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**GOOD MORNING: Van Trump Report 8-30-19**

1 message

**The Van Trump Report** <reply@vantrumpreport-email.com>

Fri, Aug 30, 2019 at 5:31 AM

Reply-To: Jordan &lt;reply-fec617747266037f-314\_HTML-68584704-100003450-7@vantrumpreport-email.com&gt;

To: josh@farmdirection.com

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

"If you always put limits on everything you do, physical or anything else. It will spread into your work and into your life. There are no limits. There are only plateaus, and you must not stay there, you must go beyond them." - **Bruce Lee**

**Friday, August 30, 2019**[Printable Copy](#) or [Audio Version](#)

**Morning Summary:** Stocks continue to be buoyed by more "diplomatic" talk out of China. The country yesterday indicated that they will not be launching any new retaliatory tariffs in response to the U.S. tariffs that go into effect this Sunday, September 1. Ministry of Commerce spokesman Gao Feng told reporters in Beijing, "China has ample means for retaliation, but thinks the question that should be discussed now is about removing the new tariffs to prevent escalation of the trade war." Analysts, however, are asking how long stock market bulls can sustain the recent rally without some sort of permanent trade deal in place. Today is the last

trading day of the month and there are a lot of investors that are probably worn out from the recent roller coaster ride. Believe it or not, even with all this month's volatility, the S&P 500 and Dow are both less than -4% below their all-time closing highs and the Nasdaq is about -4.2% below its all-time high. Helping to underpin stocks has been a second quarter earnings season that wasn't nearly the downer that many were expecting. Almost every company in the S&P 500 has reported now. The good news is, 74% of the companies have beat their earnings estimates, right in-line with the 3-year average; 58% have beat their sales estimates, which is slightly below the 65% 3-year average. The economy has also continued to perform better than many analysts expected. Second quarter GDP, released yesterday, was revised down only slightly to +2% versus a previous estimate of +2.1%. The real surprise came from International Trade In Goods, which showed July net exports as a -\$72.3 billion goods deficit, which is less than expected and nearly \$2 billion lower than June. Exports actually rose slightly by +0.7% in the month to \$137.3 billion with imports down -0.4% to \$209.7 billion. July exports were led by consumer goods as well as autos. Economic data for today includes Personal Income and Outlays, Chicago PMI, and Consumer Sentiment. When traders return next week, there will be a full plate of new data to digest. Keep in mind, it is also a shortened trading week with markets closed on Monday for the U.S. Labor Day holiday. Data for the week includes PMI and ISM Manufacturing, and Construction Spending on Tuesday; the Fed's Beige Book and International Trade on Wednesday; ADP Employment, Productivity and Costs, PMI Services, Factory Orders, and ISM Non-Manufacturing on Thursday; and the highly anticipated August Employment Report on Friday. The Fed will be in the spotlight too with five U.S. Federal Reserve members scheduled to speak next week - Boston Fed President Eric Rosengren on Tuesday, followed by New York Fed President John Williams, Federal Reserve Governor Michelle Bowman, St. Louis Fed President James Bullard, and Chicago Fed President Charles Evans on Wednesday. There are also quite a few key international reports scheduled, including eurozone Manufacturing, Retail Sales, and GDP; and Chinese Services PMI and Merchandise Trade Balance. Have a great extended weekend and come back ready for more extreme volatility. I'm thinking there's a chance we could slow the ride down a bit in September then see more extremes in October. Be cautious chasing FOMO!

**Apple to Unveil NEW iPhone, Streaming Service On Sept. 10:** *Apple shares moved higher yesterday on news the company has sent out invitations to a Sept. 10 event where it is expected to introduce new iPhone*

*models. In addition, Apple is widely expected to offer new details on its Apple+ movie and television streaming service, including when it will launch. The event will be at the Steve Jobs Theatre at Apple's Cupertino, Calif. headquarters. The tech giant is expected to introduce three iPhones models: a cheaper replacement for the iPhone XR and upgrades to its XS and XS Max iPhone models. Apple's Apple+ is expected to launch by November. Bloomberg News recently reported Apple plans to start the service with a \$9.99 fee. The field is getting crowded with Walt Disney, Netflix and Amazon as competitors. AT&T and Comcast are also developing services. Disney+ plans to seek \$6.99 when its service debuts in November. Interesting fact: Apple's first iPhone was released in June 2007. \$AAPL's stock is up roughly +1,000% since that day. (Source: Investingdotcom, StockTwits)*

**Argentina Struggling to Avoid Ninth Debt Default:** *Argentine President Mauricio Macri wants more time to pay off Argentina's \$101 billion as part of efforts to stem fresh turmoil in financial markets. A desperate effort by Argentina's central bank to shore up the peso with close to \$1.5 billion (€1.36 billion) this month was to no avail, instead crippling the country's scarce foreign currency reserves even further. According to London-based consulting firm Capital Economics, net reserves currently cover only 60% of Argentina's financing needs of about \$100 billion this year. Finance Minister Hernan Lacunza said the government was planning to extend the maturity of its debt denominated in local and foreign currencies because of "short-term liquidity stresses." He insisted though the move was "not due to problems with the solvency of the debt." Macri's plan aims for a "voluntary extension of repayment times" and not a cut in interest payments or the size of the debt it owes to creditors. By some measures, however, this could already be judged to amount to a sovereign default. Read more from [Deutsche Welle](#).*

**Hurricane "Dorian" on Course to Disrupt Florida:** *Hurricane Dorian has missed Puerto Rico but is now unfortunately headed toward Florida. The storm is currently a Category 2 storm with winds in excess of +105 mph. The bad part is the hurricane is expected to become much more dangerous today and during the weekend, perhaps hitting landfall on Monday as the most dangerous Category 4 hurricane. To help people track the storm and assess potential damage, spatial analytics company Esri updated its Hurricane Aware platform, which now includes Dorian's real-time location and estimated path.*

The interactive map is also buttressed with a wealth of demographic data, including age breakdowns of the U.S. regions that will be impacted, along with information on internet connectivity, nondriving populations, and the percentage of disabled people who live in the affected areas. The demographic data is only available for the 50 U.S. states, not for Puerto Rico or other Caribbean islands in the storm's path. You can check out the Hurricane Aware tool [HERE](#). (Source: Fast Company)



# FARM TANK

## Tweets of the Day



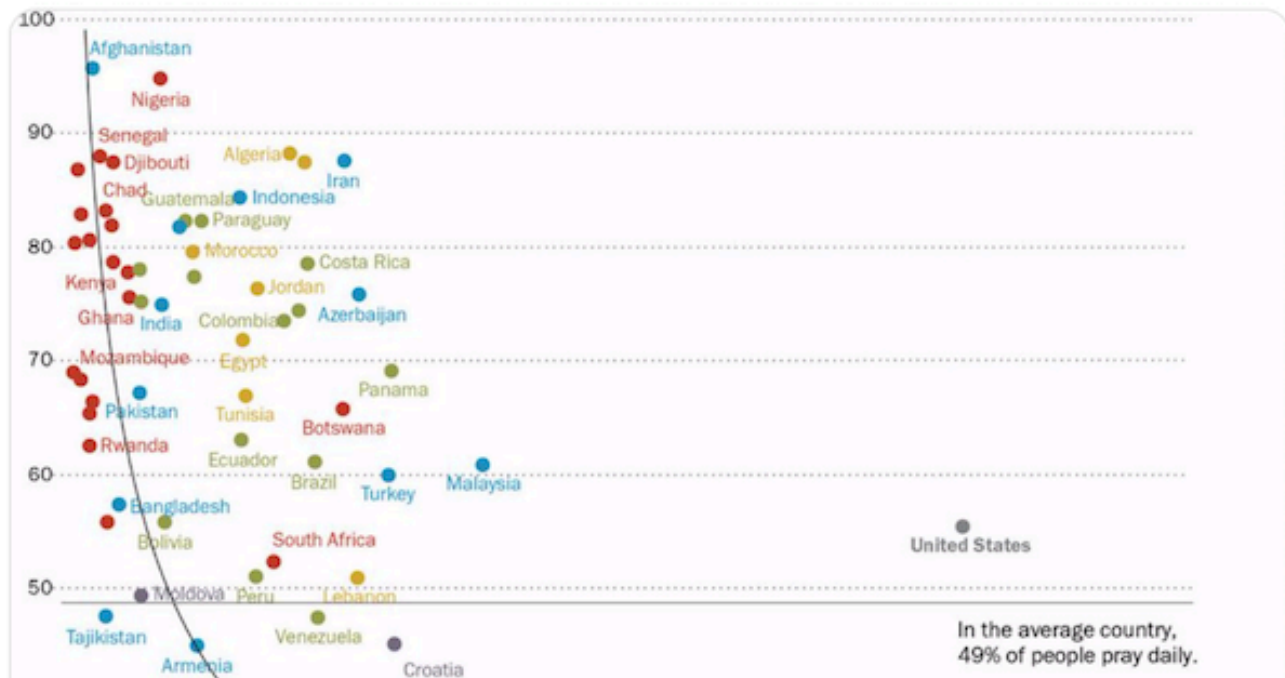
**John Gramlich**

@johngramlich

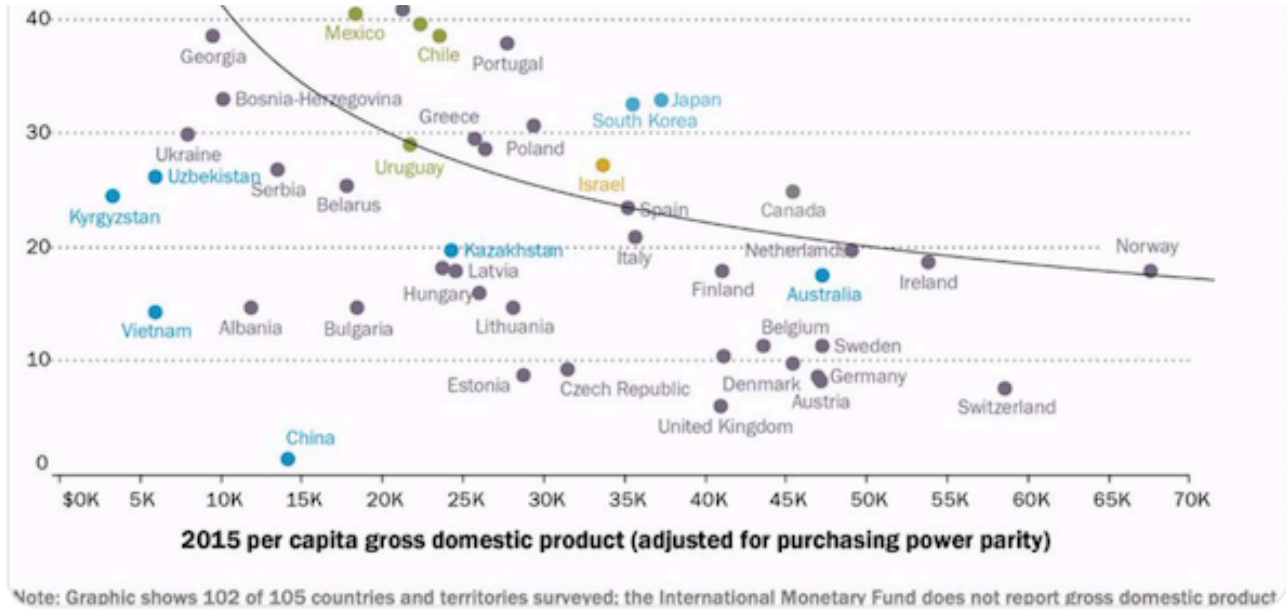
Following



It's #NationalDayOfPrayer today, but for many Americans, every day is a day of prayer. Out of 102 countries analyzed, the US is the only one with both a high level of wealth and a high share of adults who say they pray every day (55%).  
[pewrsr.ch/2vuNAX4](http://pewrsr.ch/2vuNAX4)









Thought Provoked <sup>100</sup>  
@thoughtprovoke4

Following



Is what you're doing today getting you closer to where you want to be tomorrow?

#MondayMotivation #IQRTG  
#MondayMorning #JoyTrain  
#mondaythoughts #Motivation







TK  
@TravisKubiak




Sad thing is you still couldn't own an R series with what we have into the front 5....







**charles anyan**   
@CharlesAnyan



Spring bean #Harvest19 going well here in #Springthorpe, it's another beautiful day ☀️





**Cameron Curry**  
@CamCurry91



Incredible seeing this big rig in action at Routh  
[@CLAAS\\_Eastern](#). All 790hp and a 45ft header on the  
new 8900 making light work of smashing though some  
Kerrin. Grain carts flat out! [#harvest19](#)



**Super 70s Sports**  
@Super70sSports



Willie Nelson has long refused to observe country  
club dress codes, instead electing to invoke his  
"I'm Willie Nelson" privileges.





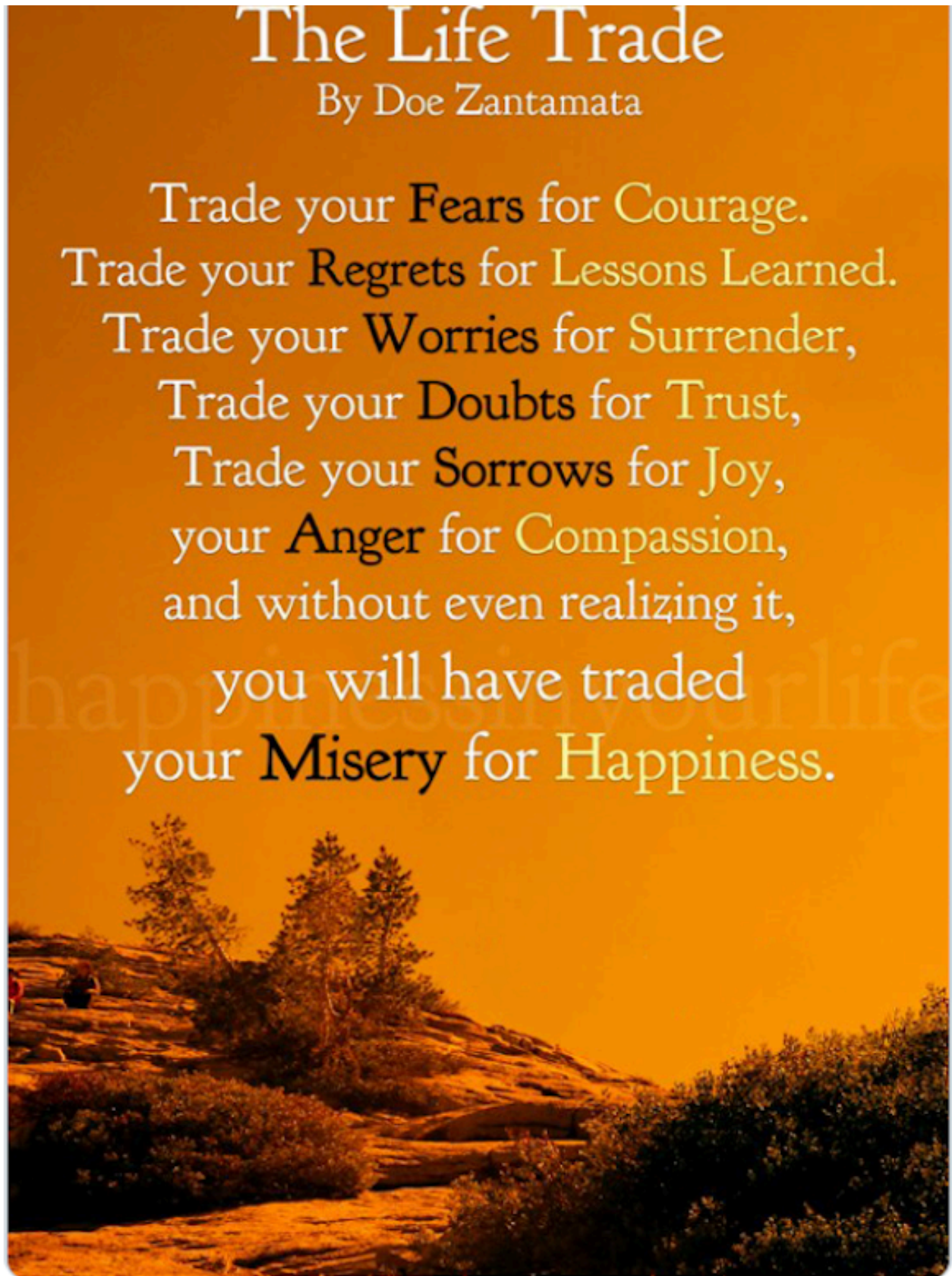
**ActionComplete**  
@ActionComplete



The **#Life** Trade  
by Doe Zantamata

**#quotes #inspiration #positivity**





**Corn** bulls are keeping an eye on dryness in a few locations and an extremely

late-maturing crop. There's a ton of talk about the crop being late and how it might struggle to fill. Bears continue to point towards mostly cooperative weather and late-planted crops doing much better than many originally anticipated. I should note, the International Grains Council (IGC) raised its U.S. corn production estimate by +2.4% to 13.455 billion bushels. The good news is the number is -446 million bushels below the current USDA estimate. The bad news, global corn production is projected up +8 MMTs compared to last month. Keep in mind, however, world ending corn stocks are still expected to be down by about -40 MMTs vs. last year. U.S. ethanol demand also remains heavily debated. Bulls are happy to hear optimism from the White House that they are planning a "giant package" related to ethanol that will greatly please U.S. farmers. I include a tweet from President Trump below. The trade seems mostly split and uncertainty about the comments. Half are discounting it as just more political talk while others are seeing it as more of a reality and good things coming for ethanol. Time will tell... As a spec, I remain bullish. As a producer, I am mentally prepared to wait until late-2019 or early-2020 to price more cash bushels. I'm just worried about money-flow and who's going to be the big buyer should we turn over a couple of bullish cards? Technically, it feels like this market could get real heavy again up between \$3.80 and \$3.90 per bushel. I will continue to pay close attention to finishing weather, macro market headlines, the longer-term direction of the U.S. dollar, and ongoing trade negotiations.



**Donald J. Trump** ✓  
@realDonaldTrump

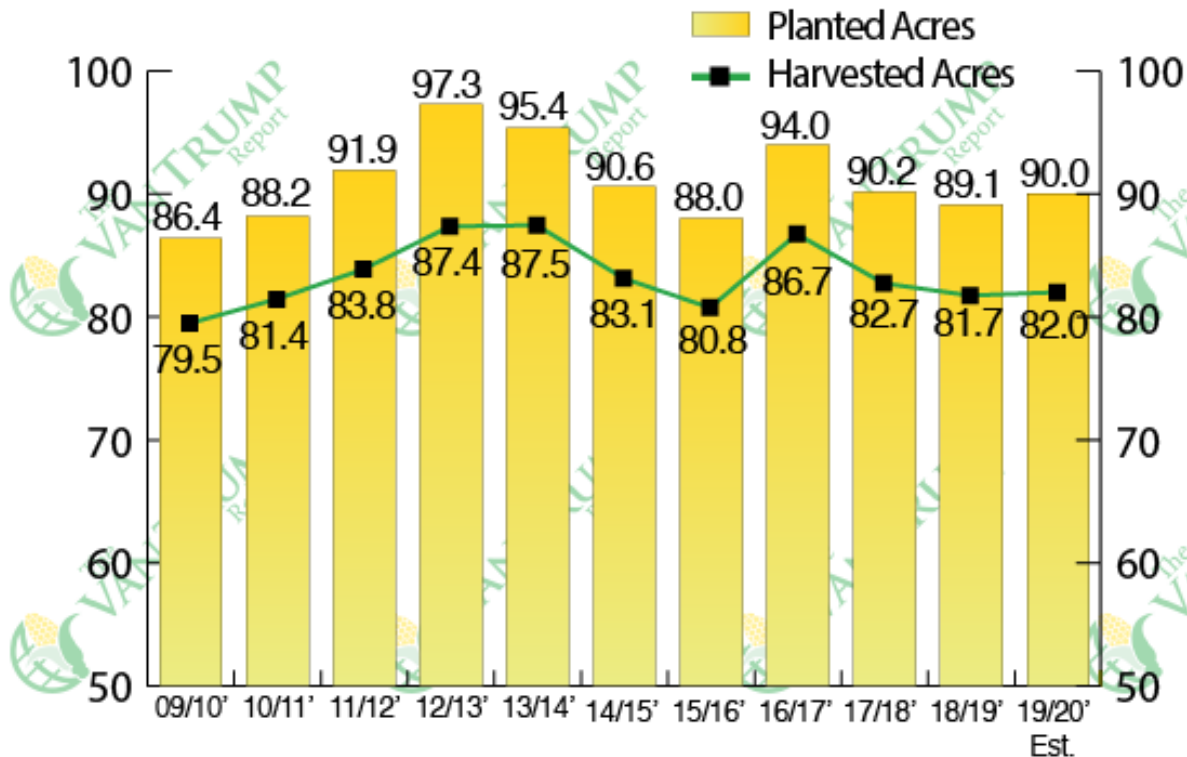
The Farmers are going to be so happy when they see what we are doing for Ethanol, not even including the E-15, year around, which is already done. It will be a giant package, get ready! At the same time I was able to save the small refineries from certain closing. Great for all!

8:19 AM · Aug 29, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

**14.1K** Retweets   **59.2K** Likes

# U.S. Corn Planted VS. Harvested Acres

(In Million Acres)



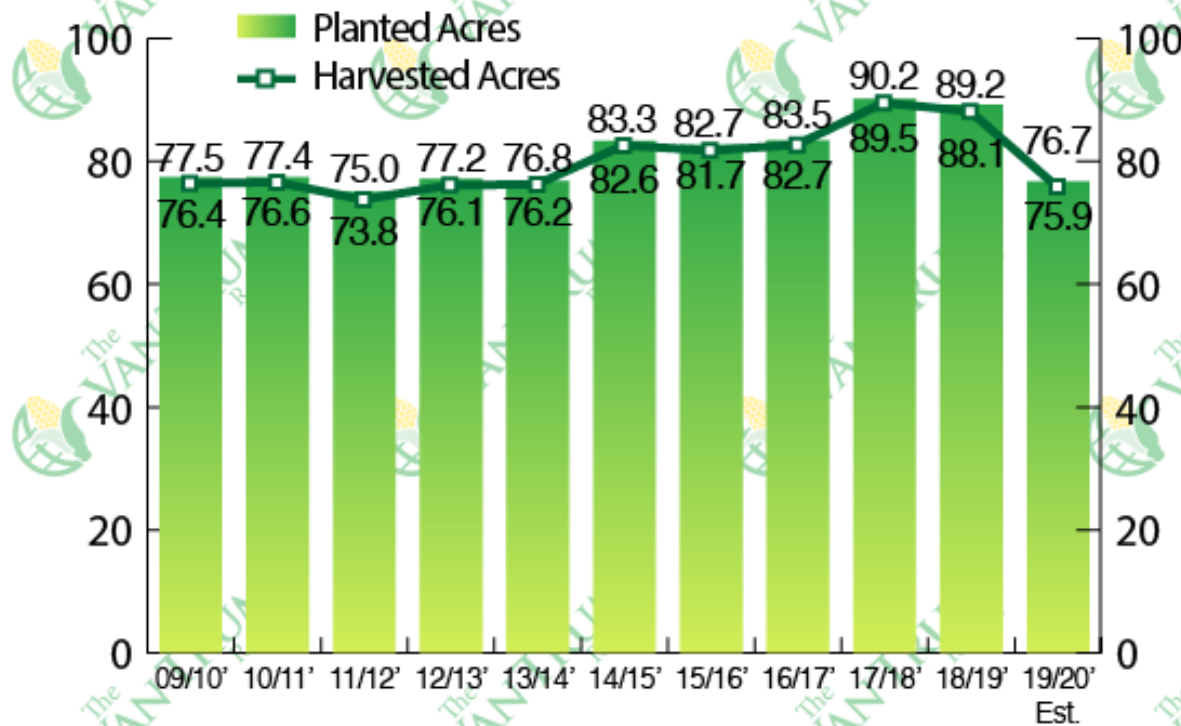
Source: NASS Data, August, 2019

**Soybean** bulls continue to talk about the late-maturing crop and what type of yield drag could occur if cold conditions arrive a bit early? Bulls are also pointing to what appears to be improved relations with the Chinese or at least better than what they appeared to be late last week. As a spec, I remain conservatively bullish at prices just below our current level. I want to believe that the upside potential is still larger than the downside risk. Unfortunately, a lot of things need to go right or perhaps wrong to get a sizeable rally. We definitely need a weather story, preferably a major widespread cold-snap. We also need the USDA to show signs of turning their ship towards a more bullish direction. And of course, some sign of improved trade relations with the world's top buyer of soybeans, the Chinese. We haven't had any of these big-ticket items work for the bulls during the past few months and soybean prices have gotten hammered. Weather has cooperated, the USDA still has a strong yield estimate, and trade relations with the Chinese have arguably deteriorated as tariffs have increased. Bottom-line, until weather, the USDA, or Chinese headlines turn to favor the bulls, prices will have a hard time finding any sustained upside momentum. Bears say if none of the bullish cards get flipped over, prices could eventually deteriorate down into the \$7.80 to \$8.20 range in an attempt to retest the front-end lows. This is a tough market right now. Producers who are able to capture a strong basis should probably be thinking about ways to lock-in cash prices and re-own on the board in some limited-risk capacity. Keep in mind, either way, we will still have the looming dark clouds overhead associated with African Swine Fever and its far-reaching impact on demand.



# U.S. Soybeans Planted VS. Harvested Acres

(In Million Acres)

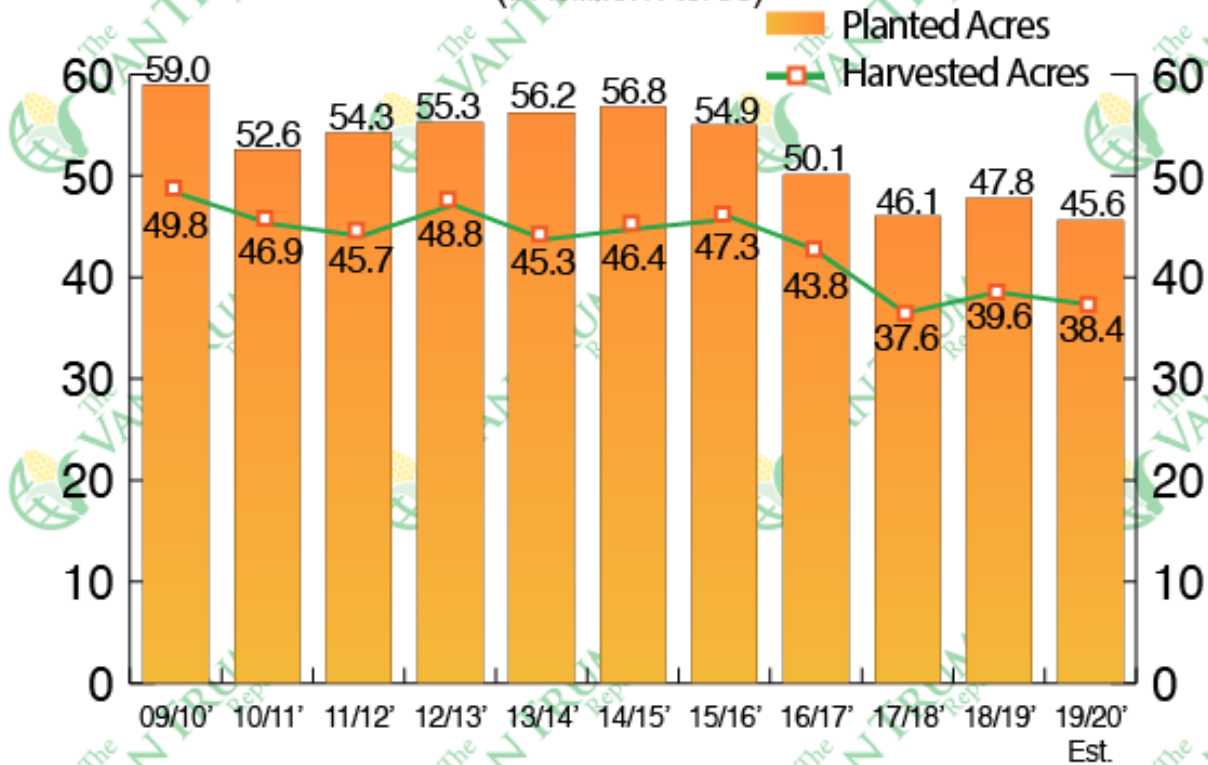


Source: NASS Data, August, 2019

**Wheat** prices continue to chop around. Bulls are pointing to stronger weekly export sales and perhaps some drier conditions out on the horizon. In fact, weekly export sales were the highest we've seen in several weeks. The biggest buyers were Mexico and South Korea. There's also some hope that the macro space improves on a weaker U.S. dollar and better trade talk with the Chinese. Bulls are keeping an eye on cold conditions in parts of Canada and Russia but there's little talk of much wide-spread damage occurring to the spring wheat crop. Lets, keep in mind, spring wheat prices have just recently traded down to fresh new contract lows. I've heard some inside sources talking that we could eventually test the multi-year low set back in 2009 just over \$4.65 per bushel. I should note, the International Grains Council raised its global wheat production estimate by +1 MMT and is now projecting a +31 MMT year-over-year jump in production for 2019-20. At the same time, they are expecting to see global wheat use jump higher pushing ending stocks up by +6 MMT from this past year. Bottom-line, bulls are still having to battle burdensome global supply and outside market headwinds. This makes it tough for me place bullish bets nearby. As a spec, I would like to be a longer-term bull, but still, see no reason to be in a big hurry.

# U.S. Wheat Planted VS. Harvested Acres

(In Million Acres)



Source: NASS Data, August, 2019



**> IGC Revises Global Grain Production Upward:** *Due to a rise in projected U.S. corn production, the International Grains Council (IGC) has raised its forecast for total world grain production in 2019-20 by +11 million metric tons. In its monthly Grain Market Review (GMR), released on Aug. 29, the IGC said it now forecasts global grain production for 2019-20 at 2.159 billion metric tons, up from 2.148 billion in its July forecast. The IGC put global corn production for 2019-20 at 342 million metric tons, up +8 million from the July forecast, but noted that "output prospects are still uncertain after a less than ideal growing season." The outlook for global grain consumption in 2019-20 increased by +2 million metric tons from the previous month to 2.186 billion metric tons. If realized, this would be a 1% increase from the previous year. IGC said global soybean production for 2019-20 has been downgraded by -4 million metric tons from the July report on diminished prospects in the United States, where harvested area is likely to contract by -14% from the previous year. With trade data confirming smaller-than-anticipated shipments to key markets, the Council's forecast for soybean trade in 2018-19 is reduced by -1 million metric tons, to 149 million, a decline of -3% year on year. (Source: World Grain)*

**> Trump Promises Ethanol-Related "Giant Package":** *President Donald Trump said on Thursday his administration is planning a "giant package" related to ethanol that would please U.S. farmers angry that many more oil refiners have been freed from obligations to use the corn-based fuel. U.S. farmers and ethanol producers have ramped up pressure on Trump over the past few weeks to quickly take steps to boost ethanol demand. The oil industry has struck back, saying such moves would increase costs for refiners and could cost manufacturing jobs. Trump did not offer details on what the "giant package" would contain. Corn growers and ethanol producers met this week in Nebraska, with both groups voicing dissatisfaction with the Trump administration, in the first major gathering of industry leaders since the waiver announcement. They urged a policy proposal that would redistribute waived volumes from the exemptions going forward. Read more [HERE](#).*

**> USDA Breakdown Of China's Ag Tariffs:** *The USDA Global Agricultural Information Network (GAIN) has compiled a comprehensive report about new Chinese tariffs that have been implemented against U.S. ag products. According to*



gain, the most recent tariffs bring the total number of affected U.S. agricultural and related products to more than 1,000. This includes fisheries and forestry products. While many U.S. agricultural and related products were already assessed additional tariffs through previous State Council Tariff Commission (SCTC) announcements, there are many products that are being assessed additional tariffs for the first time. The agricultural and related products included in the August 23 announcement encompass a broad range of categories, including live animals and animal products, horticultural products, grains and oilseeds, food ingredients, prepared foods, wine and distilled spirits, and sweeteners, which GAIN has outlined [HERE](#).

**> Brazil Cleared To Export Beef To Indonesia:** Indonesia has authorized beef exports from 10 Brazilian meat-packing plants, Brazil's agriculture minister said in a statement. The plants have the potential to export at least 25,000 metric tons of beef products, Minister Tereza Cristina Dias said in the statement, without elaborating. The authorization came after Dias held talks with Indonesian Agriculture Minister Amran Sulaiman in May as part of a tour of Asian countries to open new markets for Brazilian farm products. Five of the authorized plants are operated by Minerva SA, the company said in a securities filing on Thursday. In 2018, Indonesia imported approximately 150,000 metric tons of beef, with Australia accounting for around 40%. Brazil, home of Minerva and other large meat processors like JBS SA, BRF SA and Marfrig Global Foods, is the world's largest exporter of chicken and beef. The country provides some 20% of total global beef exports, according to the USDA. The South American country is expected to continue growing beef exports in the coming years, reaching 23% of the world's total beef exports by 2028, USDA projections show. (Source: Reuters)

**> How China May Be Circumventing U.S. Tariffs:** China's economy is holding up well during the trade war — and the country has even managed to grab an even bigger share of global exports. That's according to Capital Economics, which analyzed data that show China exports have inched up despite the trade war to reach almost 12% of the world's total. Why? Two main factors are helping China blunt the impact of tariffs, Julian Evans-Pritchard, senior China economist at Capital Economics, said in a note. One is a weaker yuan. China has let its currency slide lower — the renminbi has depreciated 5% in trade-weighted terms since June last year, the economists said. Another reason: China is shipping US-bound exports to other Asian countries to circumvent the tariffs. Evans-Pritchard did say

however that the trade war is harming China's economy, saying he expects the drag on GDP growth to rise to 0.5 percentage points over the next few months "as the impact of the May tariff hike starts to be fully felt." Read more [HERE](#).

**> WalMart Has Unleashed The Robots:** As robots start to move into more public places, like streets and stores, the people who encounter them won't have any kind of instruction manual on how to engage with them. One of the main places this is happening? The aisles of your local Walmart. For years, Walmart has been automating its warehouses with robots that can pack and sort items but the company has also slowly been rolling out robots that roam around store aisles alongside customers, launching in 50 stores in 2017 and rolling out to 350 in 2019. These bots are designed to scan shelves looking for items that are out of stock. It's also turned Walmart into a test bed for robot-human interaction. "What we think is very valuable to us is we have a life-sized laboratory where hopefully millions of people will be seeing our robot," says Sarjoun Skaff, CTO and cofounder at Bossa Nova, the company behind Walmart's shelf scanners. "It's a very valuable lab for researchers to experiment with human-robot interaction concepts. The scale allows you to get to the truth faster." Check out the full story of what they've learned [HERE](#).

**> Tesla Is Offering Insurance For Their Own Cars In California:** Tesla announced that its long-awaited insurance product for owners of their vehicles was available. The company says "Tesla Insurance" is designed to provide Tesla owners with up to 20% lower rates, and in some cases as much as 30%. Owners can sign up in a little as one minute, the company said, using the VIN from their Tesla vehicle. Tesla owners have dealt with high insurance costs due in part to the relative difficulty of finding replacement parts and qualified body shops. AAA raised insurance rates for Tesla vehicles in 2017, though Tesla argued that AAA's decision was "severely flawed" because it compared Tesla's Model S sedan and Model X SUV against dissimilar competitors. Tesla's have long been a question mark for insurance companies, Business Insider Intelligence analysts say, due to their built-in sensors and Autopilot software. In 2017, AAA said that Tesla owners should pay more than traditional vehicles due to "abnormally high claim frequencies." Read more [HERE](#).

**> Back-To-School Season Now Comes With A Hacker Warning:** A new report finds that hackers are increasingly targeting the education industry, leaving

students' information vulnerable to identity theft and other types of fraud. Colleges, training providers and private educational companies received more malicious emails than any other sector in the first quarter of 2019, according to Mimecast, an email and data security company. Hackers know students are often using personal and financial data for the first time and haven't yet learned how to guard it, experts say. "The biggest data security issue in education is the administration and teachers, who email personal information constantly," said Dorothy Haraminac, a certified fraud examiner. In addition, she said, personal phones and laptops are allowed to connect to the same Wi-Fi network as a school and its teachers' computers. "Thousands of compromised devices walk through the door every day," Haraminac said. Students should avoid clicking on links in emails, Haraminac said. And before they engage with any attachments, they should make sure the sender's address matches the one in their contacts. You can learn more about protecting yours and your student's data [HERE](#).

**> BMW Unveils The World's Blackest Car:** BMW has released a Vantablack version of its X6 coupé, which has been spray-painted with "the world's blackest black" pigment that absorbs over 99 per cent of light. Inventors of the Vantablack technology, Surrey NanoSystems, collaborated with creative agency Levitation 29 to coat BMW's latest X6 coupé with a sprayable version of the pigment. According to the German car brand, the BMW VBX6 is the "first and only vehicle in the world" to feature a Vantablack VBx2 coating, which almost entirely removes all reflections. Its ability to absorb over 99 per cent of light causes the human eye to perceive Vantablack as two-dimensional, interpreted by the brain as similar to staring into a "hole" or "void". Read more [HERE](#).

**> The Anatomy Of A Great Decision:** Making better decisions is one of the best skills we can develop. Good decisions save time, money, and stress. While it's an investment now, in the long run, learning principles and developing a multidisciplinary lens that we can apply throughout life is a worthy investment. A decision should not be judged solely on its outcome. Sometimes good decisions produce bad results. A recruiting process that has resulted in mostly excellent candidates will still occasionally fail to weed out a bad fit. It is impossible to have perfect and complete information for all the variables involved. So we do the best with what we have. Evaluating decisions on outcomes prevents us from learning. We need to dive into a decision, cut it open and examine its parts. Regardless of what happened, learning how a decision was made is the place to find knowledge.



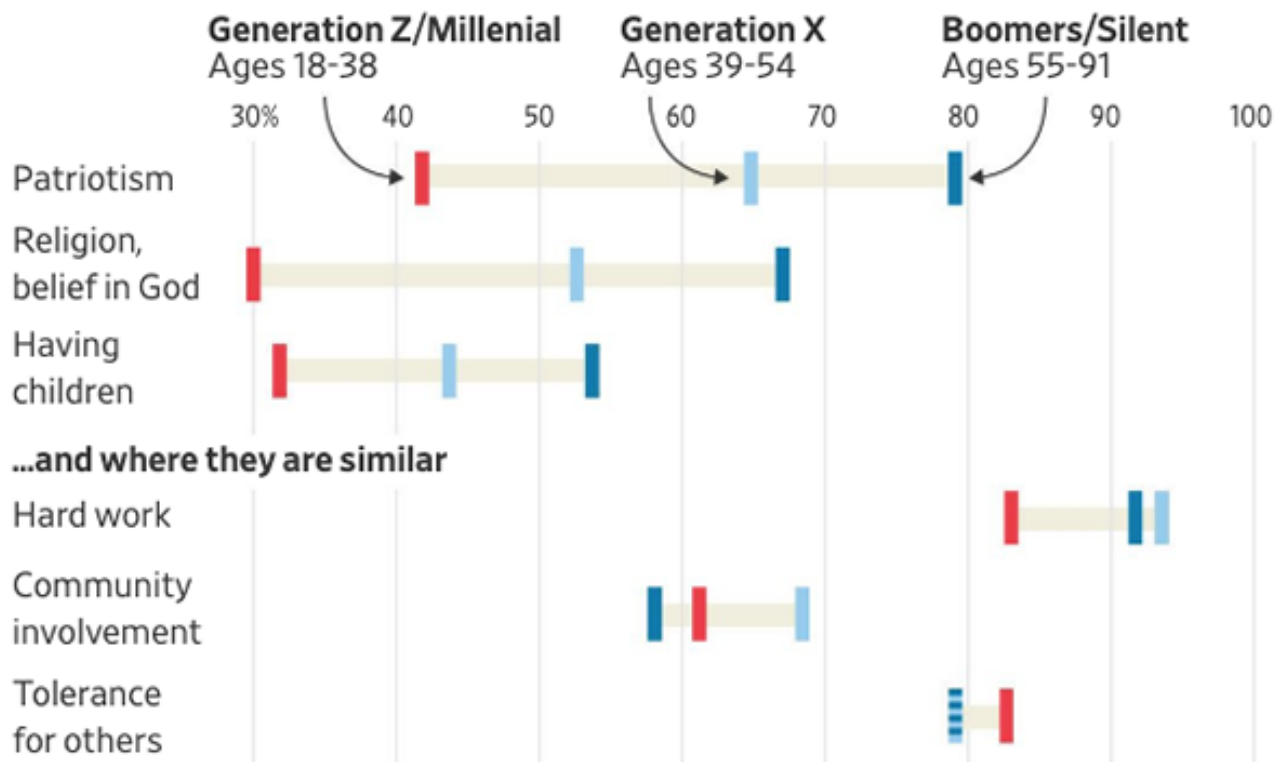
*So what does the anatomy of a great decision look like? Learn more from [Farnam Street Blog](#).*

**> Americans Have Shifted Dramatically on What Values Matter Most:** *The values that Americans say define the national character are changing, as younger generations rate patriotism, religion and having children as less important to them than did young people two decades ago, a new Wall Street Journal/NBC News survey finds. When the Journal/NBC News survey asked Americans 21 years ago to say which values were most important to them, strong majorities picked the principles of hard work, patriotism, commitment to religion and the goal of having children. Today, hard work remains atop the list, but the shares of Americans listing the other three values have fallen substantially, driven by changing priorities of people under age 50. Some 61% in the new survey cited patriotism as very important to them, down 9 percentage points from 1998, while 50% cited religion, down 12 points. Some 43% placed a high value on having children, down 16 points from 1998. Views varied sharply by age. Among people 55 and older, for example, nearly 80% said patriotism was very important, compared with 42% of those ages 18-38—the millennial generation and older members of Gen-Z. Two-thirds of the older group cited religion as very important, compared with fewer than one-third of the younger group. "There's an emerging America where issues like children, religion and patriotism are far less important. And in America, it's the emerging generation that calls the shots about where the country is headed," said Republican pollster Bill McInturff, who conducted the survey with Democratic pollster Jeff Horwitt. More details are available [HERE](#).*

## Generational Gap

Values that are considered 'very important' by generation.

Here are where younger generations differ from older ones...



Source: WSJ/NBC News telephone poll conducted of 1,000 adults from Aug. 10-14; margin of error +/- 3.1 percentage points

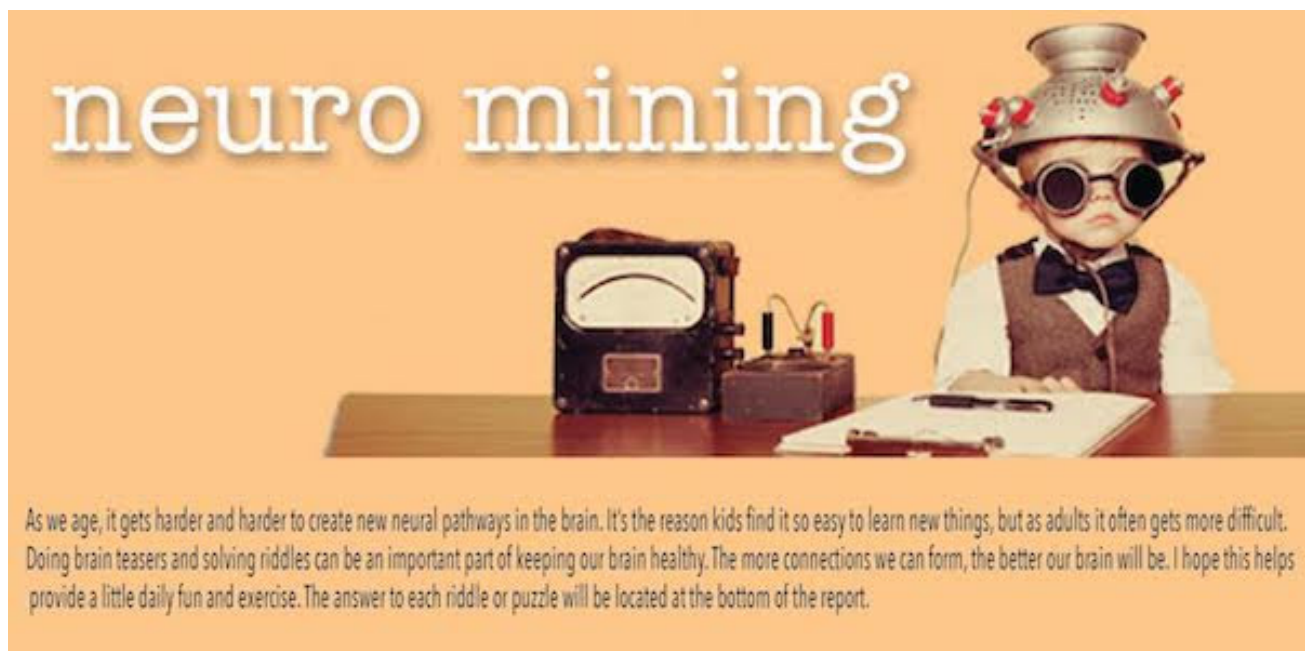


**Eastern Nebraska** – *I was recently on the crop tour and one thing I noticed is the soybeans were already done blooming. I go on the crop tour every year and usually about 30-40% of the crop is still blooming. Out of the 80 fields I sample I think I was in 2 that were still blooming. I think this has happen because the weather has been cloudy. We have had about 2.5 inches of rain since late June and it all has come in 25 to 35 hundred, so it hasn't done us much good. The*

*dryland corn isn't going to be a disaster, but it will be about 40 bushels off our expectations.*

**Central South Dakota** – *Surprisingly enough, guys still have a good chunk of wheat to harvest in this area. They are still cutting both spring and winter wheat. There is a large variant between yields in both varieties. Winter wheat is making anywhere from 40 to 100 bushel and spring wheat is making 40 to 80 bushels per acre. We have some 78-day corn that is just starting to dent but everything else is still a couple weeks off. Most of the crops around here will need to make it through September without a frost or we will have light corn.*

**Western Missouri** – *The corn is past the point of cool weather hurting it. The soybeans could still get stung with a cool snap if it happened overnight in the next few days. The chance of that happening is slim to none though so we are probably in the clear. The one problem we are starting to worry about is all the rain that has fallen. We are sitting on 3-4 inches of rain from last weekend and another big rain chance this weekend. We are hoping we don't have to plow through the fields again to get the crops out.*



**TODAY'S RIDDLE:** It brings light to a dark dark world, In a current it travels and through tunnels it's hurled. Touch it and it'll kill you. What is it?





### **Interesting Twist on Tobacco**

Researchers at Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the University of Illinois have successfully engineered tobacco plants to grow functional proteins such as enzymes. From what I understand, once these enzymes are extracted, they can be used in products such as paper, denim, ethanol and laundry detergent. Enzyme production requires some type of life form - be it bacteria, plants or animals - and there are disadvantages to each method. Using plants offers a solution that not only overcomes each hurdle but, more importantly, does so less expensively than manufacturers can currently produce, saving hundreds of dollars per gram. Meaning tobacco plants could be making enzymes instead of cigarettes in the future.

Transforming the tobacco plant successfully began indoors but the real breakthrough came when scientists moved into the fields and still found the plant was able handle the burden of turning 20% of its protein into something with no benefit to its development. I'm told this has led to a never before available strategy to create applications for not only agriculture, but commercial consumer products as well as food additives in a way that is both safe and inexpensive.

Experiments started with engineers inserting a bacterial gene that makes the enzyme Cel6A in chloroplasts into the plant. Because these cellulases break down the outer wall of plant cells, it makes them very proficient at disassembling larger compounds, meaning Cel6A would be incredibly useful to have in laundry detergents, where they get to work disintegrating our stains. The idea would be to re-engineer the designer tobacco plants to produce large amounts of the enzyme, isolate it, and use it in available applications.

Results from moving the plants outside and exposing them to variables that

normal plants have to deal with, like rain, heat, insect attacks, and infections, surprised researchers to the upside, even though production of the protein was slightly less than inside the greenhouse. Now that the researchers know they can efficiently create Cel6A, their next goal is to standardize it. Hopefully, research can remain funded and get to the commercialization stage quickly. I'll definitely be keeping an eye on this opportunity in hopes we can keep tobacco fields in production. Watch a short video on the breakthrough [HERE](#) . (Source: Popular Science, [eurekaalert.com](http://eurekaalert.com))





**"Sailing takes me away to where I've always heard it could be..."**

In dedication to my Mom, who passed almost 20-years ago, I need to run this short story.

Christopher Cross's #1 hit song "[Sailing](#)" climbed to the top of the Billboard charts on this day back in 1980. The song knocked Olivia Newton John's "[Magic](#)" from the top spot and was later toppled by Queen's "[Another One Bites The Dust](#)".

It's not so much Christopher Cross or the song "Sailing" that intrigues so many historians, but rather the fact Cross's career seemed to mark the end of an era when adult contemporary music on the radio was soon replaced by an iconic MTV and a wave of music videos. In fact, it was in early [August of 1981 that MTV](#), the first 24-hour video music channel, launched onto our television sets and literally changed our lives with the birth of the music video. The first video ever played on the network was quite ironic — "[Video Killed The Radio Star](#)" by The Buggles.

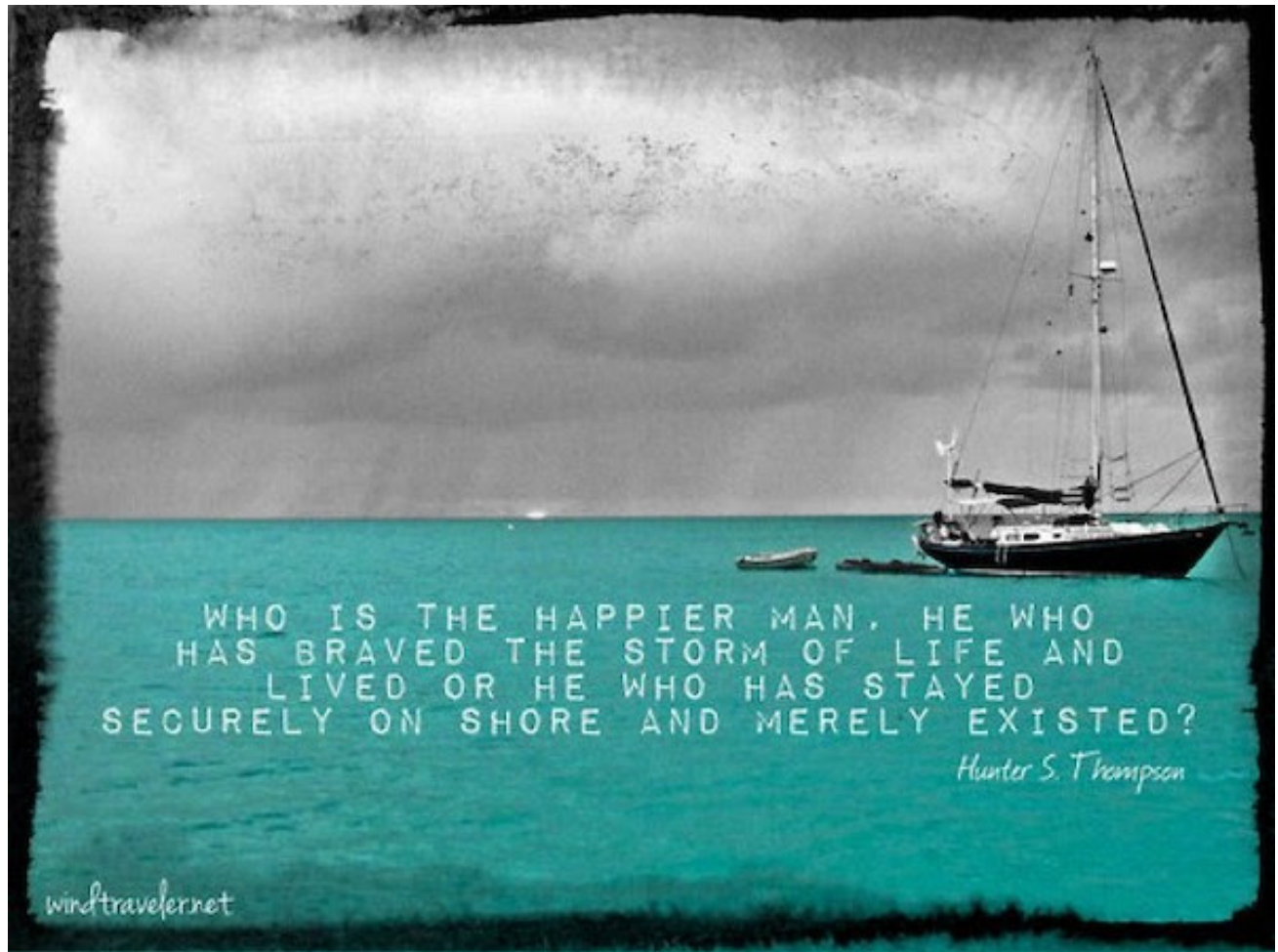
Interestingly, this was about the exact same time Cross's next #1 single was



released, "Arthur's Theme (Best You Can Do)", which was the main theme for the 1981 hit film "Arthur" starring Dudley Moore and Liza Minnelli. The song actually won the Oscar for Best Original Song in 1981.

I hate to sound cheesy or sentimental, but I always love hearing both songs as they were a couple of Mom's favorites. When I hear them they tend to soothe my soul and bring a happy bit of peace. I think it's important to take a moment from time-to-time to remember our past and let our minds relax. I encourage those of you who can remember these songs to click the youtube music links below and allow yourself to recall some of those awesome memories. Just a little break from the daily grind and the continued low prices. Trying to keep my head in a better place. I encourage everyone to do the same this long extended three day weekend. Find something that takes your mind off the bad and helps you remember all you have to be thankful for..

**Click >>> [Sailing](#)** My Mom liked this version of the video because it features scenes from a movie she liked to watch often before she passed, "Message in a Bottle".



**Click>>> [Arthur - Best You Can Do](#)** Another great movie with an awesome Christopher Cross song!



### **Happy Labor Day Weekend!**

Labor Day weekend is upon us and a good portion of Americans are lucky enough to have the next three days off work. Many will be gathering with family and



friends for BBQs, or making a final trip to the lake. There are sporting events to binge on and home improvement projects to tackle. Amid our own family traditions, the true purpose of Labor Day may not be readily apparent, but it is just as its name implies - a day to recognize those who "labor".

As the United States Department of Labor explains it, Labor Day is "dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers." The national U.S. holiday is always celebrated on the first Monday of September and traditionally marks the end of Summer.

Stemming from labor disputes that began in 1870, a parade was held in Toronto in 1872 to support striking workers that were protesting 58 hour work weeks. The event turned into an annual tradition that is now Canada's public Labour Day holiday. Different trade groups and unions in the U.S. soon began recognizing various days to celebrate labor, but it was not made an official holiday until 1894.

Historians believe it was the tragic Pullman Strike of 1894 that got the holiday approved. In response to financial reverses related to the economic depression that began in 1893, the Pullman Palace Car Company, a manufacturer of railroad cars, cut the already low wages of its workers by another -25% but did not introduce corresponding reductions in rents and other charges at its company town near Chicago, where most Pullman workers lived. As a result, many workers and their families faced starvation. When a delegation of workers tried to present their grievances about low wages, poor living conditions, and 16-hour workdays directly to the company's president, George M. Pullman, he refused to meet with them and ordered them fired. The delegation then voted to strike, and Pullman workers walked off the job on May 11, 1894.

By June 30th, of that same year, more than +125,000 employees on 29 railroads had quit work rather than handle Pullman cars in support of the workers. Unfortunately, clashes between workers, law enforcement, company, and government officials often led to violence. President Grover Cleveland decided to step in on this feud as it was starting to greatly impact the railroads. President Cleveland sent federal troops and U.S. Marshall's to Chicago on July 3, 1894. This infuriated the strikers and more dangerous riots soon broke out. On July 7th national guardsmen, after having been assaulted, fired into a mob, killing, what some reports say was 30 people and wounding many others. President Cleveland

was then quick to support the creation of the national Labor Day holiday in an attempt to improve relations among trade unions following the tragedy. Below are some other interesting facts about the holiday: (Sources: Britannica, U.S. DoL, CNBC)

**The Unions** - *In 1983, the union membership rate was estimated at 20.1% in the US. As of 2018, the union membership rate has fallen to just 10.5%. The number of wage and salary workers belonging to unions was reported at 14.7 million in 2018 vs. 17.7 million in 1983. New York has the highest rate of union workers among the states, with 23.6%, while South Carolina has the lowest at just 1.6%. In the five largest states, California has 15.9% union membership, Texas 4.5%, Florida 6.8%, New York 24.7% (the highest in the country), and Illinois had 15.2%. The highest unionization rates were among workers in protective service occupations (33.9%) and in education, training, and library occupations (33.8%). By age, union membership rates continued to be highest among workers ages 45 to 64. In 2018, 12.8 percent of workers ages 45 to 54 and 13.3 percent of those ages 55 to 64 were union members. Among full-time wage and salary workers, union members had median usual weekly earnings of \$1,051 in 2018, while those who were not union members had median weekly earnings of \$860.*

**Why the First Monday of September?** *Labor union leaders had pushed for a September date for the New York demonstration, which coincided with a conference in the city of the Knights of Labor, one of the largest and most influential of the unions. The first two New York City Labor Days took place on the 5th of September, but in 1884, the third annual New York City Labor Day holiday was scheduled for the first Monday in September, and that date stuck.*

**Food:** *Labor Day is, of course, synonymous with food! On average, these holiday meals of bbq, coleslaw, burgers, and chips will add up to 1,800 calories, about triple a normal weeknight meal. Labor Day is tied with the Fourth of July as the second-highest beef consumption holiday, falling behind number one, Memorial Day. Hot Dog season officially ends on Labor Day. Didn't know there was an official hot dog season? Yes, it's a real thing that begins on Memorial Day, during which time Americans consume over 7 billion hot dogs every year!*

**Lakes:** *America's many lakes are always a top holiday weekend destination for families. There are thousands upon thousands of US lakes, covering approximately 39.9 million acres! Our lakes and reservoirs actually provide the country with approximately 70% of its freshwater supply.*

**Chores:** *Labor Day weekend is all about actual labor for many homeowners. Nearly 60% of Americans do some sort of housework, and 40% do yard work!*

**Vacations:** *A new report by the airline industry estimates the number of people taking a trip for some or all of Labor Day weekend will jump +5 percent compared from last year, which was an all-time record. Overall, an estimated 16.1 million people are expected to fly between Wednesday, Aug. 30 and Tuesday, Sept. 5, according to Airlines For America.*

**Fashion:** *No White After Labor Day - Historians say the expression "no white after Labor Day" comes from when the upper class would return from their summer vacations and stow away their lightweight, white summer clothes as they returned back to school and work. Hence fashion moguls say never wear white after Labor Day.*

**Big Sales:** *Median Labor Day weekend spending was again higher last year and economists expect to see a slight increase again this year. Retailers are cleaning off their seasonal shelves and historically some of the best deals of the year can be found on patio furniture, grills, mattresses, and televisions.*  
*Be Safe: Remember, Labor Day weekend is one of the most dangerous weekends on U.S. highways, so be safe out there and have a great holiday!*





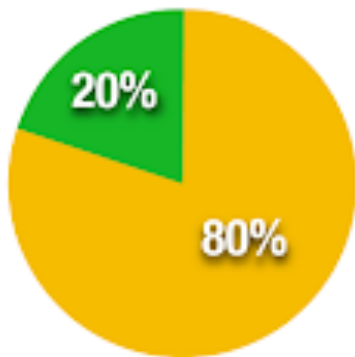
**ANSWER to riddle:** Electricity.

**CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS**

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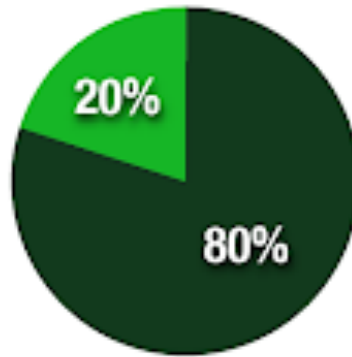
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80% SOLD  
20% HEDGED  
0% UNPROTECTED



### Soybean 2018 Crop

80% SOLD  
20% HEDGED  
0% UNPROTECTED



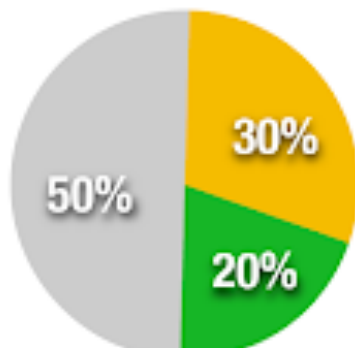
### Wheat 2018 Crop

100% SOLD  
0% HEDGED  
0% UNPROTECTED



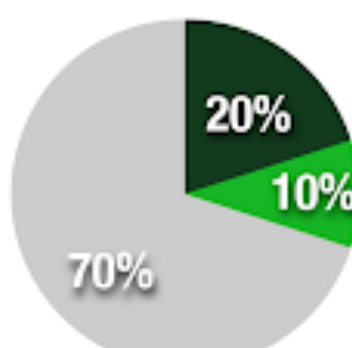
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30% SOLD  
20% HEDGED  
50% UNPROTECTED



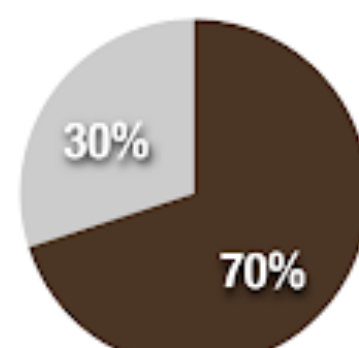
### Soybean 2019 Crop

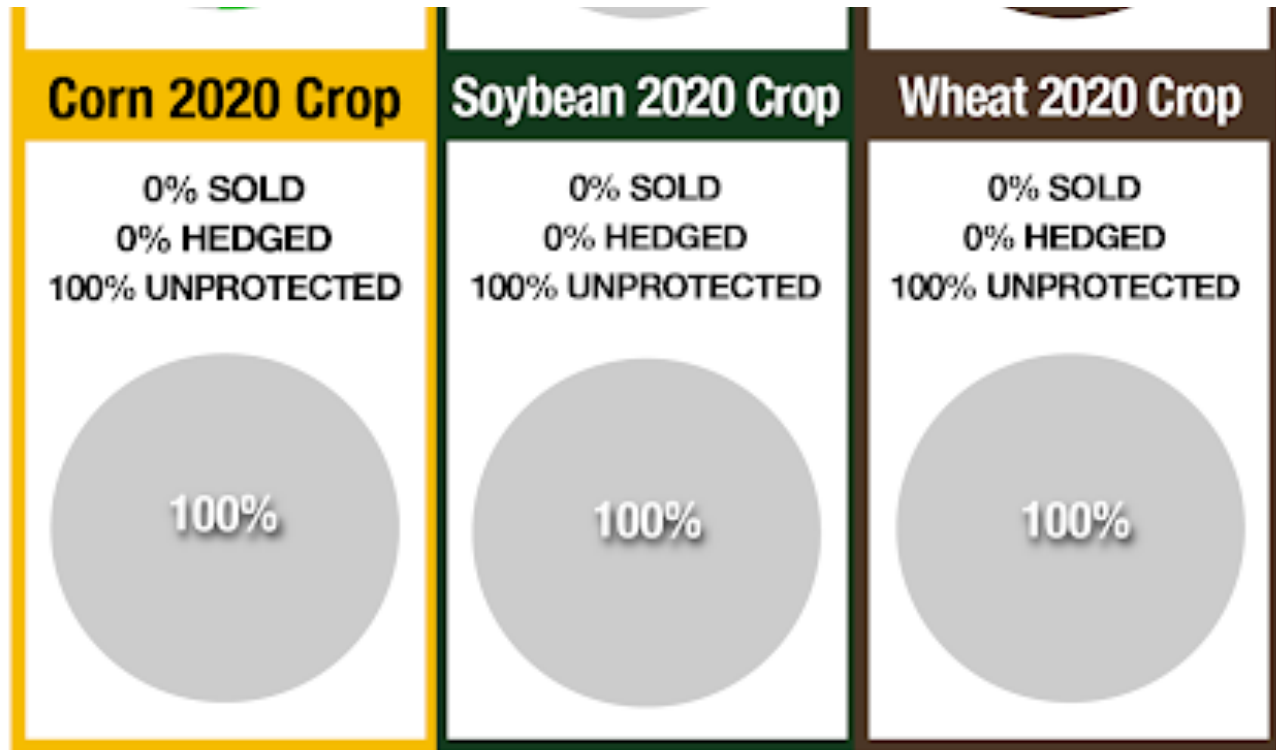
20% SOLD  
10% HEDGED  
70% UNPROTECTED



### Wheat 2019 Crop

100% SOLD  
0% HEDGED  
0% UNPROTECTED





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