

By Julie Wernau

Arabica **coffee** futures started lower Wednesday as the market digested news that stocks of unroasted beans have risen in the U.S.

Arabica **coffee** for December delivery fell 0.9% to \$1.3945 a pound on the ICE Futures U.S. exchange

U.S. July green **coffee** stocks increased by 97,965 bags to 6.309 million bags.

With recently low exports out of Brazil and Colombia, the top growing regions for the mild arabica bean, traders had expected a smaller increase or even a drop in stocks, said INTL FC Stone.

In July, exports from Brazil fell to a 10-year low of 1.9 million bags, a 34% drop year-over-year, and Colombian **coffee** trade volumes were down 27% year-over-year at 0.7 million bags in part due to a trucker strike in the country.

"The market anticipates plenty of supply for the demand right now," said Jack Scoville, vice president of Price Futures Group in Chicago.

Weather forecasters say dry weather has been helping harvests in Brazil and is expected to continue over the next week.

In other markets, raw sugar for October fell 2.3% to 19.80 cents a pound, cocoa for December rose 0.3% to \$3,069 a ton, frozen concentrated orange juice futures for September slumped 1% to \$1.7675 a pound and December cotton was up 0.7% at 69.09 cents a pound.

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08-17-16 1036ET

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