



MONTHLY PRICE UPDATE

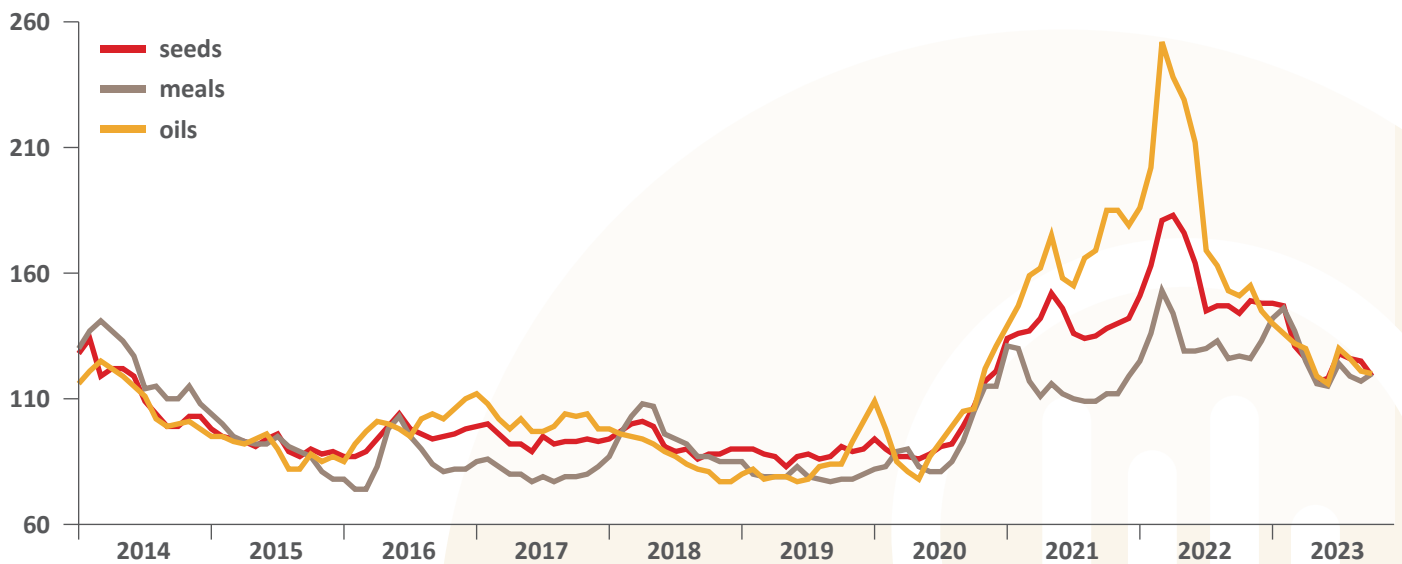
OILSEEDS, OILS AND MEALS

No. 172 | November 2023

In October, the FAO price index for oilseeds was down by 6.1 points (4.8 percent) from September, marking the third consecutive monthly decline. The vegetable oil price index also dropped slightly (0.9 points or 0.7 percent) to a four-month low. By contrast, the price index for oilmeals rebounded from the previous month, up 2.5 percent (2.2 percent). All three indices remained below their respective year-earlier levels.

The continued decline of the oilseed price index was driven by lower world prices across soybean, rapeseed and sunflower seed. After fluctuating in a narrow range in the past two months, international soybean prices declined by about 5 percent in October. In addition to the downward pressure stemming from accelerated harvest progress in the United States of America, international soybean prices were influenced by lingering subdued global

Figure 1. FAO price indices for oilseeds, oils and meals (monthly values, 2014–2016=100)



Source: FAO, based on Oil World data.

* The *Monthly Price Update* is an information product provided by the oilseeds desk of the Markets and Trade Division of FAO. It reviews the development of international prices for oilseeds, oils and meals as reflected by FAO's price indices. Previous issues can be downloaded from the FAO website at the following webpage: <https://www.fao.org/markets-and-trade/publications/en/?querystring=oilseeds>.

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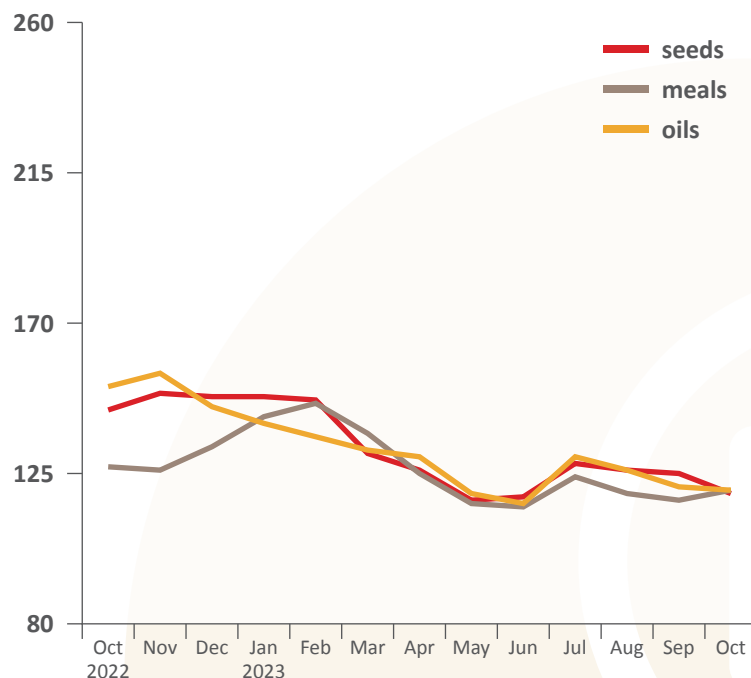
import purchases and improving weather conditions in Argentina, where sowing operations were about to commence. Nevertheless, in the second half of October, persistent dry and hot conditions in the central and northern parts of major growing regions in Brazil, coupled with excessive rainfalls in its southern soybean producing areas, contained the drop in world soybean prices. Meanwhile, international rapeseed quotations contracted for the third successive month in October, chiefly underpinned by favourable harvest outcomes in the European Union. Similarly, ample availabilities across the Black Sea region amid conducive weather conditions contributed to a 4-percent monthly decline in the world prices of sunflower seed.

With regard to oilmeals, the price index rebounded in October after declining for two months in a row, predominantly driven by firmer world soymeal quotations. While weakening protein meal demand from the livestock sector, particularly in China, remained largely unchanged, the rebound in world

oilmeal prices was underpinned by diminishing soymeal supplies from Argentina, the world's leading exporter of the product. Moreover, concerns over soybean production prospects in Brazil also lent support to world soymeal prices.

As for the vegetable oil price index, the marginal fall in the price index in October chiefly reflected lower world palm oil prices, more than offsetting higher prices of soy, sunflower and rapeseed oils. International palm oil prices continued to drop in October, mainly due to seasonally higher outputs in leading producing countries and the protracted subdued global import demand. By contrast, world soyoil prices rebounded after declining for two consecutive months, underpinned by robust demand from the biodiesel sector, particularly in the United States of America. International sunflower oil quotations rose slightly on firm global import purchases, while those of rapeseed oil increased moderately on reduced crop prospects in Canada.

Figure 2. FAO monthly price indices for oilseeds, oils and meals (2014–2016=100)



Source: FAO, based on Oil World data.

	FAO price indices (2014–2016=100) ^a		
	Oilseeds	Oilcakes/meals	Vegetable oils
Annual (Oct/Sep)			
2012/13	131	129	120
2013/14	120	128	116
2014/15	95	99	93
2015/16	93	85	95
2016/17	95	81	103
2017/18	94	93	94
2018/19	88	81	80
2019/20	90	84	93
2020/21	133	115	149
2021/22	156	129	196
2022/23	134	127	133
Monthly			
2022 - October	144	127	151
2022 - November	149	126	155
2022 - December	148	133	145
2023 - January	148	142	140
2023 - February	147	146	136
2023 - March	131	137	132
2023 - April	126	125	130
2023 - May	117	116	119
2023 - June	118	115	116
2023 - July	128	124	130
2023 - August	126	119	126
2023 - September	125	117	121
2023 - October	119	120	120
^a FAO's price indices are based on the international Spot prices of five selected seeds, ten selected vegetable oils and five selected cakes and meals. The indices are calculated using the Laspeyres formula; the weights used are derived from the export values of each commodity for the 2014–2016 period.			
<i>Source: FAO, based on Oil World data.</i>			

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CONTACT

Markets and Trade Division - Economic and Social Development Stream

FAO-oilcropsmarkets@fao.org

www.fao.org/markets-and-trade

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Rome, Italy



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