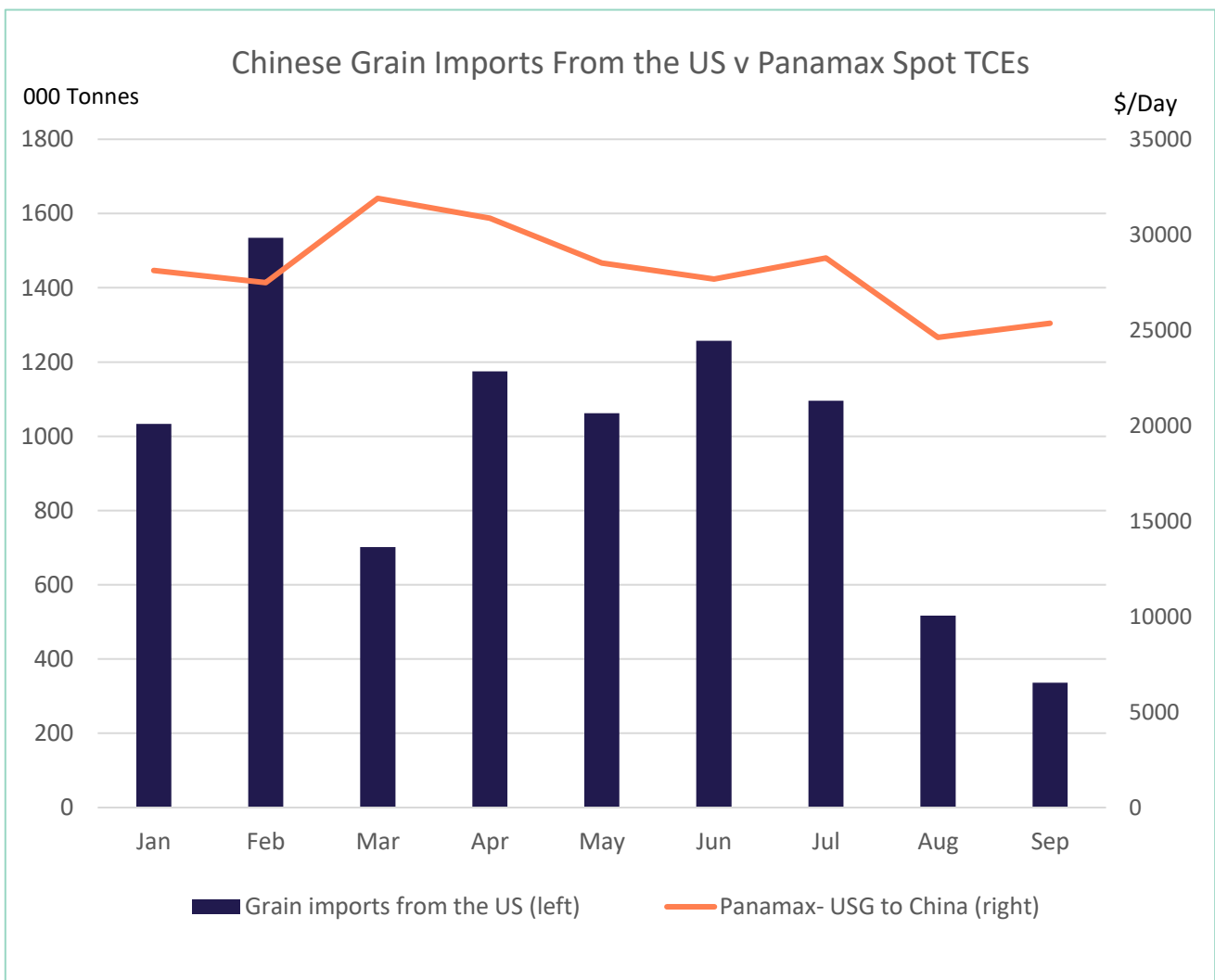




RLA Market Insights – Friday, 15 November 2024

2024: China Grain Imports from the US v Panamax Spot TCE

Chinese grain imports from the United States have significantly declined this year. Shipments dropped from 1.03 million tonnes in January to just 336,000 tonnes by September. This trend mirrors the decline in Panamax freight rates, which fell from \$28,126/day in January to \$25,359/day in September. The reduction in grain imports is largely attributed to the trade tariffs imposed by Donald Trump during his first term, with both the US and China engaged in a trade war marked by reciprocal tariffs. In response, China has made efforts to reduce its reliance on American agricultural products as part of a broader strategy to strengthen its food security. As a result, the share of China's soybean imports from the US, which was 40% in 2016, has now dropped to 18% in 2024. This shift aligns with China's enactment of its first food security law in June 2024, which aims to achieve self-sufficiency in staple grains and food production. Furthermore, China has introduced a 2024-2028 action plan to accelerate the development of smart farming and precision agriculture to boost domestic food production. With these measures in place, it is expected that US grain imports into China will remain low. As a result, China will likely source its grains from domestic production or other allied nations, such as Russia, which will further exert pressure on US-to-China Panamax freight rates.





SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

A monthly report covering the next four months and including trends in oil supply, demand and trade, tanker demand and supply, spot, and time charter rates for MRs up to VLCCs, comparisons with FFAs plus the latest news on developments impacting the oil and tanker sectors.

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – OIL TANKER MARKET

Concise analyses of topical issues, consistent market data series and views on future trends in tanker charter rates. The report covers Oil Prices; Economic Developments; Oil Demand and Supply; Trade; Tanker Demand, Supply and Rates. Sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year

SHORT TERM OUTLOOK – VLGC MARKET

A monthly report looking four months ahead at likely trends in the VLGC Spot Market with the latest on key LPG carrier trades, benchmark LPG prices, arbitrage developments, a comparison with FFAs and recent news

MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK – LPG CARRIER MARKET

A quarterly series of regular reviews, analyses and forecasts of the LPG Carrier Market. The report covers Economic Developments; LPG production, consumption and pricing; LPG, chemical gases and ammonia trade, LPG Carrier Demand, Supply and Rates for Fully Ref, Semi-Ref and Pressurised Ships. Reports sent to clients around January, April, July and October each year.

CHEMICAL CARRIER WORLD SERVICE

An annual consultancy service currently providing Clients with an Annual Fundamentals Report, a Forecast Update, two quarterly Market Monitors, Monthly Commodity Trade Bulletins for key countries, an annual presentation on the market outlook and access to RLA's consultant's and analysts to discuss issues arising from these reports.



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