

SOYBEAN NOTES ECONOMICS SECTION

May 4, 2018

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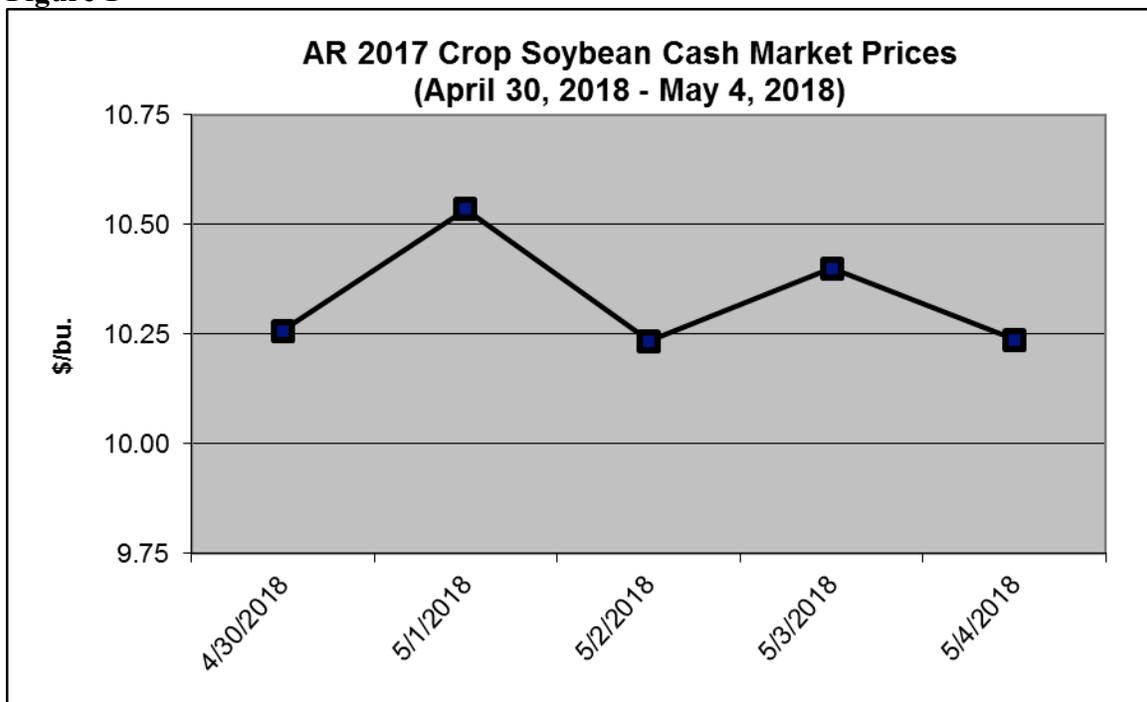
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SOYBEAN NOTES is a weekly newsletter focusing on all aspects of Arkansas soybean news. This market economics component looks at cash market & forward pricing quotes from selected markets as reported to National Agricultural Statistics Service in Arkansas.

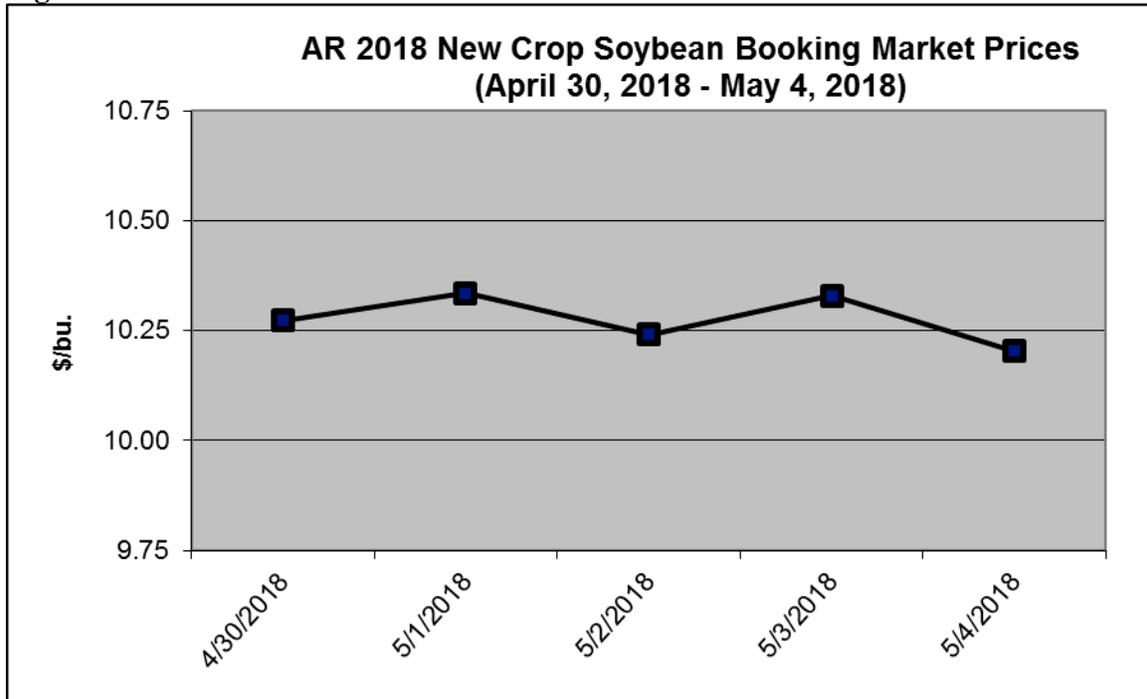
Figure 1



The Arkansas 2017 Crop Soybean Cash Market closed the month of April by losing 6 cents over the final weekend followed by a week of highly variable price movements. The market opened trading on Monday at a statewide average of \$10.26, 19 cents above the previous Monday opening price. The USDA-AMS report had Tuesday market results with a gain of 4.75-15.50 cents, but the reported prices were somewhat distorted as only four markets across the state provided price quotes. The Tuesday average of these four markets was \$10.54, a gain of 28 cents over the Monday average. The number of reporting markets returned to ten on Wednesday with a statewide average that day of \$10.23. Price rose 17 cents on Thursday before falling 16 cents on Friday to a closing statewide average of \$10.24, an 8 cent decline from the previous Friday closing mark (Figure 1). High daily individual market price over the short week was \$10.61 at West Memphis and Old Town/Elaine on Thursday. Low quote of the week was \$10.01 at Des

Arc on Wednesday. End-of-the-week quotes saw Friday closing day prices ranging from a \$10.02 low at Wynne to a high of \$10.45 at both West Memphis and Old Town/Elaine. The ending quotes represented a range of 43 cents, a 6 cent widening from the previous week closing range. Ten individual markets were providing price quotations at the end of the week.

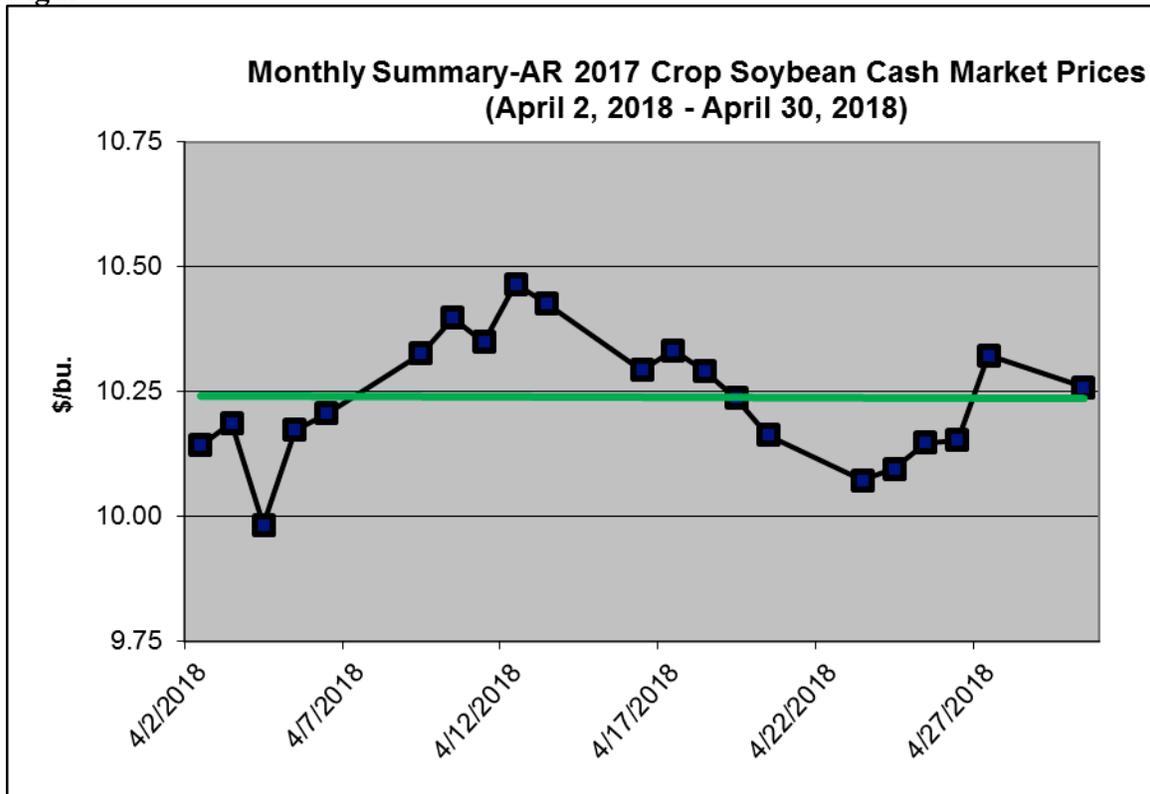
Figure 2



The Arkansas 2018 New Crop Soybean market followed the “double hiccup” of old crop beans, but with less variability. The market lost 3 cents over the weekend and opened on Monday at a statewide average of \$10.27, an improvement of 16 cents over the previous Monday. Price increased 7 cents on Tuesday and 9 cents on Thursday, but suffered 10 and 13 cent losses on Wednesday and Friday to more than offset the gains. New crop beans closed on Friday at a statewide average of \$10.20, a 10 cent decline from the previous week closing price (Figure 2). The high daily individual market price over the past week for the 2018 crop was \$10.51 at Helena on Tuesday. Low quote of the week was \$10.03 at Wynne on Friday. End-of-the-week quotes saw the Friday closing day prices ranging from the low of \$10.03 at Wynne to a high of \$10.37 at Helena. The ending quotes represented a 34 cent range, 2 cents narrower than the previous week closing range. Thirteen markets continued to provide booking price quotations throughout the week on 2018 soybeans.

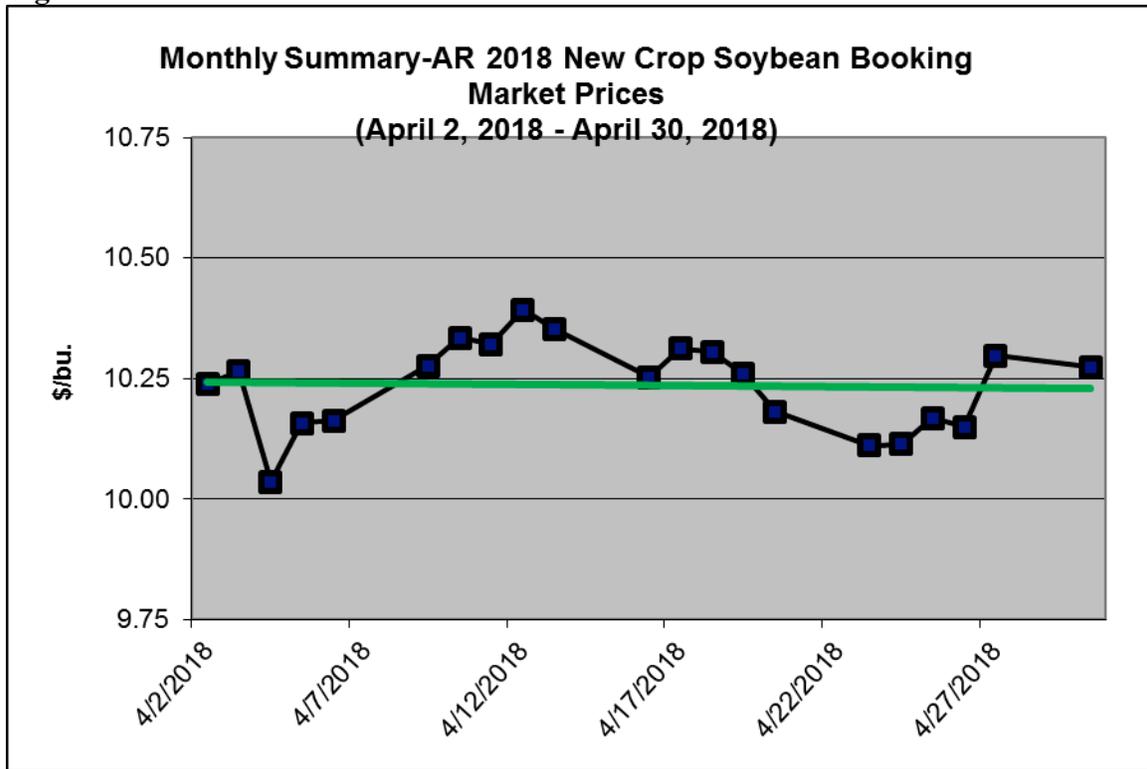
April 2018 Monthly Summary

Figure 3



April cash trading in 2017 crop soybeans began the month with an 8 cent decline from the last March trading day price. The opening day statewide average was \$10.14. The market gained another 5 cents the second trading day of the month before falling sharply to \$9.98 on April 4, the only day of the month under the \$10.00 price level. Statewide average rose 19 cents the following day and continued higher until reaching the monthly high daily average of \$10.47 on April 12. Mid-April was an eleven day period of almost daily decline to \$10.07 on April 23. The market turned around and rose through the remainder of the April until losing 6 cents over the last weekend to close the month at \$10.26, an overall change of only 4 cents higher relative to the last trading day of March. The high individual daily market quote of the month was \$10.71 at Helena on April 12. The low individual daily market quote was \$9.75 at Wynne on April 4. The overall statewide average for April was \$10.24 for the 2017 crop soybeans, 2 cents above the March 2017 average.

Figure 4



The April market for 2018 New Crop Soybean Booking began the month with an 8 cent loss from the last March trading day. Price opened on April 2 at \$10.24. The market rose 2 cents the following day before dropping 22 cents on April 4 and turning around the following day to begin a rally that carried price higher for 8 days to the monthly high of \$10.39 on April 12. The following 11 days found the market mostly lower each day as price decline to \$10.11 on both April 23 and 24. A final rally to close the month saw price rise to \$10.30 before finishing at \$10.27 on the last trading day. High individual daily market quote of the month was \$10.59 on April 12 at both West Memphis and Old Town/Elaine. The low individual daily market quote of the month was \$9.85 at Wynne on April 4. The overall statewide average for April was \$10.24 for the 2018 new crop soybean booking price, a 6 cent improvement compared to the March 2018 monthly average.

(Market average prices stated in this report are unweighted averages of the state markets surveyed by NASS. Price data was based on USDA LR GR111 Arkansas Daily Grain Reports.)