MARKET NEWS

**A bloom of toxic algae closed a third of Maine's coastline to shellfish harvesting**. The state banned harvesting mussels, clams, oysters and carnivorous snails after mussels and clams showed domoic acid levels of up to 100 parts per million, five times the level considered safe for human consumption, reported *Press Herald*. [**Full Story**](http://www.pressherald.com/2016/10/06/unusual-toxic-algae-bloom-shutters-downeast-shellfish-industry/)

**Hawaii's Agribusiness Development Corp. received $31.5 million to buy nearly 900 acres** of agricultural land in Central Oahu. The land will be used as part of the Whitmore farming project in the area, part of the state agency's efforts to transition Hawaii's agriculture industry from mainly pineapple and sugar to one made up of a diversity of crops, reported *Pacific Business News*. [**Full Story**](http://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2016/10/06/state-agency-gets-31-5m-to-buy-900-acres-of.html)

**Nearly 40 Key deer were found to be infested with screwworm maggots** at Florida's National Key Deer Refuge on Big Pine Key, according to USDA. The infestation, which can be a major issue for agricultural producers, is the first in the U.S. in more than 30 years, reported *Miami Herald*. [**Full Story**](http://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/national/article106399937.html)

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| **Total U.S. cheese output totaled 990 million-lbs. in August**, 1.2% above the year-ago period, according to USDA. Italian type cheese production totaled 422 million-lbs., while American type cheese totaled 389 million-lbs. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/DairProd/DairProd-10-05-2016.pdf)  **Washington apple growers report a manageable crop of large and high-quality fruit**, and prices are said to be steady. Cartons of galas 72-88s were priced between $24.00 and $26.90, down from the $26.00 to $28.90 encountered in 2015, according to USDA, reported *The Packer*. [**Full Story**](http://www.thepacker.com/news/large-high-quality-washington-apples-moving-steadily)  **The Florida Citrus Commission approved an emergency measure that would salvage grapefruit** blown off the trees by Hurricane Matthew. The new rule would allow processors to use grapefruit with a ratio of sugar solids to acid of no less than seven to one, effective through Jan. 4. The existing rule required a slightly higher ratio of eight to one, which could take weeks more of maturing on the tree to achieve, reported *The Ledger*. [**Full Story**](http://www.theledger.com/news/20161005/citrus-commission-acts-to-save-threatened-grapefruit)  **Iowa farmers can expect to see more extreme weather caused by climate change**, according to a group of climate scientists. Iowa growers needed to adopt conservation and farming practices that can help reduce greenhouse gases, including shifting to marginal croplands to perennial vegetation in land set-aside programs, reported *Des Moines Register*. [**Full Story**](http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/money/2016/10/05/climate-change-brings-more-extreme-weather-iowa-scientists-say/91605242/)  **The National Science Foundation awarded St. Louis University a $4.6 million grant** to study the parts of perennial plants used most commonly in food production. Researchers will study how root systems of grapevines affect the vine's stems, leaves and fruits, and use grafting as a way to adapt the plants for climate change. [**Full Story**](http://www.bizjournals.com/prnewswire/press_releases/2016/10/05/DC10194)  **California strawberry growers shipped approximately 149.5 million flats as of Oct. 3**, a 4.9% increase from the same date in 2015, according to the California Strawberry Commission. Production reached 650,000 flats or higher per day during the Sept. 26 through Oct. 3 timeframe except for Oct. 2, when only 55,7634 flats were shipped. [**Full Story**](http://bireports.calstrawberry.org/pages/national.aspx)  **Mexican green onions should be steady and high-quality** due to good growing weather, according to regional packers. Despite an early end in the Ojos Negros growing region, there was no production gap as the harvest switched to the Mexicali and San Luis growing regions, reported *The Packer*. [**Full Story**](http://www.thepacker.com/news/ample-supplies-high-quality-green-onions-expected)  **Pork is leading the pack in meat deflation amid a supply glut that looks set to continue**. Wholesale prices for hams, pork bellies, ribs and loins hit the lowest level in seven years, and slaughterhouses will need to add shifts and operate on Saturdays in November and December to process the abundance of meat, according to Rabobank, reported *Bloomberg*. [**Full Story**](http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-10-02/too-many-fat-pigs-are-making-hogs-the-biggest-commodities-loser)  **Citrus canker was found throughout Louisiana**.Parts of Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. Charles and Lafourche parishes, and all of Orleans and St. Bernard parishes, were already under quarantine for the bacteria. If the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry confirms the new infections, it will set new quarantine boundaries, reported *The State*. [**Full Story**](http://www.thestate.com/news/business/national-business/article105941172.html#storylink=cpy)  **Net income for U.S. agricultural cooperatives jumped 14% to $7 billion in 2015**, according to USDA. Total business volume fell for the top 100 cooperatives, but net income rose to $4.9 billion in 2015, up from $4.3 billion in 2014. [**Full Report**](http://www.rd.usda.gov/files/RD-Top100AgricultureCooperatives2015.pdf)  **USDA will pay farmers more than $7 billion this fall** to keep them afloat in the face of low crop prices. Payments started going out to growers who had enrolled in U.S. safety-net programs to protect themselves from market downturns covering harvests last year, and will account for about 10% of what the agency projected for U.S. net farm income for 2016. [**Full Story**](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/news-releases/2016/nr_20161004_rel_138)   |  | | --- | | **U.S. soybeans crushed for crude oil totaled about 4.2 million tons in August**, down from the 4.6 million tons crushed in July, according to USDA. Canola seeds crushed for crude oil totaled 174,000 tons, down from the 202,000 tons crushed in July. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/FatsOils/FatsOils-10-03-2016.pdf)  **A total of about 12.2 million-lbs. of tomatoes were projected to be harvested through Oct. 2**, and 702,000-lbs. were harvested for the week in California, according to the Processing Tomato Advisory Board. Approximately 688,000 tons of organics tomatoes were harvested in the state as of Sept. 24, accounting for about 6% of the overall crop, up from 3% last year. [**Full Story**](http://www.westconfoods.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Weekly-Crop-News-10-3-2016.pdf?utm_source=WCF+Announcements+and+Handouts&utm_campaign=6822e402a0-October_3_2016_Weekly_Deliveries_WCF&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_957d7a8a51-6822e402a0-101661469)  **The harvest in Iowa is underway, with 21% of soybeans and 10% of the corn crop** already completed, a day behind last year's progress, according to USDA. The harvest in Nebraska was reported at 15% of corn harvested and 27% of soybeans in bins. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/CropProg/CropProg-10-03-2016.pdf)  **The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council will look at the impact** of commercial fishing restrictions imposed by the establishment of the Marine National Monument in Hawaii. The council will consider the advice of its Scientific and Statistical Committee, a group of fishery scientists that will review the economic impact of lost fishing grounds in the U.S. exclusive economic zone as a result of the monument expansion. [**Full Story**](http://www.wpcouncil.org/2016/09/30/press-release-scientists-to-advise-on-nwhi-monument-fisheries-bigeye-tuna-catch-limits/) |   **Producers in the U.S. held about 1.7 billion bushels of old crop corn** and 197 million bushels of old crop soybeans in storage as of Sept. 1, according to USDA. About 627 million bushels of corn were stored on farms, up 6% from the year-ago period, while soybeans stored on farms dropped 16% to 41.6 million bushels. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/GraiStoc/GraiStoc-09-30-2016.pdf)  **U.S. growers harvested 43.8 million acres of wheat for grain in 2016**, down 7% from 2015, according to USDA. However, wheat growers set a new record-high yield of 52.6 bushels per acre in 2016. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/SmalGraiSu/SmalGraiSu-09-30-2016.pdf)  **The U.S. inventory of hogs and pigs totaled 70.9 million head** on Sept. 1, a 4% increase from June 1 and a 2% increase from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Between June and August, U.S. producers weaned a record high average of about 10.6 pigs per litter. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/HogsPigs/HogsPigs-09-30-2016.pdf)  **The number of turkeys raised during 2016 in the U.S. is forecast at 243 million**, up 4% from the year-ago period, according to USDA. Minnesota, North Carolina, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri and Virginia combined to account for nearly two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the country during 2016. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/TurkRaisSu/TurkRaisSu-09-30-2016.pdf)  **U.S. shell eggs broken during August jumped 22% from the year-ago period** to a record 204 million dozen. To date, shell eggs broken during 2016 totaled about 1.5 billion dozen, up 5% from 2015. [**Full Report**](http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/current/EggProd/EggProd-09-30-2016.pdf)  **Mango producers in Mexico, Brazil and Ecuador shipped about 1.2 million boxes** the week ended Sept. 24, a 54.7% increase over the amount shipped in the year-ago period, according to the National Mango Board. Total mango volume shipped to U.S. entry ports as of Sept. 24 totaled 96.5 million boxes. [**Full Story**](http://www.mango.org/Mangos/media/Media/Documents/Industry-Market%20Information/Mango_Crop_Forecast.pdf)  **Peanut prices averaged 19.2 cents per pound as of Sept. 24, up 0.3 cents from a week earlier,** with marketings of all farmer stock peanuts up 8.3 million-lbs. to 49.4 million-lbs., according to USDA. Runner-type peanut prices averaged 18.3 cents per pound, down 0.4 cents from the previous week, and marketings totaled 33.1 million-lbs., down 3.2 million-lbs. [**Full Report**](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Publications/Todays_Reports/reports/pnpr4016.pdf)  **China gave approval to at least two companies to begin exporting corn**, according to people familiar with the matter. The move would allow Cofco and Beidahuang to sell approximately 2 million metric tons of grain abroad, and the U.S. Trade Representative believes the exports could negatively impact corn prices in the U.S., reported *Reuters*. [**Full Story**](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-corn-exports-idUSKCN1201GB) |