**Market News**

**Wheat prices plunged nearly 3% on Mar. 19 after Russia revealed that it will not limit grain exports this year**, possible increasing competition for U.S. wheat in the world marketplace. A ban of wheat exports from Russia was lifted in May, and a top agriculture official in the country predicted that this year's exports might reach 27 million tons, compared with 21.4 million tons in 2009. Wheat for May delivery fell 19.75 cents to end at $6.52 per bushel, reported *The Associated Press*. [Full Story](http://lists.foodinstitute.com/tracking.jsp?linkid=1561844&subid=895515&campid=2114218&type=1" \t "_blank)

**2012 may be one of the worst years in decades for Wisconsin maple syrup producers** **due to unusually warm weather**. Some parts of the state already reported premature budding, though hard maple trees bud later than soft maples and some forests filled with maple trees may produce usable sap if nighttime temperatures fall below freezing again and the buds do not open first, reported *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. [Full Story](http://lists.foodinstitute.com/tracking.jsp?linkid=1561845&subid=895515&campid=2114218&type=1" \t "_blank)