

Economic Indicators

	Quote at 12h00 previous day	Current quote	Change	% Change
Rand/Dollar	11.85	11.81	-0.04	-0.34
Euro/Dollar	1.2307	1.2282	-0.0025	-0.20
Gold	1337.47	1335.26	-2.21	-0.17
Platinum	930.9	921.6	-9.30	-1.00
Brent Crude	68.09	67.9	-0.19	-0.28
JSE Top 40	48794	48179	-615.00	-1.26
Dow Jones Indus Avg	23644	24033	389.00	1.65

The changes in the table above is from previous Safex close (12h00)

- The rand is slightly stronger this morning and is quoted at R11.81/\$ this morning. The rand is stronger despite the fact that the dollar also posted some gains. South African equities did come under pressure with the JSE Top40 ending 1.26% lower yesterday.
- In the US the dollar is slightly stronger and is trading around 1.2280 to the euro this morning and US equities posted some good gains with the Dow ending 1.65% higher in the daytime session yesterday while US equity futures are 0.30% lower this morning. US equities pushed higher as the tech sector recovered some of the losses and ahead of the company earnings season.
- Commodity prices are slightly lower across the board with gold and platinum prices 0.17% and 1.00% lower than the levels seen yesterday with the higher equities limiting the demand for gold as a safe haven. Crude oil prices are 0.28% lower than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday.

US Dollar/South African Rand



Key data releases:

- Weekly South African grain trade data
- European Union unemployment rate
- European Union March CPI
- US ADP employment change
- US Factory orders

International Market

	Quote at 12h00 previous day	Current quote	Change	% Change
CME May maize	387	387.75	0.75	0.19
CME Jul maize	395.25	396.5	1.25	0.32
CME May wheat	449.75	460.5	10.75	2.39
KCBT May wheat	474	492.75	18.75	3.96
KCBT Jul wheat	493.5	511	17.50	3.55
Matif May wheat (Euro/ton)	163.75	166.25	2.50	1.53
CME Jul soybeans	1052.75	1051	-1.75	-0.17
May CME maize R/ton	1805	1803	-2.61	-0.14
Jul CME maize R/ton	1844	1843	-0.41	-0.02
May CME wheat R/ton	1958	1998	40.04	2.04
May KCBT wheat R/ton	2064	2138	74.40	3.60
Jul KCBT wheat R/ton	2149	2217	68.69	3.20
Jul CME soybeans R/ton	4584	4561	-23.07	-0.50

The changes in the table above is from Safex close (12h00)

Corn

- US CME maize prices posted some gains in the daytime session yesterday with the higher wheat prices providing some spillover support and ideas that the wet and cold weather in the US Midwest could result in some early planting delays. This morning the electronic maize prices are slightly lower.
- The market remains on edge as a result of the trade tensions between the US and China with China threatening retaliation. President Trump is also threatening to scrap the NAFTA trade agreement between the US and Mexico.
- The weather forecast expects wet and colder conditions in large parts of the US Midwest in the week ahead but it is still very early in the season.
- On the technical chart for July CME maize we see that the market tested and failed to breaking above \$4.00/bushel in the past 2 sessions and prices sold off after that. The shorter moving averages and indicators are pulling higher but the market is overbought.

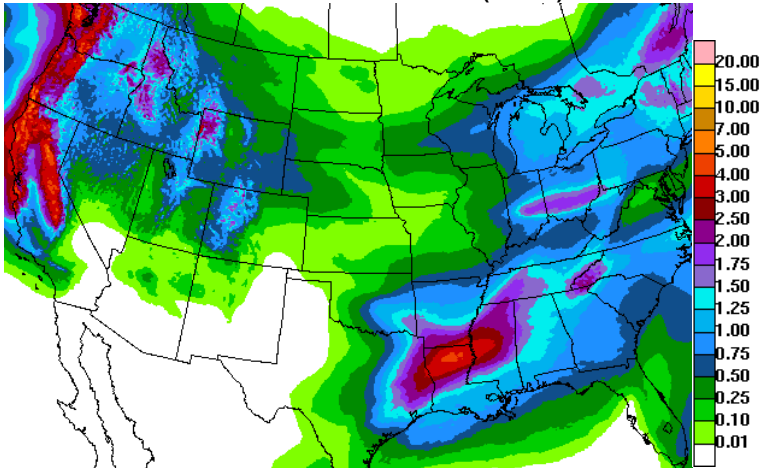
Soybeans

- US soybean contracts managed some gains in the daytime session on some technical buying while the higher wheat futures also added some spillover support. This morning the electronic soybean prices are also slightly higher.
- The trade issues between the US and China remains a major concern for the US soybean market given that China is the largest importer of US soybeans.
- The private forecaster FCStone estimated the Brazilian soybean crop at 115.9 million tons which is 2.7% higher than their March estimate.
- On the technical chart for July CME soybeans we see that the market did get some support at the 40-day average and prices pushed higher after that. But soybeans did end the day well of the session highs.

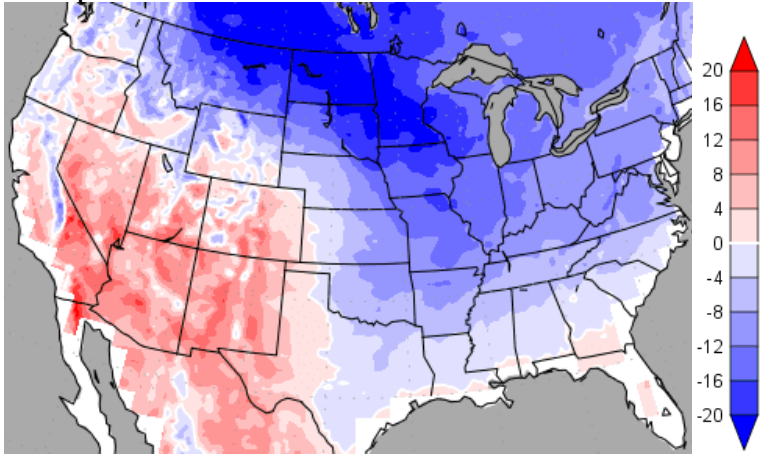
Wheat

- US CME and KCBT wheat prices posted some gains with KCBT wheat prices leading the way higher with the winter wheat crop conditions supporting the market. This morning the electronic wheat prices are also trading higher.
- The winter wheat good/excellent rating released yesterday was the lowest rating for this time of the year since 2002.
- On the technical chart for July KCBT wheat we see that the market posted some good gains with the electronic prices also higher this morning. The market is caught between the averages with the 100-day as support at \$4.83 and the 40-day as resistance at \$5.13/bushel.

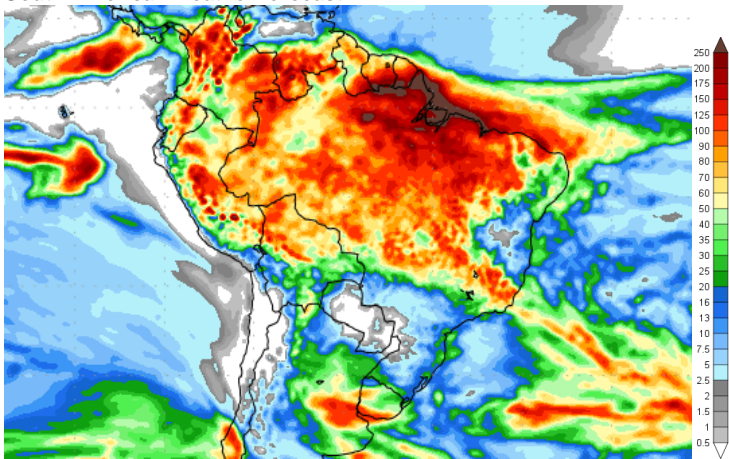
US cumulative rainfall forecast for week ahead (inches)



US temperature forecast for week ahead



South American weather forecast



Although everything has been done to ensure the accuracy of the report Unigrain (Pty) Ltd cannot be held responsible for any losses incurred as a result of the use of the information contained in the report

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South African Market – 03 April 2018

White Maize				
	MTM	Change	High	Low
May-18	1959.00	46.00	1961.80	1950.20
Jul-18	1999.00	46.00	2000.00	1986.00
Dec-18	2114.00	45.00	2116.00	2102.40
Yellow Maize				
May-18	2047.00	47.00	2051.00	2036.00
Jul-18	2077.00	51.00	2078.00	2060.00
Dec-18	2178.00	49.00	2182.80	2176.20
Wheat				
May-18	3808.00	0.00	3830.00	3800.00
Jul-18	3824.00	1.00	3830.00	3815.00
Dec-18	3778.00	-5.00	3785.00	3770.00
Sunflower				
May-18	4661.00	40.00	4671.00	4645.00
Jul-18	4740.00	51.00	4750.00	4722.00
Soybeans				
May-18	4619.00	107.00	4640.00	4590.00
Jul-18	4729.00	112.00	4735.00	4700.00
CME Corn				
May-18	1801.00	62.00	1798.00	1797.60
Jul-18	1866.00	64.00	1867.80	1850.00

Maize

South African maize prices gapped higher at the start of the session with the sharply higher parity prices supporting our market. July white maize opened the day the day at R1999 with some profit taking/long liquidation that was seen after that. The market sold off to an intraday low of R1986 but the selling interest faded and prices posted some gains once again. We did see some buying interest into the close once again with the slightly weaker rand also adding some support and July white maize ended the day at the opening levels and very close to the session highs. On the technical chart July white maize came very close to close the gap back at R2003.

This morning the US maize prices are slightly higher than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday but the stronger rand is limiting the gains in parity prices this morning. We did see some strong gains in our market yesterday but the flat parity prices could result in some profit taking by market longs.

Wheat

South African wheat contracts opened the day higher but the market did pull off those levels after the opening. May-18 wheat contracts opened the day at R3825 and briefly traded to an intraday high of R3830 but the market lower after that. The market traded to an intraday low of R3800 with the market breaking below the 9-day average and local wheat prices did pull slightly off the intraday lows into the close. Support is seen at R3800 and resistance is seen at R3850 and the 100-day average seen at R3908.

This morning the US CME and KCBT wheat prices are sharply higher than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday but the rand is stronger. Our market battled to gain some ground in the session yesterday and the stronger rand seen this morning could very well limit the gain in our market once again this morning.

Oilseeds

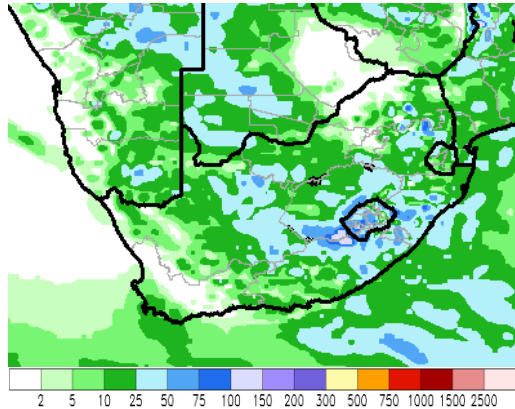
South African soybean contracts gapped higher from the opening with the sharply higher parity prices supporting our market at the opening. May-18 soybean contracts opened the day at R4602 and our market gained some more ground after that trading to an intraday high of R4640 but our market failed to sustain a break above the 40-day average and local soybean contracts ended the day slightly off the session highs. On the technical chart the indicators are pulling higher and resistance is seen at R4625 and R4700.

South African sunflower seed contracts opened the day higher with the sharply higher parity prices supporting our market at the opening. May-18 sunflower seed contracts opened the day at R4671 which was also the intraday high of the session with our market pulling off the level after that. May-18 sunflower seed contracts traded to an intraday low of R4645 and the market managed to end the day off the session lows. On the technical chart resistance seen around R4700 (with the 40-day and 100-day averages seen around that level).

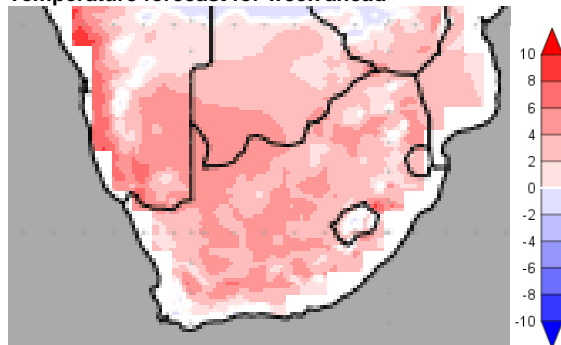
This morning the US soybean contracts are slightly lower than the levels seen at Safex close yesterday and the rand is also stronger which is putting some pressure on parity prices. The lower parity prices could put some pressure on local sunflower seed and soybean contracts in the session today.

Weather conditions

Rainfall forecast for week ahead



Temperature forecast for week ahead



Technical Graphs

- Safex July WM prices
- CME July corn prices



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