

# FLOUR FACTS

Pillsbury

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#### **NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

## **Weekly Market Highlights**

- Wheat futures are mixed this week. Basis levels on spring wheat were up and basis levels on winter wheat stayed steady.
- USDA released their supply and demand estimates, increasing the world wheat crop by 2 million tonnes from last month's estimates. This also raised the world ending stocks estimates to a 10-year high. The U.S. wheat carry-over was actually reduced by 9 million tonnes from the previous month's estimates.
- The USDA report cut corn yield estimates to an 8 year low of 147.7 bushels per acre. This brought the global carry-over estimate on corn to a 5-year low.
- The stronger U.S. dollar should drive wheat prices lower which will help the U.S export more wheat.
- Weaker financial markets in Europe have caused volatility in commodities.

### **Facts on Flour**

#### What's Your Favorite Season?

Growing season is one of the major classification categories for wheat. There are two distinct seasons: winter and spring. Winter wheat is planted and begins growth in the early autumn. As winter rolls in, the growth is halted and the plant remains dormant until spring when it resumes its growth. This crop is harvested in late spring through early summer. Spring wheat is grown in areas where the winters are too cold for winter wheat to survive. Spring wheat is planted in the spring and harvested in late summer to early fall. Spring wheat will generally have a higher protein content than winter wheat. Winter wheat flours, when compared to spring wheat, tend to have a more "mellow" protein structure.

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## **Futures & Basis Markets**

