

# *Are the tides of prices turning?*

Australia agribusiness monthly



November 2023


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# November commodity outlooks

 <p>Grains &amp; oilseeds</p>	<p>El Niño is cutting Australian harvest volumes to be close to the five-year average. This also allows local wheat prices to stay rather supported compared to those in the US and Europe. Australian canola prices are influenced by the EU, where imports of Ukrainian canola and sunflower pressure prices.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 6-7</a></p>
 <p>Dairy</p>	<p>The dairy commodity market has shown some signs of life. Lower prices had offered international buyers an opportunity to procure raw materials at attractive prices. The milk supply outlook in key production regions is looking less favourable, which is providing price support.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 8-9</a></p>
 <p>Beef</p>	<p>While market fundamentals remain the same – forecast dry seasonal outlooks, higher cattle slaughter volumes, and soft consumer markets – Australian cattle prices found a floor in October. It looks like pessimism has left the market and some price stability may finally return.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 10-11</a></p>
 <p>Sheepmeat</p>	<p>Prices rebounded during October after several months on a downward trajectory with all indicators lifting month-on-month. Australian slaughter numbers saw reductions as rainfall throughout the southern parts of NSW and VIC boosted producer confidence in holding or purchasing stock.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 12-13</a></p>
 <p>Cotton</p>	<p>Markets have been reacting to downward revisions to global supply forecasts – with the exception of Brazil, where the supply outlook is improving. Locally, the focus will be on the impact of a drier season on the Australian crop.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 14-15</a></p>
 <p>Wool</p>	<p>A backdrop of bearish demand settings continues to influence wool markets. Wool prices across the range of microns were a mixed bag during September and are expected to remain range-bound in the near term.</p>	<p><a href="#">p. 16-17</a></p>



# November commodity outlooks

 <p>Consumer foods</p>	Quarterly food inflation moderated in September with a vast majority of categories seeing a slowdown. Fresh produce and red meat are down, while a cheese sandwich is expensive. We expect food inflation to continue to moderate, but with weather and energy market risks ahead.	<a href="#">p. 18-19</a>
 <p>Farm inputs</p>	For farmers, the overall beneficial outlook for farm inputs is still in place despite the Israel-Hamas war. The situation could be better for farmers' 2024 budgets, and currency and energy costs are risks to watch.	<a href="#">p. 20-21</a>
 <p>Interest rates and FX</p>	Higher-than-expected third quarter inflation has increased the odds of the RBA delivering another rate hike on Melbourne Cup Day. The Aussie dollar has remained under pressure, and we expect that it will be sold heavily if the rate hike doesn't materialise on the 7th of November.	<a href="#">p. 22-23</a>
 <p>Energy and freight</p>	Crude oil prices fell slightly in October despite the outbreak of war between Israel and Hamas. If the war spreads to draw in Iran, we see a worst-case scenario where prices could hit USD 150/bbl. Containerised freight rates cooled further in October and reliability picked up.	<a href="#">p. 24-25</a>

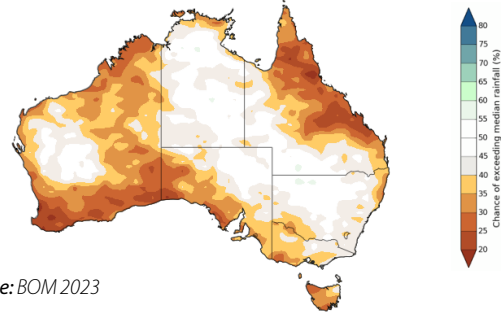
# Dry fields as harvest builds

**El Niño and positive Indian Ocean Dipole events are persisting after BOM declared the events last month.**

Both events are expected to cause a stronger drying effect for the rest of the year and have increased concerns of increased bushfire risk for summer.

For the majority of Australia, the chance of exceeding median rainfall during the November-to-January period is moderate to very low (50% or less). Harvest has started in the majority of grain growing regions and will likely be finished earlier than last year.

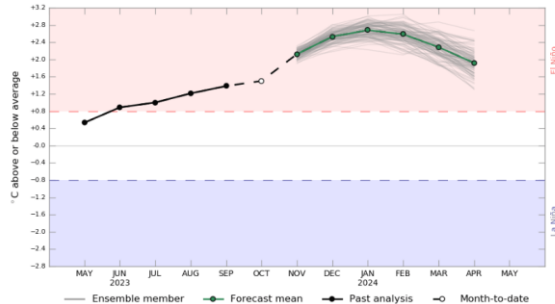
**High chances of below-median rainfall**  
November - January rainfall outlook



Source: BOM 2023

**Sea surface temperatures exceed El Niño thresholds**

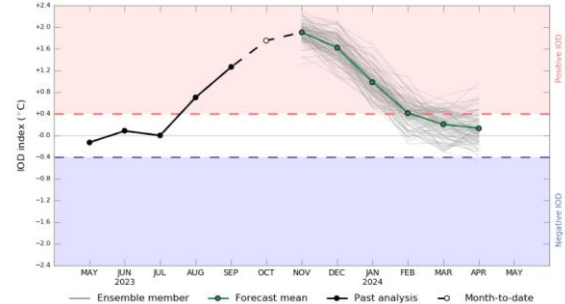
Monthly sea surface temperature anomalies for central Pacific Ocean



Source: BOM 2023

**Positive Indian Ocean Dipole event underway**

Monthly sea surface temperature anomalies for Indian Ocean



Source: BOM 2023

# October was spookily dry

**Australia's October rainfall was 65.4% below average, making it the fifth-driest October on record.**

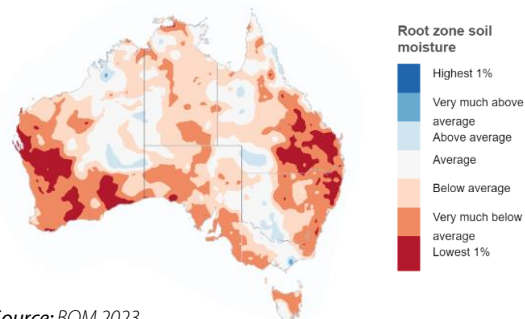
Rainfall was below average for most parts of Australia, and the driest on record for Western Australia. Eastern Victoria was one of the only regions to record above-average rainfall. It was also warmer with the national area-average mean temperature 1.05C warmer than average.

This brought soil moisture levels down in major production regions to very much below average, which is providing a dry finish to the grain growing season and harvest.

Water storage levels remain high at 92% for the Murray-Darling Basin.

*Australia's soil moisture profile lowered further in October*

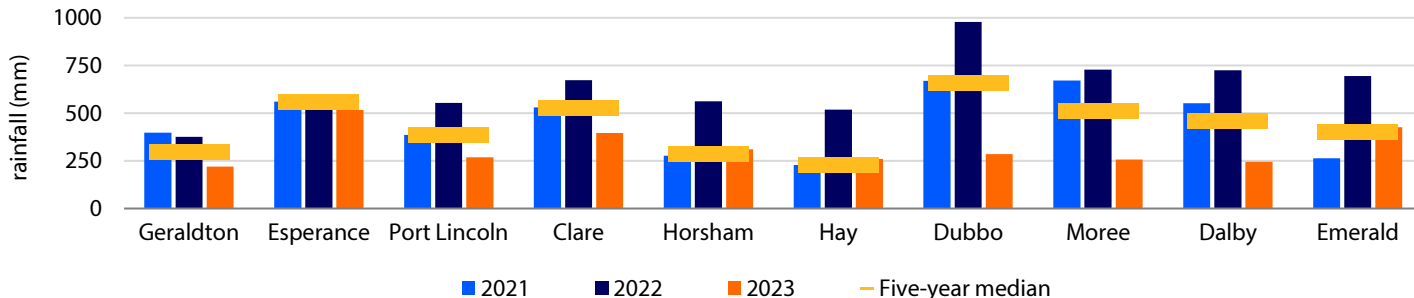
*Relative soil moisture, October 2023*



Source: BOM 2023

*Year-to-date rainfall mostly at or below average, with some regions experiencing suboptimal conditions*

*January to October rainfall*



Source: BOM, Rabobank 2023




# Prices are one El Niño apart

**CBOT Wheat dropped 3.5% while corn remained virtually unchanged in the last 30 days. The major driving forces are the confirmation of another massive Russian crop, especially wheat, and the resumption of Ukrainian exports through the Odesa region.**

Australian APW1 prices were up 2.2% and feed barley, following global corn price, kept its level. Non-GM canola prices dropped slightly by 3%.

Russia's wheat exports are poised to keep their very strong pace of over 4m tonnes per month to deal with the country's second-largest crop on record. Considering the inventories from last season, **record Russian exports are likely, exceeding last year's heavy volumes and keeping global prices pressured.** The other strong fundamental headwind for global wheat prices is Ukraine, where exports via the Port of Odesa are ongoing, but overall, the country's exports are still over 30% behind last season's pace. **The new Black Sea export corridor has allowed more than 35 vessels to load and leave Ukraine and more are to come.**

CBOT Wheat has dropped 28% since early January, but the cuts in Australian prices were less. Australia is in the early phase of harvest, though production should be much smaller year-on-year. Rabobank's recent crop report forecast the wheat crop at 26.9m tonnes, down 26% YOY and 2% below the five-year average. The APW1 basis is strong and should remain high for the coming months, especially on the east coast. Undoubtedly, this will also drive and support feed prices, especially if we have a dry summer and sorghum production is impaired. **The drought, or El Niño, premiums are back and will partially offset the lower production, helping farmers' budgets.**



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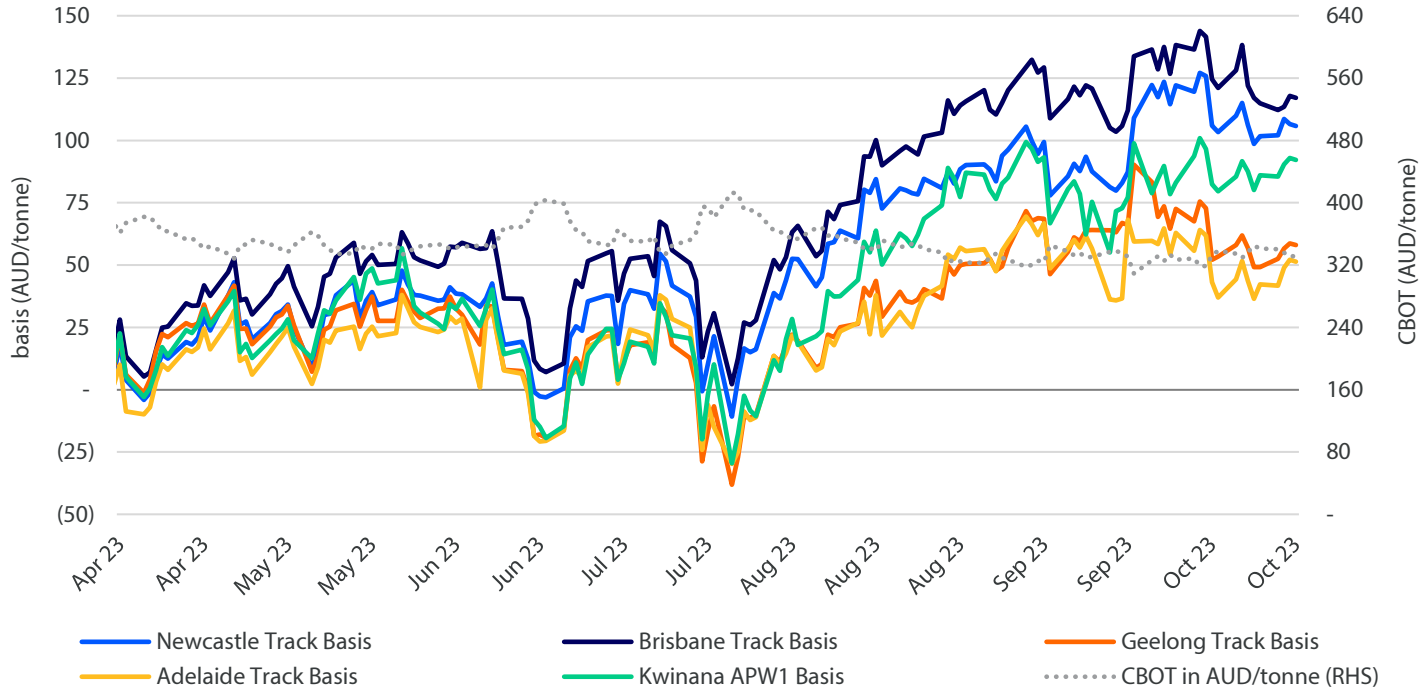
## Grains & oilseeds

### What to watch

- **How much oilseed is out there?** – The canola market has seen a couple of bullish factors fade away. First, the expectation that Canadian production would suffer a massive hit like in 2021 (13.7m tonnes) did not fully materialise. The crop reached 17m to 17.5m tonnes. Second, Canada's new crushing facilities are not coming online as quickly as planned, which will allow feared Canadian canola to move into exports in the coming months. And lastly, Ukraine is prioritising oilseed exports and will get most of it out of the country.

# Harvest is here, as well as strong wheat basis

Local wheat prices\* continue to trend higher following El Niño impacts, regardless of CBOT's bearish behaviour



\*Note: Track prices except KWI, which FIS

Source: Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023

# Modest spring growth in Australia

**There were some positive signs for Oceania dairy exporters in October, with commodity prices generally firmer.** Oceania FOB powder prices rallied more than 10% for the month on the back of less favourable milk production signals in New Zealand. Butter prices also firmed through the month, but cheese prices fell again in October as a weak US wholesale market dragged prices lower.

**Grey clouds continue to build over the production outlook in New Zealand.** For the key month of September, milk production was 0.4% below the same month last year on a volume basis (but higher on a milksolids basis). This means that the volume of production for the season-to-date is trailing the previous season by 1%. Challenging seasonal conditions in the Waikato have been the culprit.

**In contrast, the milk production outlook in Australia has started the spring season in better shape and is translating into modest growth.** For September, production was 1.5% higher than last year and is 1.5% higher season-to-date. Surprisingly, Victoria is a laggard for growth with Northern Victoria and Western Victoria still trailing.

**Inflation remains sticky across the Australian dairy grocery aisle.** The latest quarterly Consumer Price Index data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics showed cheese pricing was still running at a rate of 16% YOY in September. Inflation for white milk has moderated and was 5.5% higher for the quarter.



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## Dairy

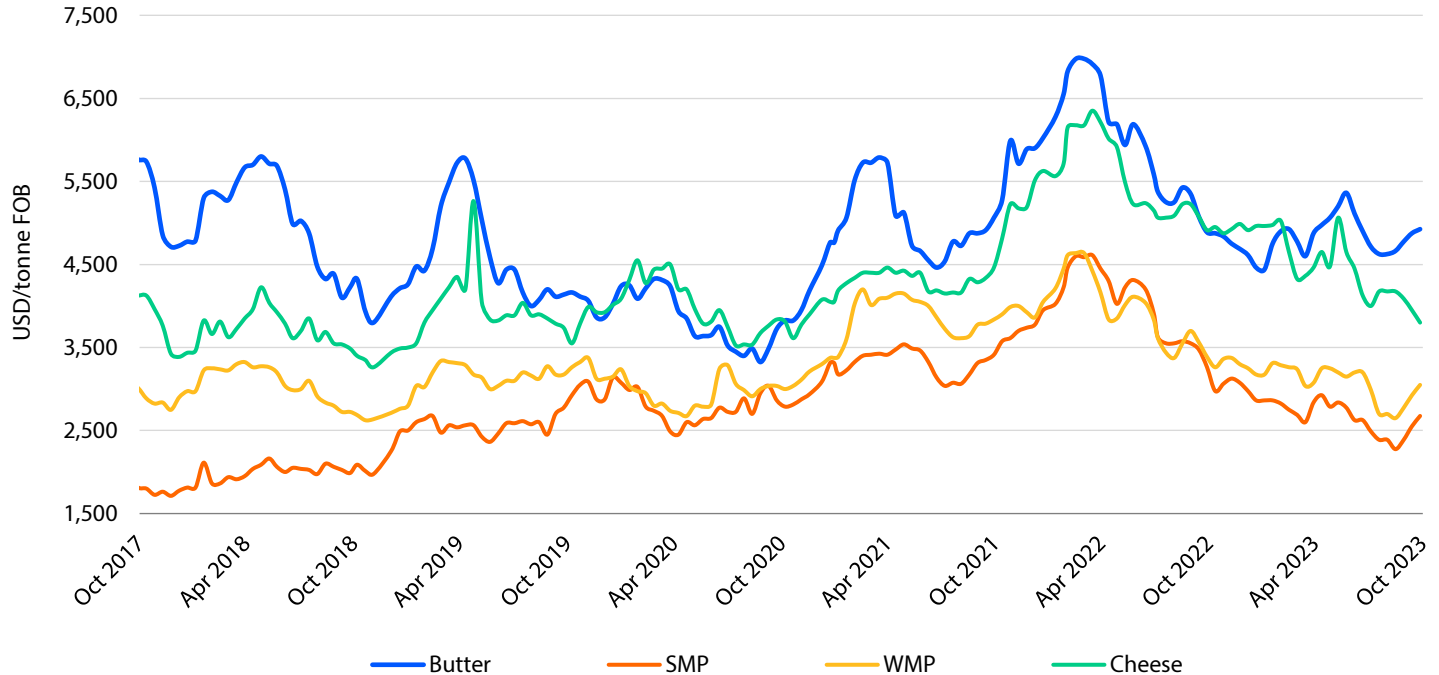
### What to watch

- **Softer outlook for milk supply offshore** – US milk production has been in decline for the past few months, with a smaller herd driving the slowdown. Nonetheless, the USDA has recently upgraded the outlook for the full year of 2023. Across Europe, milk supply growth remains sluggish. In key export regions in Europe, farmgate prices are showing signs of stabilisation.

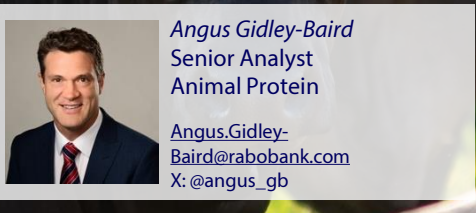


# Signs of life for the dairy complex

Oceania spot dairy commodity prices, Oct 2017-Oct 2023



Source: USDA, Rabobank 2023



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# Beef

## *All in the timing as prices flatline*

Cattle prices seemed to take a rain check in October. Does this mean we are at the bottom? Interestingly, restocker-type cattle showed the best results through the month of October. Restocker steers hovered around AUc 214/kg and heifers hovered around AUc 150/kg. Are producers generating a positive influence on the market? Most market fundamentals remained the same: a dry seasonal outlook, high slaughter volumes, and ongoing soft consumer demand. **But maybe producer uncertainty has eased and, as we head towards summer, producers are more certain about what stock numbers they will run, and we will see some stability return to the market.** Meanwhile, heavy steers dropped 6% through October to AUc 203/kg and feeder steers dropped 10% to AUc 204/kg.

Weekly slaughter numbers lifted through October, averaging 131,677 for weeks 41 and 42. These are the highest volumes since mid-2020 and, after sitting under 127,000 since about June, the numbers suggest there has been some additional processing capacity added to the system, which should support the livestock market. While processing numbers rose, cattle through saleyards have remained relatively constant at about 40,000 head for the last couple of weeks.

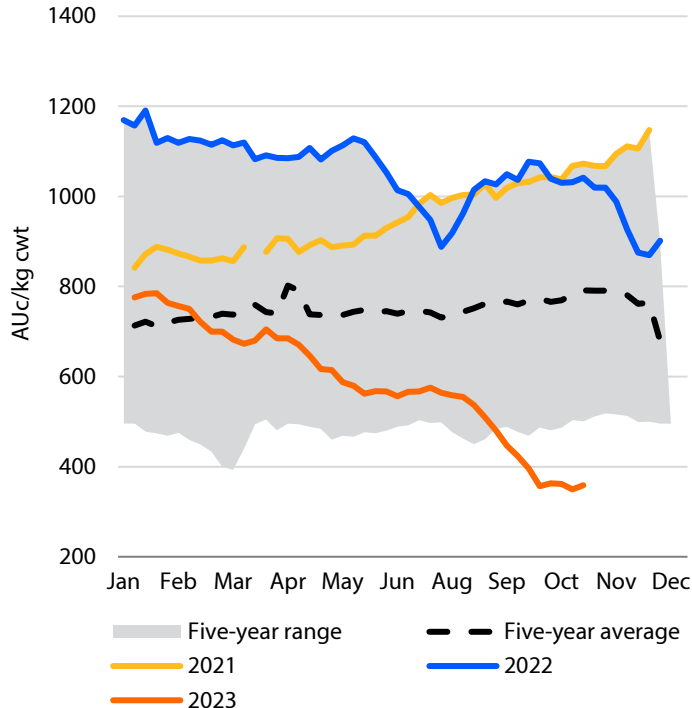
Beef export volumes through 26 October suggest another good month for exports, although possibly a little lower than in recent months. Volumes to the US look like they will again see year-on-year improvement, as will volumes to China and South Korea, with Japan continuing their contracting trend. Live cattle export volumes for September were up 27% YOY, but volumes to Indonesia were down 21%, possibly reflecting the ongoing challenges with preparing and selecting appropriate cattle for trade.

### *What to watch*

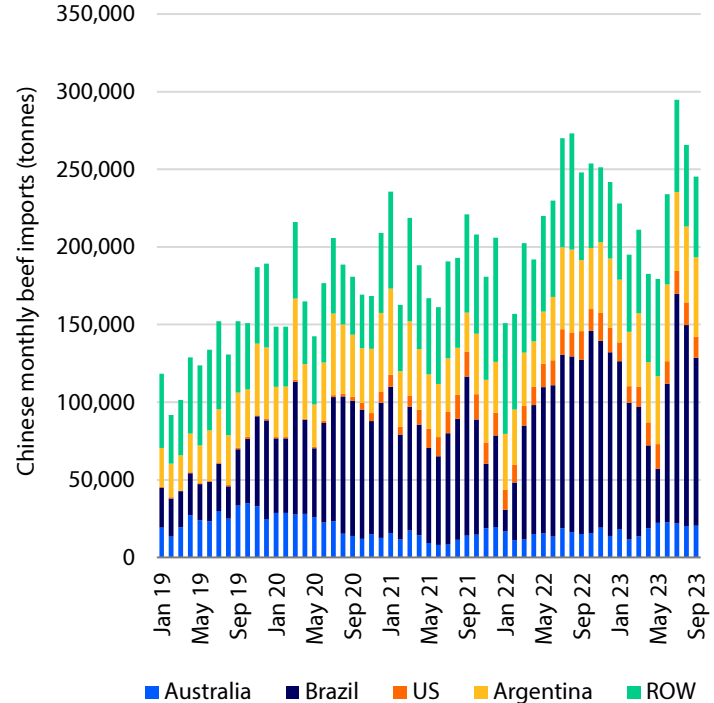
- **China import demand** – Beef export volumes to China this year have been strong – up 29% YTD in September – despite commentary about full supply chains and slow consumer activity. Some of these volumes may have been encouraged by the lower Australian prices. We expect Chinese beef imports to be higher in 2024 but the test will come in the coming months as China buys up in preparation for the Lunar New Year.

# Has the cattle market reached the bottom? Eyes turn to Chinese import volumes

EYCI flatlines: Have we reached the bottom?



Chinese beef imports recovering after slow 1H



Source: MLA, Rabobank 2023



# Prices buck long downward trend

Lamb prices – for what seems like the first time in months – trended positively in October across all indicators. Trade and heavy lambs saw prices increase by 8% and 10% MOM, respectively, while light and restocker lamb indicators saw the strongest growth throughout the month, climbing 27% and 31%, respectively. **It appears increased consumer confidence has helped firm lamb prices, given the market opportunity in southern NSW and VIC for fattening programs to target heavy specs where there is reduced competition and strengthening prices.**

Weekly slaughter numbers softened in October, down 6% MOM, dropping closer to 2022 levels. Weekly lamb totals sat between 415,000 and 450,000 head with SA and QLD seeing increased numbers. NSW slaughter held below 80,000 head during the month, dropping below 110,000 head for the first time since June. Sheep slaughter numbers followed suit with total slaughter numbers falling 8% MOM in October, although early October weekly numbers sat at 135,000 before climbing to 150,000 head. **Old season lambs may have cycled through the system while improved conditions in southern NSW have made farmers more confident to hold lambs rather than offload them into the current market.**

Lamb exports continue to grow with export volumes anticipated to climb 20% YOY with 26,270 tonnes shipped weight exported as of 26 October. Growth continues to centre on the Middle East, with volumes climbing above 7,000 tonnes for the first time since May 2019. Mutton exports continue to remain well above 2022 levels with October volumes on track to climb 50% YOY. Middle East exports continue to increase in volume while US export totals are back significantly, down 39% YOY.



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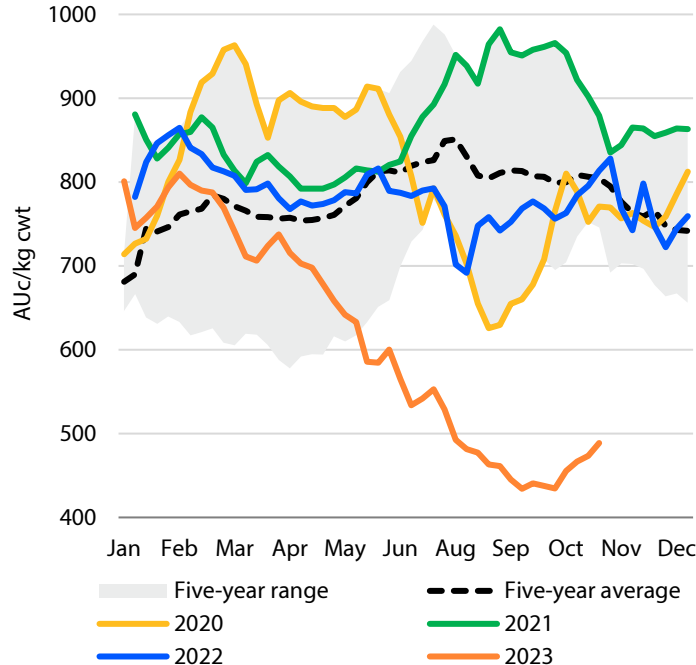
## Sheepmeat

### What to watch

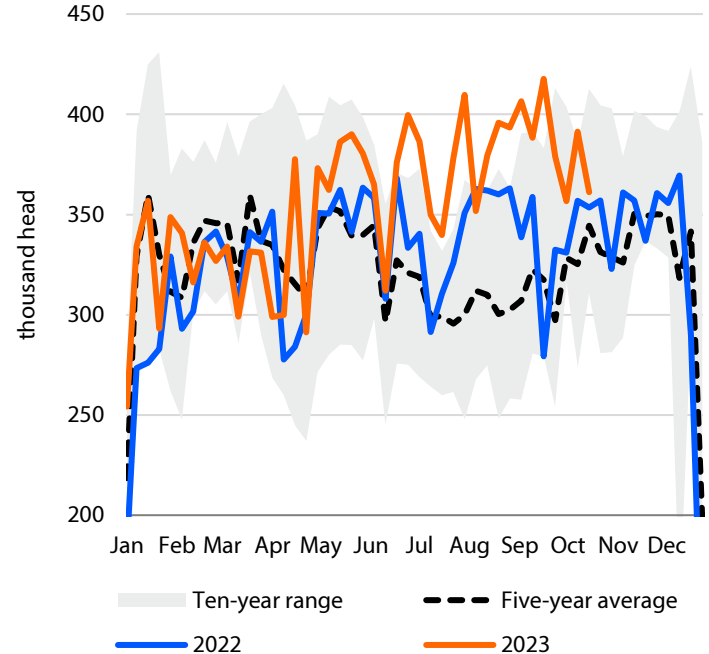
- **Light/restocker lamb prices** – Given the recent rainfall in early October across southern parts of the east coast, we have seen a strengthening in prices for lighter store lambs. With harvest underway and areas expecting strong performance, opportunistic purchasing of lighter stock for fattening on stubble – given current prices – could see these indicators climb further.

# Improved conditions see producer confidence improve while slaughter numbers dip

ESTLI climbed during October, showing promising signs of stability after steady declines since March



East coast weekly lamb slaughter numbers softened through October



Source: MLA, Rabobank 2023

# Have prices stopped pushing higher?

**Cotton prices dipped towards the end of October after several months of strong performance as we saw ICE #2 Cotton finish at USc 84.59/lb as of 27 October, marking a 4% fall MOM.** Although only down USc 4 MOM, prices did drop to USc 82.4/lb in the second-to-last week of the month, which was the first time prices had hit this mark since mid-July. The continued soft demand has held these prices, with US supply concerns appearing to no longer be enough to push prices to above USc 90. However, the strengthening US dollar is holding local prices above AUD 700/bale and assisting export competitiveness.

**The USDA's production outlook for the 2023/24 season increased in October, up 400,000 bales, driven by higher revisions to Brazil's output.** Brazil's output is expected to climb to a record 14.5m bales and is more than offsetting the expected slight fall in local production in Australia and the continued sliding US estimates, which are back below 13m bales, down 11% YOY. As planting is well underway in parts of Australia, given the dry conditions across several catchments and the lack of soil moisture, water availability will continue to play a role in whether we see further reductions to 2023/24 production totals. As it stands, these are expected to fall below 5m bales.

**Export volumes remained steady in August, falling marginally below the amount sent the month prior, following historical trends.** August exports hit 793,000 bales, with China taking the largest share (34%) for the first time since 2020. Australia's proximity to the Chinese market assisted export volumes, despite Brazil's large crop. Vietnam did remain active, accounting for 33% of exports, and Malaysia (11%) and Indonesia (9%) were also notable markets.



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## Cotton

### What to watch

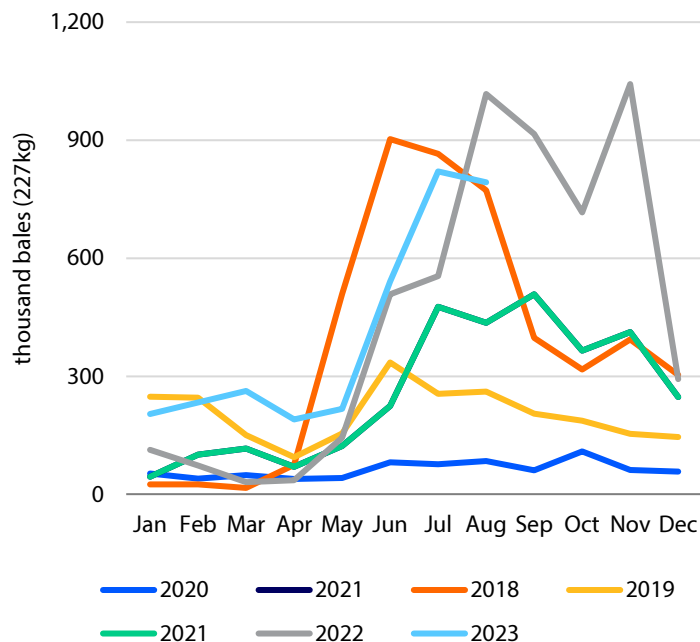
- **The US cotton harvest** – Cotton harvest is well underway in the US with 44% of planted area harvested as of 22 October. Focusing on Texas as the key production state, with just over 40% harvested, cotton condition continues to deteriorate, with 66% in very poor to poor condition. And this number continues to climb each week. If this trend continues, we could see further reductions to US cotton supply providing price assistance.



# Soft demand pushes prices lower, with US supply concerns no longer improving prices

Australia's cotton exports remain positive and continue to track above 2022 levels for the Mar-Feb marketing year YTD

ICE #2 Cotton prices traded between USc 82 and USc 87/lb throughout October



Source: ABS, Rabobank 2023



Source: Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023

# Prices showing signs of levelling out

**Wool prices saw minimal movement across the range of microns during October, showing positive signs of steadying after the downward trajectory we have seen for several months.** The Eastern Market Indicator traded within a 12-cent bracket during October, finishing at AUc 1,139/kg as of 27 October, with stronger competition from China, India, and European buyers buoying the market. After being the poorest-performing microns in recent months, the fine micron ranges showed more resilience, with 17 and 18 microns only falling 1.2% and 0.4%, respectively, with the 17-micron class sitting at AUc 1,713/kg. Wool in the remaining 19- to 32-micron range saw small price increases, month-on-month, with the coarser microns performing the strongest.

**Despite prices holding steady, retail sales growth in key markets continues to decline amid inflationary pressure for consumers.** After showing strong growth in September, the UK saw growth fall to 1.1% YOY, the lowest number since December 2021. US and Australian sales growth also fell this month, down to 0.8% and 0.7%, respectively. Meanwhile, after two months of strong growth, Japan's retail sales contracted 3.6% YOY. Positively, China continues to show signs of improvement with retail sales growing for the third month, up 6% YOY.

**Wool exports for August saw totals fall significantly, year-on-year, to 14.8m kg, which is the first time monthly exports have fallen below 15m kg since January 2021.** Wool exports year-to-date are now down 8%. The key contributor to these decreases was China, given its large market share. China's imported volumes fell 48% YOY, while India's imports were only down 5.5% YOY. Given prices have recently steadied, we will need to see a turnaround in wool export volumes to support further price upside going forward.



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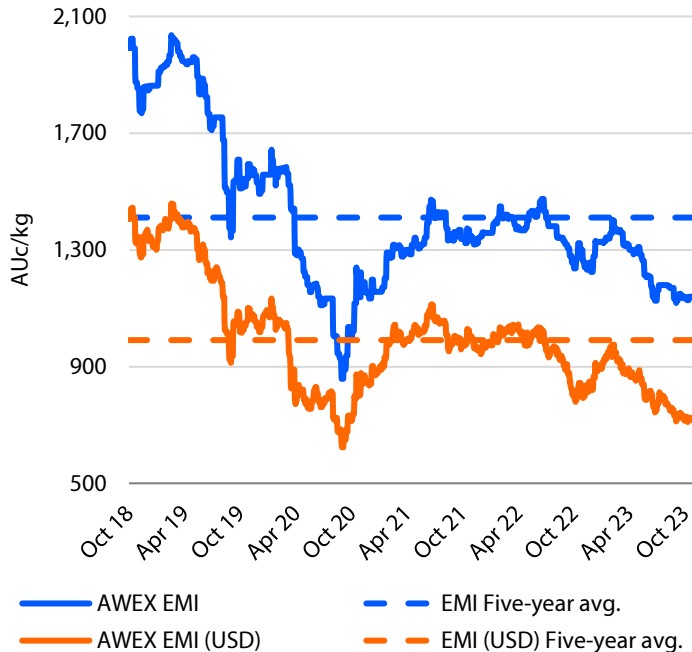
## Wool

### What to watch

- **The Chinese economy** – China's economy in recent months has shown positive signs of improvement after falling well short of expected growth targets in 1H 2023. China's Q3 GDP growth surpassed expectations while September's manufacturing PMI – the marker for growth or contraction in activity – climbed back above 50 for the first time since March. If growth numbers continue to come out of China, improvements in demand may follow.

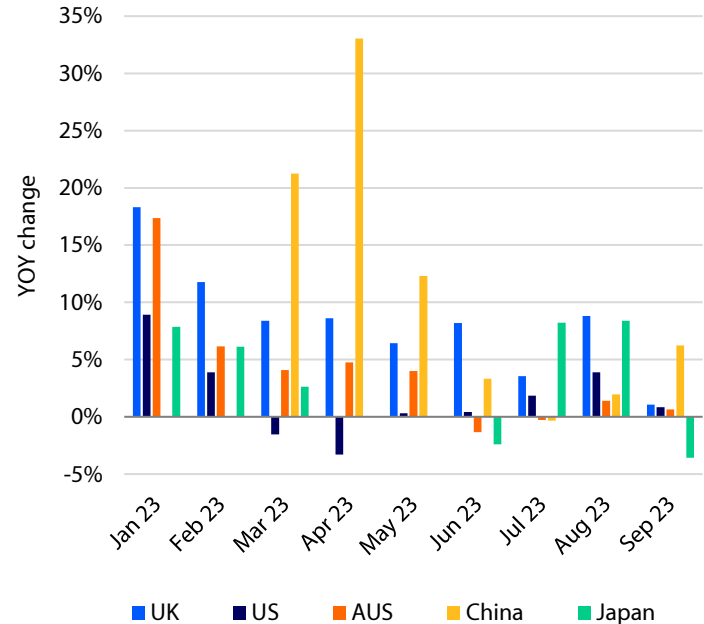
# Retail growth in key markets continues to tighten, hampering upside price potential

Australian EMI remained just below AUc 1,150/kg with minimal movement throughout October



Source: Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023

Retail sales growth continues to contract across most key markets, with China the exception



Source: Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023



# Cost-of-living pressures still biting

**The latest read on quarterly inflation shows pressure on the food basket moderated as expected. For the September quarter, food and beverage inflation posted a 4.8% YOY increase.** This was the slowest rate of food inflation since the war in Ukraine began. The good news was that prices moderated across all categories except pork. Deflation was evident in fresh produce and red meat. Vegetable pricing was the standout with a 10.2% YOY fall.

**Sticky inflation was still a headache for consumers of a simple cheese sandwich.** The cheese and bread category was still running at double-digit rates. Looking forward, Rabobank is expecting food inflation to continue to moderate but energy markets and El Niño are risks to the outlook.

**Coles and Woolworths' latest earnings updates provided a good glimpse into the state of the Aussie consumer.** For Q1 2024 fiscal year, Coles posted same-store sales growth of 4.6% in supermarkets. Woolworths posted comparable food sales growth of 5.5% for the quarter. Common themes across the results confirmed that consumers are still under pressure as a higher cost-of-living cycle washes through the economy. This includes households increasingly eating and entertaining at home, trading down to private label, and seeking out long-life products. Notably, the supermarkets reported strong growth in private label in high-growth categories such as health and wellness and lifestyle offerings.

**Despite these consumer shifts, the overall basket size is shrinking. Woolworths noted a 2.4% drop in items per basket in Australia supermarkets.** The company also reported that it is seeing a far more dramatic contraction in basket size in New Zealand (-8.9%).



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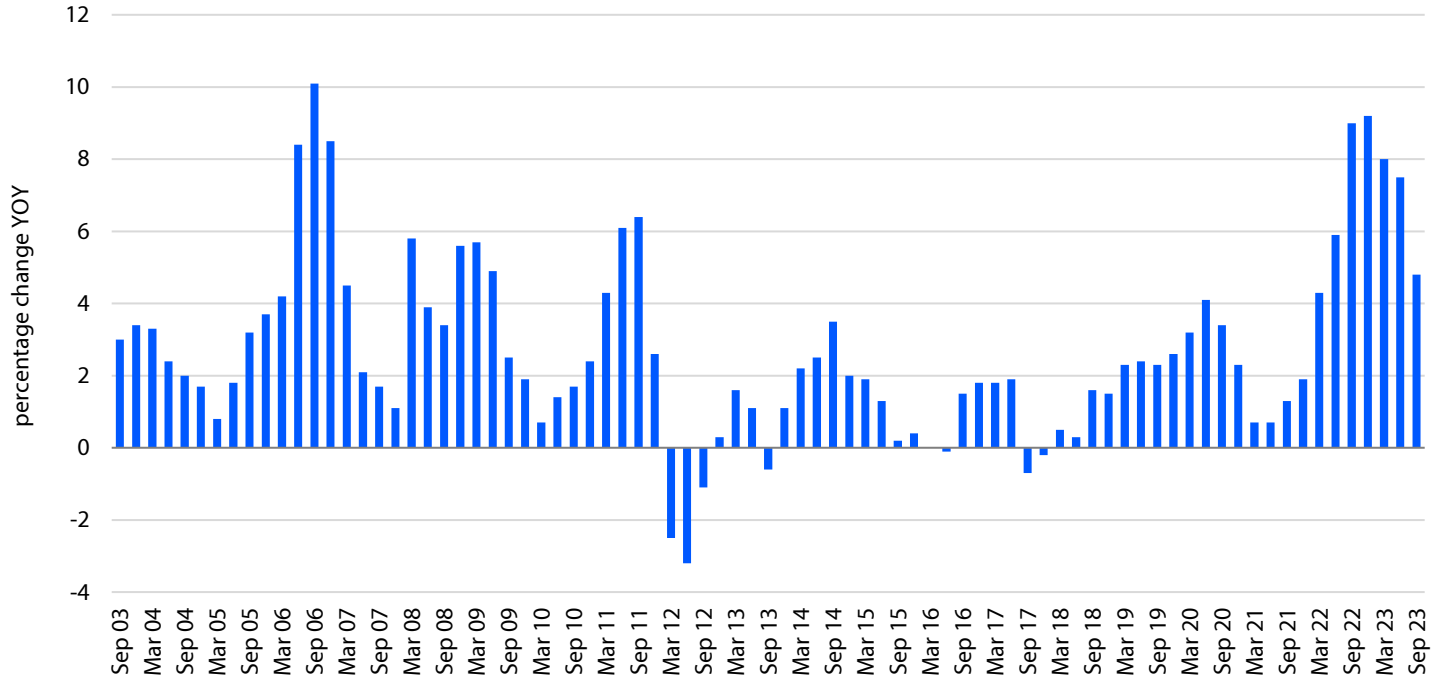
## Consumer foods

### What to watch

- **Consumer confidence** – The Westpac-Melbourne Institute Index of Consumer Sentiment rose marginally in the latest results. However, Australian consumer confidence levels are still very low and concerns about further interest rate rises are likely to resurface. A strong jobs market remains the good news for Australian households.

# Quarterly food inflation moderates

Australian Quarterly Consumer Price Index, food and non-alcoholic beverages\*



\*Note: Original (not seasonally adjusted).

Source: ABS, Rabobank 2023

# Setting up 2024 budgets

**The farm inputs price structure in Q4 2023 will have a heavy impact on farmers' budgets next season. This is due to retailers' procurement time frame, which can be several months long for some products.**

On the fertiliser side, we expect **price stability with a small bearish potential for major overseas exporters, assuming the Israel-Hamas war does not disrupt supply chains or boost crude oil prices.** For the next five months, we forecast international urea prices to be down 11% in US dollar terms compared to the period between November 2022 and March 2023, with DAP prices down 26% and potash down 41%. **This is a very encouraging outlook for farmers. However, currency and energy costs will adversely impact farmers' input budgets.** Given the exchange rate, the declines in New Zealand dollar terms are "only" 4%, 19%, and 35%, respectively, for urea, DAP, and potash. The diesel terminal gate price is another headwind that will make operations more costly.

**For agrochemicals, the story is brighter, but also tricky.** Many products have a long shelf life, meaning they not only can be stored on farms, but also in retailers' and manufacturers' sheds. Hence, we must look more at price records rather than forecasts. In that sense, using October 2021 as a reference, many active ingredients are showing a 50% reduction or more in price. Currency effects and freight costs may offset these price reductions, but it is important to mention the shelf-life effect. **This is to say: To be able to secure supply with lower prices, it is first necessary to use the old stock.** To illustrate, in the last 24 months, the international price of glyphosate dropped 67%, but farmers may have old stock to work through first.



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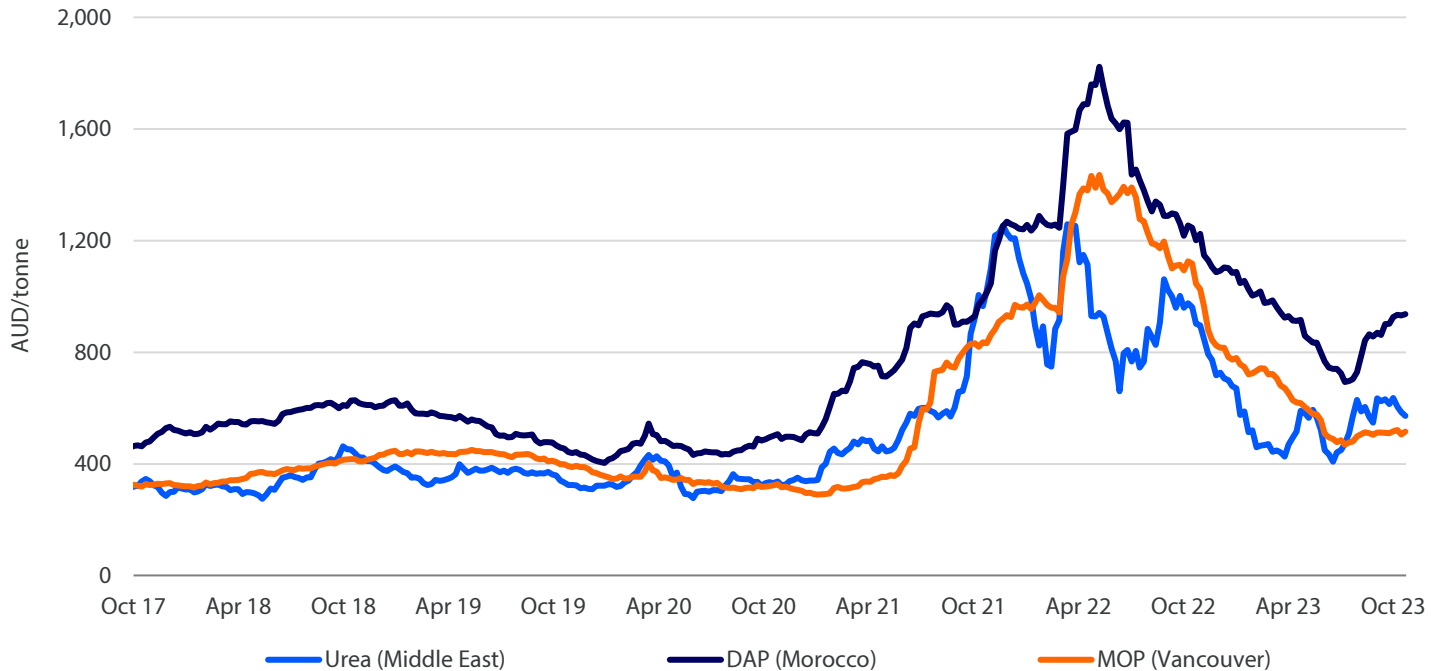
## Farm inputs

### What to watch

- **The Israel-Hamas war** – The recent outbreak of violence in the region is taking place far from the Israeli mines, and no port activity has been suspended so far. Israel accounts for 8% of global phosphate exports and 6% of potash. It is also especially active in specialty fertilisers, like hydroponic solution ingredients. Not only is the fertiliser supply under threat, but also crude oil and natural gas and, thus, nitrogenous fertilisers. Egypt is a heavy player in this sector. A conflict escalation involving Egypt would flip the market.

# No Middle East effect, so far

AUD-adjusted monthly global fertiliser prices



Source: CRU, Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023



# A material change

Last month we flagged the third quarter inflation report as *the* crucial number for the RBA cash rate in the lead up to Christmas. When the report landed on 25 October, it showed prices growing by 1.2% in the three months to October, and 5.4% YOY.

That is still more than double the mid-point of the RBA's 2% to 3% annual inflation target, and 0.3 percentage points higher than the RBA's own forecast of 0.9% price growth for the quarter.

Why is this important? The RBA's one main job is to get inflation into the 2% to 3% target range, and the one main tools that they have to do it is the cash rate.

Before the release of the inflation report, RBA Governor Michele Bullock said that the RBA has a "low tolerance" for inflation taking longer to return to target than their current mid-2025 forecast. The latest numbers put that timeline seriously in doubt and may constitute a "material change" to the RBA's forecasts.

We think that puts the RBA in a position to resume their rate hiking cycle on Melbourne Cup Day.

We have been forecasting a November rate rise for several months because inflation in services prices has been persistent and wage growth is far outpacing growth in productivity. The Israel-Hamas war now adds potential for further price pressures from interruptions to crude oil, natural gas, and fertiliser supplies.

The Australian dollar is currently trading around 0.6340 against the US dollar. This is well down on where it started October at 0.6433, but the Aussie dollar had traded as low as 0.6270 before that strong inflation report raised expectations of a further rate rise. We expect that if the RBA does not raise rates on Melbourne Cup Day, the Australian dollar will be sold off heavily and we may test the 0.6200 level.



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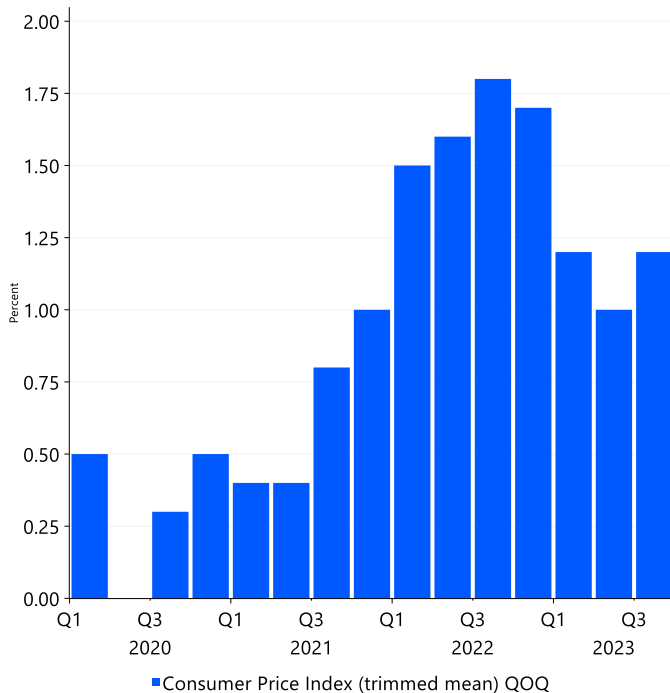
# Interest rates and FX

## *What to watch*

- **November RBA meeting** – 7 November.
- **October labour market report**– 16 November.
- **October retail sales report** – 28 November.

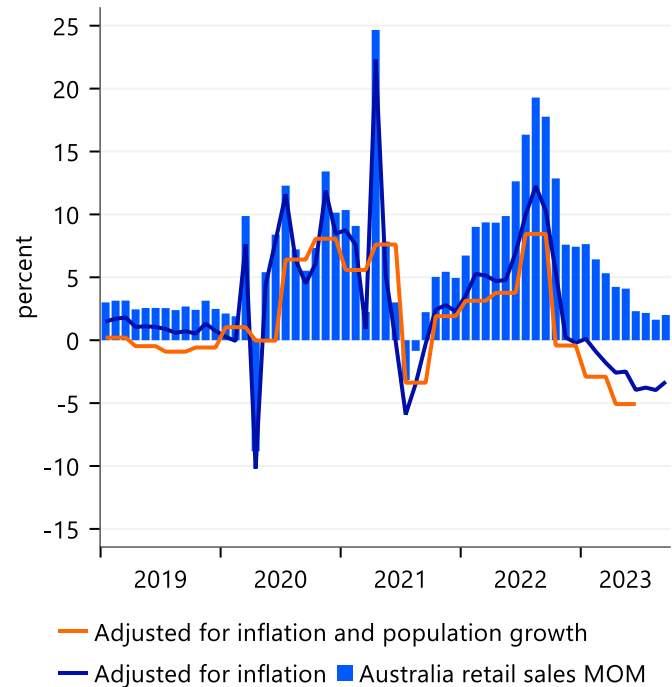
# Hiking into weakness?

*Inflation turned higher in the third quarter*



Source: Macrobond, Rabobank 2023

*...but retail turnover per capita continues to sink*



Source: Macrobond, Rabobank 2023

# Shipping schedule reliability improving

**Brent Crude prices moderated in October, despite the war between Israel and Hamas.** Brent was trading around USD 89.25/bbl at the end of the month after opening the month at USD 92.18/bbl. There has been some compression in crude prices and prices for distillates, which means that gasoline and diesel became a little cheaper relative to crude during the month.

If the Israel-Hamas conflict remains contained to Gaza, we don't expect it to be a major driver of prices. However, if the war expands to draw in regional players like Iran, there is a worst-case scenario where we could see crude prices hit USD 150/bbl.

**Amid low demand and excess inventory, the global shipping schedule reliability index has improved significantly but is still well below pre-pandemic levels.** Global schedule reliability (the percentage of container ships that arrived on time) reached 63.2% in August 2023, but is still steps away from the pre-pandemic 80%. This is due to weather events, one-off incidents, and the supply chain gradually being sorted out. As labour agreements have finally been achieved across US and Canadian west coast ports, reliable operations are expected for the near future for transpacific shipments. Forecasts for US retail imports have been downgraded due to excess inventory through January 2024, suggesting continued improvements in capacity availability and schedule reliability. Regarding container shipping rates, no significant changes are expected for the rest of this year.

Currently the impact of Israel-Hamas war on ocean shipping is limited, yet disruptions, extra costs, and longer shipping times can be expected if the war escalates.

**The Baltic Panamax index (a proxy for grain bulk freight) continues to fluctuate** around the lower end of the spectrum. Seasonal rate hikes started in July and August, but we do not expect further significant increases.




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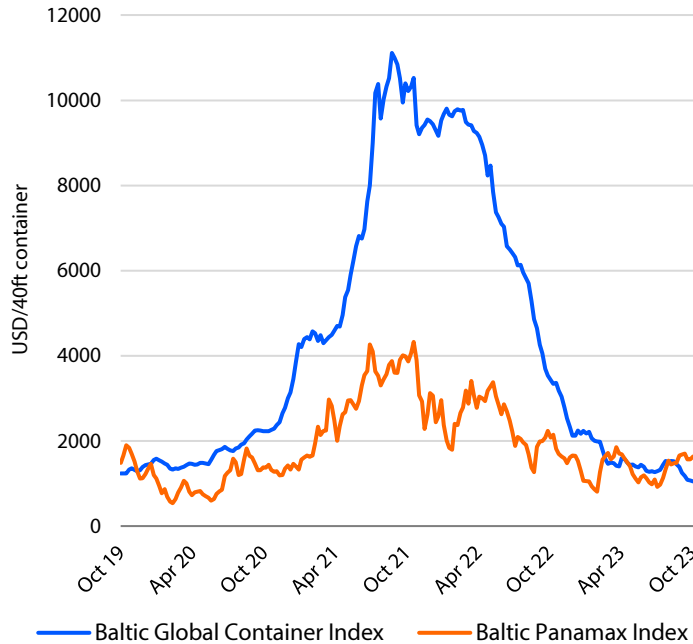
# Oil and freight

## *What to watch:*

- **US Department of Energy weekly inventory reports** on 9, 16, 23, and 30 November.
- **OPEC Monthly Oil Market Report** – 13 November.

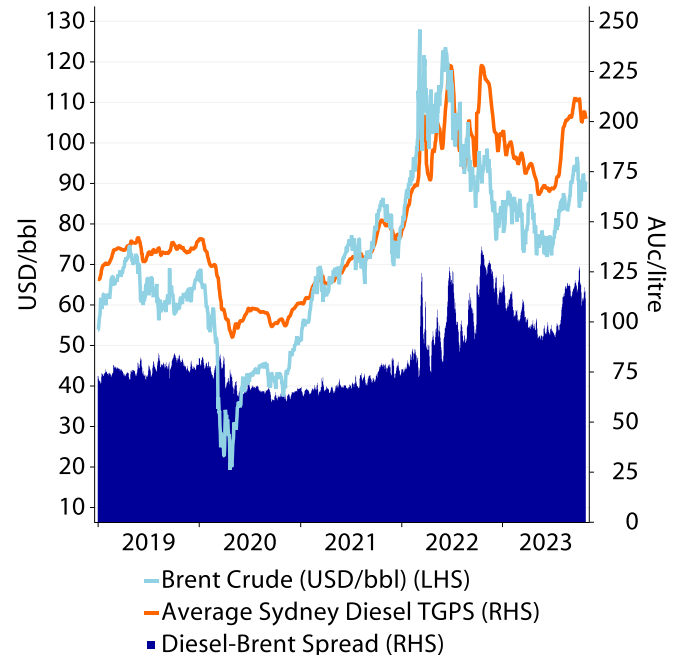
# Crude prices take a breather

Baltic Panamax Index and Dry Container Index, Sep 2019-Oct 2023



Source: Baltic Exchange, Bloomberg, Rabobank 2023

Brent Crude Oil and average Sydney Diesel, Jan 2019-Oct 2023



Source: Macrobond, Rabobank 2023



# Agri price dashboard

30/10/2023	Unit	MOM	Current	Last month	Last year
<b>Grains &amp; oilseeds</b>					
CBOT wheat	USc/bushel	▲	572	542	882
CBOT soybean	USc/bushel	▲	1,297	1,275	1,407
CBOT corn	USc/bushel	▲	481	477	692
Australian ASX EC Wheat Track	AUD/tonne	▼	393	414	503
Non-GM Canola Newcastle Track	AUD/tonne	▼	652	675	812
Feed Barley F1 Geelong Track	AUD/tonne	▼	333	347	353
<b>Beef markets</b>					
Eastern Young Cattle Indicator	AUc/kg cwt	▲	359	357	1,028
Feeder Steer	AUc/kg lwt	▼	205	240	518
North Island Bull 300kg	NZc/kg cwt	▲	615	600	650
South Island Bull 300kg	NZc/kg cwt	•	555	555	635
<b>Sheepmeat markets</b>					
Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator	AUc/kg cwt	▲	489	438	803
<b>Oceanic Dairy Markets</b>					
Butter	USD/tonne FOB	▲	4,925	4,775	4,888
Skim Milk Powder	USD/tonne FOB	▲	2,675	2,388	3,263
Whole Milk Powder	USD/tonne FOB	▲	3,050	2,775	3,388
Cheddar	USD/tonne FOB	▼	3,800	4,088	4,913

Source: Bloomberg, MLA, Rabobank 2023

# Agri price dashboard

30/10/2023	Unit	MOM	Current	Last month	Last year
<b>Cotton markets</b>					
Cotlook A Index	USc/lb	▼	95.0	98.9	90
ICE No.2 NY Futures (nearby contract)	USc/lb	▼	84.4	86.9	72
<b>Sugar markets</b>					
ICE Sugar No.11	USc/lb	▲	27.3	26.3	18.0
ICE Sugar No.11 (AUD)	AUD/tonne	▲	951	907	570
<b>Wool markets</b>					
Australian Eastern Market Indicator	AUc/kg	▲	1,139	1,135	1,300
<b>Fertiliser</b>					
Urea Granular (Middle East)	USD/tonne FOB	▲	386	383	625
DAP (US Gulf)	USD/tonne FOB	•	570	570	700
<b>Other</b>					
Baltic Panamax Index	1000=1985	▼	1,605	1,701	1,745
Brent Crude Oil	USD/bbl	▼	90	95	95
<b>Economics/currency</b>					
AUD	vs. USD	▼	0.634	0.644	0.640
NZD	vs. USD	▼	0.581	0.600	0.581
RBA Official Cash Rate	%	•	4.10	4.10	2.60
NZRB Official Cash Rate	%	•	5.50	5.50	3.50

Source: Bloomberg, MLA, Rabobank 2023

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