Ag Equipment Intelligence's

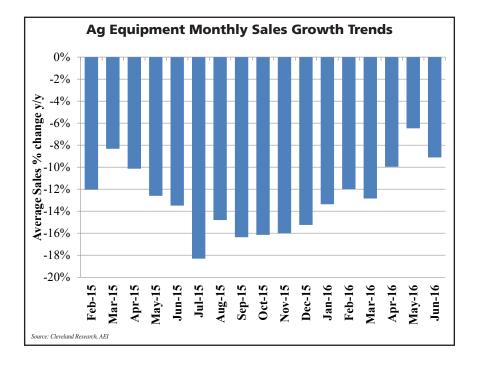
# Dealer Sentiment & Business Conditions Update

From the editors of Farm Equipment & analysts of Cleveland Research Co.

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### **Industry Sales Down 9% in June**

- ✓ North American ag equipment dealers reported their sales, on average, were down 9% year-over-year in June, down from the 6% decline reported in May.
- ✓ A net 44% of dealers say their <u>new equipment inventories</u> are "too high," flat compared to the previous month.
- ✓ <u>Used equipment inventories</u> were reported as "too high" by a net 46% of dealers vs. a net 41% the prior month.
- ✓ Dealers once again reported relatively flat new equipment pricing following a slight uptick in the 4Q as Tier 4 sales and OEM price increases have been offset by greater discounting at the dealer level. Used large tractor pricing is reported down 6% year-over-year on average. Used combine prices were reported down 10%, a slight improvement from the 11% decline in May.



Results vs. Expectations																
	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
Better than expected	20%	27%	23%	21%	18%	16%	19%	15%	12%	19%	12%	15%	20%	24%	21%	22%
In line with expectations	50%	44%	39%	48%	45%	56%	53%	43%	51%	47%	52%	47%	52%	48%	46%	40%
Worse than expected	28%	29%	36%	31%	36%	28%	28%	41%	37%	34%	35%	38%	28%	29%	34%	38%
Net % (Better - Worse)	-8%	-2%	-13%	-10%	-18%	-12%	-9%	-26%	-25%	-15%	-23%	-22%	-8%	-5%	-13%	-17%

#### 2016 Full-Year Outlook: Down 10%

- ✓ On average, dealers are forecasting 2016 sales to be down 10% year-over-year, below their forecast from the previous month. A net 38% of dealers are forecasting a sales decline (22% increase, 18% about the same, 60% decline).
- ✓ Kubota dealers were the only group to forecast a sales increase for 2016, calling for sales to be up 1%. John Deere, New Holland and Case IH dealers are all calling for sales to be down 11% for the year.

	Dealer Outlook — 2016														
(% chg y/y)	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16						
AGCO	8%	-7%	-9%	-10%	-6%	-15%	-6%	-7%	-8%-						
John Deere	-10%	-9%	-8%	-12%	-10%	-12%	-10%	-6%	-11%						
New Holland	-12%	-9%	-13%	-6%	-11%	-12%	-8%	-2%	-11%						
Case IH	-8%	-10%	-10%	-12%	-15%	-11%	-15%	-23%	-11%						
Kubota	3%	4%	2%	-7%	5%	9%	2%	0%	1%						
Shortlines/Other	-15%	-8%	-6%	-12%	0%	-14%	-24%	-6%	-4%						
Overall	-9%	-9%	-9%	-11%	-10%	-11%	-11%	-9%	-10%						

#### **Dealer Optimism Drops in June**

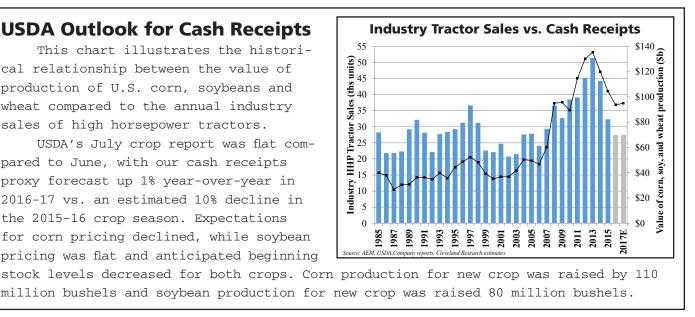
Our Dealer Optimism Index, which measures sentiment among dealers compared to the prior month, shows a net 19% of dealers being less optimistic (11% more optimistic, 60% same and 30% less optimistic) in June, after seeing an improvement in May.

Optimism/Sentiment vs. Last Month																
	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	May-16	Jun-16
More Optimistic	14%	14%	12%	13%	14%	11%	12%	8%	10%	8%	11%	13%	17%	15%	22%	11%
Same	42%	47%	48%	58%	52%	45%	51%	60%	52%	48%	46%	51%	55%	59%	51%	60%
Less Optimistic	43%	40%	40%	30%	35%	43%	37%	33%	38%	44%	43%	36%	28%	26%	27%	30%
Net % Dealer Optimism	-29%	-26%	-26%	-18%	-21%	-32%	-26%	-25%	-28%	-35%	-31%	-24%	-11%	-11%	-4%	-19%

#### **USDA Outlook for Cash Receipts**

This chart illustrates the historical relationship between the value of production of U.S. corn, soybeans and wheat compared to the annual industry sales of high horsepower tractors.

USDA's July crop report was flat compared to June, with our cash receipts proxy forecast up 1% year-over-year in 2016-17 vs. an estimated 10% decline in the 2015-16 crop season. Expectations for corn pricing declined, while soybean pricing was flat and anticipated beginning million bushels and soybean production for new crop was raised 80 million bushels.

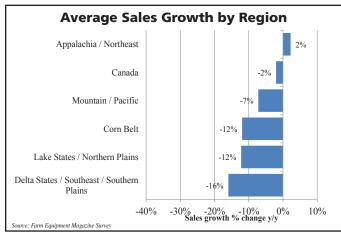


The contents of this report represent our interpretation and analysis of information generally available to the public or released by responsible individuals in the subject companies, but is not guaranteed as to accuracy or completeness. It does not contain material provided to us in confidence by our clients. Individual companies reported on and analyzed by Lessiter Media, may be clients of this and other Lessiter Media services. This information is not furnished in connection with a sale or offer to sell securities or in connection with the solicitation of an offer to buy securities.

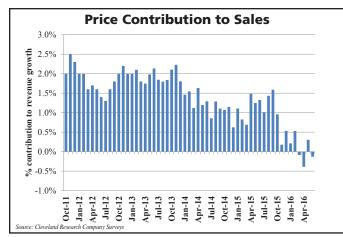
DEALER SENTIMENTS & BUSINESS CONDITIONS UPDATE is a joint project of the editors of Farm Equipment and research team at the Cleveland Research Co. DEALER SENTIMENTS & BUSINESS CONDITIONS UPDATE is published monthly and distributed to subscribers of AG EQUIPMENT INTELLIGENCE as well as to dealers participating in the survey by Lessiter Media, 16655 W. Wisconsin Ave., Brookfield, WI 53005. © 2016 by Lessiter Media. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any form of this newsletter content is strictly forbidden without the prior written consent of the publisher.

Please send any address changes as soon as possible to the address shown above. U.S., Canada and Mexico print subscriptions are \$499 per year. International subscriptions are \$599 per year. Send subscription orders to: Ag Equipment Intelligence, P.O. Box 624, Brookfield, WI 53008-0624. Fax: 262-786-5564. Phone: 262-782-4480 or 866-839-8455 (U.S. only). E-mail: info@lessitermedia.com.

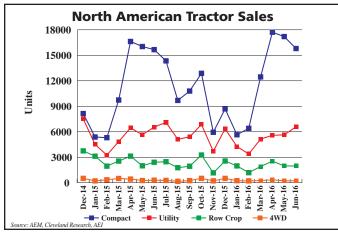
## **NEW EQUIPMENT TRENDS**



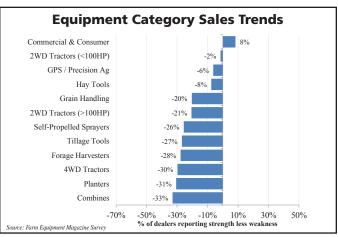
Sales were mixed by region during June with the Lake States and Northern Plains showing the largest sequential declines. All other states remain in negative territory with the exception of the Appalachia/Northeast, which improved to up 2% in June from down 9% in May.



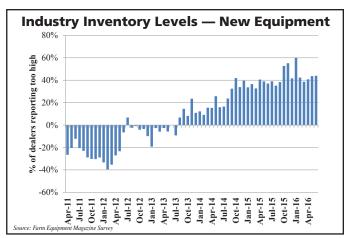
Dealers report relatively flat pricing over the last few months, as incentives programs have more than offset list price increases back in 4Q. The effect of the strong U.S. dollar on Canadian exchange rates has also played a part in pricing inflation within North America.



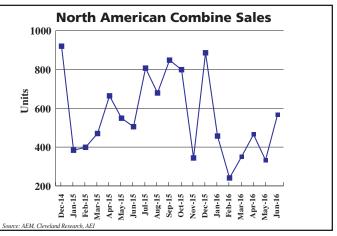
Total North American tractor sales were down 1% year-overyear in June, with sales for <40 horsepower and utility tractors both up 1% year-over-year. Sales for row-crop tractors were down 18% and 4WD tractor sales were down 26%.



Commercial and consumer lawn equipment continues to show strength in contrast to declines in other categories (combines, planters and sprayers in particular). In line with the past few months, GPS/Precision Ag equipment has seen strength. We continue to see significant headwinds to large equipment sales.

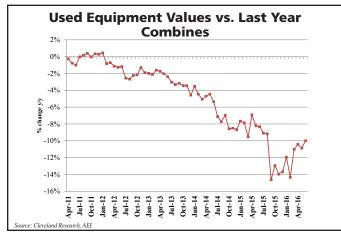


A net 44% of dealers reported new equipment inventories are "too high" (51% too high, 42% about right, 7% too low), flat compared to May and an average of 43% in 2Q vs. 47% in 1Q. This marks 22 months of new inventory levels being reported as "too high" by more than a net 30% of dealers.

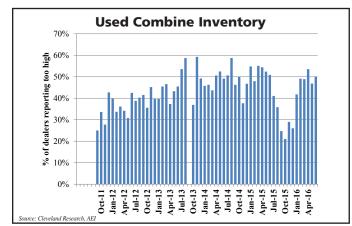


North American combine sales came in at 567 units in June. On a year-over-year basis, combine sales were up 13%.

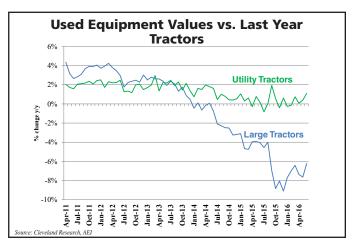
## **USED EQUIPMENT TRENDS**



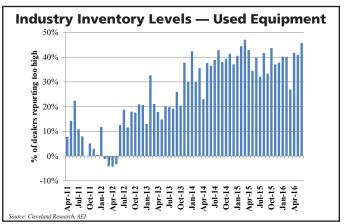
Used combine pricing was down 10% year-over-year in June, a slight improvement from the 11% decline in May.



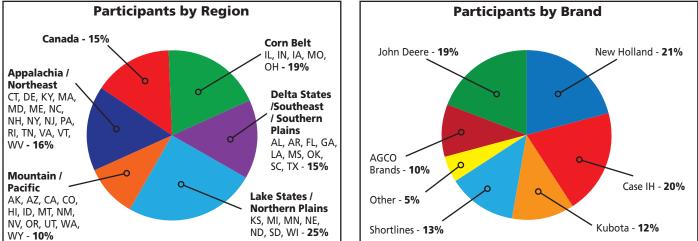
Used combine inventory levels were reported as "too high" by a net 50% of dealers in June, compared to May's reading of 47% and April's 54%. Combine inventory appears to have reversed trend from 2H15, as inventory remains challenged.



June saw a slight improvement in pricing for small tractors, in line with the past few months. Used tractors were reported down approximately 6% year-over-year on average, a slight improvement from the 8% drop reported in May.



A net 46% of dealers reported used equipment inventory as "too high" (55% too high, 36% about right, 9% too low), worse than the 41% reporting heightened inventory in May (52% too high, 38% about right, 11% too low).



## **JULY 2016 SURVEY RESPONDENTS**

The July survey had about 175 respondents representing combined annual revenues of roughly \$8 billion, covering a broad cross section of geographies and brands.