Undergrad Challenge

In this challenge, you will build a predictive model that will return 3 key insights to the farmer:

1. Predicted commodity closing (EOD) price 5 consecutive trading days in September & October (10total days). Dates will not be disclosed prior to November 9.

       a. Target variable Contract dates (March, May, July)

       b. Total measurements will be 30 (10 days x 3 contract dates)

2. Is today's price a peak / sell recommendation (binary)

3. Predicted commodity EOD price for December 6th

       a. Most accurate prediction will be announced at FASTCon (Dec 9th)

Model development will occur against July & August timeframes

Predictive accuracy will be measured against September and October actuals

Undergraduate Challenge: Analytic Thought Starters

● What is the price difference by contract date?

● Is there seasonality in the target variable for a given contract date?

● Is canola price predictive of soybean price?

● Is there an effect of the delayed 2019 seeding on soybean prices (see time lag in datasets on Oil

Crops Outlook tab: oil crops chart gallery figure 1)?

Undergraduate: Evaluation

Accuracy will be measured against each deliverable distinctly:

1. Predicted commodity closing (EOD) price 5 consecutive trading days in September & October (dates will not be disclosed prior to November

9 - 10 total days)

a. You will provide a file with predicted EOD price for September 3-October 31 it will include:

i. Predicted price for each of the distinct contract dates (March, May, July)

b. Total measurements will be 30 (10 days x 3 contract dates)

2. Is today's price a peak / sell recommendation (binary)

a. You will provide a file with SELL or HOLD as your recommendation for September 3-October 31 it will include:

i. A recommendation of SELL or HOLD for each of the distinct contract dates (March, May, July)

b. Total measurements will be 30 (10 days x 3 contract dates)

i. SELL recommendation w/in $0.16 of the max price = 10 pts

ii. HOLD recommendation w/in $0.16 of the min price = 10 pts

iii. HOLD recommendation w/in $0.16 of the max price = -5 pts

iv. SELL recommendation w/in $0.32 of the min price = -5 pts

3. Predicted commodity EOD price on December 6th for each of the three contract dates

a. Most accurate prediction will be announced at FASTCon (Dec 9th)