

**Forward contract prices opened mixed this morning.** Daily US cash markets are mixed with the WCB giving back some of the gains earlier in the week and coming in \$1.82 USD/cwt relative to the previous day; National is \$0.31 higher and the National cutout-adjusted base price is dropped \$2.98. Weekly base prices will likely come in near the historical averages when calculated later today, neither significantly higher nor lower than the seasonal trend although National is presently outperforming the trend. Comparing the daily values to the historical weekly averages provides some clues – WCB is 3% lower, National is 9% higher and both cutout-adjusted base prices are statistically equal with their respective average histories. Lean hog futures continue to exhibit features of a sideways trade and the nearby contract has pushed lower over the past three sessions. The deferreds are showing a bit of strength and are mostly recovering from yesterday's push lower in the early morning trade. The weekly Export Sales report released before trading opened this morning has done little to influence either way and could be considered negative in a normal marketing week, but the last marketing week of the year is always a bit odd. Physical deliveries were down 32% from the previous week but this is typical for this time of year as deliveries in the week of the new year have fallen every year for the past seven consecutive years – this year also captured Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve. Net sales were disappointing with China cancelling 11,300 MT in the final marketing week of the year for a net negative 8,593 MT for week ending December 31, but this is not expected to be a trend. Accumulated exports for the marketing year came in at 1.938 MMT which was 16% higher than 2019 and a new record.

**US soybean futures opened lower this morning.** Physical deliveries of US soybeans were down 24% relative to the previous week but still at an all time high of 1.856 MMT for the last week in 2020. Accumulated exports for 2020 are likewise at a record high 39.074 MMT. The only time more than 30 MMT beans were shipped was in 2016 (33.103 MMT). Outstanding sales of beans not yet delivered are being drawn down but are still at record highs and the market will be looking to new net sales next week for clues on direction. Expectations are that demand will remain strong for the foreseeable future.

**US corn futures opened lower this morning.** Physical deliveries of US corn were down 23% compared to the previous week but still shipped and impressive 1.027 MMT which is a record for the last calendar week of the year. New commitments were likewise lower but reflect typical seasonality. Accumulated exports for 2020 are not at record highs and came in at 15.256 MMT which would be considered third place in the past 10 years. However, there are presently expectations that 2021 could be a record year for US corn exports.

US Slaughter	
495,000	Wednesday
496,000	Year Ago
Daily Prices	
WCB	\$52.03
National	\$65.57
Nat'l Cutout Adj	\$66.89
Signature 4	\$147.63
BP4/TCP4	\$147.63
HyLife Cash	\$157.05
HyLife Cutout	\$167.39
<b>BoC Rate (Noon) prev. day</b> \$1.2685 CAD / \$0.7883 USD	
Cash Prices Week Ending January 2, 2021	
Signature 4	143.07/64.90
h@ms Cash	141.07/63.99
HyLife Cash	152.44/69.15
HyLife Cutout	160.40/72.76
BP4/TCP4	147.54/66.92
OlyWest 2020	139.70/63.37
OlyWest 2021 (Cutout)	160.00/72.58
<b>2020 Top-Up (Estimated Final)</b> \$17.16 CAD/ckg	
ISO Weans \$49.06 US Avg.	
Feeder Pigs \$67.38 US Avg.	

FC Range (at opening)	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct
Maple Leaf Sig 4		148.42 153.39	148.71 157.07	157.07 165.78	163.63 176.05	178.53 186.88	183.33 187.34	177.02 187.38	159.23 168.01	156.56 159.49
Soymeal Del Wpg/S.Man	n/a									

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