



Harvest is all but done in Queensland. I doubt that comment has ever been made on the 13th of November before, however, the combination of a large area of early planted crops and a dry, hot finish has caused crops to finish early.

Central Queensland has been finished harvest for some weeks now. A poor start and zero in-crop rainfall made for an ordinary year in CQ. This meant a large area never even saw the header but instead became stockfeed in the paddock and what was harvested yielded as expected, which was poor versus average. The strong domestic demand for wheat and barley into local end users has seen a majority of that crop trade hand to mouth.

It was a similar story on the Western Downs of Queensland. While export markets are about, the domestic demand has even attracted high quality prime hard wheat into local end users. Quality has been excellent across all of Southern QLD, with a majority of wheat making the APH1 (minimum 14% protein) grade. The Western Downs harvest could be called 95% complete with only some wheat to go on the Meandarra-The Gums line. The Darling Downs proper Barley harvest would be 90% complete and the Wheat probably 70-75% complete.

Being based in the Goondiwindi office, the Goondiwindi line or Border Rivers region is my backyard and it's fair to say the harvest in this region has been a mixed bag. This said, excellent quality coupled with yields that were as expected or better is a fair result. It has been a spread-out harvest unlike last year where everything finished at once. The wheat harvest is probably 90-95% complete now and Barley has been all done for a week or more.

Growers are yet again making a universal stand against current pricing. They are happy to store and sit and wait until the market meets their targets. It is a 'mexican-stand-off' of sorts as per usual, however, the market appears unwilling to move upward to meet these targets. This is not surprising given current currency levels. While futures have improved over the last week, further upside in currency has dampened the effect of that in Australian Cash prices terms. It's a story known too well by Growers. Cashflow requirements have seen some sales but most are finding other ways in which to gain cashflow without making the sell decision. AGA continues to provide products to suit these requirements as well as many others.

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