May 20 Matt Closed down €7.50. Don’t Panic…. Brent crude oil slumped 3.8% as the rapid spread of coronavirus in countries outside China added to investor concerns over the effect on demand for Crude. Global equities also tumbled. US soybean sales are running 9% behind a year ago, shipments are 22% ahead with the USDA forecasting a 4% increase on the year. Soy oil sales are 37% of a year ago with shipments 40% ahead. UK February rainfall is already AT 141% of a normal year, if there is such a thing!! The concern now is will Spring crops get in the ground in good conditions and in time to get a half decent yield, time will tell. Heavy rains in Brazil continue to slow harvest, drying is also becoming an issue as the back log gets bigger.

**Market Drivers**

**Positive Market Drivers** - EU OSR 19/20 production seen at 16.9ml/t, Global oilseed consumption seen at 564ml/t with soybeans accounting for 6ml of the increase. Veg oil usage to rise 3.2% (China/India). Reduction in Crude Oil production (OPEC). Increase in Palm oil blending in Biodiesel in Indonesia/Malaysia. Lower area of OSR across the EU.

**Negative Market Drivers** - Chinese soy imports set to be 82ml in 2019/20. The 2020 Brazilian Soy crop seen @ 124ml/t. Global Soybean production seen @ 2286ml/t.

**UOM Opinion**

May 20 Matif opened up €0.75. The Matif has lost €12 over the last few days which is a knee jerk reaction to the Virus which has hit global markets, speculators are moving funds into ‘safe havens’ like Gold. At some stage they will realise the world has not stopped going round and life goes on as we all need to eat. Sterling has also firmed so there is little chance of markets recovering in the short term. Contact your United Oilseeds Area Manager or the Devizes office to discuss availability and cost. We have Linseed, Marrowfat buyback contracts available. If you need samples taken please call your AM or the Devizes office. For more information call the Devizes office on 01380 729200.

**FOR EX FARM PRICES DEDUCT ACTUAL HAULAGE RATES TO DESTINATION**

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