

The Astrology Letter

March 26, 2023

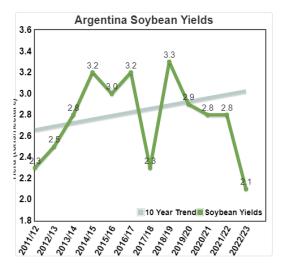
Grains - Higher Prices Coming??

Keep a close watch on the grain harvest that is soon to start in Argentina. If all does NOT go well, there could be a reverberating effect on grain prices in Canada and the USA.

Argentine farming has been strained for three years in a row by drought thanks to the La Nina weather phenomenon.

The coming wheat harvest is expected to bring in just 12.4 million tonnes, *down* from the 22.4 million tonnes harvested at this time last year.

As for Soybeans, the following chart tells the story. The expected yield from the coming harvest (33 million tonnes) is expected to be lower than last year's harvest (44 million tonnes).



Source: Brutal drought in Argentina seen ending in coming months, says grains exchange, Maximilian Heath for Reuters, Jan 10, 2023

Source: https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/countrysummary/Default.aspx?id=AR&crop=Soybean

Now add the Ukraine situation to the equation. Spring planting will soon be getting underway in Ukraine. Will the ongoing conflict affect farm operators' ability to seed the crop into the ground? Will the conflict affect the ability of farmers to harvest their crops later this Summer? There is an agreement with Russia to get grains in storage to the shipping ports at Odessa, Chernomorsk, Sevastopal, and Mariupol. Will Russia abide by that agreement in 2023 as the conflict escalates to new heights?

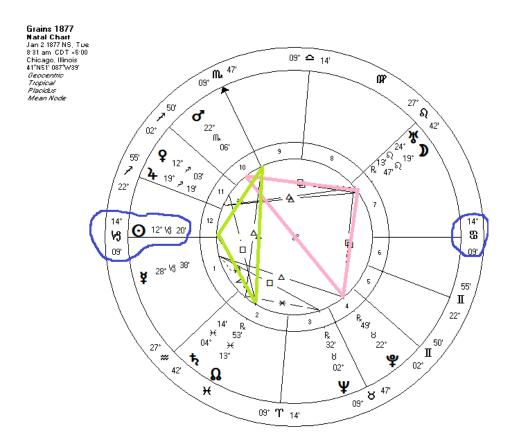
Through it all, just remember that Ukraine typically is a big exporter of wheat, corn, and soybeans. Remove a good portion of these exports and there will be panic over world grain supplies.

Let's now take a look at the futures contracts for these grains that trade in Chicago on the CBOT. Events in South America and in Ukraine will be reflected in the futures prices on the CBOT.

Wheat & Corn futures

The first trade date for Wheat and Corn futures is January 2, 1898. The following horoscope wheel shows the positions of planets at that date. My standard method of analysis is to examine the horoscope wheel for any unique geometric patterns. I spot two of them and have outlined them in color. Both are triangles. The pink triangle has corner points at Moon, Mars, and Pluto. The green triangle has corners at Mid Heaven (MH) Ascendant (Asc), and Node. It is curious to note that the Ascendant is at 14 Capricorn, a 180-degree opposition to 14 of Cancer, that mysterious point that appears time and again throughout US history.

What I next look for is evidence that Moon (perhaps Mercury too) passing these various points aligns to price swing points on the charts. If I can find corroborating evidence, then I have some measure of predicting future times when traders can expect possible swing highs or swing lows on price.



Wheat, Corn, Oats futures first trade horoscope



Wheat futures daily chart with cosmic events

And here is the evidence. Moon passing the key points that comprise the two triangle shapes in the horoscope wheel acts as a trigger to help create swing high and swing low points. Mercury also plays a role.

Saturday March 25 had Moon passing the natal Pluto point (see pink triangle in horoscope wheel). We will know on Monday March 27 whether wheat has made a swing low.

The following dates should also be noted:

April 1: Moon/natal Moon

April 5: Venus /natal Pluto

April 7: Moon/natal MH

April 8: Moon/natal Mars

April 12: Moon/natal Asc

April 16: Moon /natal Node

April 21: Moon/natal Pluto



Wheat futures daily chart with Fibonacci

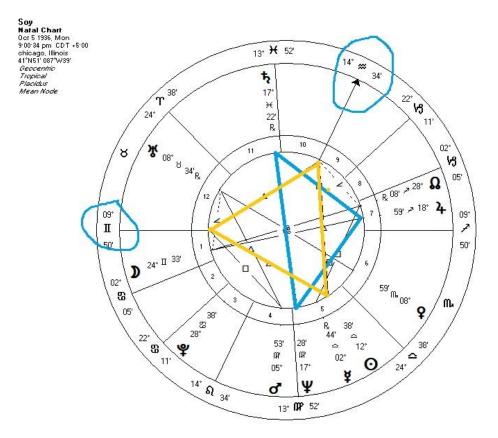
My analysis concludes with a look at the major trend and also at Fibonacci math. In the 1930s, legendary New York trader H.M. Gartley created a home study course for people to purchase. One of his key principles was that the 200-day average can be used to delineate the major trend. The above chart of Wheat futures shows price action below the 200-day average. Therefore, the major trend is bearish. It will take a move to the \$8 per bushel level to turn the major trend bullish. Price moves on stocks and commodities closely adheres to Fibonacci retracement levels (23.6%, 38.2%, 48.6%, 61.8%, 78.6%). The above chart illustrates the here and now, Wheat futures have retraced 78.6% of their gains made between the 2020 lows and the 2022 highs. Typically, 78.6% is an exhaustion level, but not exclusively. If Wheat prices do not start to firm up from here, look for a complete 100% retrace of the gains made between the 2020 lows and the 2022 highs.



Wheat futures daily chart with True Strength Indicator

Finally, I use a chart technical indicator to help gauge the situation. Here and now, if the True Strength indicator crosses positive (back line above red line), that signals a buying opportunity. The trading session on March 27 will tell more. Ideally, what I want is for the indicator to get above the 0.0 line to give me a more reliable trend reading.

Soybeans



Soybeans futures first trade horoscope

The first trade date for Soybeans was October 5, 1936. There are two unique geometric patterns on the horoscope wheel. I have outlined them in color. Both are triangles. The blue triangle has corner points at MidHeaven (MH), Ascendant (Asc), and Sun. The green triangle has corners at Saturn, Neptune, and Jupiter.

Think about this for a moment. It is 1936 and astrology is in vogue. W.D. Gann is a rising star. Louise McWhirter is about to release her book. J.P. Morgan admits to using an astrologer – Evangeline Adams. The regulators who decide on the first trade date for stocks and commodity futures contracts are well versed in planetary placements. The hurdles are all cleared for a new futures contract on Soybeans to begin trading in Chicago. All that is needed is a first trade date. The decision is made to start trading on October 5. Waiting for 2 more weeks is not an option as one of the geometric patterns (Saturn/Neptune/Jupiter) will start to break down as the planets shift.

If this sounds like something from a mystery novel, it is not. Astrology really was a 'thing' in the 1920s and 1930s. Perhaps the end of astrology came in the mid-1940s when Donald Bradley published his Bradley Model. After the mid-1940s, the academics managed to commandeer the investing space. Models such as the Frontier Efficiency Curve and the Efficient Market Hypothesis soon followed. Astrology was out. Buy and hold for the long term was the new mantra.



Soybeans futures with cosmic events

The above chart shows that in fact Sun, Moon, Mars, and sometimes Mercury passing key points related to the two triangle patterns in the 1936 horoscope align to swing highs and lows.

Dates to watch in the near future include:

April 3: Moon/natal Neptune

April 5: Moon/natal Sun

April 10: Moon/natal Jupiter

April 14: Moon/natal MH

April 16-18: Moon passes natal Saturn, Venus passing natal Asc

April 22: Moon/natal Asc



Soybeans futures with Fibonacci

The above chart shows that Fibonacci works on Soybeans charts. Notice how price declined from July 2022 through October 2022. By late February, price had retraced 48.6% of these losses. Unfortunately, Moon passing the natal Sun point (see yellow triangle in 1936 horoscope wheel) triggered a trend change and Soybeans started dropping in price. As at March 24, price had given back 61.8% of its move from October to February. If weakness continues, the \$13.94 level will be a 78.6% retrace. The \$13.56 level will be a 100% retrace.

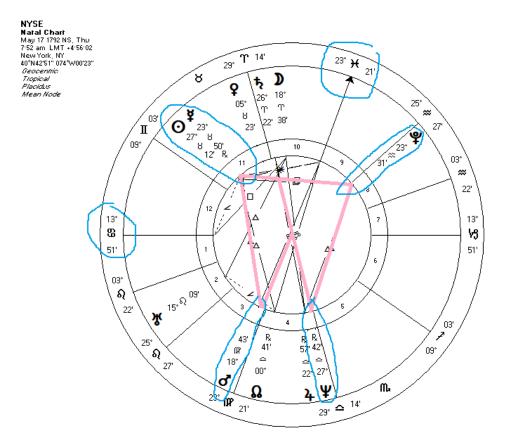


Soybeans futures with True Strength indicator

The True Strength indicator is showing a definite bearish trend and the 200-day average is up at the \$15.00 level making the major trend bearish.

The next cosmic event is due April 3 (Moon passing natal Neptune). I will be watching the True Strength indicator, and the Fibonacci retracement for evidence that price is ready to give a bullish trend.

NYSE

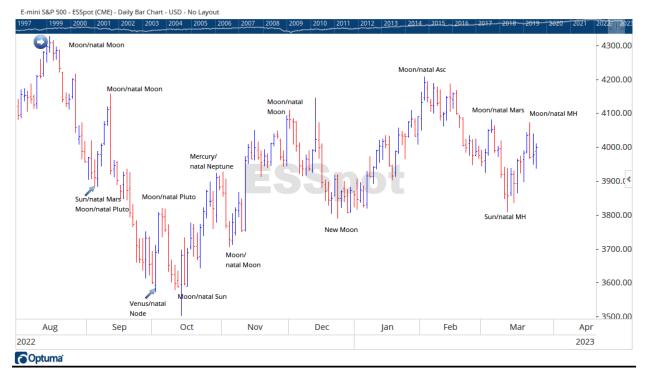


NYSE first trade horoscope

As I detail in my Almanac, the NYSE traces its origins to May 17, 1792. The above horoscope wheel shows the planetary placements at that date. In my Almanac, I detail the McWhirter method which concentrates on Moon passing the natal MidHeaven (MH) at 24 Pisces and the natal Ascendant at 14 Cancer.

The above horoscope wheel shows something of a unique geometric pattern involving two overlapping triangles. The apex points that define these triangles are Sun, Pluto, Mars, and Neptune.

The question then becomes – does price of the NYSE equity market respond as Moon passes these apex points, the MH, or the Asc?



NYSE with cosmic events

The above chart shows that indeed Moon (and to a lesser extent Mercury, Venus, and Sun) is a key influencer of price.



NYSE with events of Moon passing 14 Cancer (104 degrees) and 24 Pisces (354 degrees)

The above chart shows events of Moon passing the 1792 natal MH and Asc points. In 1937 Louise McWhirter noted this correlation, and this correlation holds to this day.



NYSE with Fibonacci math

I have examined the S&P 500 chart going back years. Fibonacci math plays a key role in the swing highs and lows. The above chart shows a recent retracement event where price recovered 48.6% of its decline from August through October 2022. The major trend is bullish (price over the 200-day average), but by the slimmest of margins. If the current banking crisis can be put to rest, price action will get further above the 200-day average. The intermediate trend was bullish (purple dashed line) until the regional bank crisis. With not too much effort, the bullish trend will be restored. So, it is not all gloom and doom as the financial media is spouting off about.



NYSE with True Strength indicator

The True Strength indicator is showing a favorable trend, despite the angst, the gloom, and the doom.

Dates to Watch for include:

March 28 to 29 – Moon passing the natal Ascendant as well as Mercury and Jupiter passing the natal Moon

April 3 - Moon passing natal Mars

April 6 – Moon passing natal Neptune as Sun passes natal Moon. Jupiter is still within orb of being conjunct to natal Moon.

April 15 - Moon passing natal Pluto

April 17 – Moon passes natal MH point

April 19 – Moon passing natal Moon

April 20 – New Moon and a new lunar cycle. Mars is sitting atop the 14 Cancer natal Asc point. Mercury turns retrograde. Expect the unexpected.....

About the only headline I can find on this Sunday morning is one that suggests the flow of deposit money away from regional banks (and into larger banks) is *slowing*. That is good news. Yes, Pluto is still at a hard aspect to the Node so expect the economy to underperform as per the McWhirter cycle. The media will preach gloom and doom. The Fed likely has one more 25 bps rate hike before it pauses.

We will be OK. But, for those of you who were around in 2008, you well know what it felt like. The next 18.6-year crisis will occur in 2026-27. If you think there was panic over the regional banking crisis in the last 2 weeks; if you think 2008 was filled with panic – prepare for something potentially far worse in 2026-27. However, knowing that a storm is coming means you can sidestep out of the way before the storm hits.

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