

# **FIRST QUARTER 2023**

## THE SEASON SO FAR -AARON PHELPS, AGRONOMIST

# **UPDATES:**

Don't forget to check out our website, Camefarmsinc.com, for updates and login to your personal landlord page for more information.

Check out our social media:
Facebook – Came Farms, Inc
Instagram – camefamilyfarms
Twitter - @CameFarms
LinkedIn–Came Family Farms

## Office Notes:

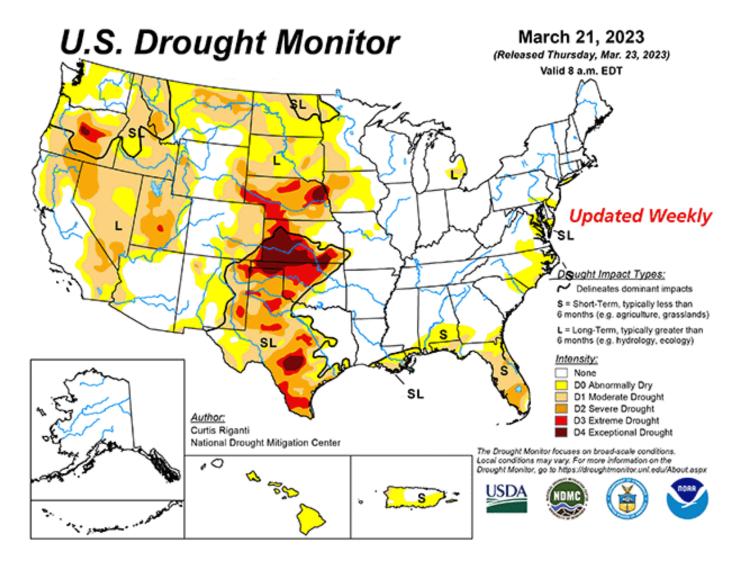
Please bear with us as we are still getting accustomed to our new accounting software.
With one year under our belt, we are hopeful this year will go smoother. Please let us know if you ever have any questions!

Here is a little update on early spring crop conditions, as we prepare to head into our summer run.

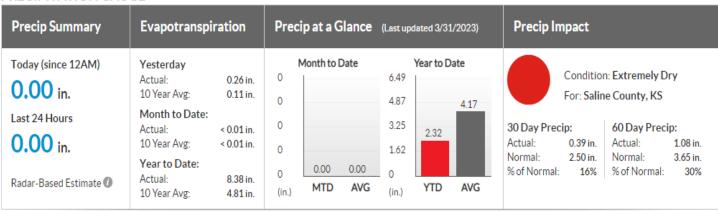
Our wheat went into dry ground last fall. We got 1.25 inches of rain on the 4th of November which got our wheat off to a good start. Our wheat went into dormancy small, but we had good stands. On February 23rd and 24th, we had single digit temperatures and below zero wind chills. The week before, we had highs in the 50's to mid-60's, and the wheat started to green up. It appears that the wind chills caused a fair amount of winter kill area wide. Notill, where the residue was heavier, and conventional till, where the root zone was drier, show more damage. The thing about this event is it seemed to have affected the best ground the most. River bends that faced north and areas where there was heavier residue are showing the most damage. Another issue now developing is an increase in winter grain and brown wheat mites. We are seeing more damage in continuous wheat fields. Mites thrive in warm, dry weather and the weather pattern is conducive for their expansion. Wheat mite's biggest enemy is rainfall. One good rain in the next couple of weeks would take care of them, without the rain, though, I would expect fields in the area to be reaching treatment threshold levels soon. The current soil water profile is about two feet, below that, it is dry. That profile should keep the wheat going another two to three weeks depending on temperatures. After that, I would expect the crop to start stressing.

We are starting to do burndown work in preparation for the coming planting season. We try to apply fall herbicide as soon as possible to keep fields weed-free longer into the spring. Less weeds means more available soil moisture for our coming crops. Because so many weeds are now resistant to multiple herbicides, it is more economical and easier to prevent them from coming up, than to allow them to become established and then attempt to kill them. Our

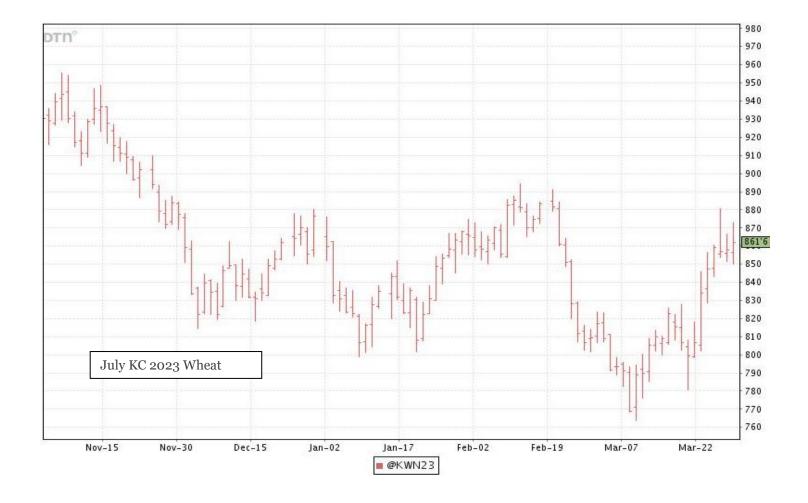
planting season will begin with the irrigated corn in late April, then we will start on the soybeans in early May. We have moved our corn plating date back to June, attempting to take advantage of more favorable weather for corn pollination. Trends show average temperature drops about four degrees from July to August. We have hedged our bets that those slightly cooler temperatures will allow for more consistent corn production. Since doing this, out trend-line yields continue to go up. We plant all Enlist beans now, which allows for the application of Enlist (2,4-D choline), Liberty, and Roundup, plus the labeled conventional herbicides. We have had good luck with this system and like the reduced volatility, tank mix options, and spray date flexibility. Just like wheat, we are sitting at two feet of soil water profile. We have some catching up to do, as most years, we have about four feet.



### PRECIPITATION GAUGE



You may have noticed that we have switched from using Came Farms, Inc. to Came Family Farms in the past year. We have consolidated into two farming entities, Came Family Farms and Came Irrigated Acres, and brought in the next generation as co-owners. These changes help us with FSA compliance, crop insurance requirements, and estate planning. Please let us know if you ever have any questions, concerning this, or anything else.

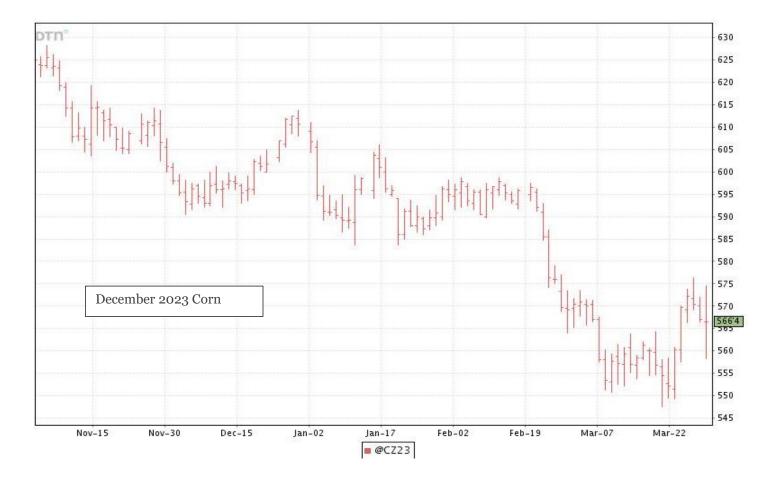


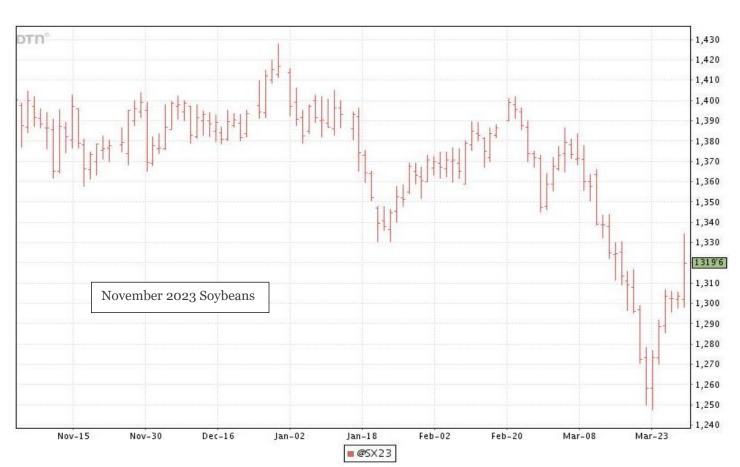
## **GRAIN PRICES**

Corn: The price decline seen in futures as March unfolded definitely attracted demand, with China's purchases totaling nearly 2.8 mil. tonnes of U.S. supplies. The extra demand comes as there are clearly concerns about Argentine supplies at this stage after the crippling drought that has reduced corn and soybean production prospects there. And a big portion of Brazil'safrinha (second) corn crop was planted after the optimal timeframe.

<u>Soybeans</u>: China's big purchases of U.S. corn haven't been mimicked in soybeans, weighing on values in recent weeks. Harvest is underway in Brazil, adding to global supplies and weighing on prices. However, key will be whether Brazilian farmers opt to sell newly harvested supplies. And soy product supplies remain constrained with the drought in Argentina.

Wheat: Talk by Russia of potentially limiting wheat exports helped to provide a spark for wheat futures. But U.S. supplies are not winning in the global market as of yet. U.S. wheat remains less than competitive. Crop ratings for U.S. winter wheat emerging from dormancy will be a key market focus as the national data resumes for the week ending April 2. How the ratings unfold will be a price-determining factor.





#### What month did new crop corn (CZ) make its high? Note: Evaluated for a 12 month period ahead of contract expiration. 15 years (2022 - 2008) Feb March Apr July Sept Oct Dec Jan May June Aug Nov 2013 2014 2018 2008 2015 2011 2010 2021 2009 2017 2012 2020 2022 2016 2019 7% 7% 20% 27% 13% 13% 13% May-June 47% May-Aug 73% April-Dec 93%

Figure 1 - Winter killed wheat plant in soybean residue.



# Staff Update

Here is our full-time staff working on the farm:

Bill Came, Kody Came, Kyle Came, Spencer Came, Joel Came, Owen Bradley, Steven Groot, Kevin Johnson, and Nathan Seay.

As many of you already know, Darcy has handed over some of her responsibilities so that she can take care of her granddaughter during the week. Pinion (formerly K-Coe Isom) has taken on some of the bill-paying and payroll. Darcy continues to work closely with Pinion and handles the chemical & fertilizer billing, as well as taking care of the office.

Figure 2 - Winter kill in a field.



## Contact Us

## **Came Family Farms**

3472 W. Shipton Rd.
Salina, KS 67401
785-823-8754
bill.came@camefarmsinc.com/785-493-2987
darcy.came.bradley@camefarmsinc.com/785-819-4091
www.camefarmsinc.com

## **CAME FAMILY FARMS**

3472 W. Shipton Rd. Salina, KS 67401

> Recipient Name Street Address

> City, ST ZIP Code