Inland River Barges

For the Mississippi River System and Connecting Waterways

April 2019 ~ 32nd Annual Edition
IEG Vantage, a part of Agribusiness Intelligence is the world leader in comprehensive agricultural, commodity and transportation market research, analysis and consulting. Founded in 1977, the company now serves more than 750 firms and institutions worldwide. From its headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee, IEG now spans the globe with a far-reaching network of services and clientele.

The company’s professional depth and experience provides a wide range of services related to the economic, strategy and management concerns of clients. Underpinning these services, its principal strengths lie in an expansive information base and a professional and experienced staff. Sister divisions that contribute to the transportation information base and network include Maritime Intelligence.

Representing Informa’s primary asset, its employees are well-trained and seasoned researchers and consultants with extensive backgrounds in business and government; most hold advanced degrees in agriculture, business, economics or related fields. The IEG Vantage team has extensive experience in transportation, agribusiness and similar areas as well as in agricultural policy decision-making. Many employees have gained insights from past government service in senior policy, analysis and advisory positions; from major trade associations; from land grant universities; and as senior officials of leading agribusiness companies.

The world's agricultural and food industry is expanding and remains in a constant state of change. Successful businesses and institutions must deal with rapidly shifting market conditions that are driven by international influences, technological innovations, policy shifts, weather conditions, emerging consumers and fluctuating consumer preferences. To continue succeeding in this environment, businesses must have access to reliable industry and market information and authoritative economic consulting services. It is IEG Vantage’s economic expertise and diverse client base that combine to provide unique insights, risk management and strategic planning for agribusinesses around the world.

In its role as a world leader in comprehensive commodity, food industry and agribusiness research and consulting, IEG Vantage offers several broad categories of services:

- Research/Analysis/Evaluation
- Business Consulting
- Education/Training
- News/Communication
- Transportation, Energy and Industrials

Contact us at (901) 766-4438 or visit our website at www.informaecon.com to learn more about our broad range of services.
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Interim correction, additions, or suggestions to improve the value of this study are encouraged and welcomed. We thank those operators who cooperated in providing information for this report. We trust this THIRTY SECOND ANNUAL BARGE FLEET PROFILE will be a useful management tool for the water transport industry and a valued reference to allied services and suppliers.
Throughout the year, Informa examines topics of importance to the agricultural, food, transportation and energy industries. Detailed and in-depth supply/demand outlooks for major commodities are highlighted at the conferences. In addition to Informa’s analysts and consultants, featured speakers are invited from across the globe and include industry experts, economists, politicians and bankers. The seminars also serve as a means to bring Informa clients together for informative discussion and debate.

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Daily Energy Comments

The rally in global crude oil prices following the OPEC/non-OPEC agreement to curtail production in late 2016 is failing with US crude oil inventories soaring to record-high levels. The rise of US shale is altering the global landscape for energy markets and global economics.

- Are declining crude oil prices good or bad for the US and world economy?
- What factors will determine whether prices will continue to decline or is the US as swing producer the new norm?
- Has OPEC lost its grip on the world crude oil market with the US now the largest producing country?
- Can OPEC survive a prolonged selloff or will compliance decline with several countries already in civil disarray?
- If the US exports more crude oil, how will that impact the world market and US petroleum product prices?
- How or will low crude oil prices impact natural gas production and usage?

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2. EIA Petroleum Report: Crude Stocks Gain; RBOB, Distillate Stocks Decline in Latest Week
3. Renewables, Warm Weather Seen Holding Down Natural Gas Prices
4. Pruitt Relationship with Fossil Fuel Industry Not Unusual: Former EPA Officials
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❖ Current Multi-Client Studies
  ✓ Farms of the Future: Structural Changes & Implications for U.S. Ag-Food Value Chain (April/May 2019)
  ✓ Market for Biopesticides and Biostimulants (May 2019)
  ✓ Non-GMO yes (April 2019)
  ✓ Global agriculture trade at a crossroads – implications from the pivotal U.S. – China trade deal

❖ Conferences & Events
  ✓ Agriculture Policy Roundtable Meeting May 22 (Washington, DC)
  ✓ Client Memphis In May Meeting May 16 (Memphis, TN)
  ✓ Agriculture Policy Roundtable Meeting June 26 (Washington, DC)
  ✓ Commodity and Feed Ingredient Symposium August 19-20 (Bloomington, MN)
  ✓ Agriculture Policy Roundtable Meeting September 18 (Washington, DC)
  ✓ Agriculture Policy Roundtable Meeting October 30 (Washington, DC)
  ✓ Annual Waterways Symposium November 6-8 (Pittsburgh, PA)

❖ Training
  Transportation and Logistics Professional Workshop, Aug. 20-21 (Bloomington, MN)
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