

Barchart Commodity Traders Read the Announcement on New Data Feeds

Barchart Releases Expanded Commodity Data Feeds for Agricultural Markets

Barchart has introduced a set of expanded data feeds covering grain, livestock, and fuel markets across the United States. The new feeds provide real-time pricing, volume, and basis data for more than 1,200 cash grain locations, 400 livestock auctions, and 3,000 fuel terminals. Traders, analysts, and agribusinesses can now integrate these streams directly into their proprietary risk-management platforms without custom scraping or manual entry.

The company, known for its commodity price reporting and market data services, built the feeds in response to demand for lower-latency data from algorithmic traders and large-scale grain handlers. Each feed updates every 30 seconds during market hours and includes historical tick data for the prior 90 days. The data is delivered in JSON and CSV formats through a RESTful API, with authentication handled via API keys issued to each subscriber.

Market participants who need to [read the announcement](#) for compliance or trading strategy adjustments will find the full technical specifications in the updated developer portal. The portal includes endpoint documentation, sample queries, and a changelog that tracks modifications to field definitions. Barchart also published a migration guide for existing API users whose queries may need updating due to renamed fields in the livestock feed.

Feed Coverage and Data Points

The grain feed covers corn, soybeans, wheat, sorghum, oats, barley, and canola at the county level. For each commodity the feed reports cash bid price, futures spread, basis, and change from the previous trading day. Volume data is included where available from reporting elevators. The livestock feed includes cattle, hogs, and sheep prices by auction location, with weight ranges, head counts, and grade distributions. The fuel feed tracks diesel, gasoline, propane, and ethanol at the terminal rack level, with separate fields for wholesale and retail prices.

All feeds carry a timestamp field in ISO 8601 format, a location identifier that maps to the Barchart facility database, and a status flag indicating whether the price is a confirmed trade or an indicative quote. Data quality flags alert subscribers when a price has not updated within the expected window or when a location has closed for the day.

Subscribers to the existing Barchart API can access the new feeds under their current pricing tier. New customers can sign up for a free trial that provides 14 days of historical data and real-time streaming for up to 10 locations. The company expects the expanded coverage to reduce the number of data sources that traders must manage separately, particularly for firms that operate across multiple commodity verticals.

Technical Integration and Support

Barchart provides client libraries in Python, JavaScript, and R to simplify feed integration. Each library handles authentication, rate limiting, and automatic reconnection if the stream drops. The company also published a Postman collection with preconfigured requests for all three commodity feeds. Developers who prefer to build their own connectors can rely on the OpenAPI specification hosted on the developer portal.

The expanded feeds arrive as the agricultural technology sector pushes toward lower-latency data pipelines. Several large grain origination firms have already tested the feeds in production environments and reported improved fill rates for their pricing dashboards. Barchart plans to add weather-adjusted basis projections and export data from major Gulf and Pacific Northwest terminals in a subsequent release later this year.

For firms that need to read the announcement alongside their internal compliance workflows, the company offers a dedicated enterprise support channel. That channel provides custom SLAs, dedicated API rate limits, and a named technical account manager. Barchart also runs a monthly web-based workshop that walks through API changes and field-level documentation updates.

Market Context

The release comes at a time when margin compression in grain handling and livestock marketing makes precise price discovery more valuable. Traders who rely on delayed or aggregated data risk missing the best bid window or overpaying for transport. The new feeds aim to close that gap by delivering location-specific prices as soon as the reporting facility submits them.

Barchart does not charge per-query fees. Subscribers pay a flat monthly rate based on the number of commodity feeds they access and the total number of locations they track. That pricing model is designed to encourage firms to expand their geographic coverage without worrying about incremental data costs. The company also offers a bundled package that includes all three commodity feeds plus the existing weather and futures data services.

Industry analysts have noted that the granularity of the livestock feed, in particular, could help small and mid-size feedlots benchmark their sale prices against regional auctions more

accurately. Previously, those operations often relied on printed reports or weekly summaries from the USDA. The Barchart feed updates every 30 seconds and includes the same auction-level detail that larger packers have accessed through proprietary systems.

The fuel feed includes separate fields for biodiesel blends, reformulated gasoline, and seasonal diesel grades. Terminal operators who report prices to Barchart can now see their own data alongside competitor pricing within minutes of posting. That visibility can help fuel distributors adjust their rack prices in near real time.

Next Steps for Subscribers

Current API users can activate the new feeds through their account dashboard without signing a new contract. The activation process takes roughly five minutes and does not interrupt existing data streams. Barchart recommends that subscribers read the announcement and the accompanying migration guide before updating their query scripts, particularly if they rely on field names that changed between versions.

The company has scheduled a series of regional workshops in the coming months to demonstrate the feeds to cooperative grain managers, livestock marketing associations, and fuel buying groups. Those workshops will cover use cases such as automated bid stacking, basis curve modeling, and freight rate optimization. Attendees will receive hands-on training with the API and a workbook of sample queries tailored to their commodity focus.

Barchart also maintains a public status page that shows real-time latency metrics for each feed, along with a history of outages and maintenance windows. Subscribers can subscribe to email alerts for feed disruptions and scheduled updates. The company commits to a 99.5% uptime SLA for the new feeds, measured on a rolling 12-month basis.