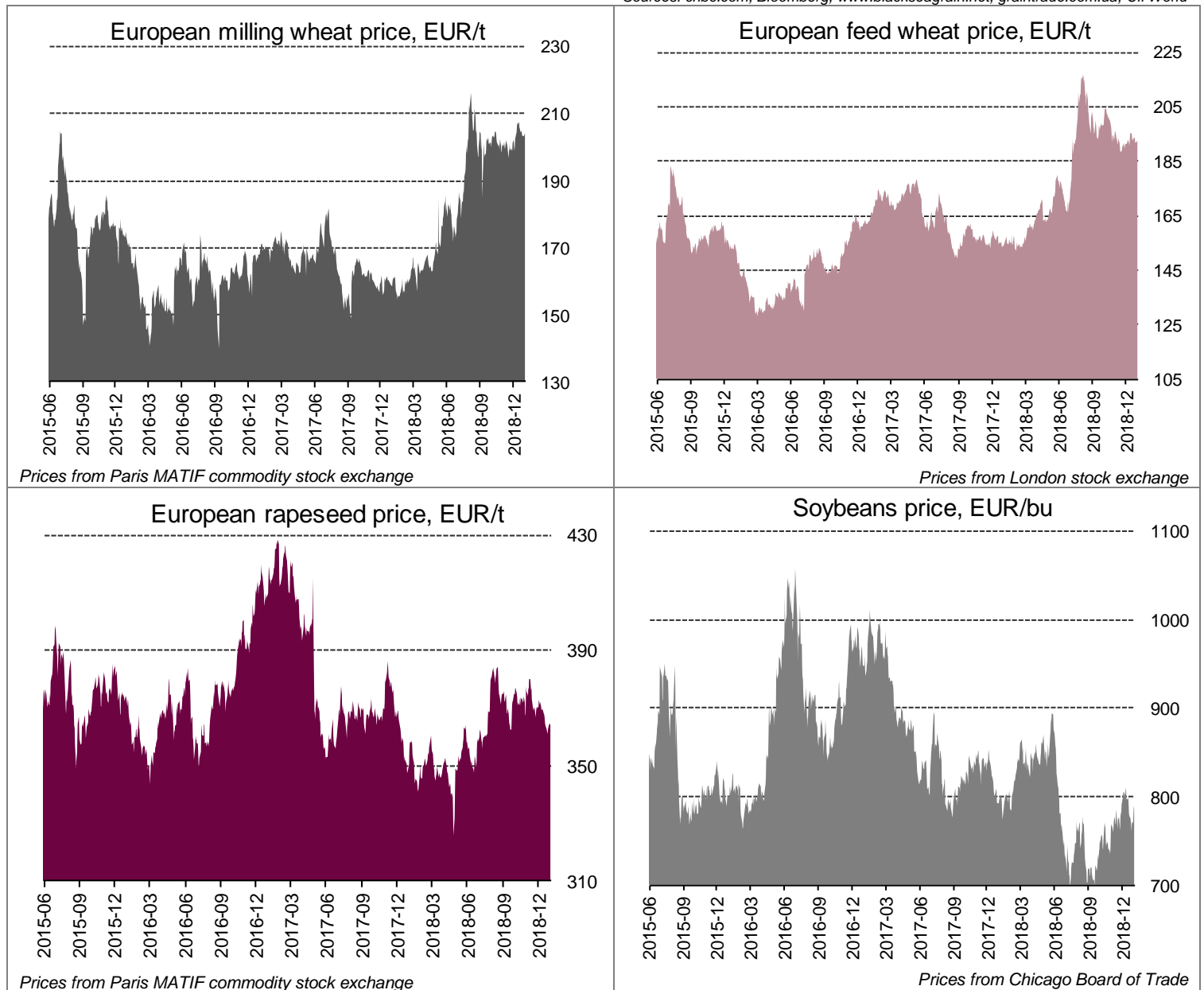


Speculative trade during holiday period

The price of the nearest wheat contract on the Euronext Paris stock exchange decreased by 1.5%, while the price of the nearest rapeseed contract dropped by less than 1% over the review period. Holiday period brought much speculative trade in commodity markets. As usual investors recorded profits before summing up the annual results. Sharp swings in energy and stock markets brought pressure also to agricultural commodities. In the US market participants worried about soybean exports numbers, given the news about Chinese state-owned company's Sinograin plans to resume soybeans imports from the US. However, a dispute between D. Trump and the US Congress over USD5bn appropriation for the construction of a wall on the border with Mexico led to the shutdown of the US government. As a result, USDA didn't release planned reports keeping markets in darkness. US and European traders are disappointed about the slow grain exports pace from the US and Europe, while Black Sea region continues to dominate the global market. Recent success entailed Russia and Ukraine to increase the sowing area of winter crops significantly by 5.3% and 7.5% comparing to the last season. At the beginning of 2019 market players will eye the developments of the US and China trade negotiations scheduled for January 7, as well as follow closely weather conditions in South America.

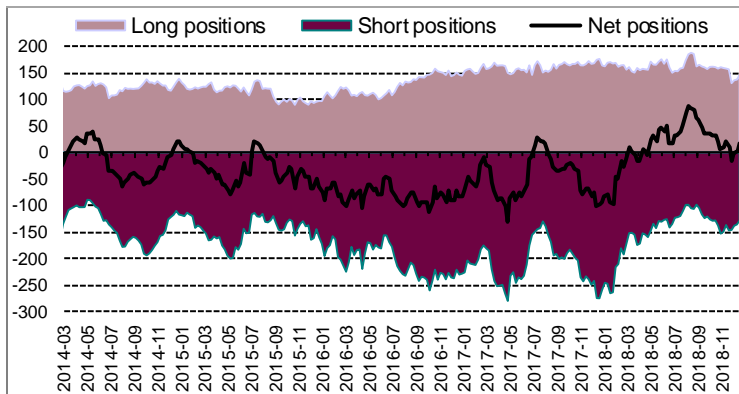
Sources: cncb.com, Bloomberg, www.blackseagrain.net, graintrade.com.ua, Oil World



Agricultural commodities prices, changes, per cent

	1M	3M	6M	12M
Wheat*	0,4	-0,1	8,7	17,1
Rapeseed*	-1,5	-4,0	-0,7	2,4
Feed wheat**	1,6	-2,6	10,7	26,9

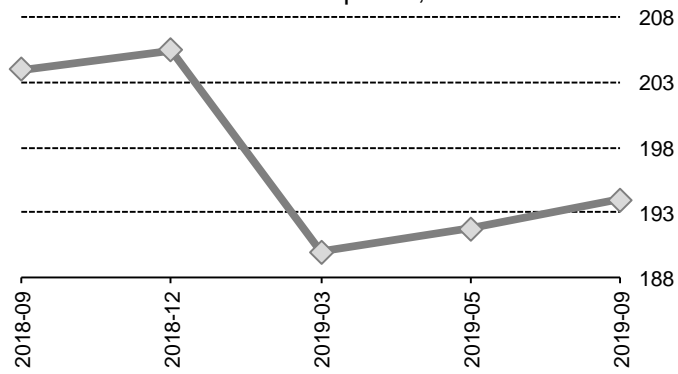
*Paris stock exchange, **London stock exchange



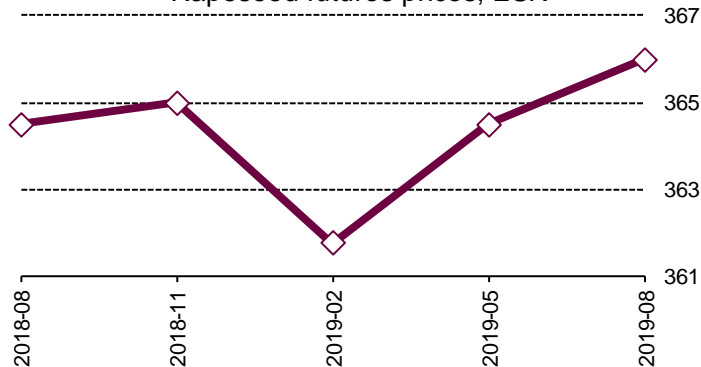
2019.01.03	Long Positions	Change over a month, %	Short Positions	Change over a month%	Net Positions
Commercial futures					
Wheat	143.874	-10,6	151.093	2,0	-7.219
Corn	706.412	-1,1	889.702	7,0	-183.290
Soybeans	398.949	3,5	380.039	4,7	18.910
Non-commercial futures					
Wheat	145.960	7,1	128.366	-10,5	17.594
Corn	420.949	7,2	217.821	-19,0	203.128
Soybeans	145.157	-6,3	130.626	-10,5	14.531

Pricing information on grain futures

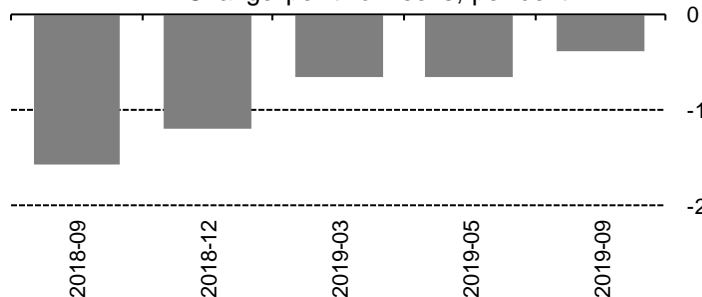
Wheat futures prices, EUR



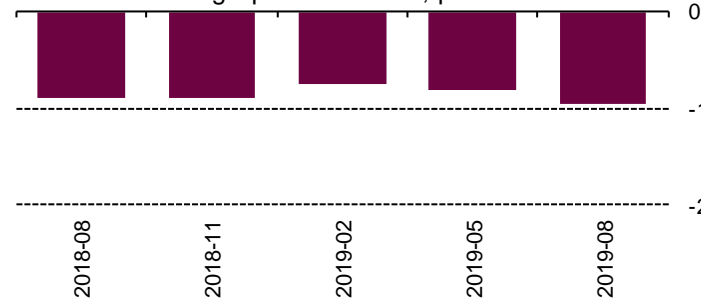
Rapeseed futures prices, EUR



Change per two weeks, per cent



Change per two weeks, per cent



Source: Bloomberg, Luminor

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