanged as domestic demand remains steady and grower selling remains slow, however, there is some increased demand coming from the east.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## Central South Australia

- Wheat: Down \$10 (\$275 to \$285/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$305 to \$315/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$505 to \$515/tonne). Oats: Steady (\$305 to \$315/tonne).
- Growers in South Australia had a week of slightly cooler temperatures with isolated rainfall recorded in some areas but not enough to make a difference. The week ahead is forecast for warm weather with a small chance of showers, which will encourage seeding that is underway.
- Wheat bids were steady to lower, there is a tightening local supply and increased demand coming from the eastern states; however, growers remain engaged at this point.
- Barley prices were unchanged as domestic demand remains steady and grower selling remains slow, however, there is some increased demand coming from the east.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.

## Southwest Western Australia

- Wheat: Steady (\$330 to \$340/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$345 to \$355/tonne). Lupins: Up \$5 (\$350 to \$360/tonne). Oats: Steady (\$300 to \$310/tonne).
- Western Australian grain growers had a week of mostly sunny and clear weather. The next week is forecast for increased windy weather, with a higher chance of showers, growers with sowing underway will be hoping this provides a top up to existing soil moisture levels.
- Wheat bids were unchanged this week with limited grower interest and prices not being influenced by global uncertainty at this time.
- Barley prices held steady with limited grower engagement as increasing input costs and uncertain weather forecasts have many holding off current planting plans.
- Lupins increased while oats held steady this week.

## Northwest Tasmania

- Wheat: Up \$10 (\$465 to \$475/tonne). Barley: Steady (\$445 to \$455/tonne). Maize: Steady (\$525 to \$535/tonne). Canola Meal: Steady (\$575 to \$585/tonne).
- Wheat prices were steady to higher as increased freight pricing found an equilibrium, while demand remains steady including a lift from buyers in northern regions looking for additional supply.
- Barley bids were mixed as individual locations experience strong demand compared to others. Price movements are being driven by domestic demand with export moves having little influence at this time.
- Corn and canola meal prices were unchanged this week.





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