

**Malting barley** – it has been another quiet week with very limited turnover. Weakness in Prices came from the wheat market, and a bit from more farmer selling in the UK, which dried out towards the end of the week. The brewing and malting industry seems still to define their next needs and how to tackle the (high) protein supply from Scandinavia. We believe that a solution needs to be found for the entire supply chain to work with max. 12 % Protein, as otherwise the shortage of spring malting barley in Europe will get unmanageable.

**Australia** – Crop conditions in the West are good, rest of the country remains rather dry, especially the eastern part of the country. Strong domestic feedstuff demand due to the drought in East Australia was the main market maker. Overall prices came down in recent days, following the international grains market. Will be interesting to see if Australia will be priced into the next Saudi SAGO tender for feed barley.

**Argentina** – Crop conditions remain mostly benign, we continue to expect a crop size potential of about 4,5 mio ts. Upto now about 930k ts of feed barley have been purchased for the next crop for export, and about 270k ts of malting barley.

**Futures & Grain markets** - the grain complex was under pressure this week amid the new China tariffs and the Pro Farmer crop tour in the US, which so far projected above-average corn yields. Weather conditions are benign in the USA, and crops are growing very well. Further pressure came from shippers wanting to sell and to export quickly Russian wheat, before any kind of export limitations might kick in later in the crop year. It should not be forgotten that supply of Russian wheat is much smaller than last year, and that the global grain S&D needs very big crops in the US, as global ending stocks of wheat, corn and barley continue to shrink to uncomfortable levels.

**Matif December Wheat Chart** (might test the € 200 level before we could go higher):



Have a good weekend!