



FARM ASSETS
CONFERENCE

The logo icon consists of a white silhouette of a person with their arms raised, forming a shape similar to the letter 'n'. A small white circle is positioned above the top curve of the 'n' shape.

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Updating the Carbon Market Landscape



Sarah Sellars

University of Illinois

Updating the Carbon Market Landscape

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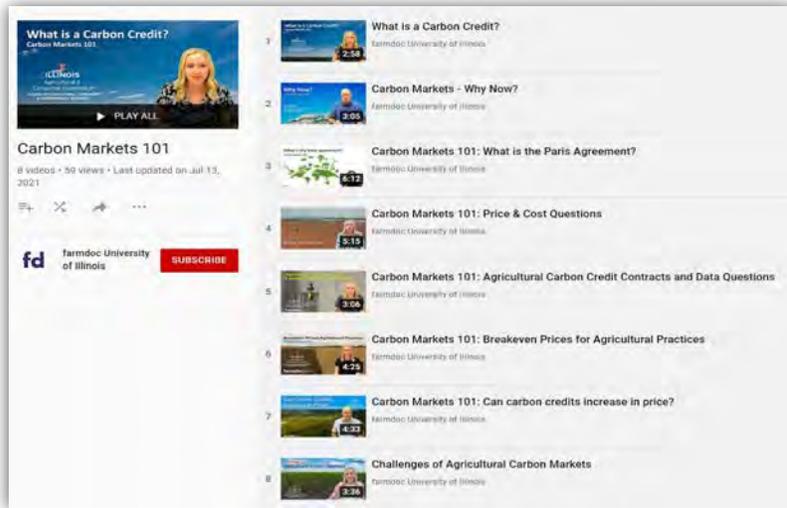


Sarah C. Sellars
Farm Assets Conference
November 21, 2022

Introduction



Carbon Markets 101 Extension Program



farmdocDAILY.Illinois.edu

- **What Questions Should Farmers Ask about Selling Carbon Credits?**
- **Growing Climate Solutions Act Impact on Farmers**
- **Agricultural Carbon Markets: A Case Study of Alberta**



Carbon Markets 101 YouTube Playlist

<https://www.YouTube.com/farmdocVideo>



Carbon Markets 101: What Questions Farmers Should Ask?
September 9, 2021 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm CDT

[Watch Video](#)

[Download Slides](#)

With growing concerns about climate change, policy makers are looking for solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. One solution is a market for carbon credits. Here we will describe the latest on carbon markets, with an emphasis on definitions of carbon markets and an analysis of current carbon markets.

A wide-angle photograph of a vast field of golden-brown wheat. The field stretches to the horizon, with a few distant trees and structures visible on the left. The sky is filled with dramatic, layered clouds, with a warm orange and yellow glow near the horizon, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

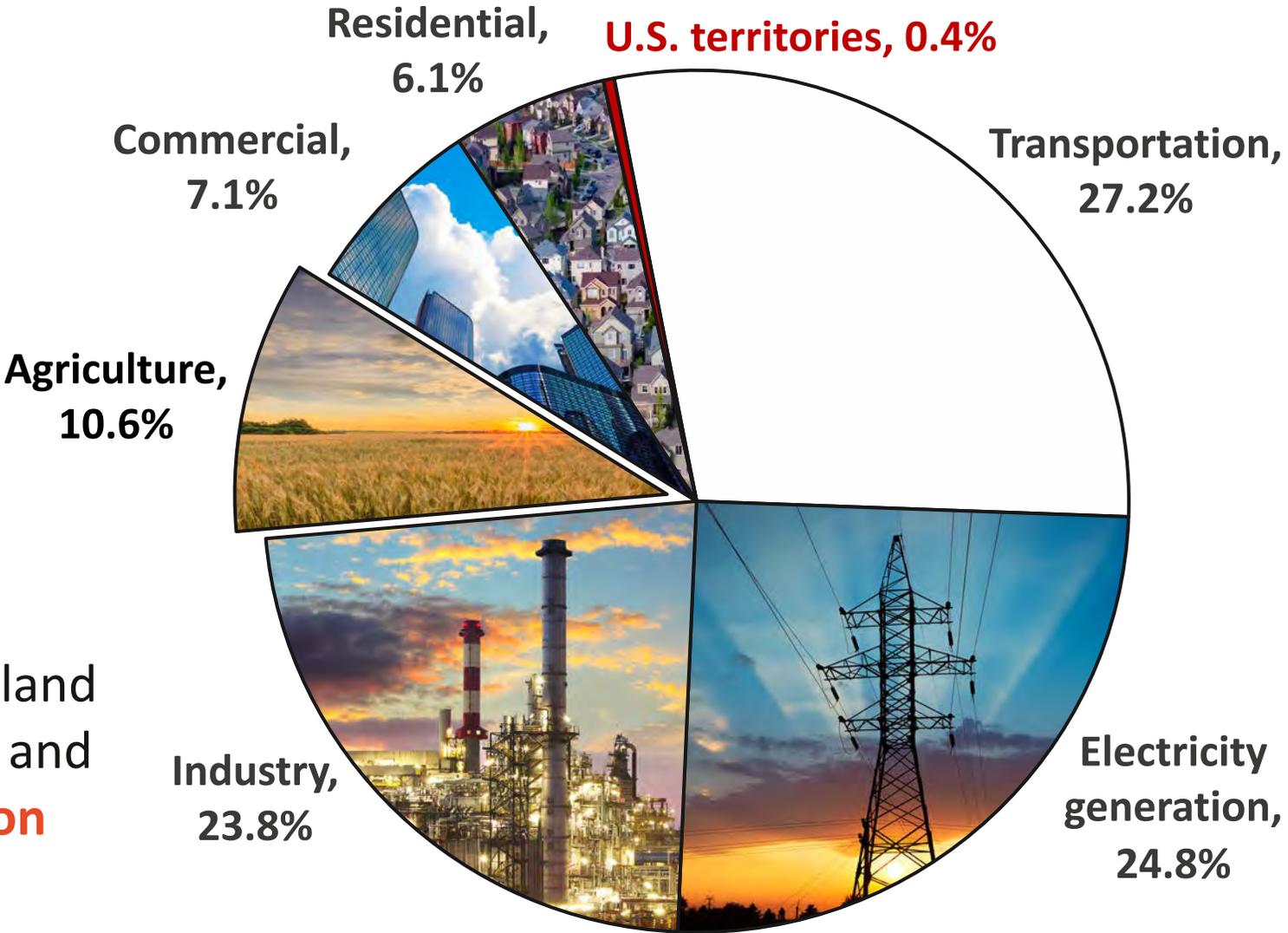
Background

Emissions by Economic Sector, 2020

Million Metric Tons CO₂ Equivalent

Background
Agricultural
activities are
looked at as a sink
for carbon

Current sequestration on U.S. cropland
is 8.4 millions mt/CO₂-eq per year and
the annual potential is **100 million
mt/CO₂-eq per year**



Data Source: United States EPA

Two efforts simultaneously

Government Policy

- Congressional action
- Administrative activities

“Private Carbon Markets”



Why is This Time Different?



- Stock exchange for emission sources and offset projects
- Traded from 2003 to 2010
- Ceased trading at the end of 2010
- Effective final price was between 5 and 10 cents

Why is This Time Different?

- Increased demand
 - One-fifth of world's largest publicly listed companies have net-zero emissions targets
 - U.S. and companies have made promises to reach net-zero and need to deliver
- Different policy environment
 - Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities: \$3 billion from USDA for pilot projects

How Agricultural Carbon Markets Work



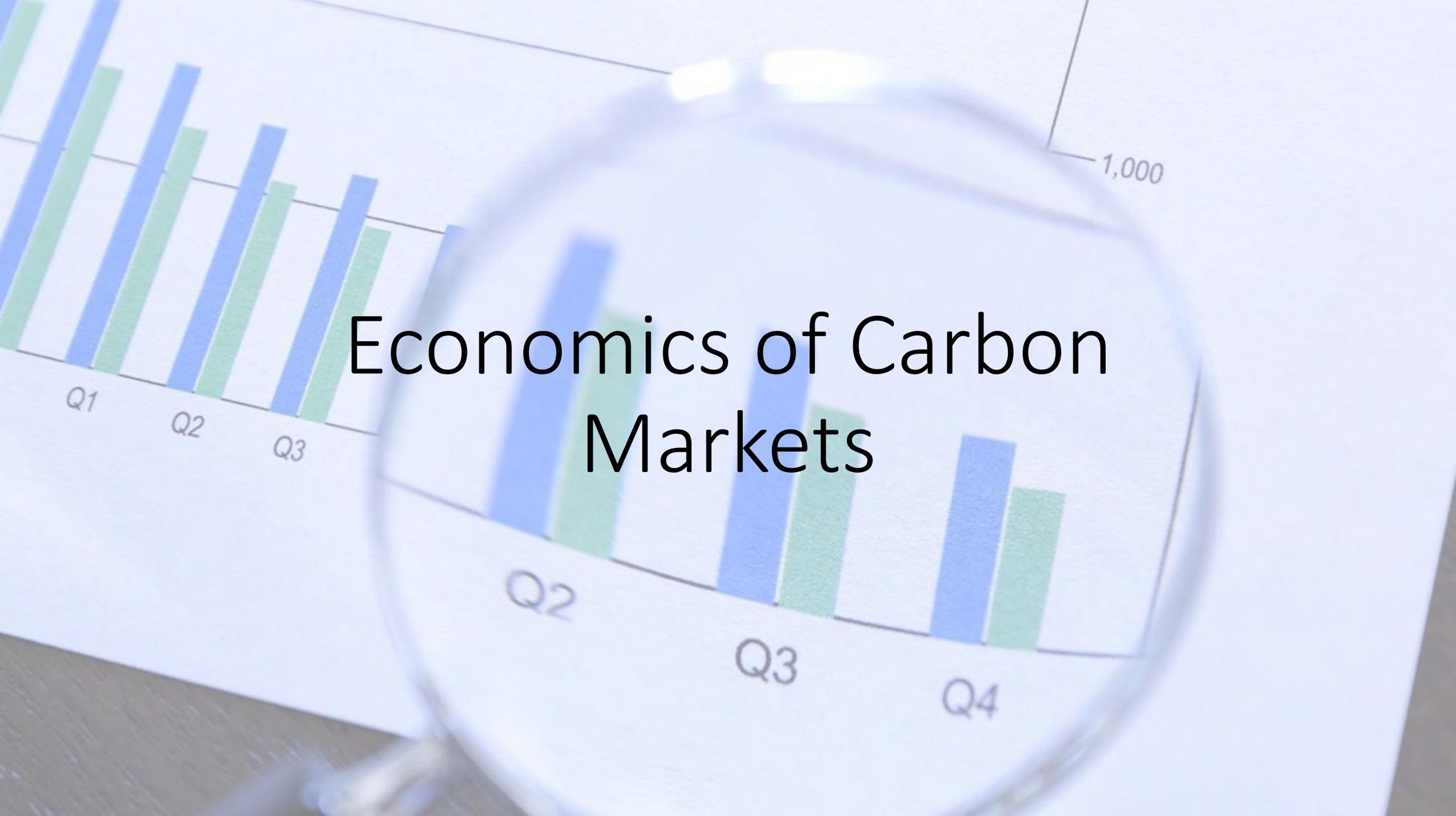
Most Common Eligible Practices

- Cover crops
- Changing nitrogen practices
- Diversifying crop rotation
- Reducing tillage
- Grazing livestock

Private Carbon Markets



- Markets will exist as long as private entities want to buy credits
- Currently many companies want “new” carbon

A magnifying glass is positioned over a bar chart. The chart displays data for four quarters (Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4) with two series: blue and green. The blue series shows a steady decline from Q1 to Q4, while the green series shows a steady increase. A horizontal line is drawn across the chart at the 1,000 level. The magnifying glass is centered over the Q2, Q3, and Q4 data points. The text 'Economics of Carbon Markets' is overlaid in the center of the magnifying glass.

Economics of Carbon Markets

1,000

Q1 Q2 Q3

Q2 Q3 Q4

Payment amount and basis

Per acre

Bayer: \$3/acre for reduced tillage, \$6/acre for cover crops, \$9/acre for both in 2021, now at \$12 per acre for both in 2022 and new partnership with Nori

Per credit

Corteva Granular: \$15/credit in 2021, \$20/credit in 2022, projected up to \$30/credit

Indigo Ag: \$10/credit in 2020, \$15/credit in 2021, \$20/credit in 2022

Per credit or per acre

TruTerra (Land O'Lakes): \$10 per credit in 2021, \$20/credit in 2022, or \$2/acre

Current guaranteed minimum carbon price: around \$20/credit

Data requirements

- Most require entry of information by farmer into software
 - Climate view, Bayer
 - Granular Insights, Corteva Granular
 - Gradable, Farmer Business Network
- Many require **three years** of previous information
- Likely require boundaries and practices for the coming year

Can early adopters participate



Practices have to be adopted since 2011



Practices must be adopted in last two years

Other Opportunities to Watch

- USDA Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities
 - \$2.8 billion invested in 70 projects
 - 15 projects available in Illinois
 - 9 for corn and soybeans
 - Other relevant commodities include beef, dairy, pork, wheat, specialty crops

RIPE PILOTS STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM AT \$100 PER ACRE OR ANIMAL UNIT

FARMER-LED POLICY BENEFITS THE BOTTOM LINE.

By [Megan Schilling](#)

10/26/2022

 Listen to article 7 minutes 

Climate policy programs need to work for farmers' bottom lines. That is the foundation of the Rural Investment to Protect our Environment (RIPE) organization, led by executive director Aliza Drewes.

"In regard to climate policy, there hasn't been a significant reason for rural stakeholders to commit because there was the negative downside of potential costs, potential regulations, and to date, carbon farming programs have been designed to only compensate producers for greenhouse gas value, which, in most cases, is less than the cost of the practice," Drewes says.



USDA

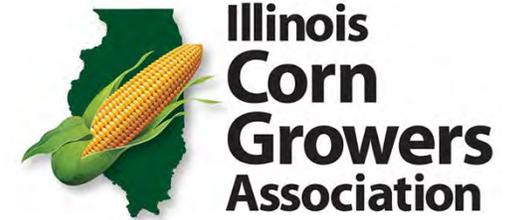
What



Precision Conservation Management



- Field-level data to understand how conservation practices impact farmer net returns
- 6 years of data
- 16 Illinois counties
- 10 Kentucky counties



CHECKOFF & MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS

PCM Cover Crops Data, High SPR, No-Till

	Corn			Soybeans		
	# of Obs.	Average CO2-eq per Acre	Per Acre Income at \$20/credit	# of Obs.	Average CO2-eq per Acre	Per Acre Income at \$20/credit
Cover Crops	124	-0.91	\$18.20	432	-1.72	\$34
No Cover Crops	466	-0.17	\$3.40	1307	-0.90	\$18

PCM Tillage Data, High SPR, No Cover Crops

	Corn			Soybeans		
	# of Obs.	Average CO2-eq per Acre	Per Acre Income at \$20/credit	# of Obs.	Average CO2-eq per Acre	Per Acre Income at \$20/credit
No-Till	466	-0.17	\$3.40	1307	-0.90	\$18.00
Strip-Till	615	0.48	\$0	64	-0.29	\$5.80
1-Pass Light	1222	0.28	\$0	425	-0.42	\$8.40
2-Pass Light	432	0.42	\$0	172	0.32	\$0
2-Pass Medium	629	0.22	\$0	619	0.32	\$0
3+ Pass	87	1.14	\$0	408	0.29	\$0

An aerial photograph of a large agricultural field. The field is divided into two distinct horizontal sections. The top section is dark brown, indicating recently plowed soil. The bottom section is a lighter, golden-brown color, suggesting a field of mature crops or a different soil type. A red tractor is positioned on the right side of the field, moving from right to left, pulling a blue plow. The tractor is kicking up a cloud of dust or soil behind it. Overlaid on the center of the image is the text "Farmer Participation in Carbon Markets" in a large, white, sans-serif font.

Farmer Participation in Carbon Markets

How many farmers are participating?

- Indigo: 175 farmers across the country were paid in first credit issuance
 - Now 2,000 farmers and 5 million acres enrolled
- Bayer: As of August 2022, more than 2,600 farmers from 10 countries enrolled covering 1.4 million acres
- TruTerra: More than 1,900 farmers since 2016; 29,000 fields
- Nori: As of early 2022, paid \$1.6 million to 15 farmers

Resources for Carbon Market Information



IL Sustainable Ag Partnership

E. Bruner and J. Brokish, “Ecosystem Market Information: Opportunity and Program Comparison”

<https://ilsustainableag.org/ecomarkets/>

TABLE 1: MARKET ENTITIES

As of February 2021

	Nori	Indigo Ag	Soil & Water Outcomes	ESMC
Acreage Min/Max	None	One-field min, no max	None	None
Contract Length	10 yrs	5 yrs	Annual with yearly renewal	Pilot – Annual Market Launch – Scope 1: 10 yrs; Scope 3: TBD
New Practice Requirement	Yes, with a look-back of up to 5 years during pilot phase	Yes, with a look-back of 2 growing seasons	Yes	Yes, but investigating potential of payments to producers already implementing conservation practices for Scope 3
Payment Schedule	End of month when offset credit is sold	50% yr 1, 20% yr 2, 10% yrs 3, 4, 5	Annually, split 50/50–1 shortly after signing, 1 after verification	Pilot – Annual Market- Launch - Annual to every 5 yrs depending on Scope for carbon 1 vs 3, respectively; annual for water quality.
Ability to Enroll Same Fields in Gov’t Programs/ Other Markets	Designed to stack with both	Designed to stack with both, but other incentives cannot include payments for carbon credits or related assets (financing is okay)	No Note – payment for water quality and carbon outcomes	Designed to stack with gov’t programs; individual fields cannot be in two market programs. Note – ESMC internally stacks carbon with GHG reductions, water quality, and water quantity.
Outcome Estimation	Soil sample reference network-based modeling (Soil Metrics) - cost incurred by Nori. Farmer has option to true-up via soil sampling - farmer incurs sampling cost.	Modeling (biogeochemical and statistical) + soil sampling, Indigo assumes cost (Indigo does not charge growers for anything)	Modeling, with 10% of fields subject to in-field soil and water sampling at no cost to farmer	Modeling (peer reviewed biogeochemical model) + soil sampling. ESMC assumes costs and includes in asset price to buyers.

Recommendations for Farmers

- Stackability
 - Covers adoption costs
- Protection of upside potential
- Modeling capabilities
- Topics to Watch
 - USDA Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities Programs
 - Other ecosystems market opportunities



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Crop Prospects in Brazil & Argentina



Joana Colussi
University of Illinois

Crop Prospects in Brazil & Argentina



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Joana Colussi, Ph.D.

South America Overview

- **Brazil and Argentina** are the main agricultural producers and exporters in South America.
- South America makes up **54% of the world's soybean crop**: divided into 37% for Brazil and 13% for Argentina.
- Global shares of **corn production are 15% for South America**: 9% for Brazil and 5% for Argentina.
- The region can produce enough crops to help ease **global food inflation**.

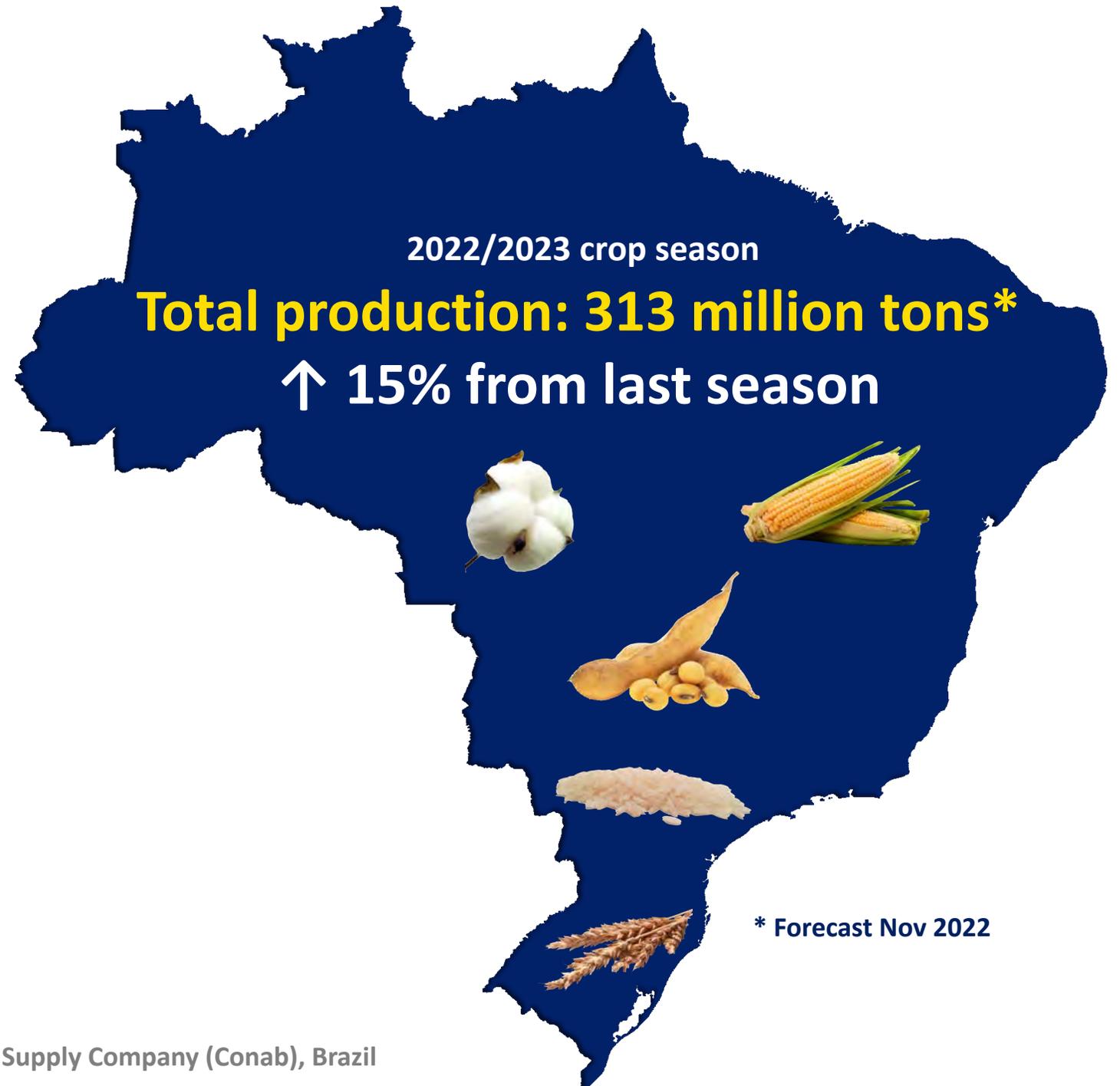


Largest projected grain harvest in Brazilian history

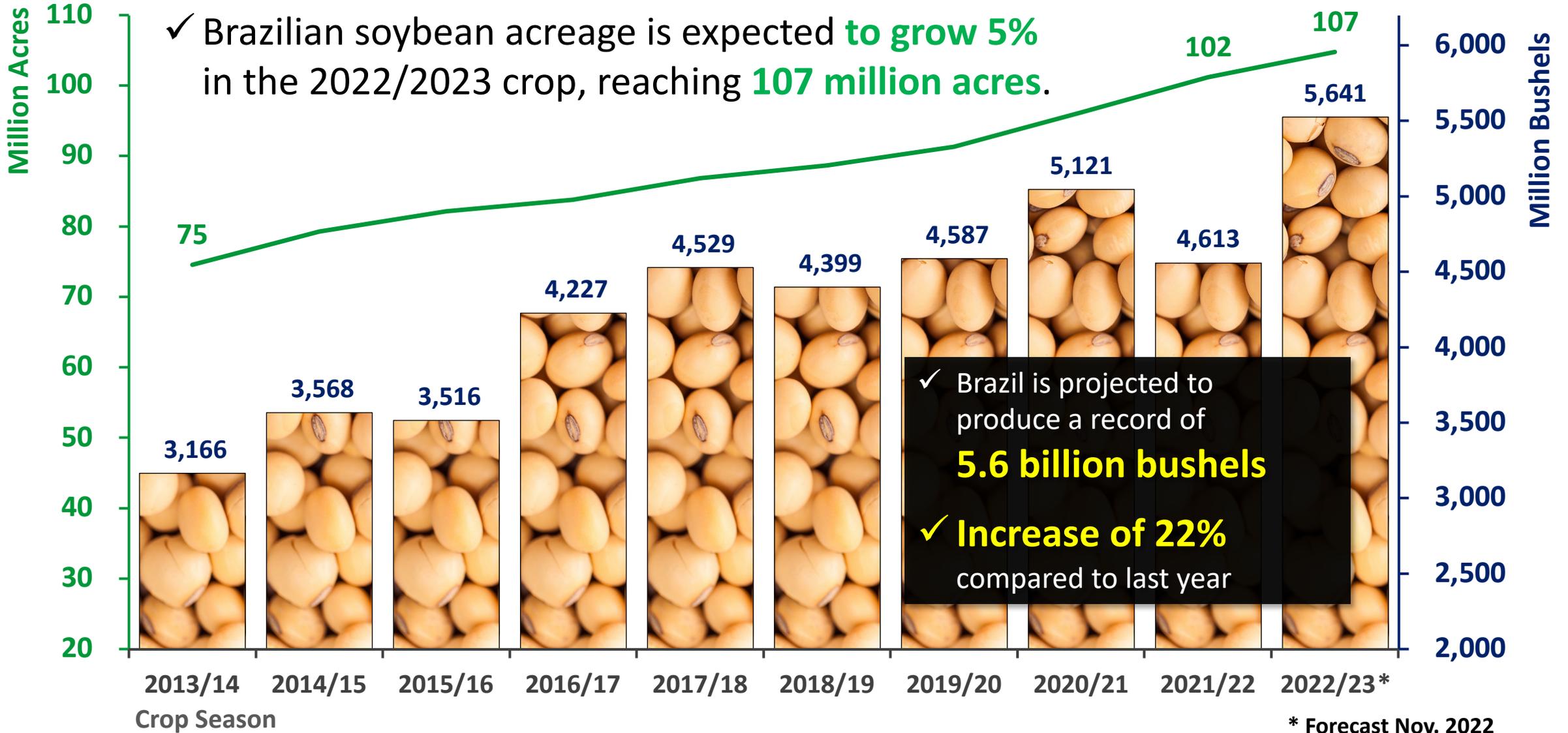
Two main drivers:

↑ 3% increase in planted area

↑ 12% higher yields



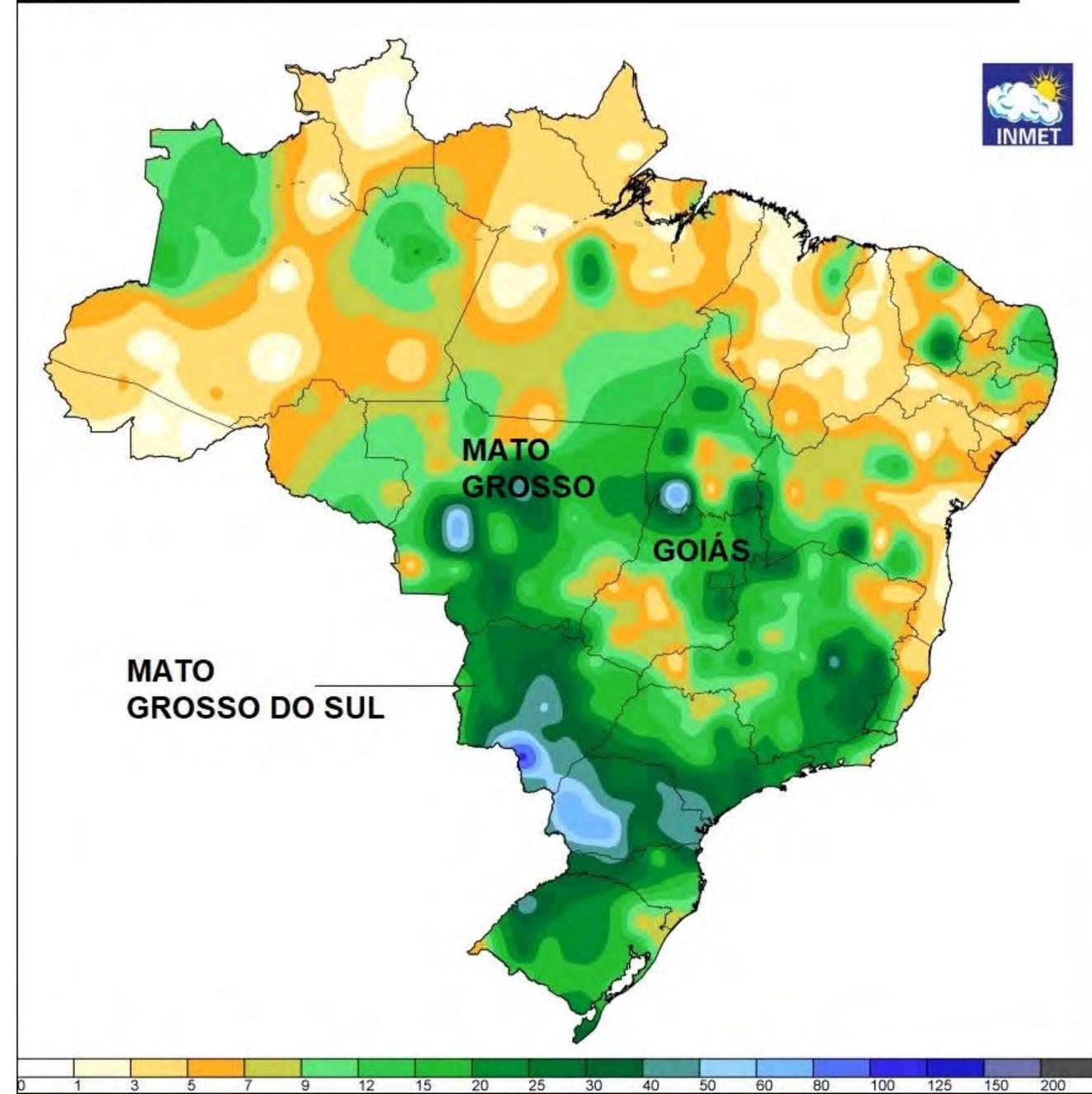
Soybean Acreage and Production in Brazil



Source: National Supply Company (Conab), Brazil

Planting Progress

- Rains were seen over the last weeks, but some areas still **need moisture**.
- The 2022/23 soybean planting was **66% complete** as of Nov 12 versus 77% at the same time last year.
- The 2022/23 corn planting was **54% complete** as of Nov 12 versus 63% at the same time last year.



Soybean Market Outlook in Brazil

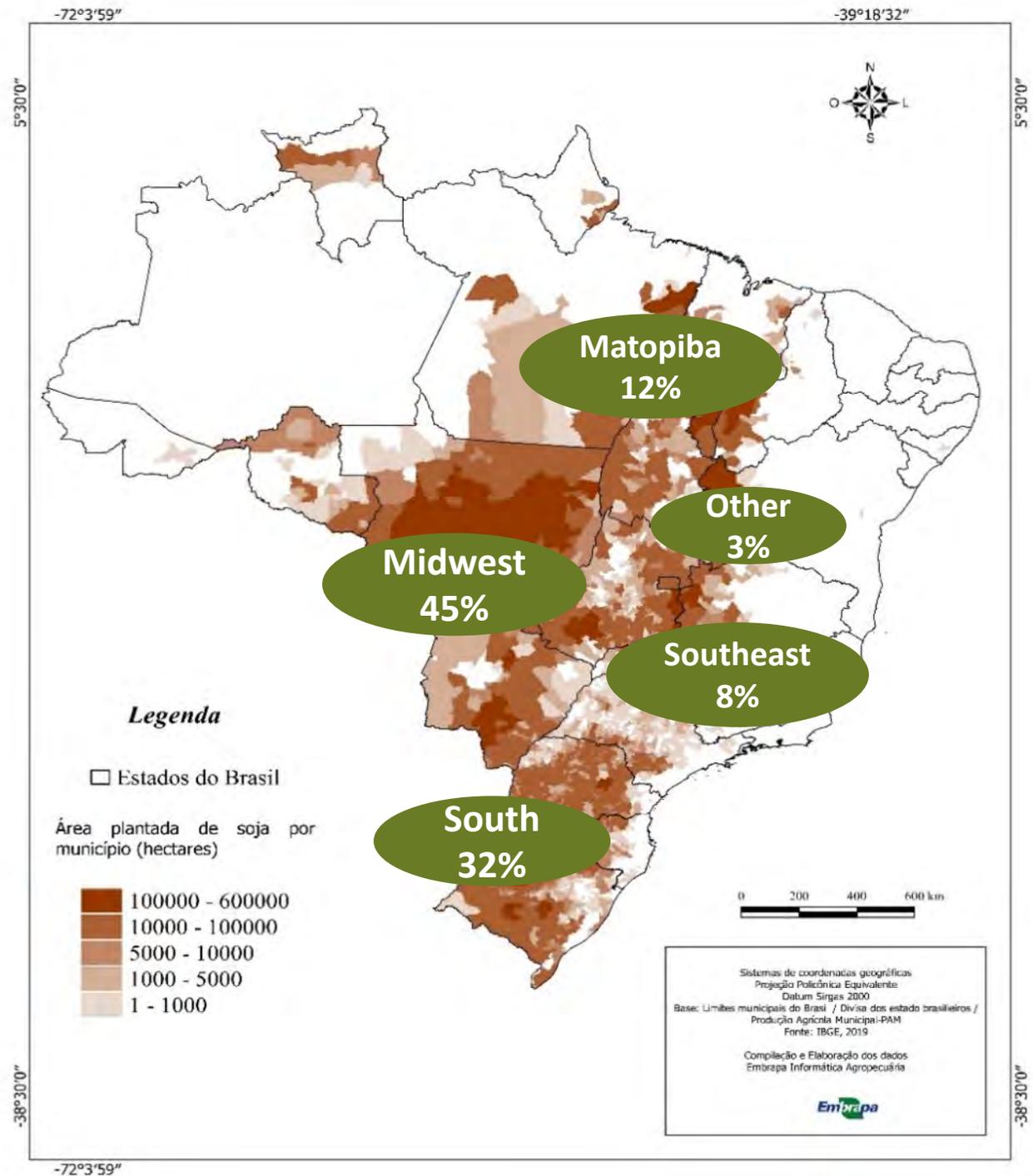
Brazilian farmers are motivated to plant more acreage especially because:



- **High prices** and **record profits last season**
- Depreciation of the **Brazilian currency** relative to the dollar (1 USD = 5.40 BRL)
- The expected **margins for soybean remain positive**, despite the rise in production costs.

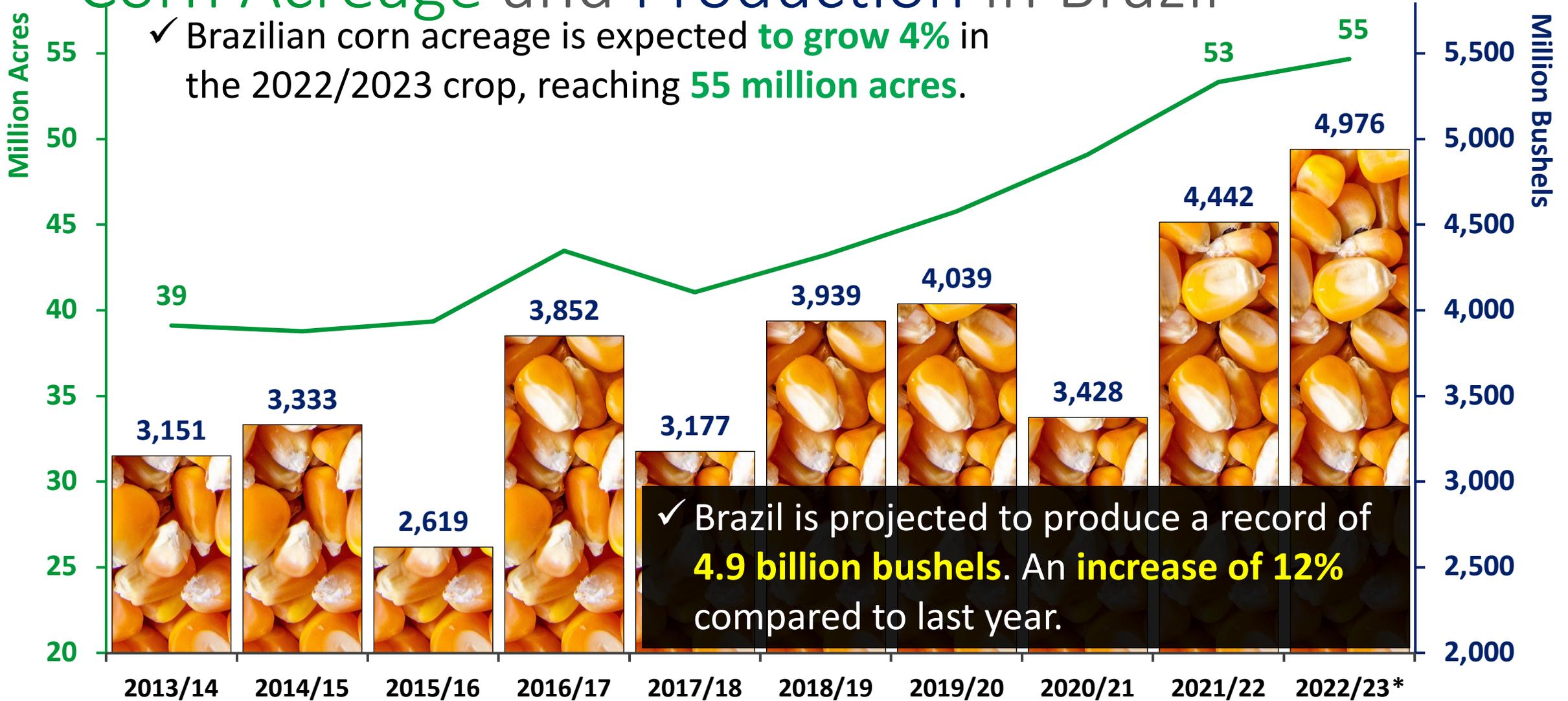
Soybeans by region

- **Three states in the Midwest** (Mato Grosso, Goiás, and Mato Grosso do Sul) and **two southern states** (Paraná and Rio Grande do Sul) represent **75% of soybean** production in Brazil.
- The Matopiba, in the North and Northeast, is considered the **new agricultural frontier in Brazil**, representing 12% of soybean production.



Corn Acreage and Production in Brazil

✓ Brazilian corn acreage is expected **to grow 4%** in the 2022/2023 crop, reaching **55 million acres**.



✓ Brazil is projected to produce a record of **4.9 billion bushels**. An **increase of 12%** compared to last year.

Crop Season

Source: National Supply Company (Conab), Brazil

* Forecast Nov. 2022

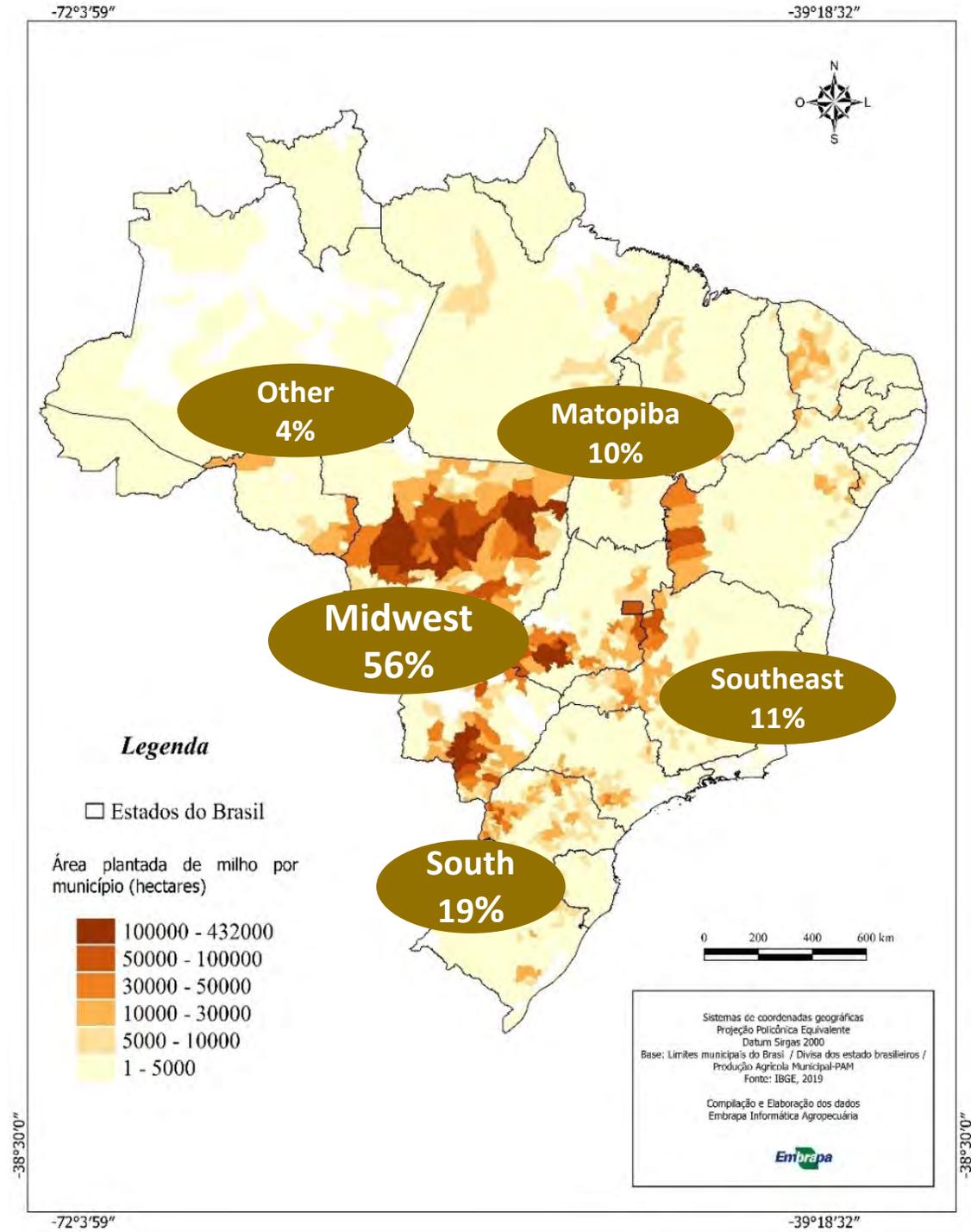
Corn Market Outlook in Brazil



- **High domestic and global corn prices** are the primary drivers for the expanded corn planting area.
- The expected **margins for corn remain positive**, despite the rise in production costs.
- Brazil is expanding its **ethanol production**. Currently, 17 corn ethanol plants are in operation.

Corn by region

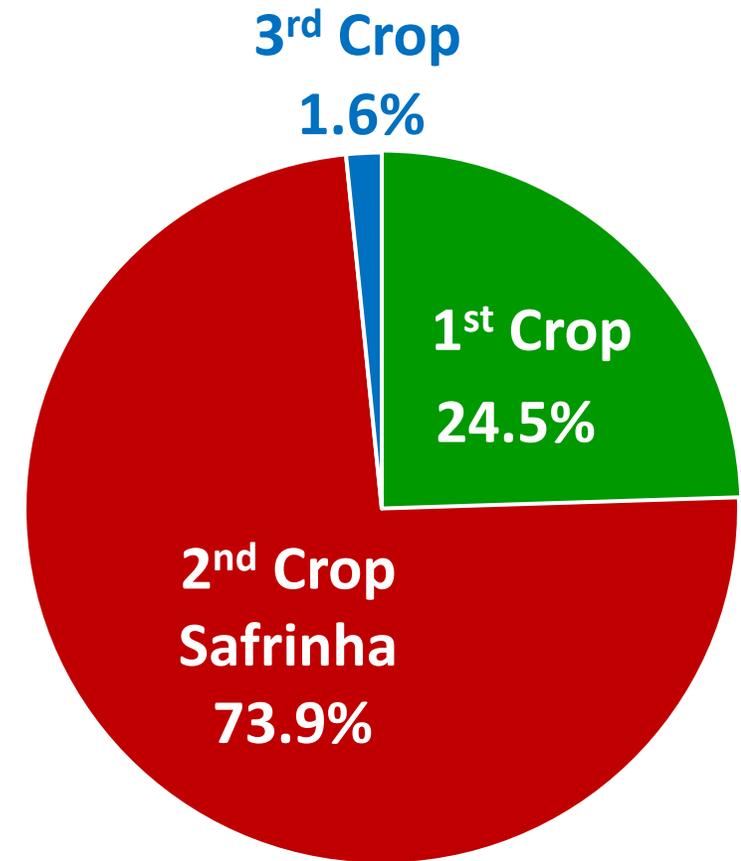
- **More than half** of corn production is concentrated in the Midwest as a second crop, planted right after the soybean harvest.
- Corn production is also advancing as a second crop to the new agricultural frontier, **Matopiba**.
- The **growth in the second corn crop (safrinha)** is an opportunity for Brazil to double its corn production in the coming years.



Corn Production: 3 Crops per Year



Source: Cogo Intelligence in Agribusiness



Source: National Supply Company (Conab), Brazil

Crop Prospects in Argentina



FARM CREDIT
ILLINOIS
Helping Farm Families Succeed

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OCIATION

Image by Diogo Zanatta

The third straight La Niña year

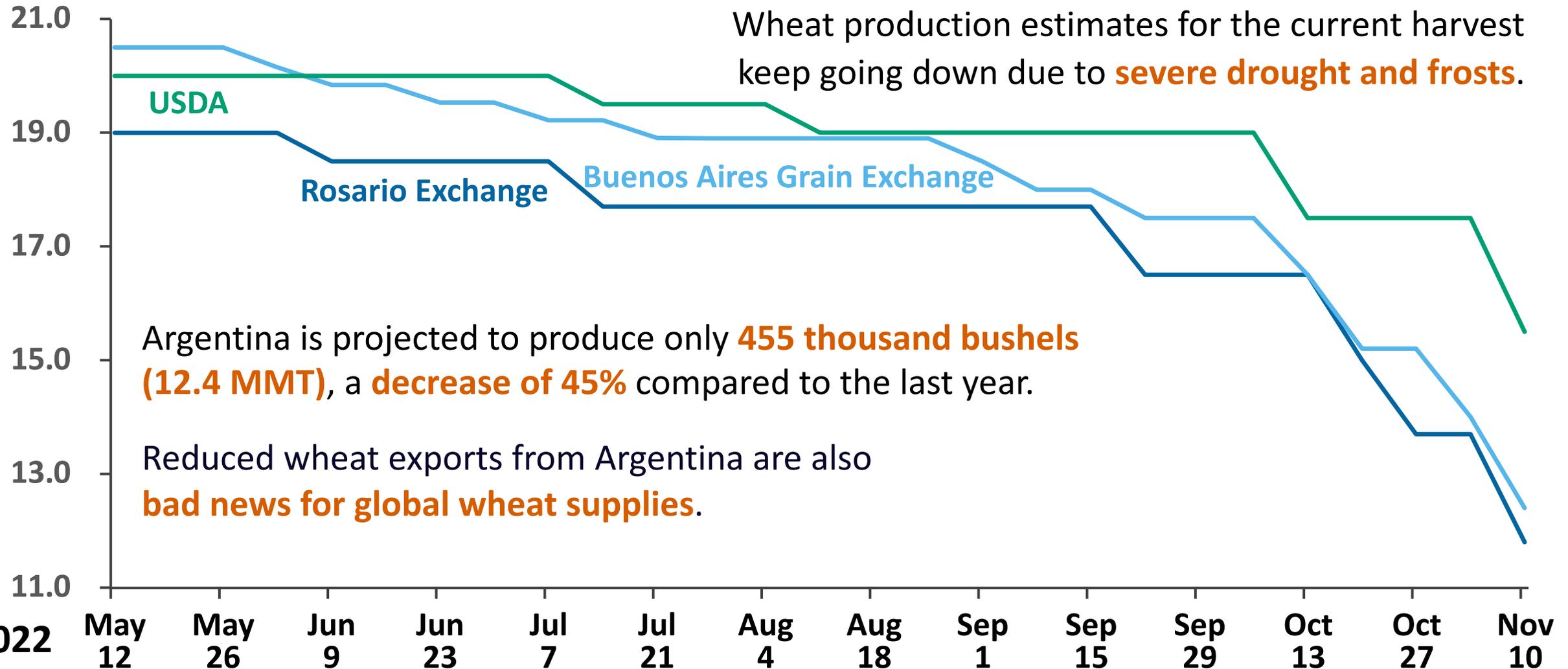
Consequences so far:

- The August through December period of the past two years has been among the **driest in over 30 years** for Argentina with 2022 on track to follow this trend.
- Yields of soybean and corn **crops are at risk.**
- Argentina's 2022/23 wheat harvest is set to be the **lowest in seven years.**



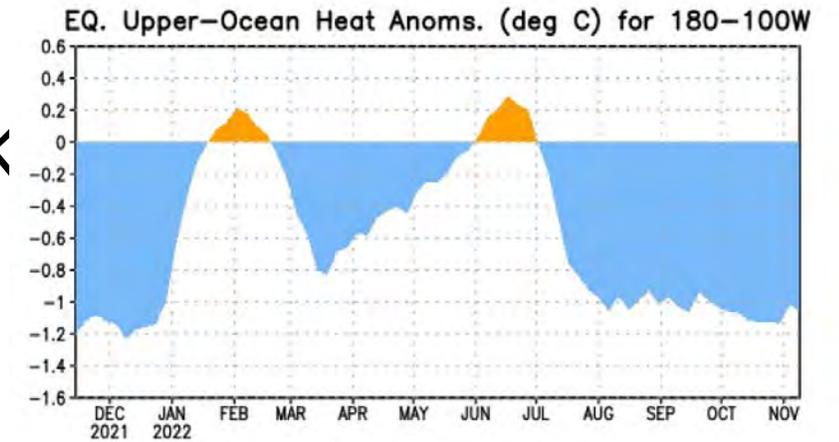
Argentina Wheat Production Cut Almost in Half

Wheat Production Forecasts for 2022/23 crop in MMT



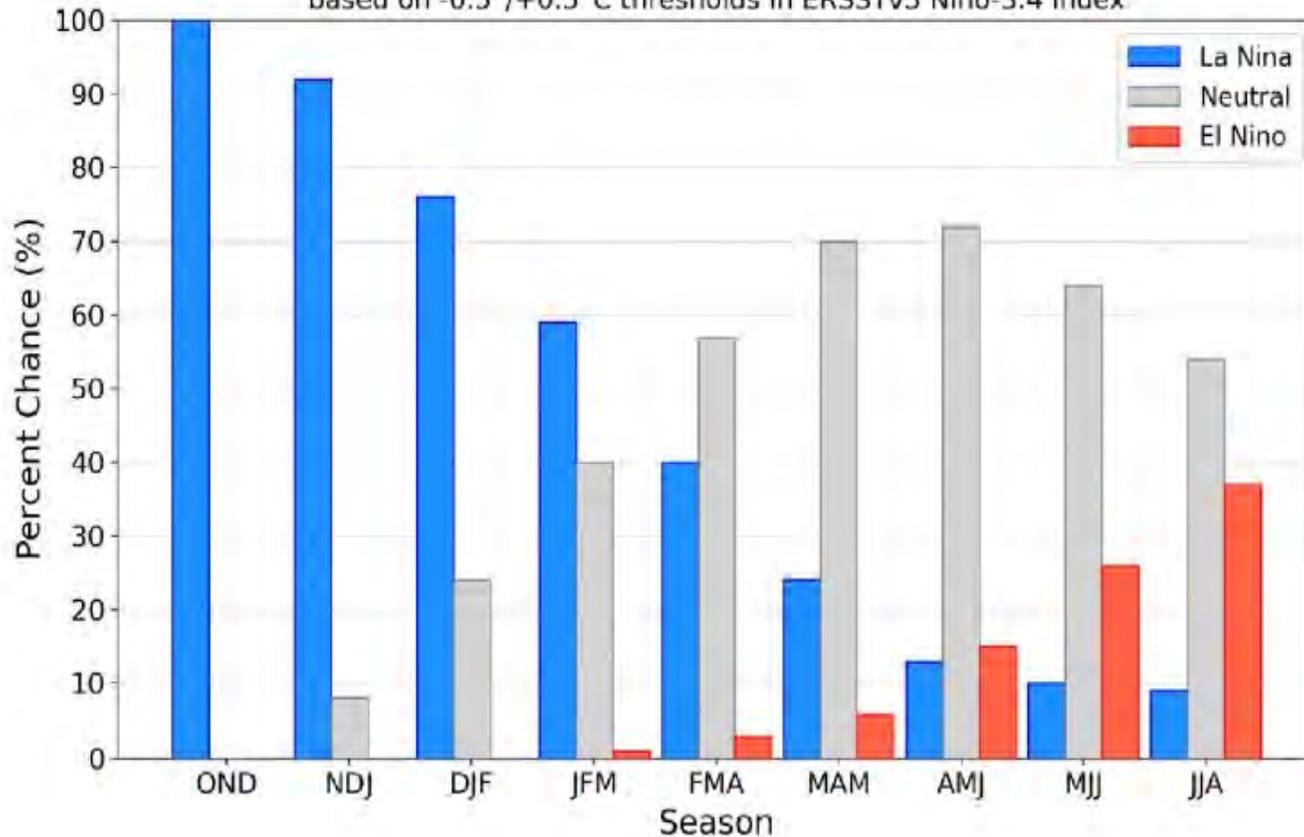
CPC Probabilistic ENSO Outlook

Updated: 10 November 2022



Official NOAA CPC ENSO Probabilities (issued Nov. 2022)

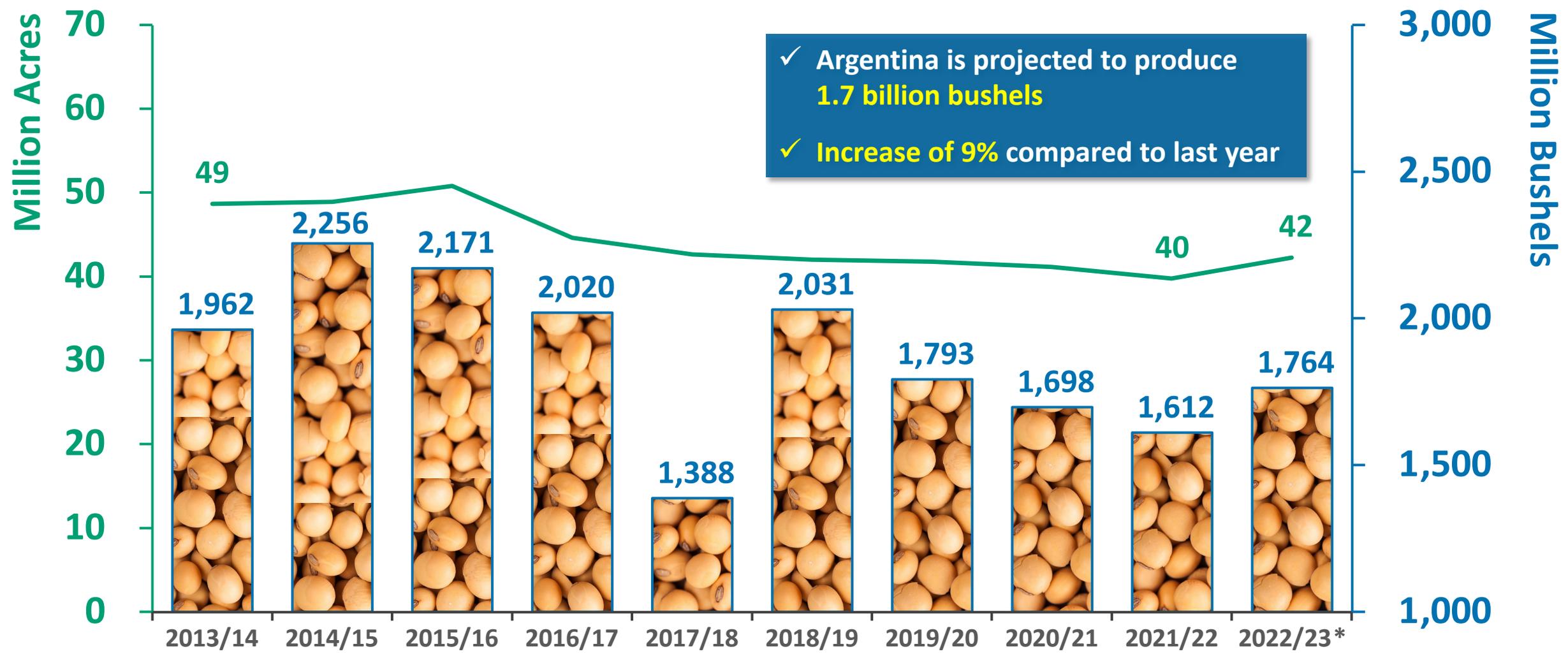
based on $-0.5^{\circ}/+0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ thresholds in ERSSTv5 Niño-3.4 index



- Equatorial sea surface temperatures are **below average** across most of the Pacific Ocean.
- The tropical Pacific atmosphere is consistent with **La Niña**.
- There is a 76% chance of La Niña during the Northern Hemisphere winter (December-February) 2022-23, with a transition to **ENSO-neutral favored in February-April 2023** (57% chance).

Soybean Acreage and Production in Argentina

Acreage expected to grow 5% in the 2022/2023 crop, reaching **42 million acres**



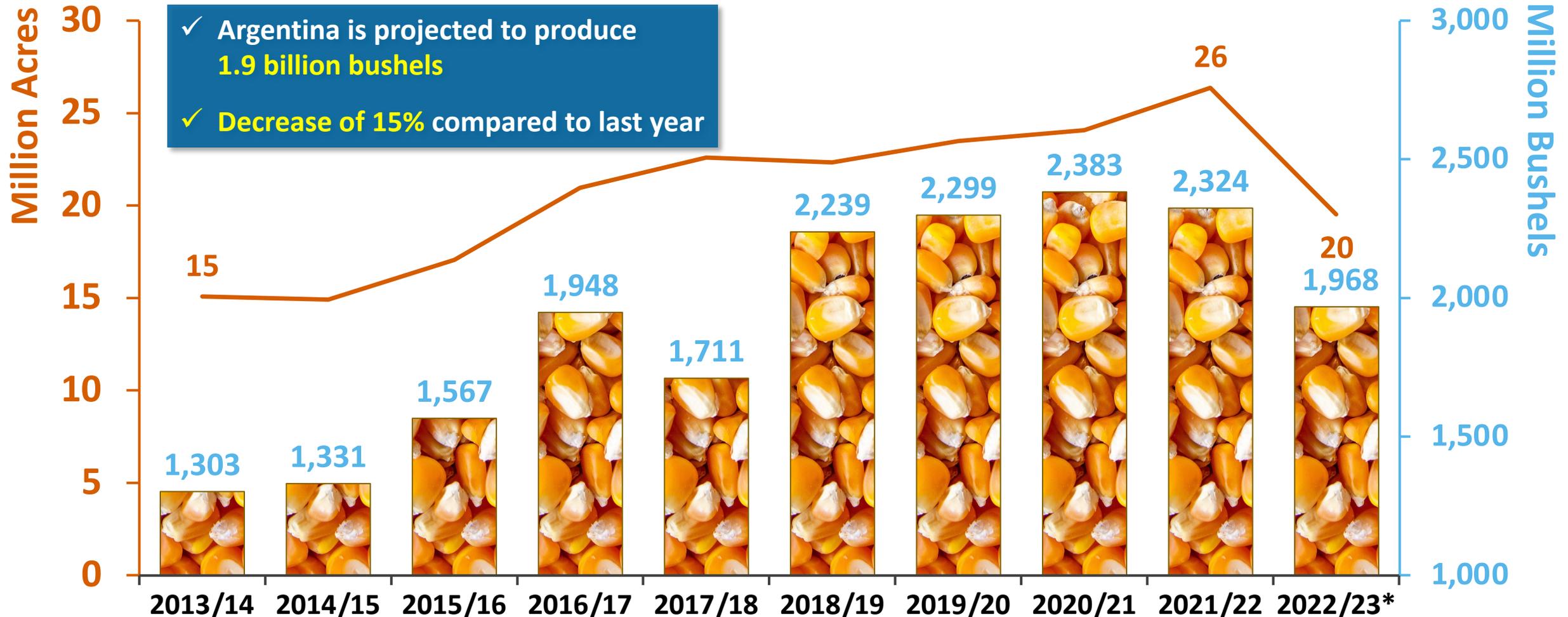
✓ Argentina is projected to produce **1.7 billion bushels**
✓ Increase of 9% compared to last year

* Forecast by Rosario Exchange and Buenos Aires Grain Exchange
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Argentina (MAGyP)

* Forecast Nov. 2022

Corn Acreage and Production in Argentina

Corn acreage expected to decrease 23% in 2022/2023 to 20 million acres.



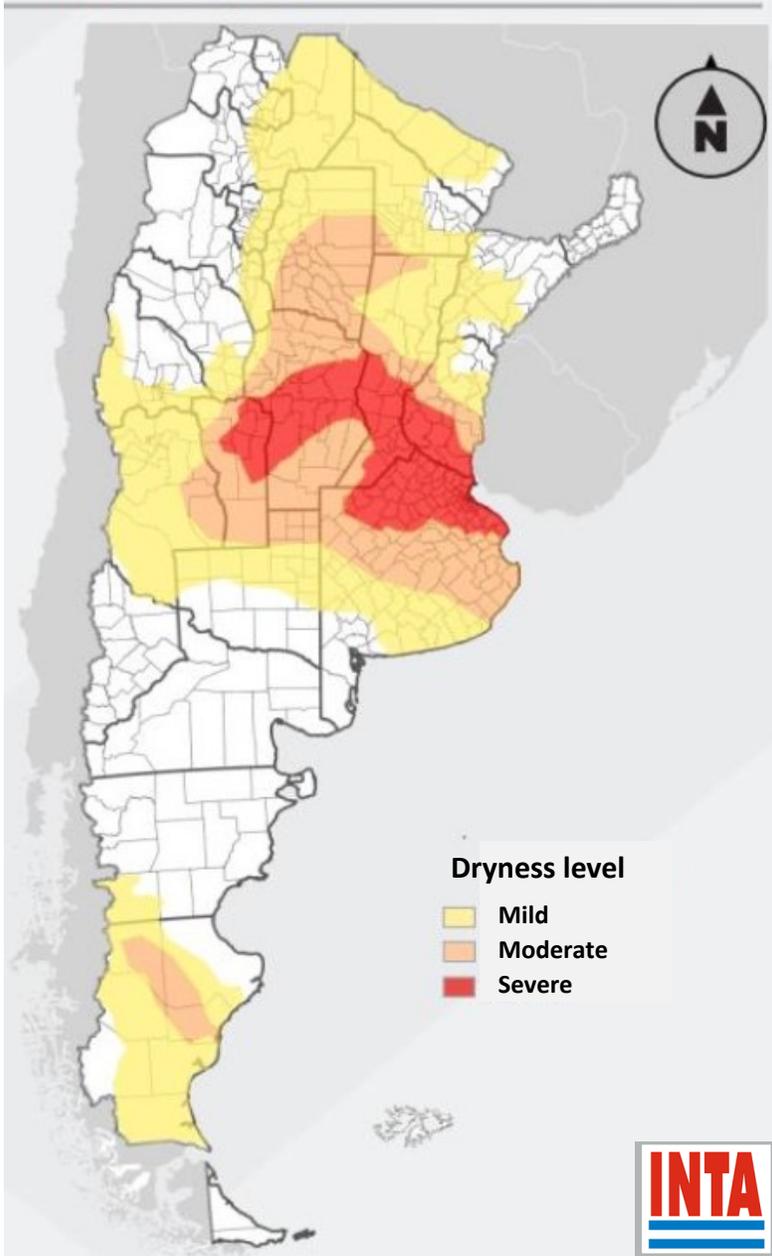
✓ Argentina is projected to produce 1.9 billion bushels
✓ Decrease of 15% compared to last year

Crop Season

* Forecast by Rosario Exchange and Buenos Aires Grain Exchange
Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Argentina (MAGyP)

* Forecast Nov 2022

Drought Status – Nov. 2022



Ideal planting date at risk

- ✓ Rain finally fell in Argentina over the last week and soybean farmers started to accelerate tractors to make up for **lost planting time**.
- ✓ **Corn planting** on Nov. 17 was **32% complete**, compared to 48% at the same time last year.
- ✓ **Soybean planting** on Nov. 17 was **17% complete**, compared to 31% at the same time last year.
- ✓ According to Rosario Exchange, around **70% of soybeans** will be planted outside the period when the maximum potentials are reached (from October 20 to November 15).



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Crop Budgets Fertilizer Prices

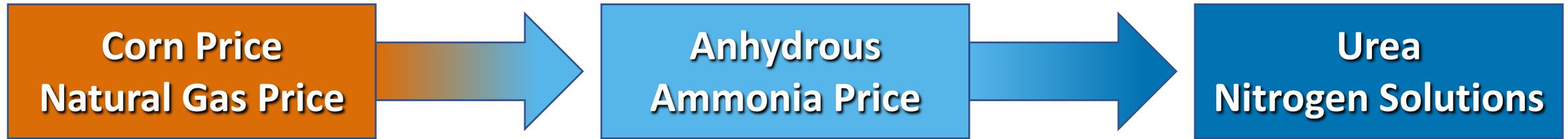


Gary Schnitkey
University of Illinois

Fertilizer and Crop Budgets



Price impacts



Corn price and natural gas price
impact positively **anhydrous ammonia price**

Anhydrous ammonia, urea, and nitrogen solution prices
are very highly correlated

Wholesale and retail nitrogen prices are highly correlated

Worst risk situation: Buy high priced nitrogen and corn/wheat prices fall

**I will show Illinois retail prices, but are highly correlated
with other wholesale, retail and sources prices**

Context of decisions

Nutrients

Nitrogen

- Needed by non-legume (corn & wheat)
- Yield response

Phosphorus

- Replacement
- Applications not as critical

Potassium

- Replacement
- Applications not as critical

Nitrogen price impact on farmer decisions

Crop choices

- Corn versus soybeans and other non-legumes
- Wheat versus soybeans and other non-legumes

Timing of applications, rates

- Fall versus spring versus post-plant

Begin discussion fall of 2021

COVID had impacted supply chains

- **Equipment (parts and new equipment delays)**
- **Pesticides (glyphosate)**

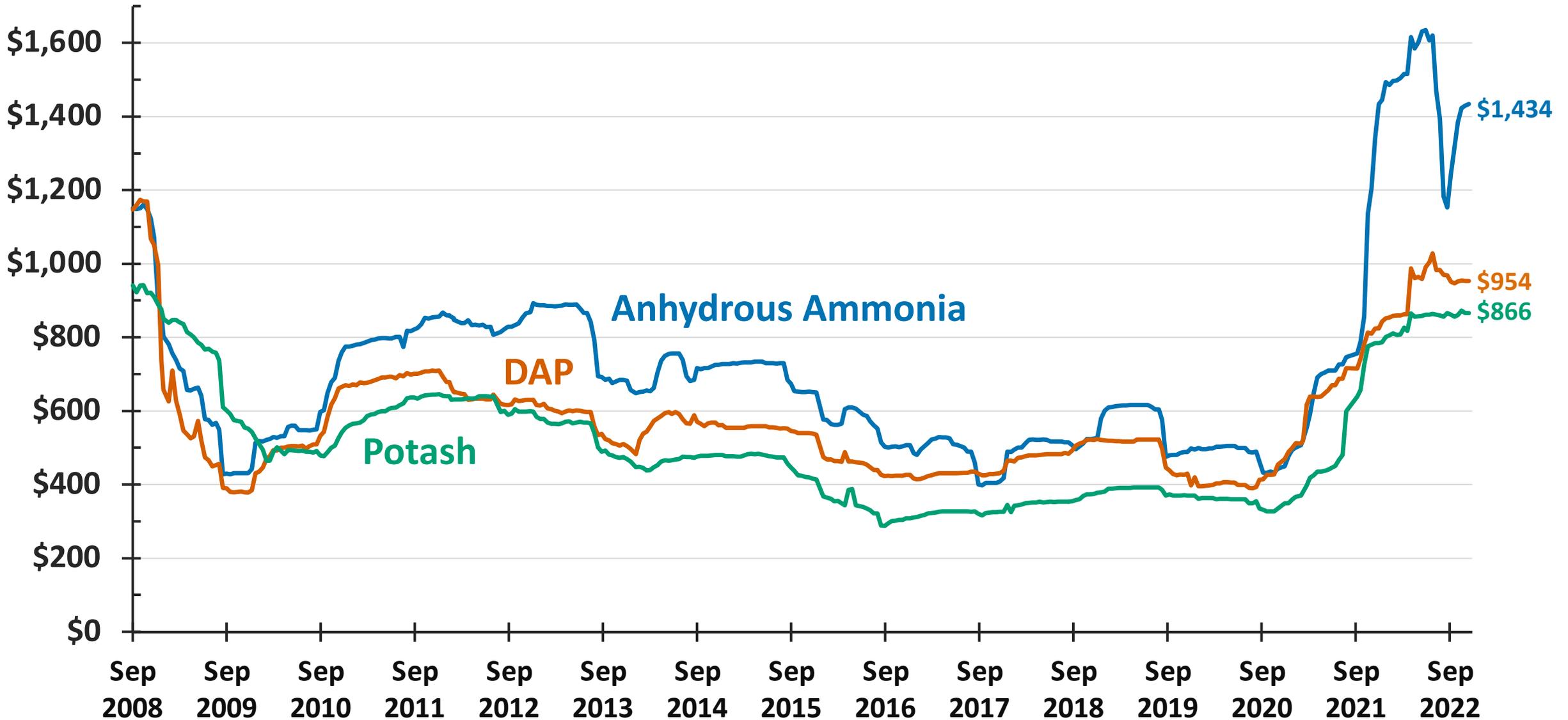
Inflation

COVID and policy responses

Finding labor is difficult

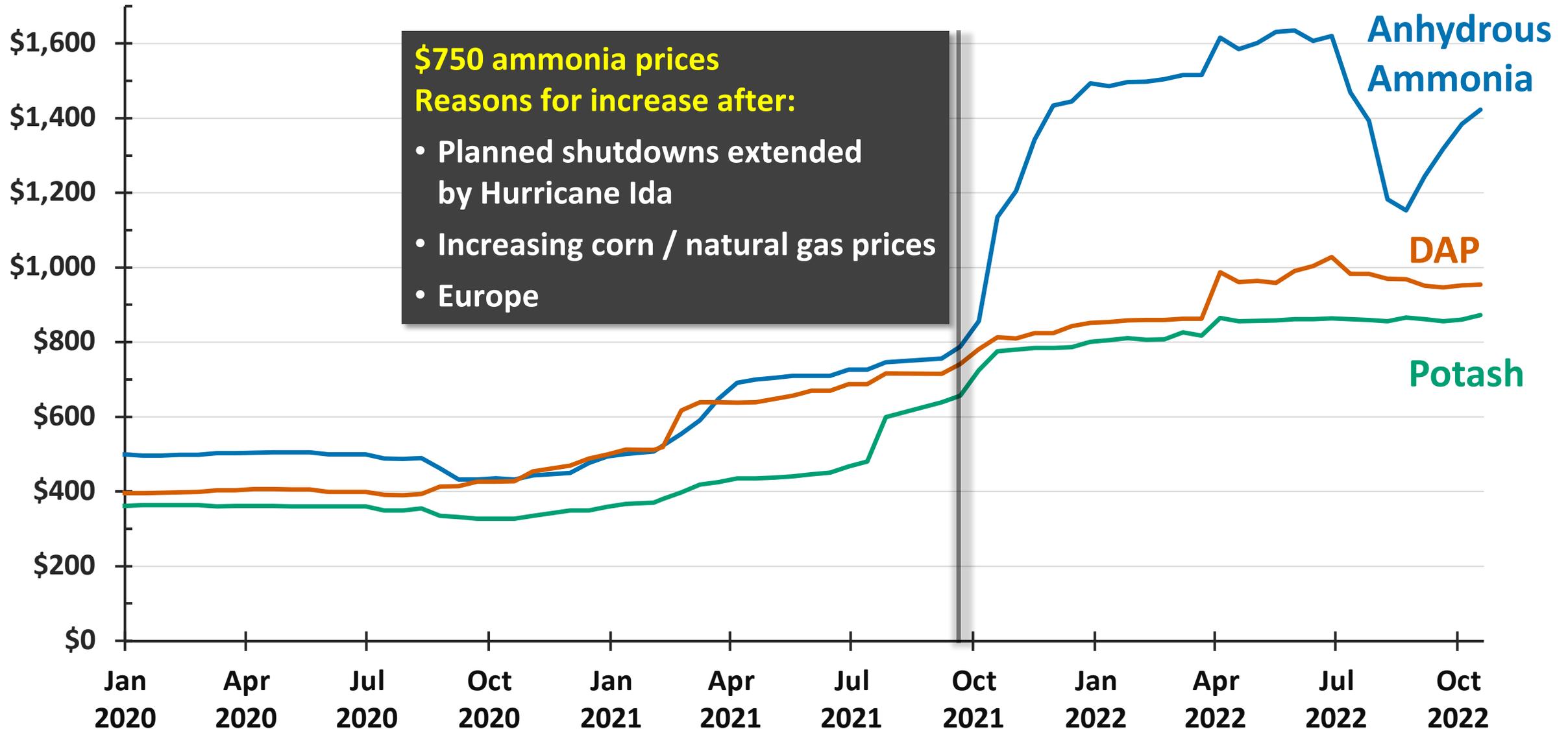
Farming Business Got Harder

Fertilizer Prices per Ton in Illinois From 2008 to 2022



Source: US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

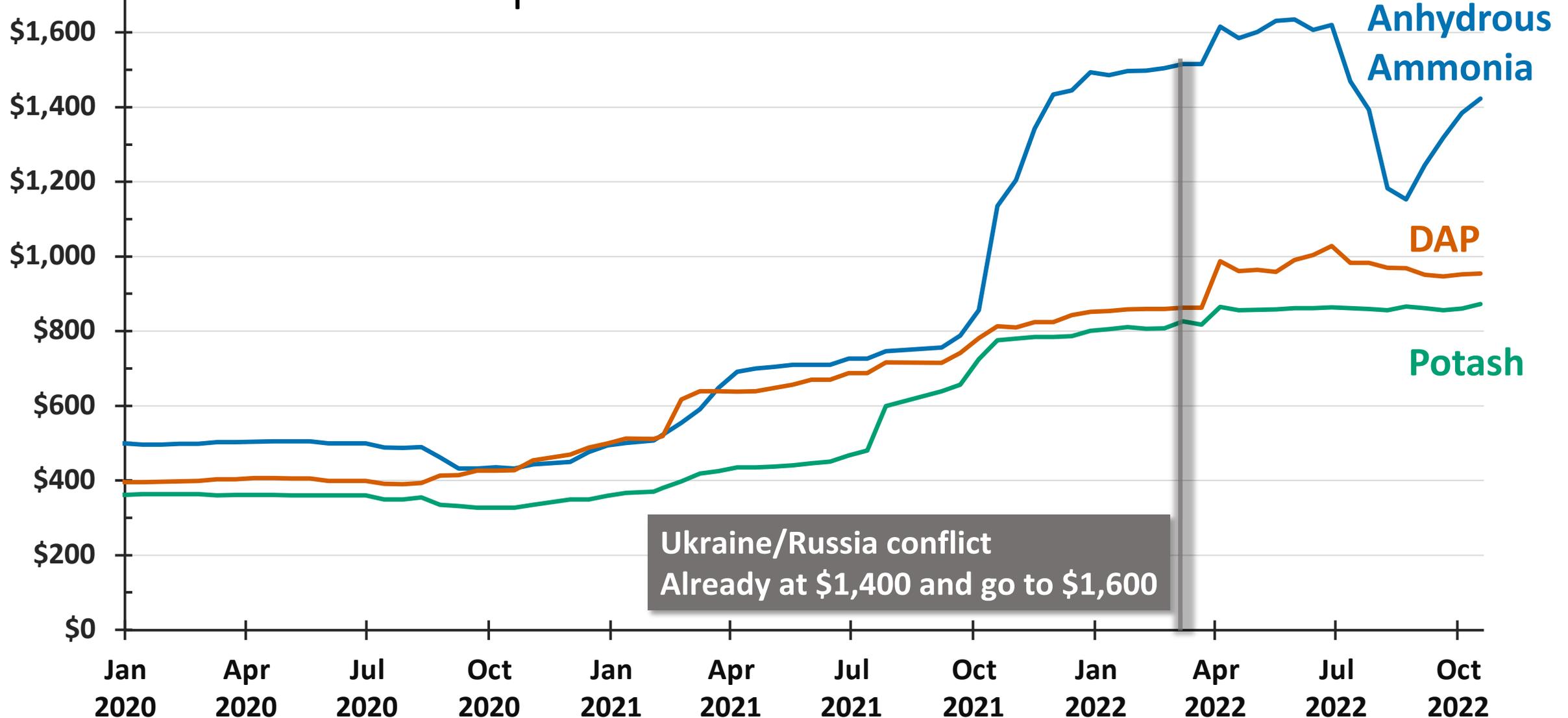
Fertilizer Prices per Ton in Illinois From 2020 to 2022



\$750 ammonia prices
Reasons for increase after:

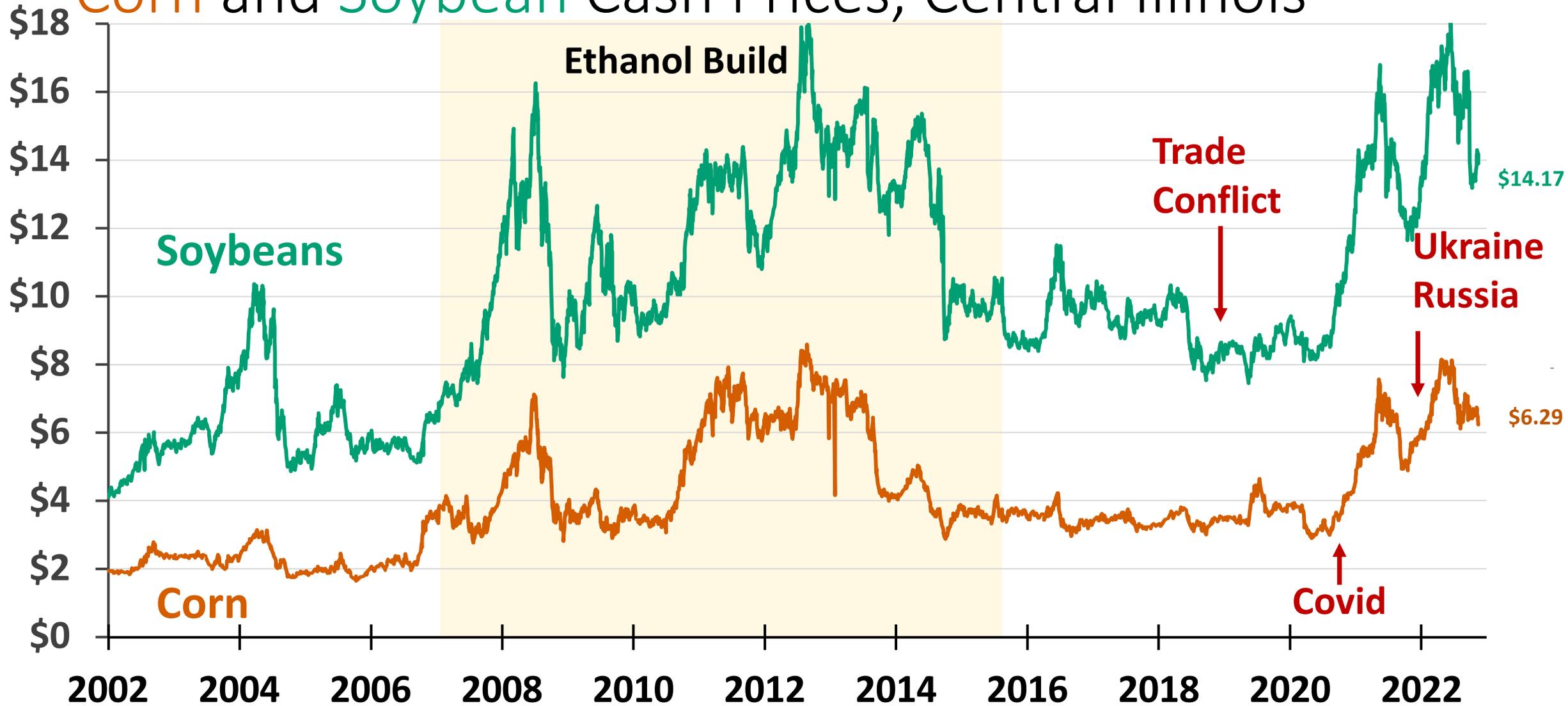
- Planned shutdowns extended by Hurricane Ida
- Increasing corn / natural gas prices
- Europe

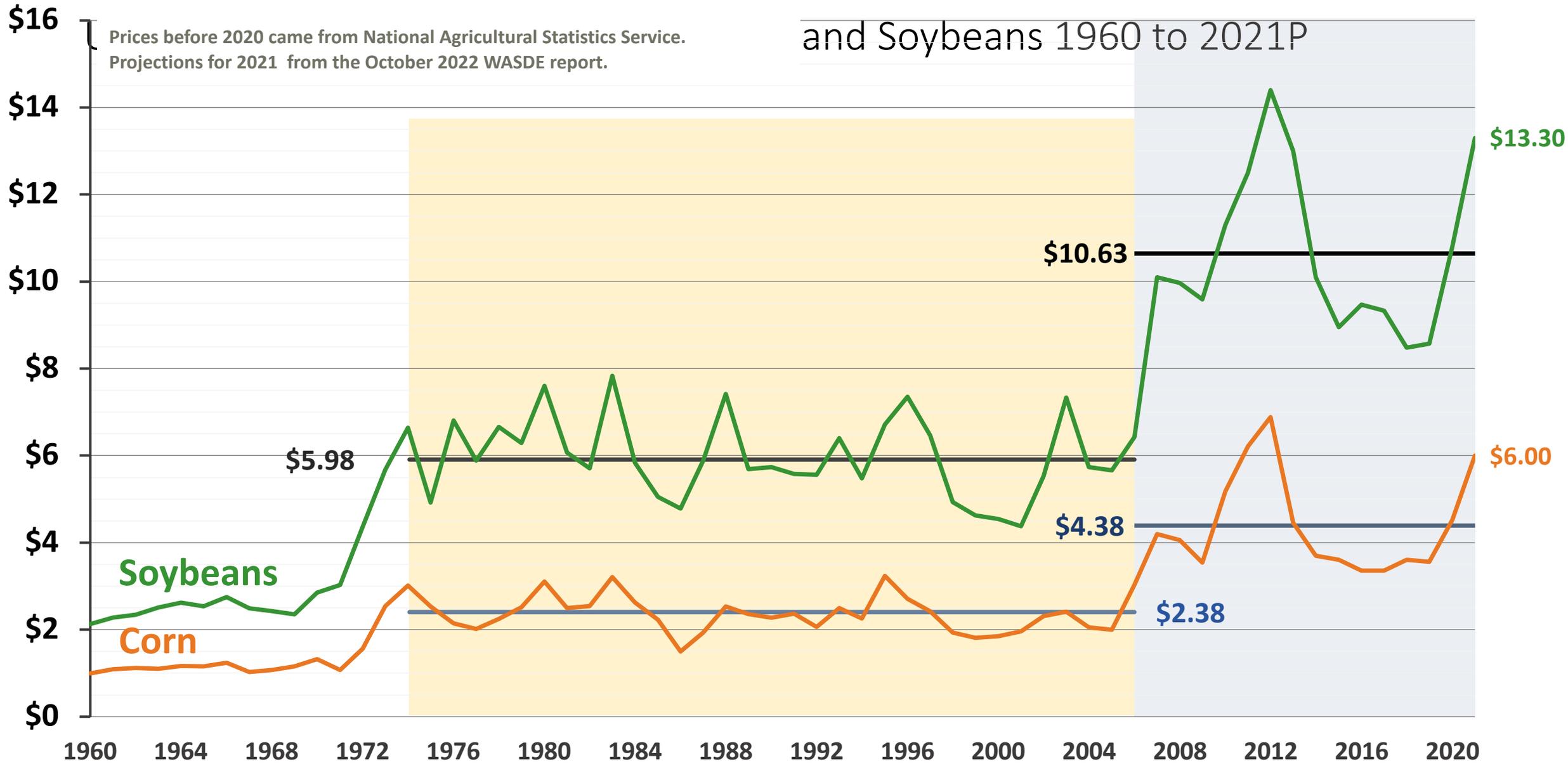
Fertilizer Prices per Ton in Illinois From 2020 to 2022



Source: US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Corn and Soybean Cash Prices, Central Illinois





U.S. Prices by Marketing Year

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (P)	2023-24 (P)
Corn	3.36	3.61	3.56	4.53	6.00	6.80	5.80
Soybeans	9.33	8.47	8.57	10.80	13.30	14.00	13.20
Wheat	4.72	5.16	4.58	5.05	7.63	9.20	8.25

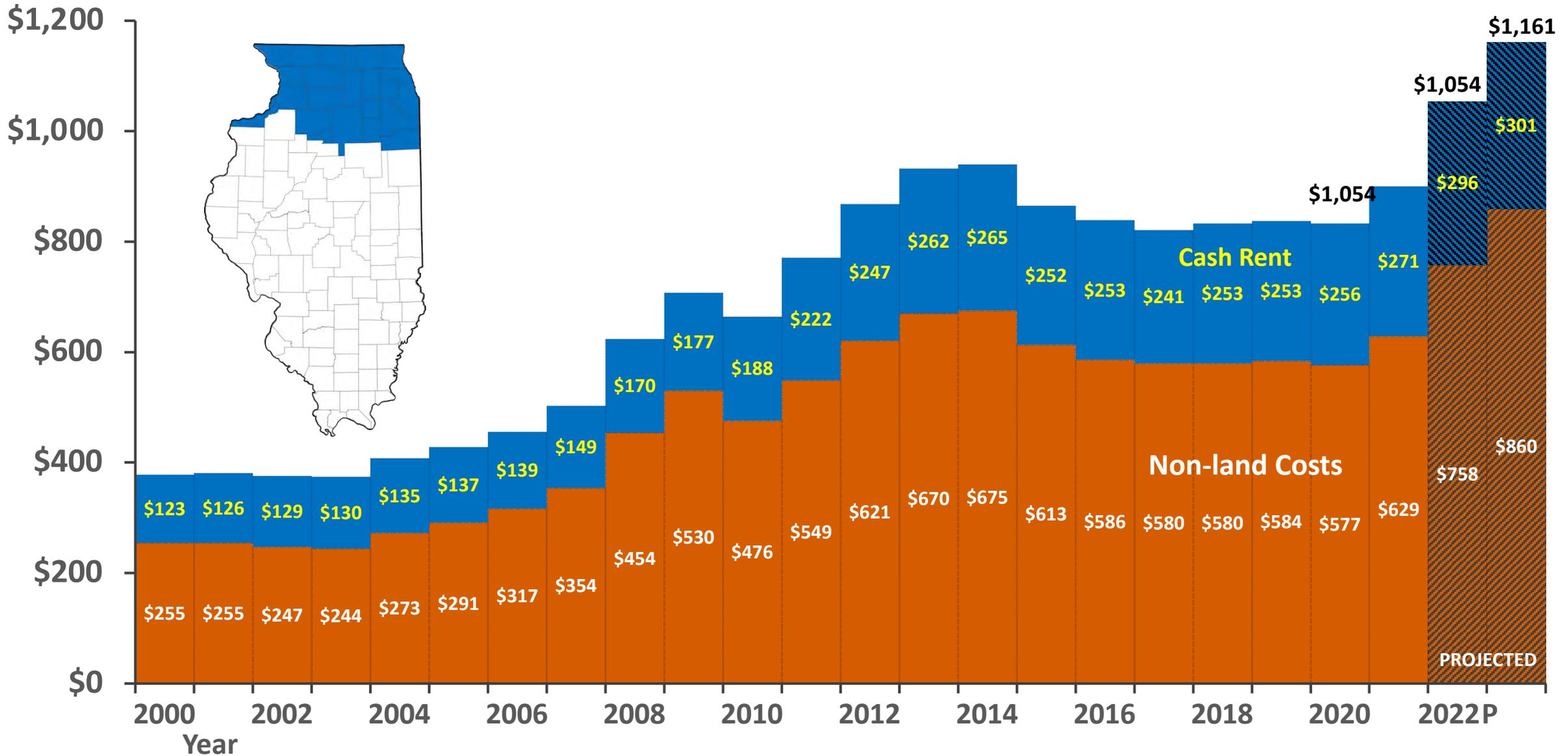
National Market Year Average (MYA) price by year

- September to August for corn and soybeans
- June to May for wheat

Calculated by NASS

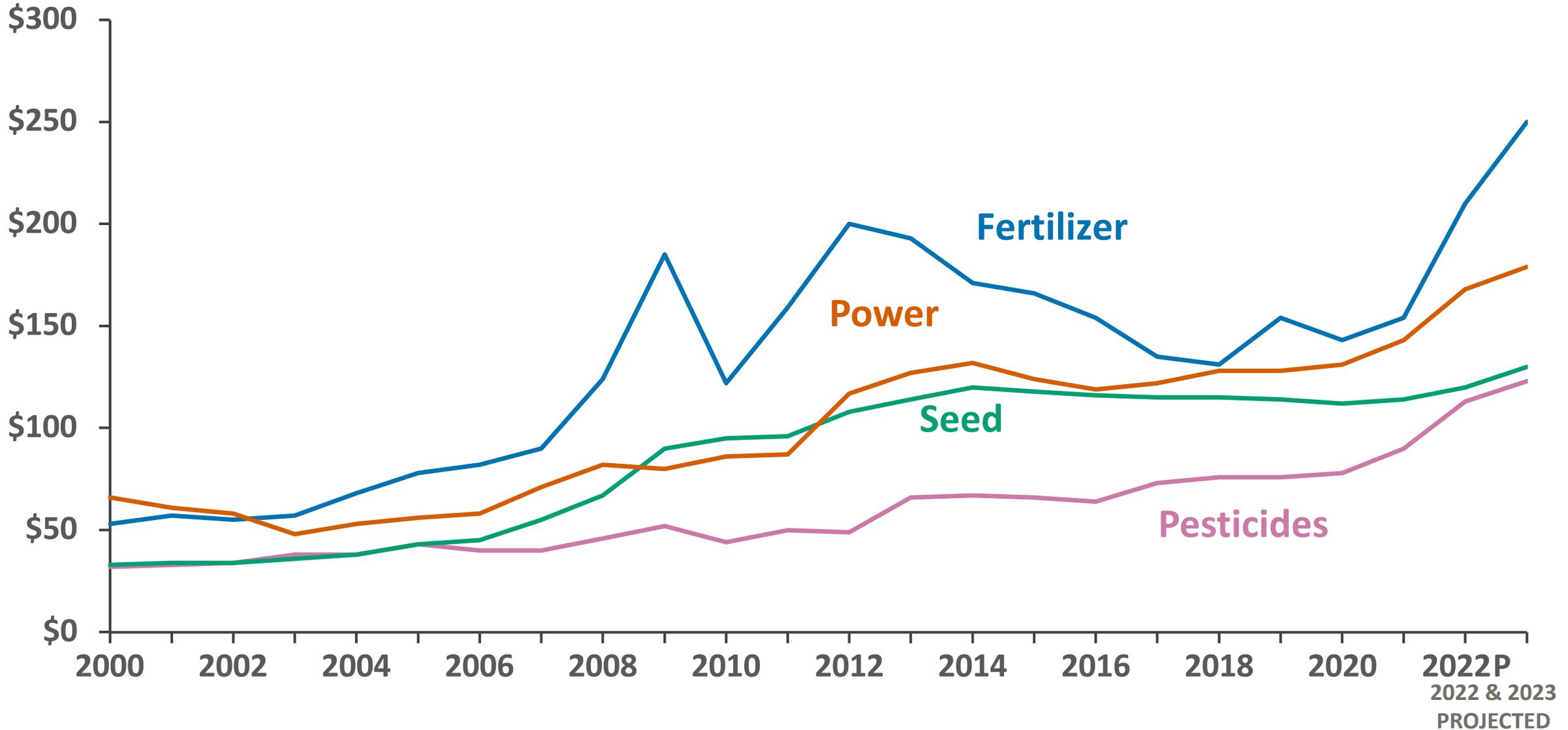
- 2022-23 (P) is projection in WASDE report
- 2023-24 is my projection

Total Costs of Producing Corn for Northern Illinois in \$ per acre



Source: Illinois Farm Business Farm Management

Cost of Select Items, Central Illinois, \$ per acre



Source: Illinois FBFM

2022 & 2023
PROJECTED

2022 crop year decisions

Many farmers got lower cost inputs in the fall
(\$750 anhydrous ammonia versus \$1,600 in spring)

Budgets said plant more corn, farmers planted less

From USDA Acreage Report, June 30, 2022

-4%

Corn

+1%

Soybean

+1%

All Wheat

+11%

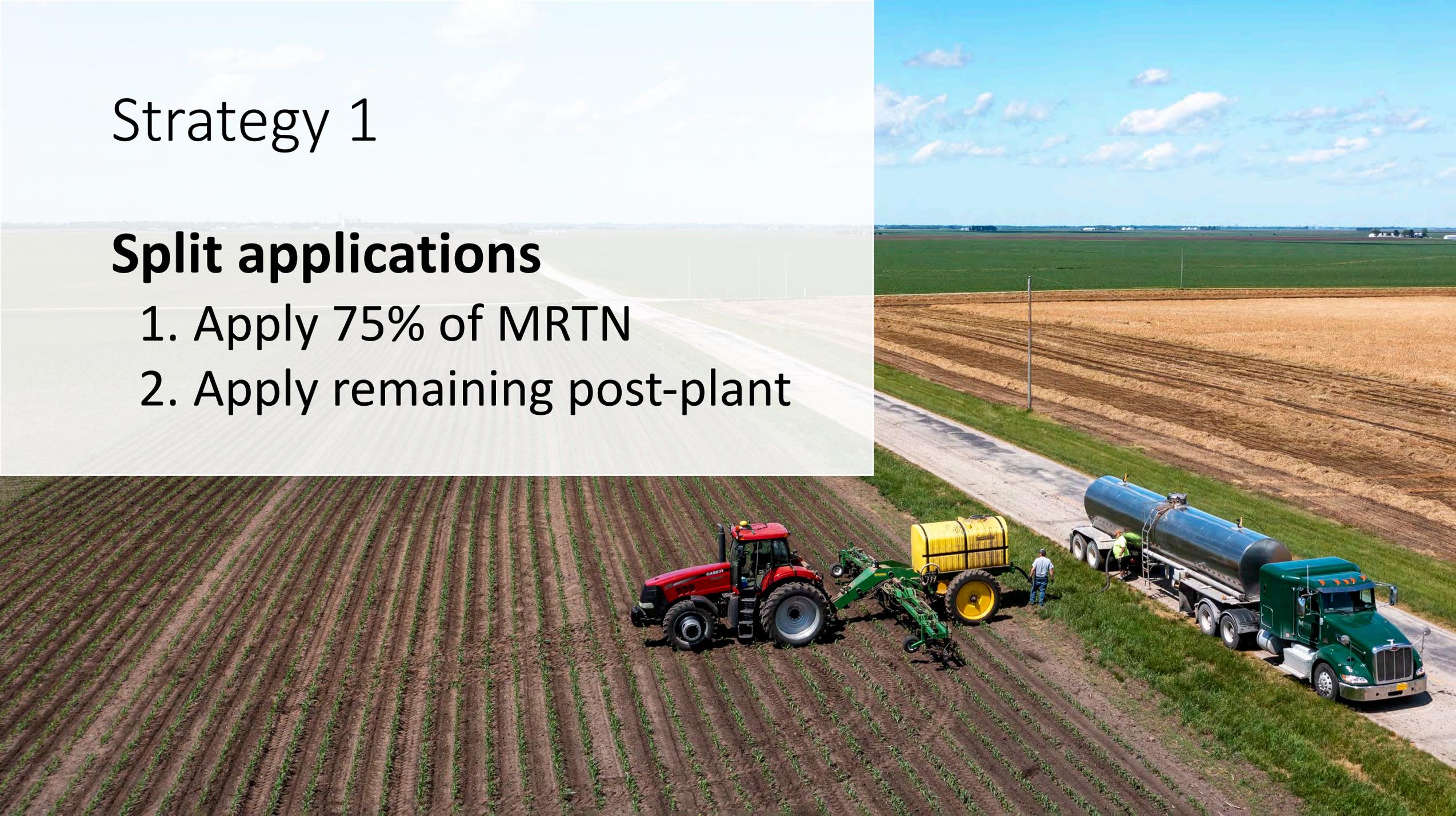
All Cotton

Acreage from 2021

Strategy 1

Split applications

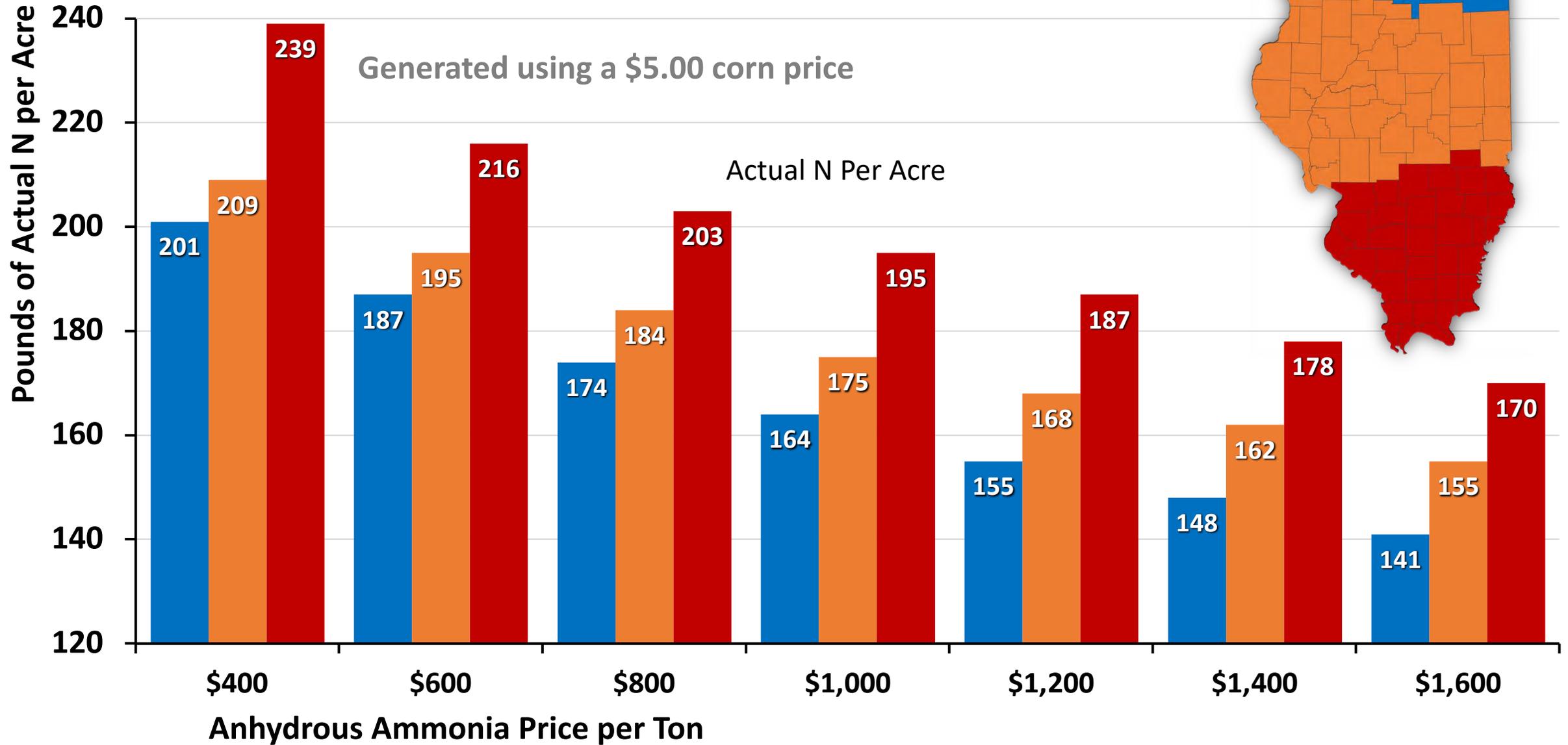
1. Apply 75% of MRTN
2. Apply remaining post-plant



Strategy 2: Reduce rate

Generated using a \$5.00 corn price

Actual N Per Acre



Strategy 3

Apply most nitrogen as anhydrous ammonia

	Anhydrous Ammonia	28% Solution
Price per ton	\$1,344	\$563
\$/lb of actual N	\$0.82	\$1.00

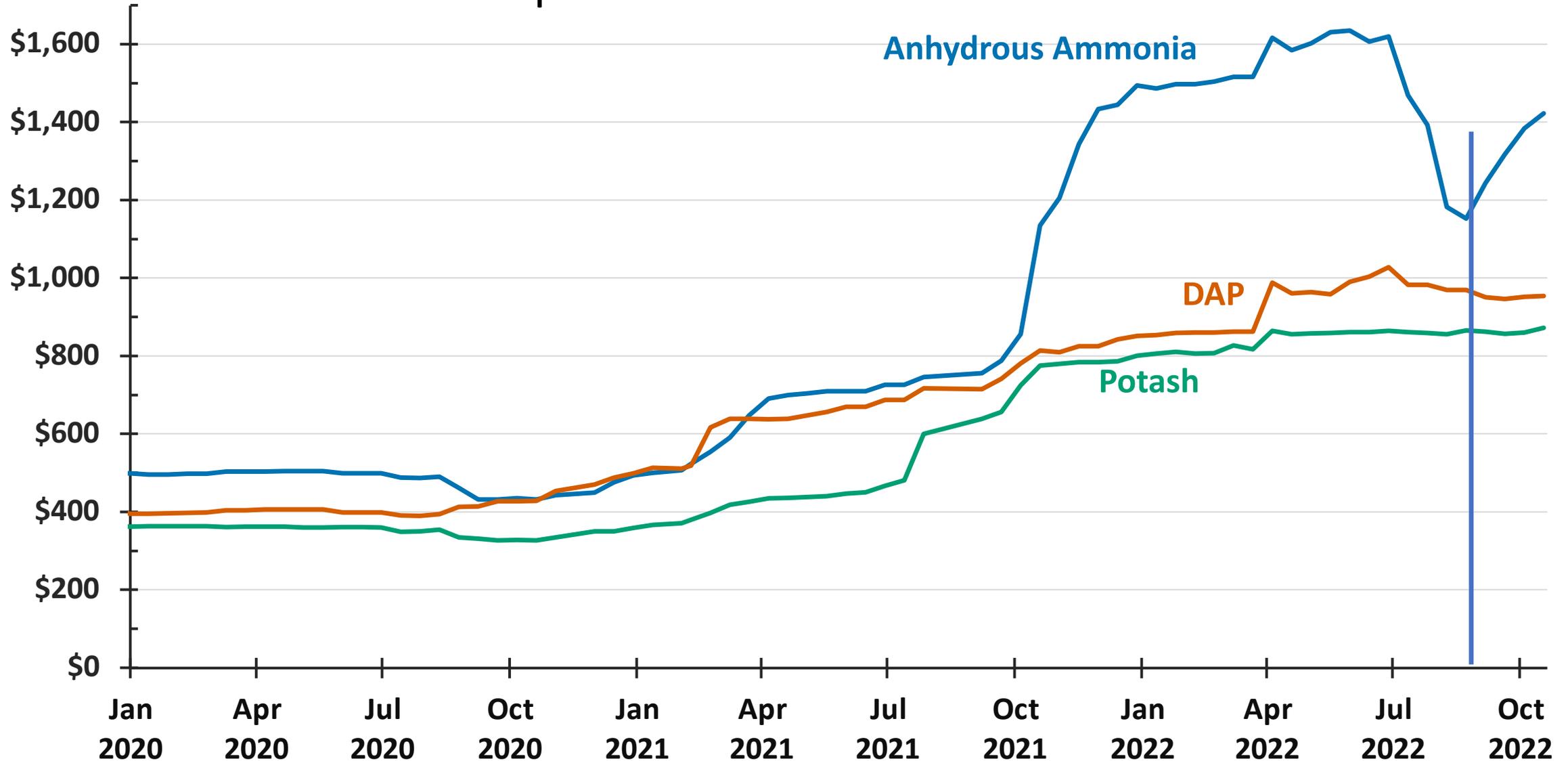
Those prices will vary situation.

Situation for 2023

- Rising nitrogen prices from early fall to end of October
- Still face great deal of uncertainty about nitrogen
 - Prices
 - Supplies
(primarily focused on Europe)



Fertilizer Prices per Ton in Illinois From 2020 to 2022



Source: US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service

Natural Gas in Nitrogen Fertilizer Production

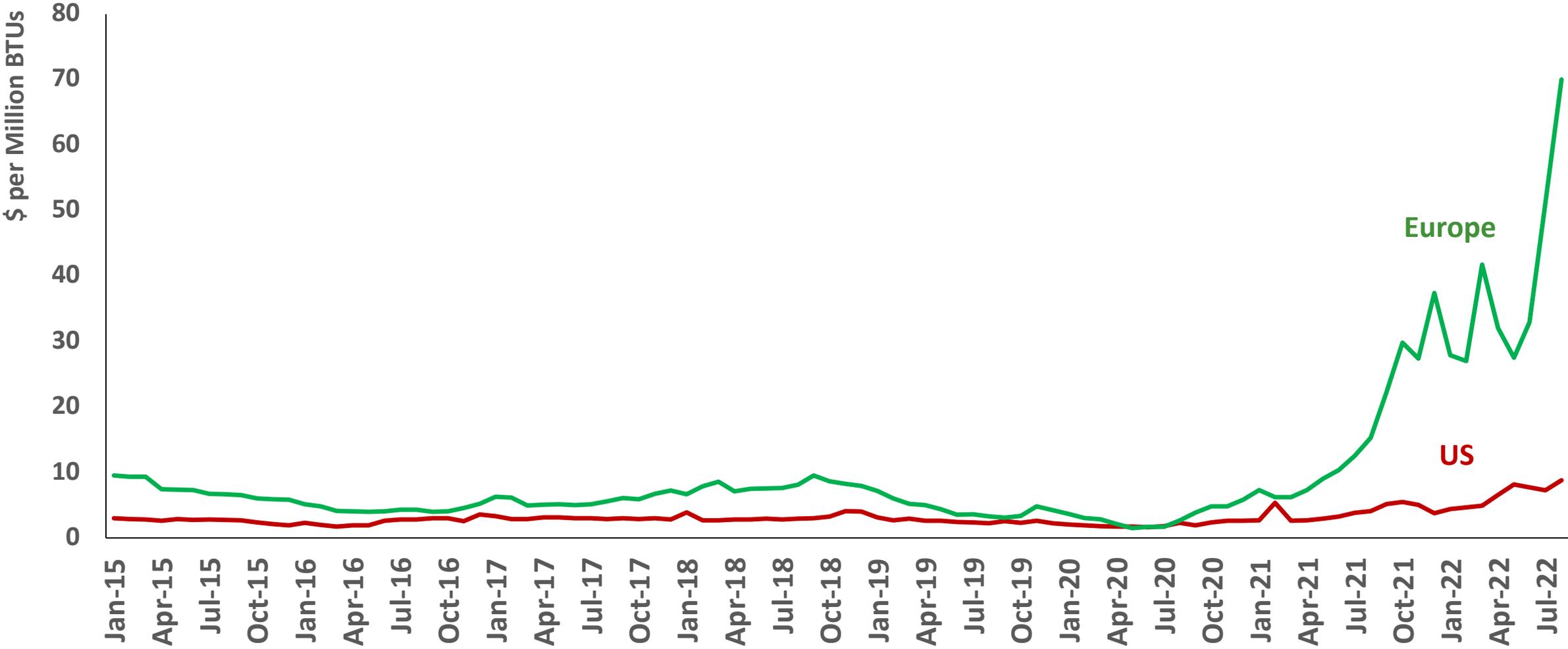
Top 10 Natural Gas Producers Labeled



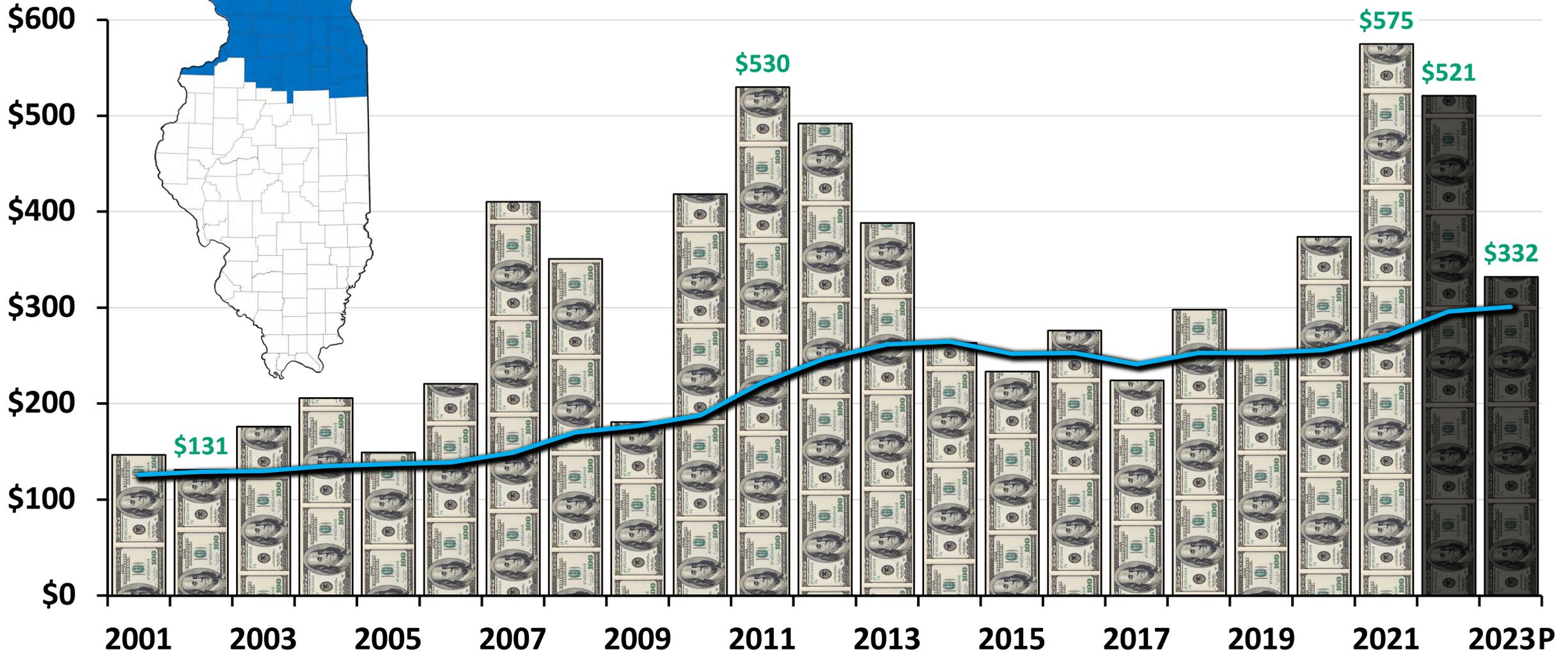
Darkest Green Shading = Largest Nitrogen Producers

- Natural gas is an important feedstock in nitrogen fertilizer production.
- Top nitrogen producing countries align with leading natural gas producers.
Exception is Norway
- Russian/Ukraine war has changed normal trade flows of natural gas that could impact ammonia production.

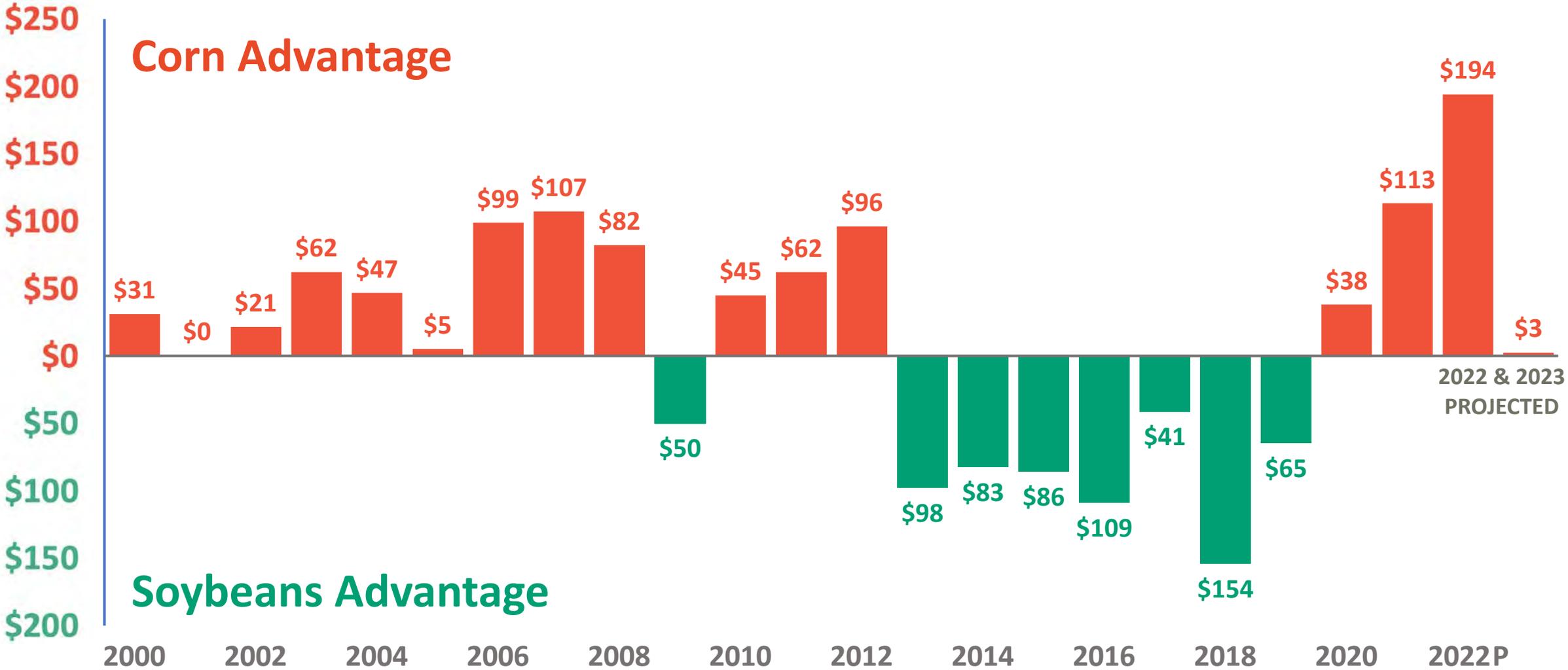
Natural Gas Prices, US (Henry HUB) and Europe



Operator and Land Return and Cash Rent in \$ per acre Northern Illinois



Corn Advantage Over Soybeans, Northern Illinois



What will happen in 2023?

Cropping decisions

I don't see a move to corn,
perhaps wheat

Nitrogen decisions



Fall applications (or pricing decisions)

- 1. Price corn**
- 2. Reduce fall rates**



General risk management strategies

- **Use rates near university recommendations**
- **Spread sales**
- **Risk advantage to waiting to apply**

Table 2. Corn and Soybean Returns, Central Illinois with High-Productivity Farmland.

	Corn			Soybeans		
	2021	2022P	2023P	2021	2022P	2023P
Yield per acre	221	225	227	72	71	72
Price per bu	\$5.90	\$6.40	\$5.50	\$13.40	\$14.00	\$13.00
Crop revenue	\$1,304	\$1,440	\$1,249	\$965	\$994	\$936
Total direct costs	\$415	\$514	\$582	\$192	\$264	\$288
Total power costs	\$143	\$168	\$179	\$124	\$147	\$157
Total overhead costs	\$76	\$79	\$93	\$69	\$72	\$85
Total non-land costs	\$634	\$761	\$854	\$385	\$483	\$530
Operator and land return	\$684	\$679	\$395	\$585	\$511	\$406
Land costs (cash rent)	311	336	341	311	336	341
Farmer return	\$373	\$343	\$54	\$274	\$175	\$65

Summary

High and volatile fertilizer prices

High and volatile crop prices

Falling crop prices, without input price declines
is the concern





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farmdoc

S&D Tables

Price Prospects



Scott Irwin

Joe Janzen

University of Illinois

Supply and Demand Balance for Corn and Soybeans

Price Prospects for 2022/23 and beyond



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Agricultural &
Consumer Economics

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& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Scott Irwin

sirwin@illinois.edu

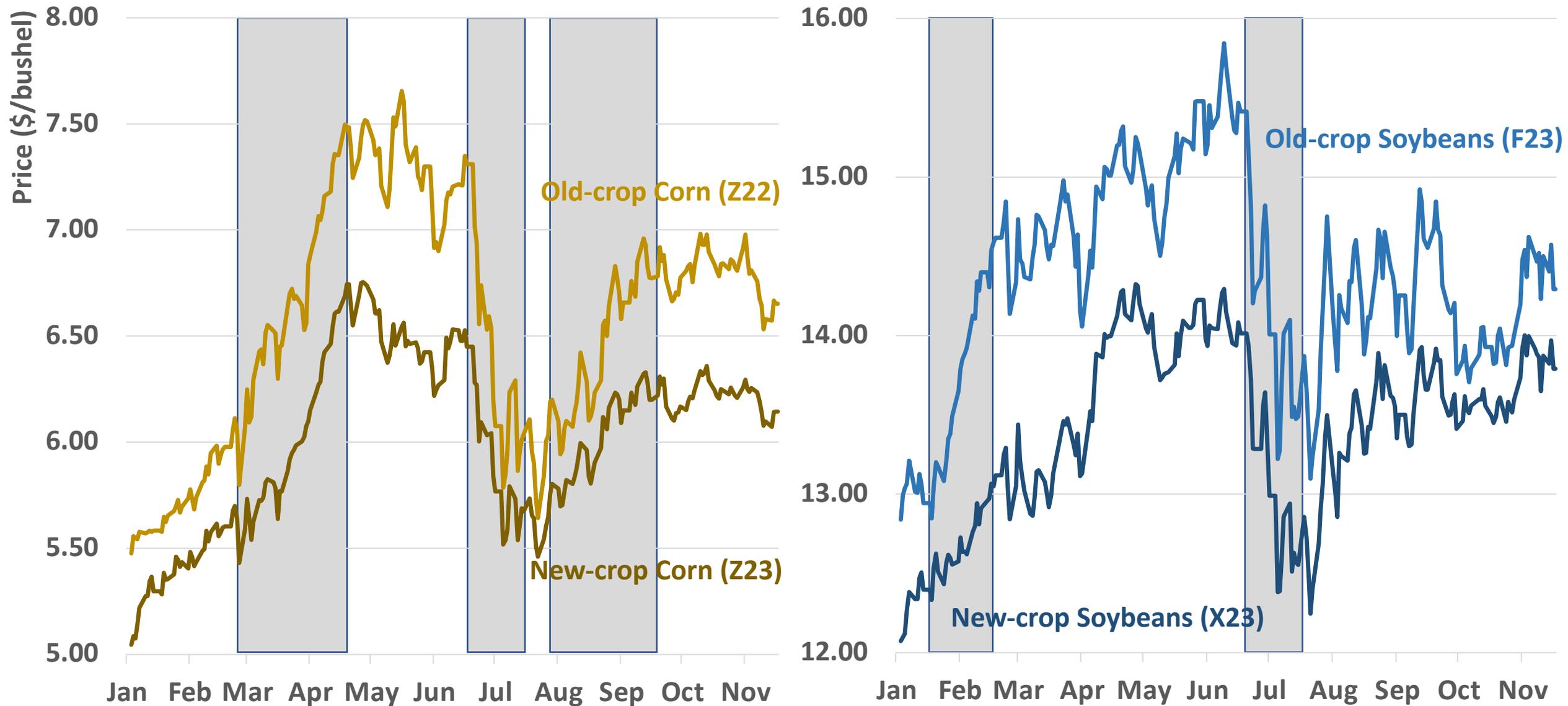


Joe Janzen

jjanzen@illinois.edu

farmdoc

Corn and Soybean Futures Prices since January 1, 2022

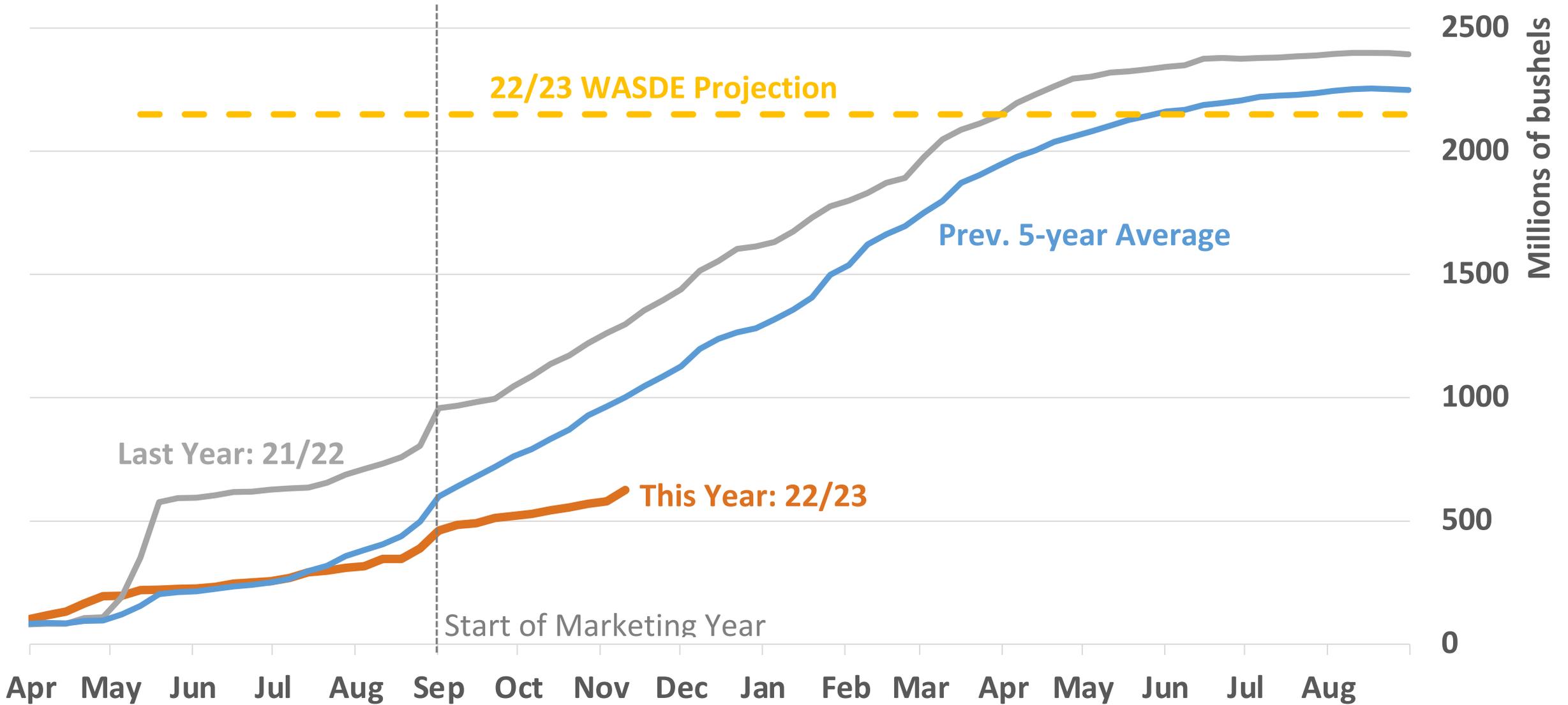


Source: Bloomberg

Old-Crop US Corn Balance Sheet

	(mil. bushels unless noted)	2021/22	2022/23 USDA Nov WASDE	2022/23 <i>farmdoc</i> Forecast
Supply	Area Planted (mil. acres)	93.3	88.6	88.6
	Area Harvested (mil. acres)	85.3	80.8	80.8
	Yield (bu./acre)	176.7	172.3	172.3
	Beginning Stocks	1,235	1,377	1,377
	Production	15,074	13,930	13,930
	Imports	24	50	50
	Total Supply	16,333	15,357	15,357
Use	Feed and Residual	5,717	5,300	5,300
	Food, Seed, and Industrial	6,767	6,725	6,650
	Ethanol	5,326	5,275	5,200
	Exports	2,471	2,150	2,075
	Total Use	14,956	14,175	14,025
	Ending Stocks	1,377	1,182	1,332
	Stocks-to-Use (%)	9.2	8.3	9.5
	Season Average Price (\$/bu.)	\$6.00	\$6.80	\$6.60

US Corn Export Sales by Week to November 10, 2022

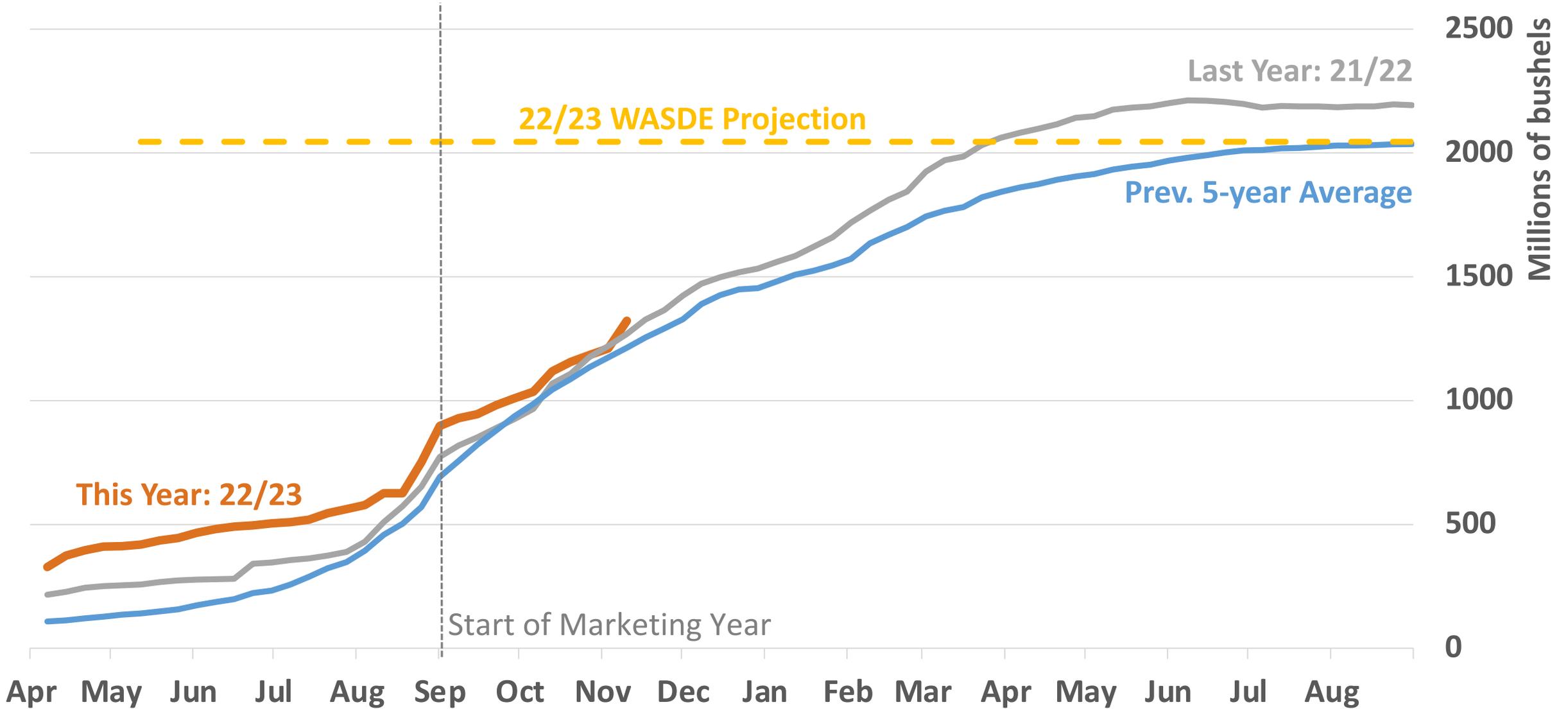


Note: Export Sales = Commitments + Accumulated Exports, Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Old-Crop US Soybean Balance Sheet

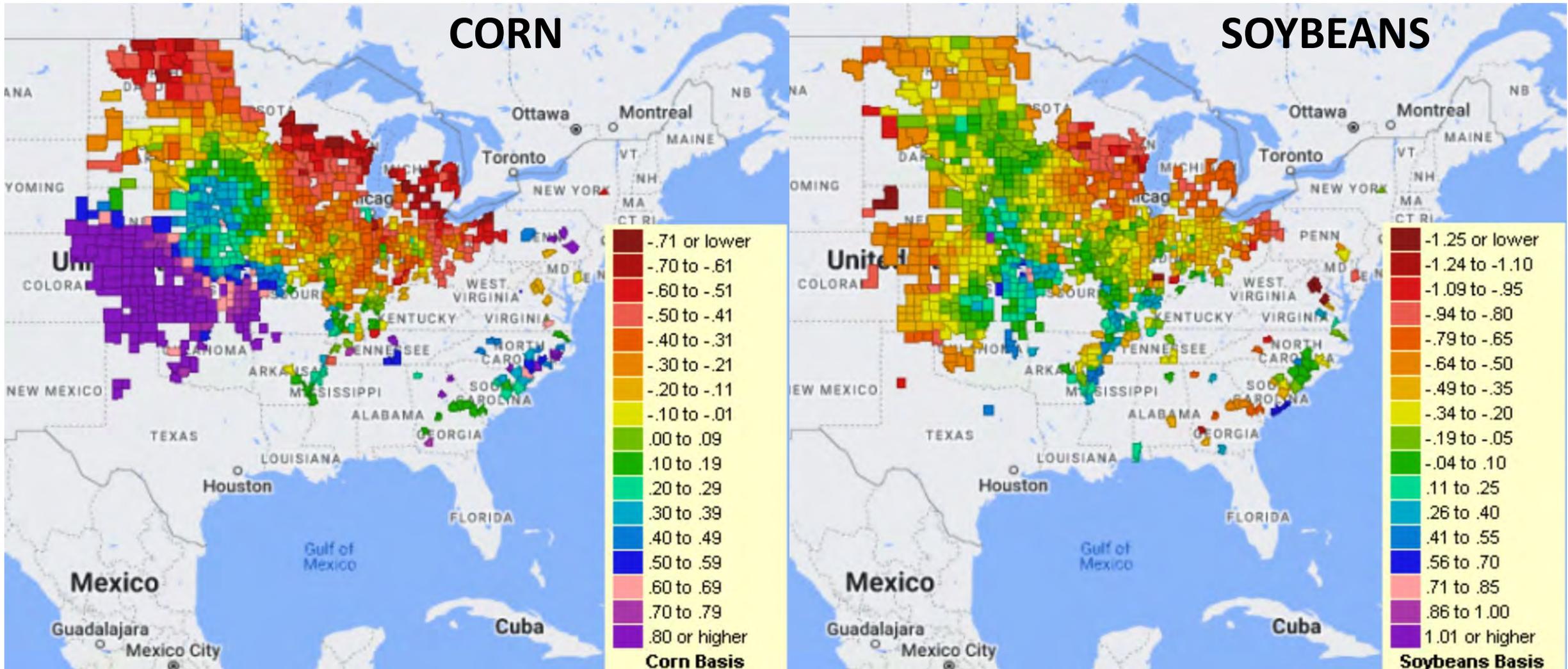
	(mil. bushels unless noted)	2021/22	2022/23 USDA Nov WASDE	2022/23 <i>farmdoc</i> Forecast
Supply	Area Planted (mil. acres)	87.2	87.5	87.5
	Area Harvested (mil. acres)	86.3	86.6	86.6
	Yield (bu./acre)	51.7	50.2	50.2
	Beginning Stocks	257	274	274
	Production	4,465	4,346	4,346
	Imports	16	15	15
	Total Supply	4,738	4,634	4,634
Use	Crushings	2,204	2,245	2,245
	Exports	2,158	2,045	2,045
	Seed	102	102	102
	Residual	2	22	22
	Total Use	4,465	4,414	4,414
	Ending Stocks	274	220	220
	Stocks-to-Use (%)	4.6	5.0	5.0
	Season Average Price (\$/bu.)	\$13.30	\$14.00	\$14.00

US Soybean Export Sales by Week to November 10, 2022



Note: Export Sales = Commitments + Accumulated Exports, Source: USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

Corn and soybean basis levels as of November 17, 2022



Source: DTN

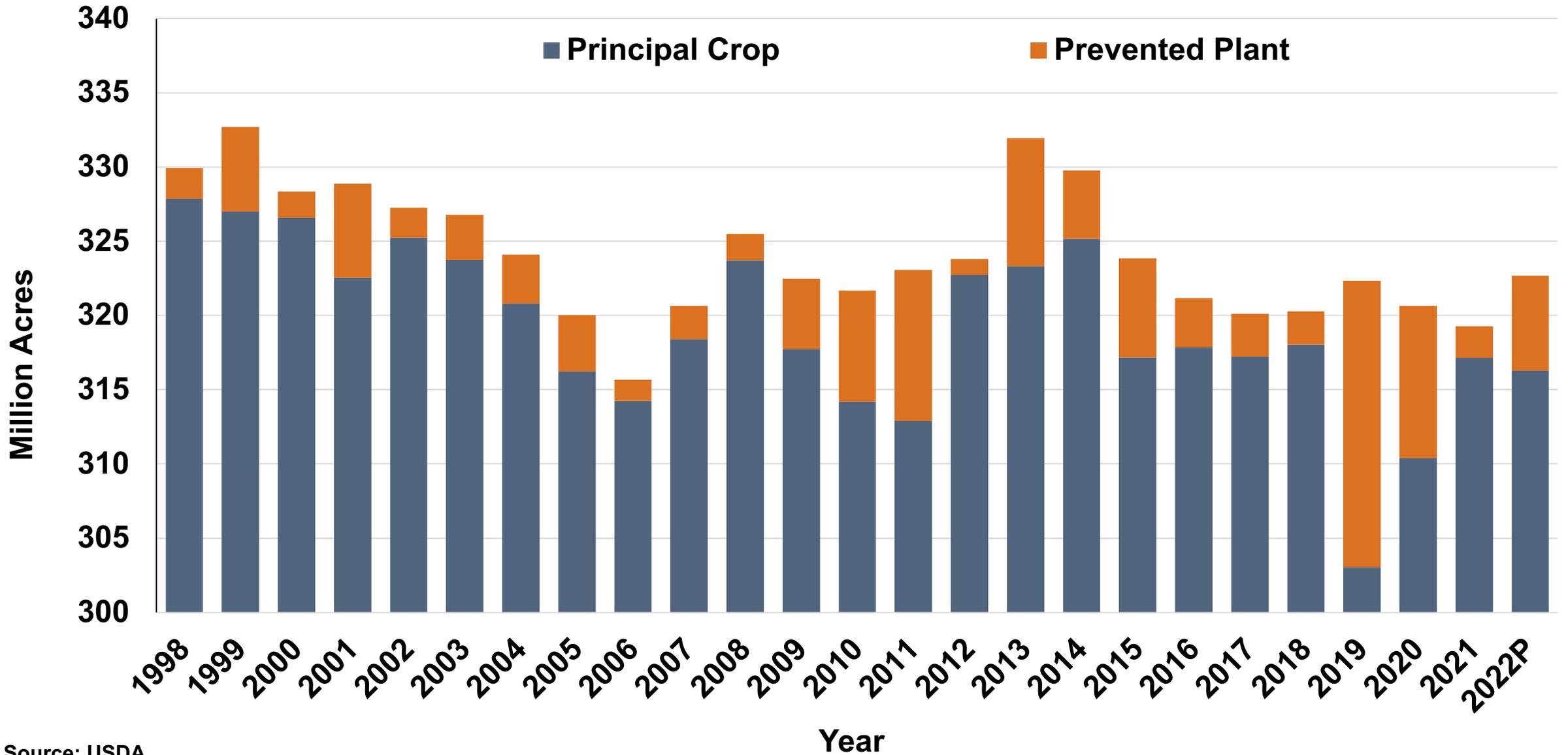
New-Crop US Corn Balance Sheet

	(mil. bushels unless noted)	2021/22	2022/23 USDA Nov WASDE	2023/24 USDA Oct Baseline	2023/24 farmdoc Forecast
Supply	Area Planted (mil. acres)	93.3	88.6	92.0	92.0
	Area Harvested (mil. acres)	85.3	80.8	84.1	84.1
	Yield (bu./acre)	176.7	172.3	181.5	180.0
	Beginning Stocks	1,235	1,377	1,182	1,332
	Production	15,074	13,930	15,265	15,139
	Imports	24	50	25	25
	Total Supply	16,333	15,357	16,472	16,496
Use	Feed and Residual	5,717	5,300	5,700	5,600
	Food, Seed, and Industrial	6,767	6,725	6,775	6,775
	Ethanol	5,326	5,275	5,325	5,325
	Exports	2,471	2,150	2,275	2,250
	Total Use	14,956	14,175	14,750	14,625
	Ending Stocks	1,377	1,182	1,722	1,871
	Stocks-to-Use (%)	9.2	8.3	11.7	12.8
	Season Average Price (\$/bu.)	\$6.00	\$6.80	\$5.70	\$5.40

New-Crop US Soybean Balance Sheet

	(mil. bushels unless noted)	2021/22	2022/23 USDA Nov WASDE	2023/24 USDA Oct Baseline	2023/24 <i>farmdoc</i> Forecast
Supply	Area Planted (mil. acres)	87.2	87.5	87.0	88.0
	Area Harvested (mil. acres)	86.3	86.6	86.2	87.2
	Yield (bu./acre)	51.7	50.2	52.0	51.5
	Beginning Stocks	257	274	220	220
	Production	4,465	4,346	4,480	4,489
	Imports	16	15	15	15
	Total Supply	4,738	4,634	4,715	4,724
Use	Crushings	2,204	2,245	2,295	2,295
	Exports	2,158	2,045	2,050	2,050
	Seed	102	102	100	100
	Residual	2	22	23	23
	Total Use	4,465	4,414	4,468	4,468
	Ending Stocks	274	220	247	256
	Stocks-to-Use (%)	4.6	5.0	5.5	5.7
	Season Average Price (\$/bu.)	\$13.30	\$14.00	\$13.00	\$13.00

Total Intended Crop Acreage in the U.S., 1998-2022P



Source: USDA

Daily Ratio of Nov 2023 Soybean and Dec 2023 Corn Futures Prices, January 4, 2021 to November 17, 2022





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Field Crops Production



Giovani Preza-Fontes
University of Illinois

2022 Crop Year: challenges and victories

Farm Assets Conf., November 21, 2022

The big challenge 2022 (in some places): dry weather

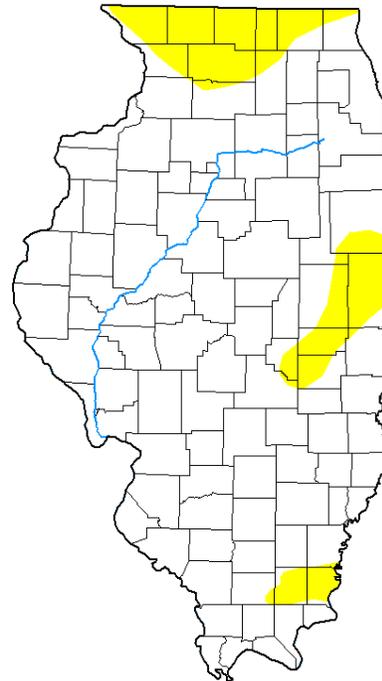
Giovani Preza Fontes
Crop Sciences
University of Illinois

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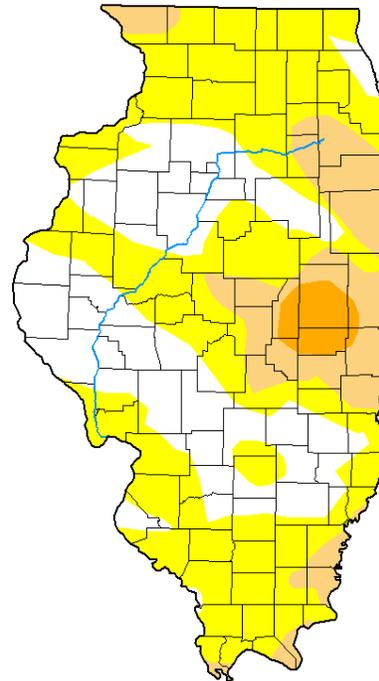
Crop Sciences

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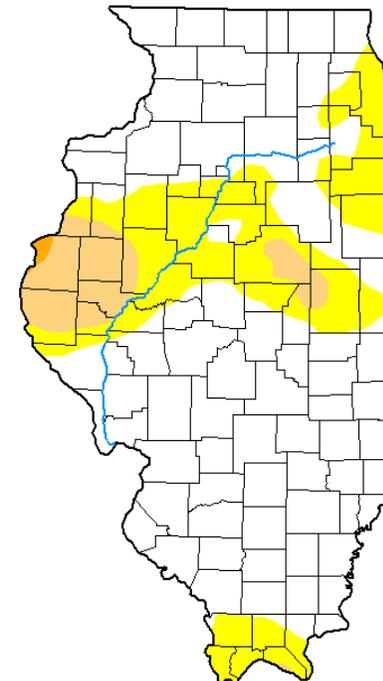
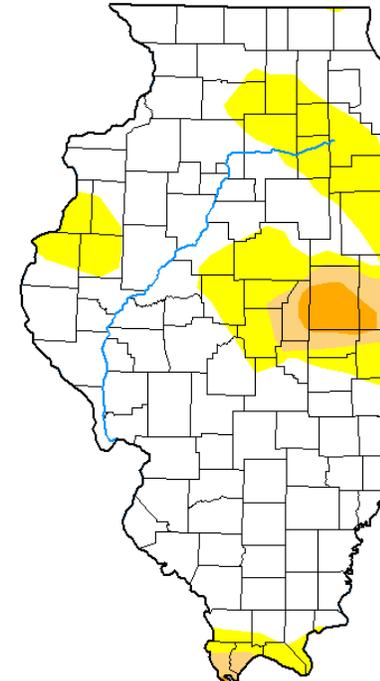
June 7



July 7



Aug. 2



Dry weather: pros

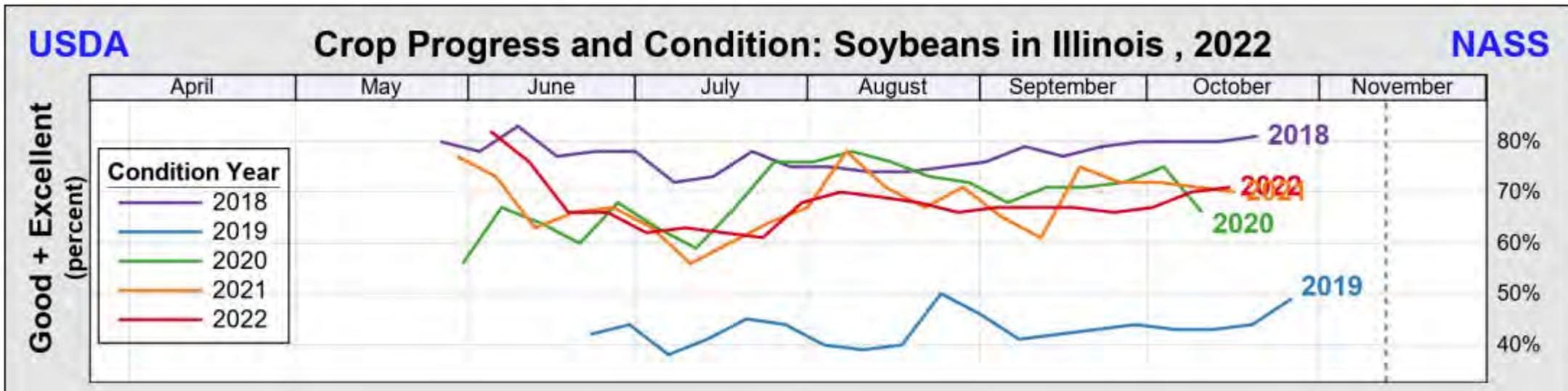
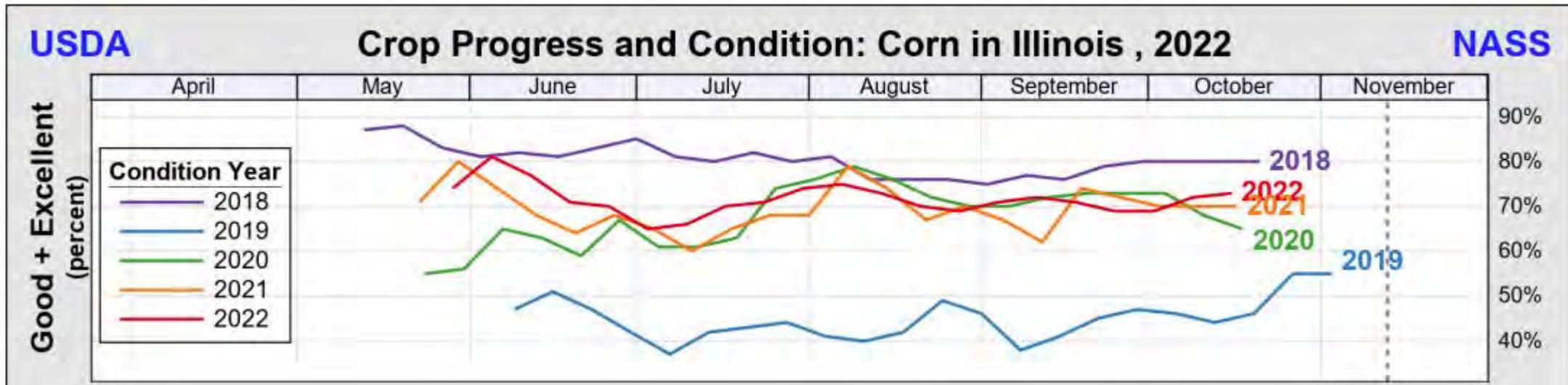
- Good plant stands
- Helps root growth and function
- Few disease pressure: root or foliar
- Less leaching of N

Dry weather: cons

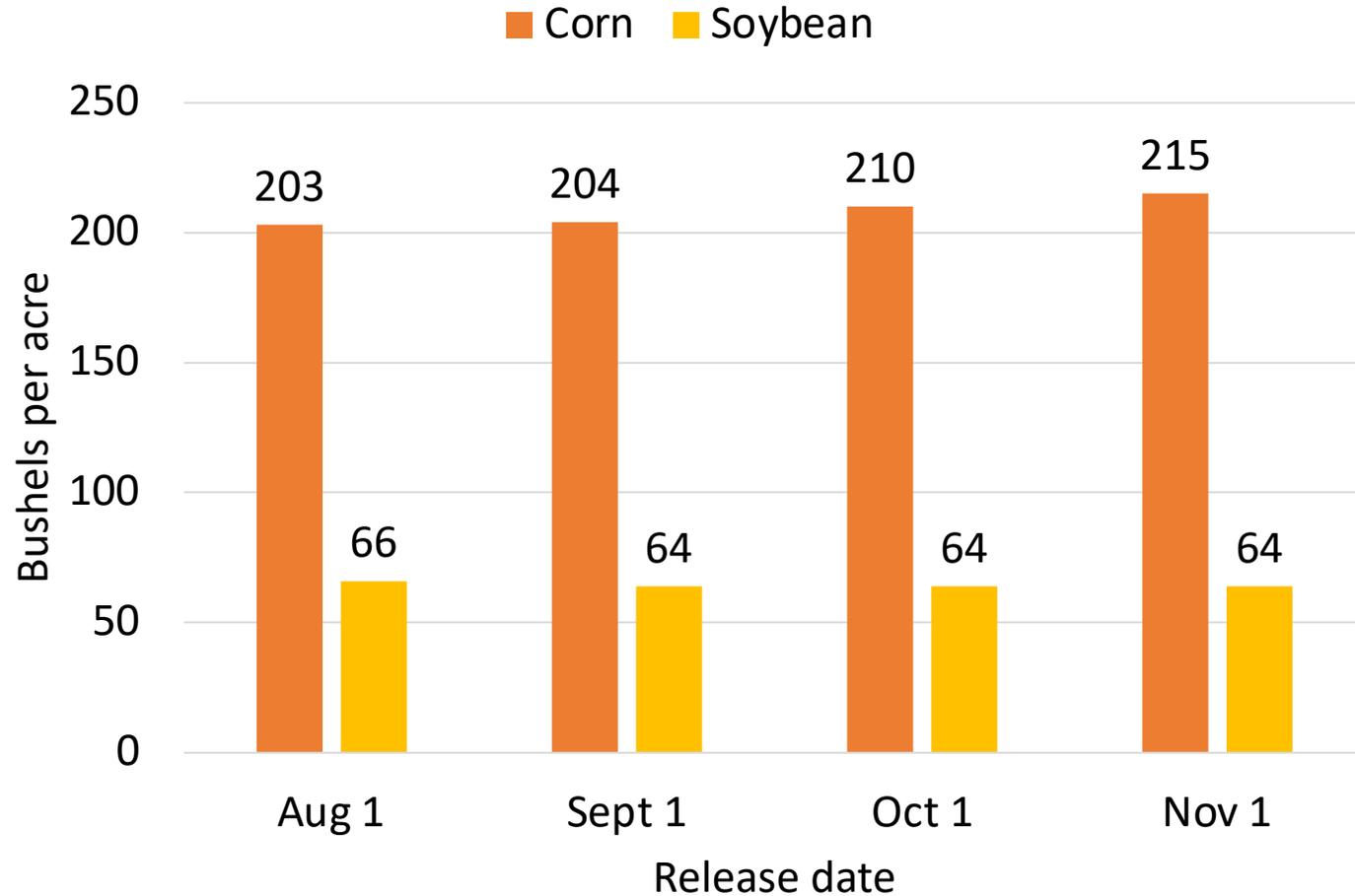
- Soil compaction effects show up
 - Drywall compaction if turns out dry following planting
 - Less and delayed access of roots to nutrients
 - Lower photosynthesis under stress
 - Fewer kernels set
 - Less kernel fill
- } Lower yield



- Overall, good + excellent ratings ~70% during most of the season
- Timely rainfall in July and August: grain filling



NASS yield projections, Illinois, 2022



Illinois crop yield records:

- Corn: 210 bu/ac (2018)
- Soybean: 65 bu/ac (2021)

Nutrient management considerations under high fertilizer prices

- 2022 corn crop got enough N
 - Nafziger, E. Why are the corn and soybean crops drying so slow? October 5, 2022.
 - Nafziger, E. Fall Nitrogen. October 19, 2022.



Corn stayed green up to maturity. Sept 27 2022

Strip	N rate	Trial 1	Trial 2
		-----bu/acre-----	
1	Low (185 lb N)	216.5	209.3
2	High (249 lb N)	219.2	215.0
3	Low N	207.2	215.7
4	High N	214.8	220.2
5	Low N	217.5	213.6
	Avg High N	217.0	217.6
	Avg Low N	213.7	212.9
	Yield, high - low N	3.3	4.7
	\$ return to added N	-\$42.84	-\$33.47

Two-rate N trial in Urbana, IL 2022

N rate for 2023

Northern IL

Nitrogen Price (\$/lb): 0.85

Corn Price (\$/bu): 6.50

Price Ratio: 0.13

MRTN Rate (lb N/acre): 163

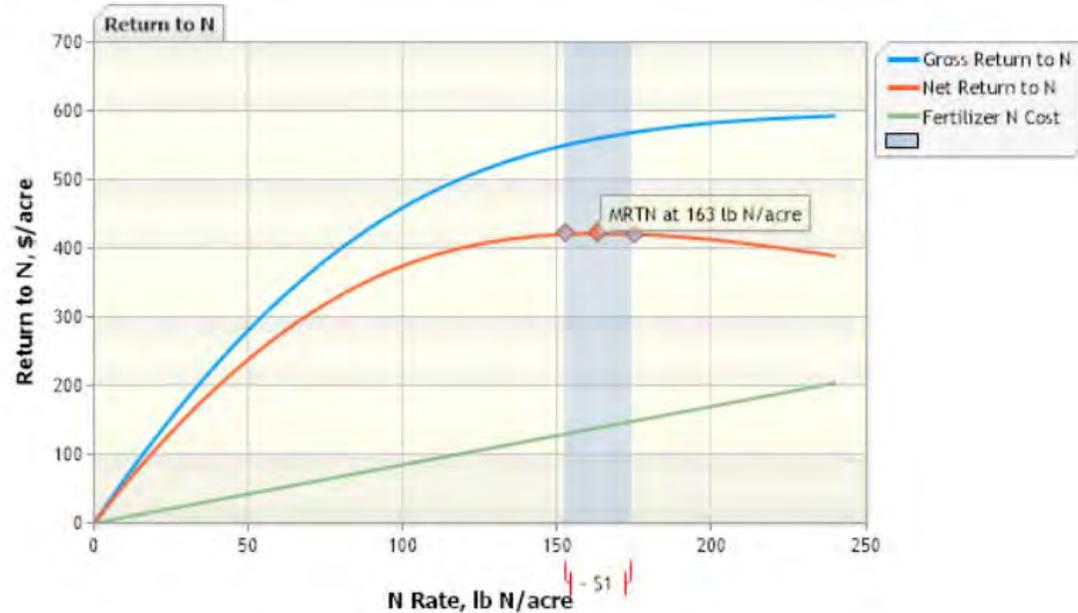
Profitable N Rate Range (lb N/acre): 152 - 174

Net Return to N at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): \$421.39

Percent of Maximum Yield at MRTN Rate: 98%

Anhydrous Ammonia (82% N) at MRTN Rate (lb product/acre): 198

Anhydrous Ammonia (82% N) Cost at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): \$138.55



Central IL

Nitrogen Price (\$/lb): 0.85

Corn Price (\$/bu): 6.50

Price Ratio: 0.13

MRTN Rate (lb N/acre): 171

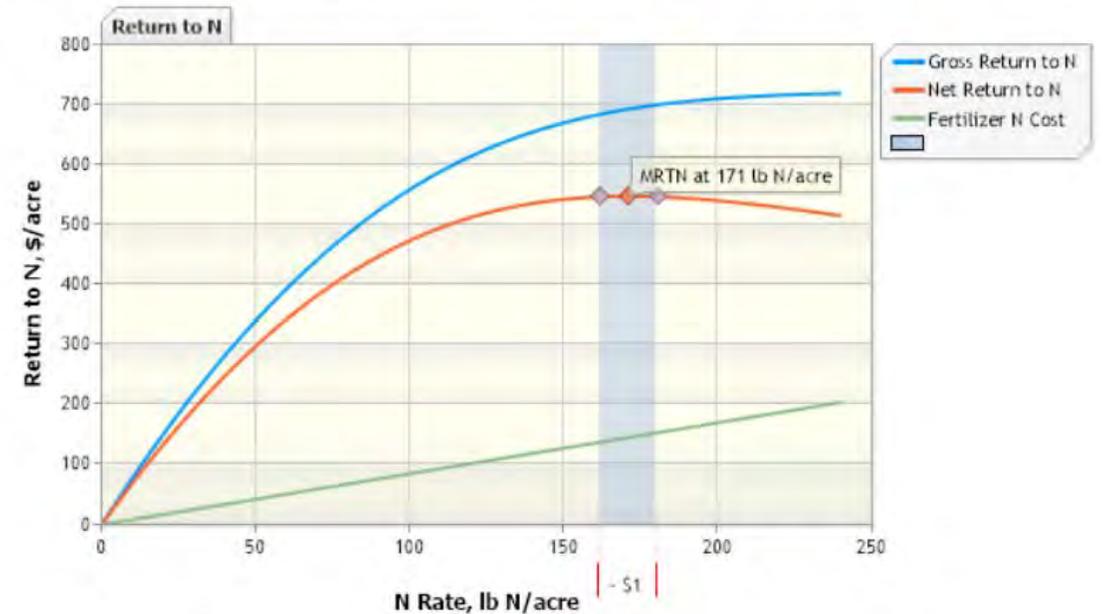
Profitable N Rate Range (lb N/acre): 161 - 180

Net Return to N at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): \$547.21

Percent of Maximum Yield at MRTN Rate: 98%

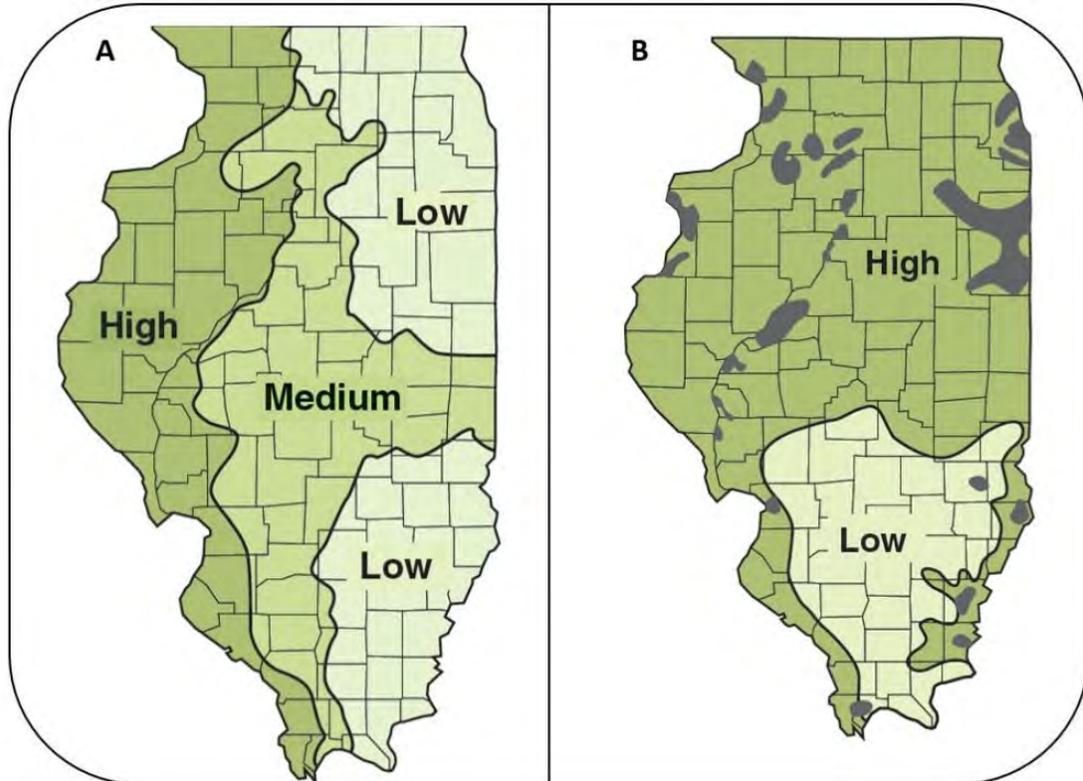
Anhydrous Ammonia (82% N) at MRTN Rate (lb product/acre): 208

Anhydrous Ammonia (82% N) Cost at MRTN Rate (\$/acre): \$145.35



Fertilizing with High-Priced P and K

Fontes, G. October 21, 2022.



A: Subsoil P-supplying power. B: CEC of IL soils.

- There is no agronomic advantages in applying P for corn and soybeans when Bray P values are higher than:
 - Low: 60 lbs/acre
 - Medium: 65 lbs/acre
 - High: 70 lbs/acre
- No K additions are suggested if ST levels are higher than:
 - Low CEC: 360 lbs/acre
 - High CEC: 400 lbs/acre

Fertilizing with High-Priced P and K

Fontes, G. October 21, 2022.

Applying crop removal rates

Crop	Grain Nutrient Removal Rate	
	lb P ₂ O ₅ /bushel	lb K ₂ O/bushel
Corn	0.37	0.24
Soybean	0.75	1.17
Wheat	0.46	0.28

- Best done when ST levels are within the desire range
- 2-yr corn (200 bu/acre) and soybean (60 bu/acre) is estimated to remove 119 lb P₂O₅ and 118 lb K₂O
- Replacing these nutrients would take 229 lb of MAP and 197 lbs of Potash
- MAP \$953.75/ton and Potash \$873.11/ton
- **Together, it would cost about \$200/acre**





Emily Heaton
University of Illinois



What's new with
regenerative ag?

Outline

- Who am I and what do I know?
- We ask: how does regenerative ag increase farm assets?
 1. Increase capital value of land
 2. Provide annual cash income
 3. Increase predictability



Emily Heaton
 Professor, Dept. of Crop Sciences
 Director, IL Regenerative Ag Initiative
 Extension Biomass Specialist
 CABBI Feedstock Production Theme Leader
go.illinois.edu/irai

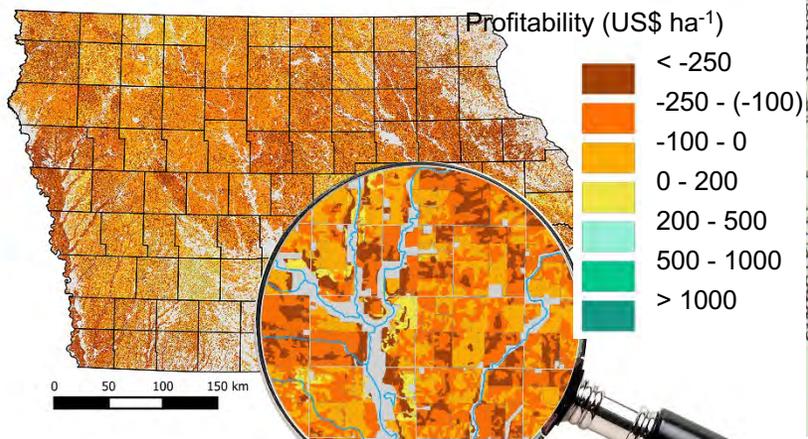
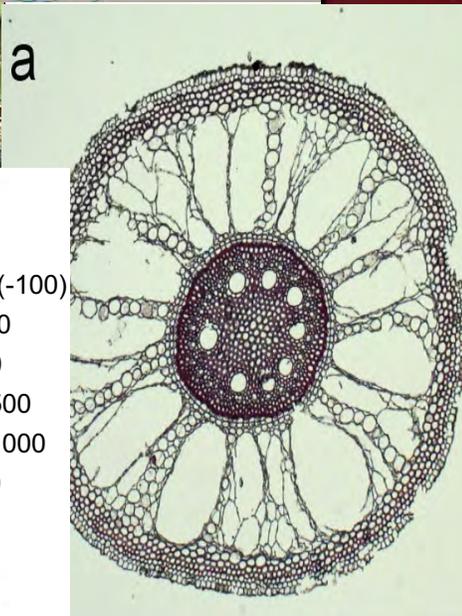
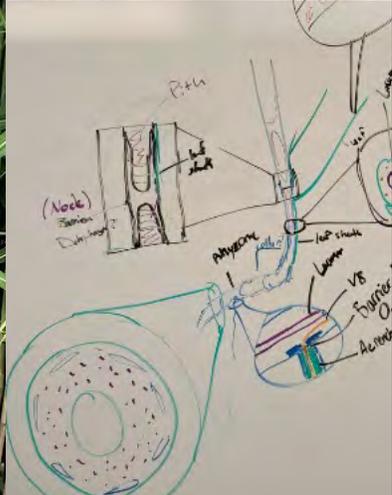


United States Department of Agriculture
 National Institute of Food and Agriculture



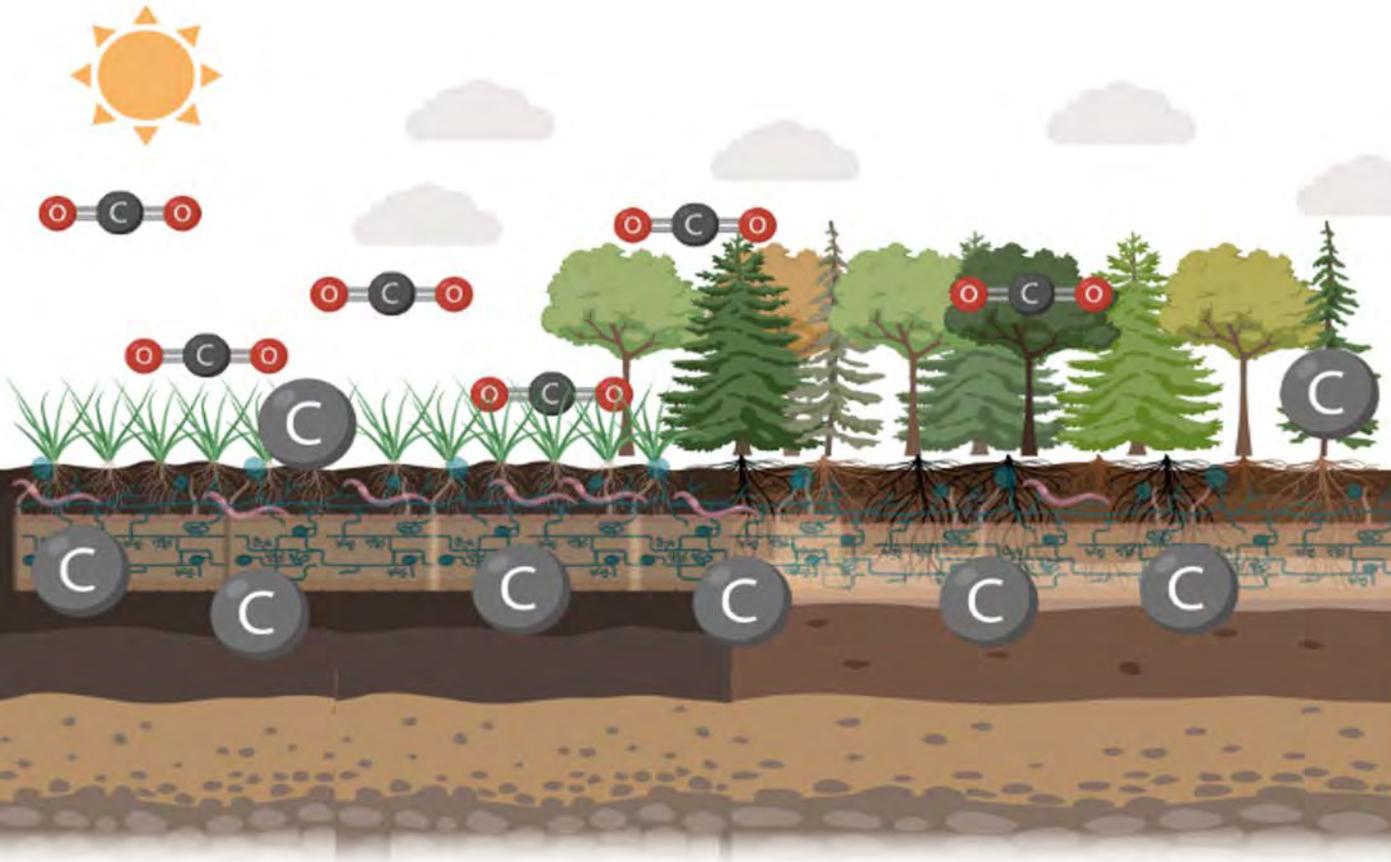
A photograph of an eddy covariance system in a field. The system consists of a white sensor tower with a spherical anemometer at the top, and a blue frame with a sonic anemometer at the top. The background is a green field under a clear blue sky.

Regenerative Ag **increases** the
natural and human capital
underpinning a thriving society



<https://scholar.google.com>; search Emily Heaton

What I have learned:



1. Plants are THE major mechanism CO₂ is removed from the air
2. Putting 15% of cropland into perennial grasses solves >90% of ag's environmental problems and saves money

Strategically incorporating ~10% prairie into annual row crop fields leads to...

- 1 44% reduction in water runoff
- 2 95% reduction in soil loss through runoff
- 3 90% reduction in phosphorus runoff
- 4 84% reduction in nitrogen runoff and 70% reduction in subsurface nitrate loss (not tiled)
- 5 2-3 times more beneficial insects and birds
- 6 No reduction in per acre yields
- 7 Costs less than terraces; comparable to cover crops



Schulte et al. 2017. Proceeding of the Natl Academy of Sciences Photo: Wright Co., Lynn Betts

Slide courtesy Dr. Lisa Schulte Moore www.prairiestrips.org,

“There’s lots of reasons to grow perennials, but money isn’t one of them”
- me, 2012



Outline

- Who am I and what do I know?
- We ask: how does regenerative ag increase farm assets?
 1. Increase capital value of land
 2. Provide annual cash income
 3. Increase predictability



Slow Food[®]
CHICAGO

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www.cavenyfarm.com





Caveny Farm, Monticello, IL

photo credit: Iowa State University





Miscanthus in a corn/soy pothole near Ames, IA, July 2019.

Mixed grass fiber can be used for multiple purposes



Photo credit Emily Heaton (left); Genera, Inc and Earthables (above)



Images courtesy Aggrow Tech and Koch Angus

Perennial grasses provide a **regenerative carbon source** in a layered ag enterprise



Conesville, IA 2021

Photo credit Travis Hedrick, AGgrowTech

Regen Ag turns “gas to grass to cash”

Illinois Regenerative Ag Initiative

Go.Illinois.edu/irai

heaton6@illinois.edu





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The Value of Farmland



Bruce Sherrick
University of Illinois

Ag Land Value Trends

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& ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Bruce J. Sherrick, Ph.D.

Director, TIAA Center for Farmland Research
Fruin Professor of Farmland Economics

Luke Worrell

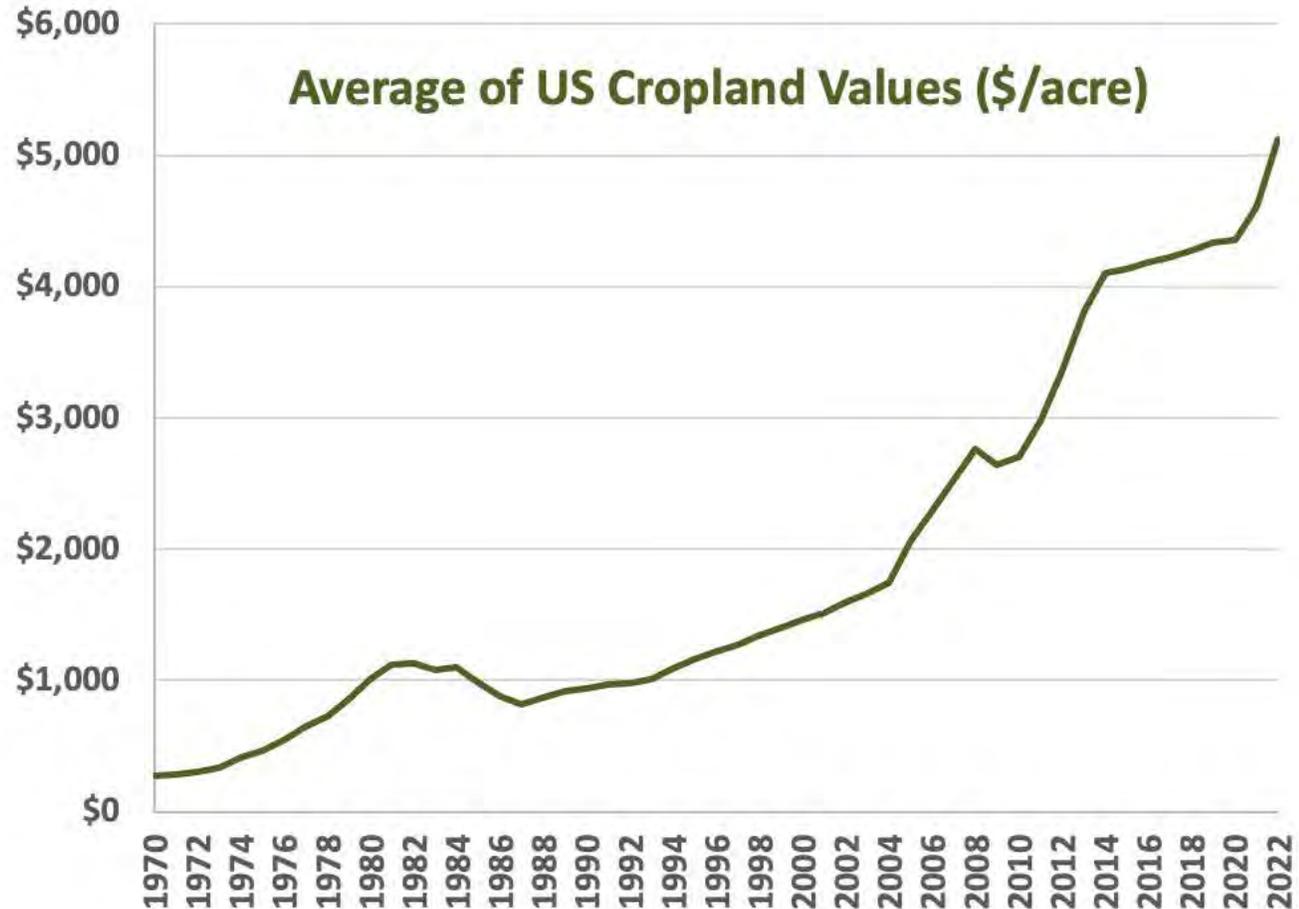
Worrell Land Services, LLC
Jacksonville Illinois



Factors affecting Ag Land Values

Purpose:

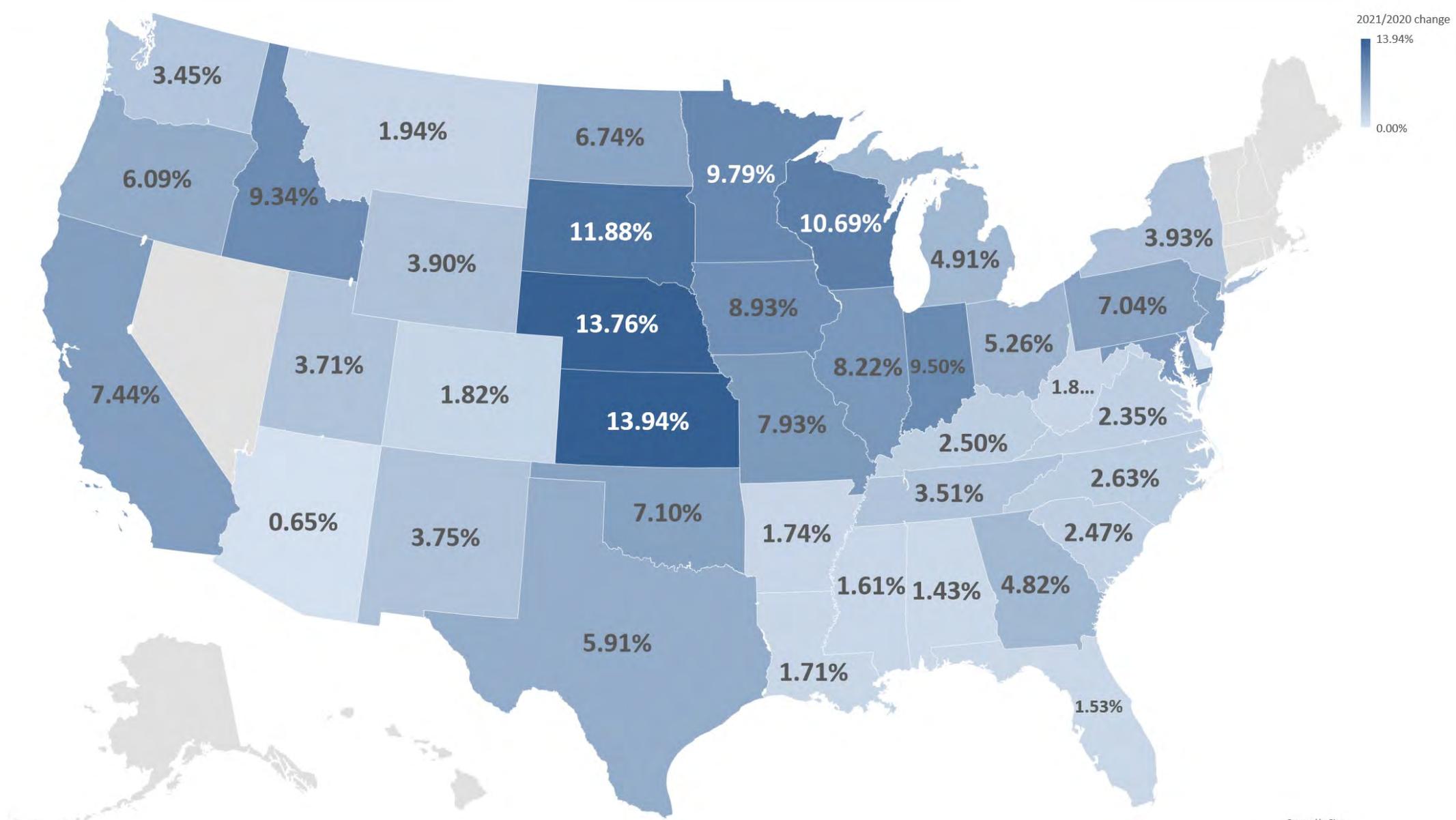
- Identify broad economic and farm-level factors that drive farmland values and rental rates.
- Provide context/interpretation current macro-market events.
- National to local progression, with eye toward future.



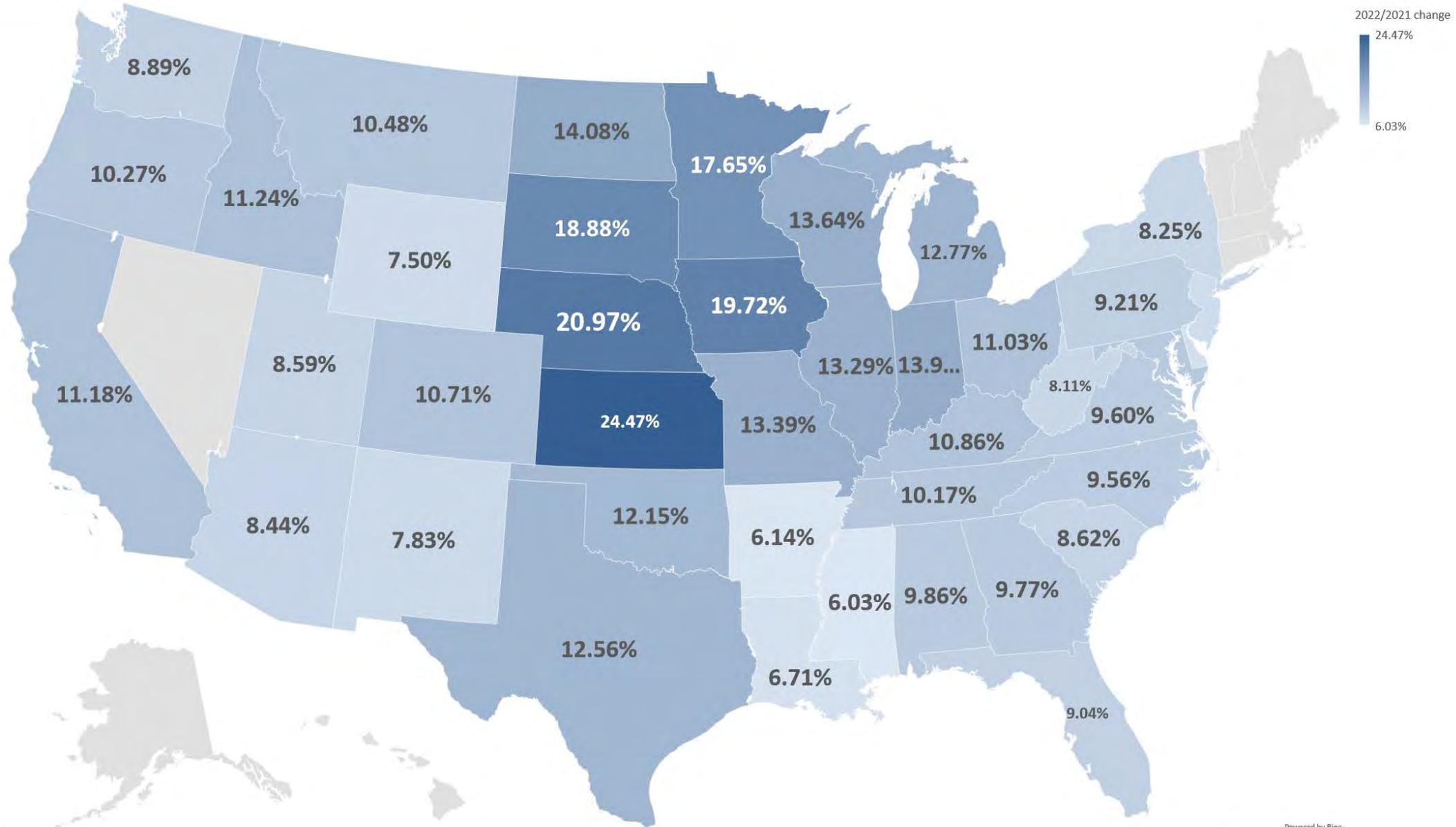
The Usual Suspects, and some New Actors

- *Income & commodity Prices*
- *Interest rates (and the Fed) vs.*
- *Inflation (and the Fed)*
- *International trade/conflicts*
- *Policy and Farm Bill focus*
- *Technology innovations*
- *Stimulus payments and temporary programs + ad hoc*
- *Carbon/Climate/Conservation*
- *Consumer preferences for food attributes*
- *Pandemic impacts/structural response*
- *Crop Insurance changes/conservation tie*
- *Alternative investment characteristics*
- *ROW Demand expansion and demographic patterns through time*

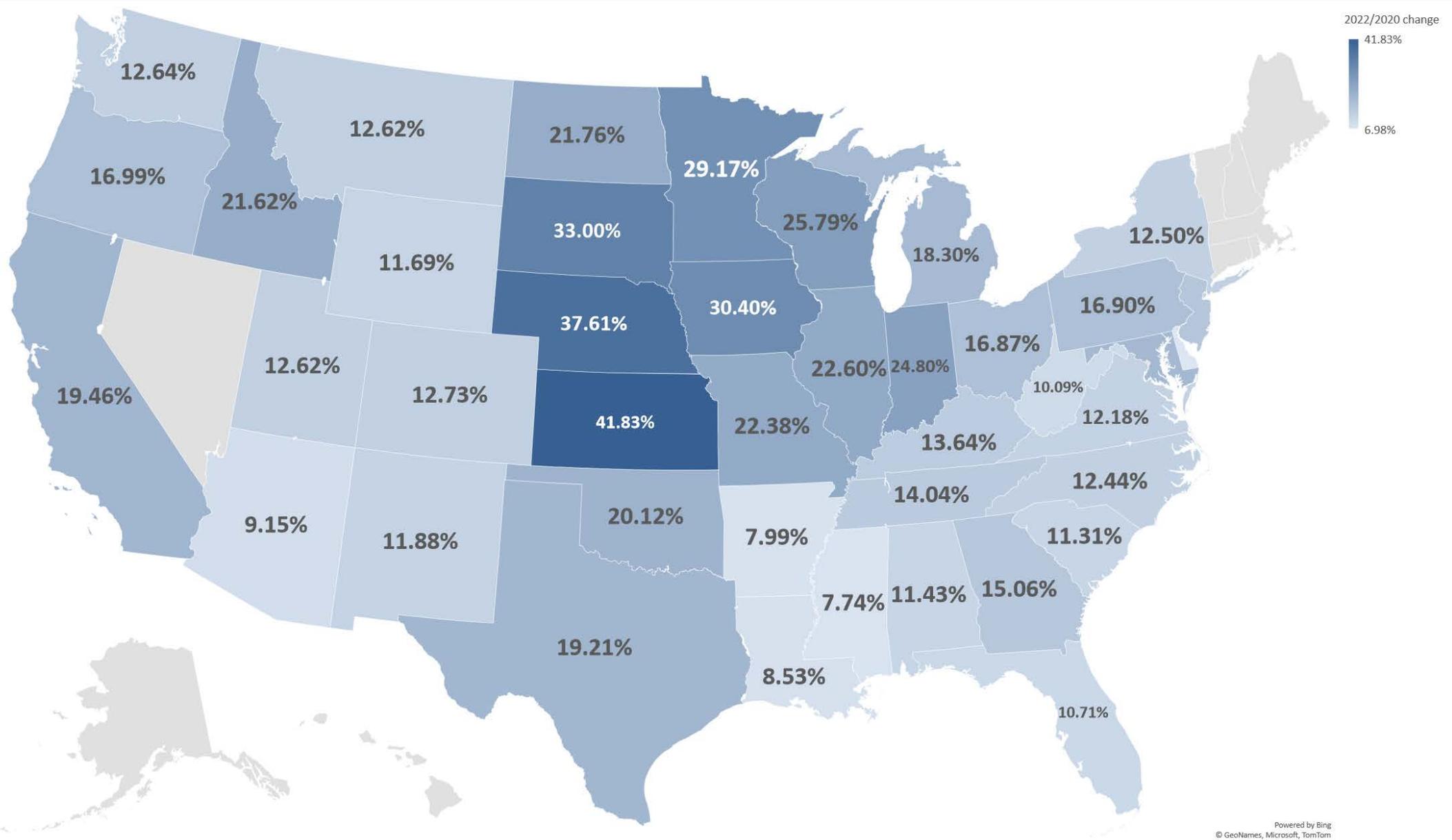
Cropland % change \$/Acre 2020-2021 *(mid-year USDA)*



Cropland % change \$/Acre 2021-2022 *(mid-year USDA)*

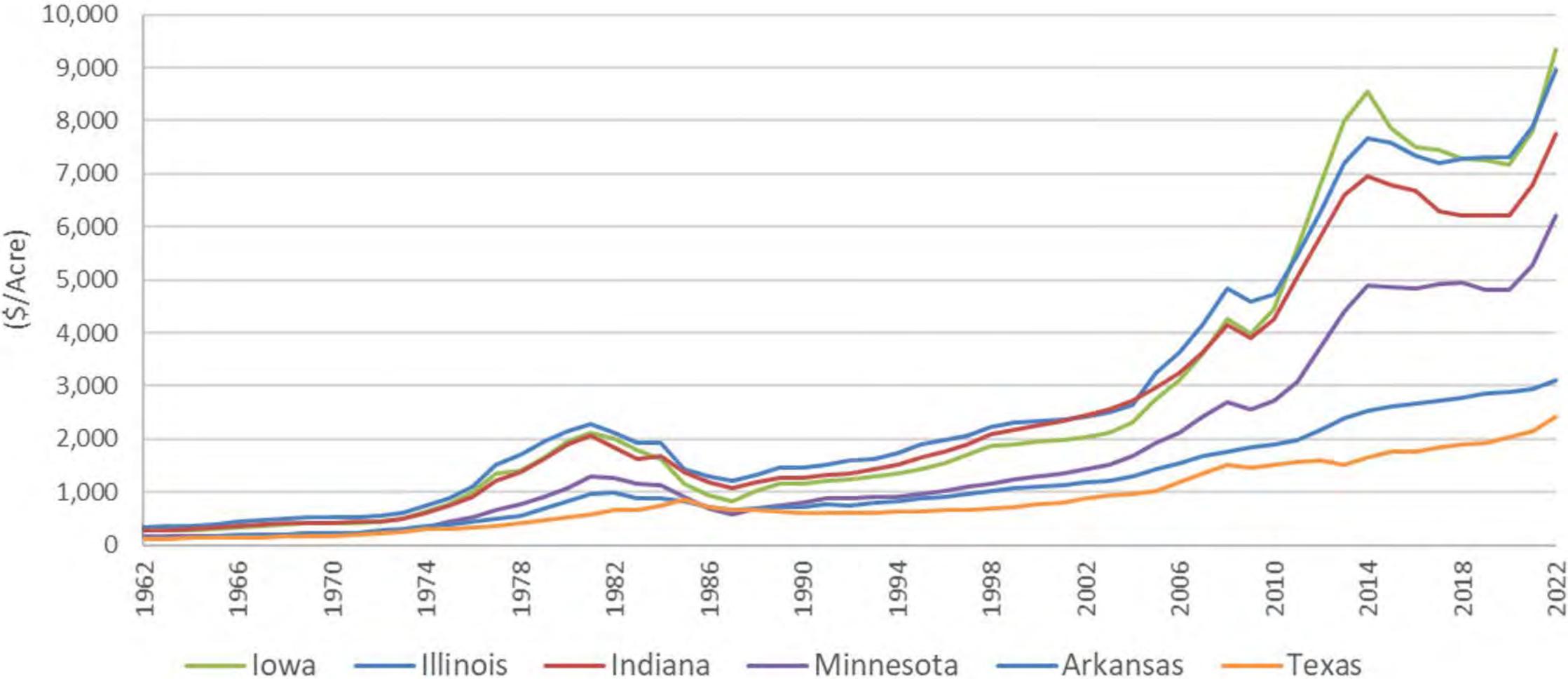


Cropland % change \$/Acre 2020-2022 *(mid-year USDA)*



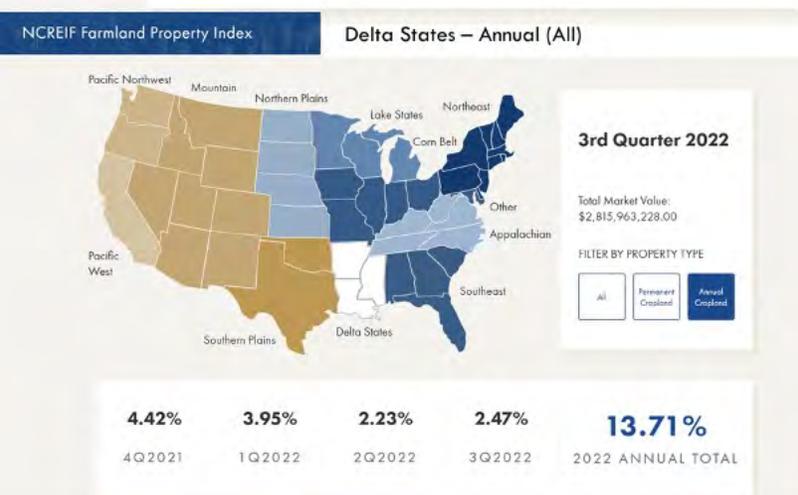
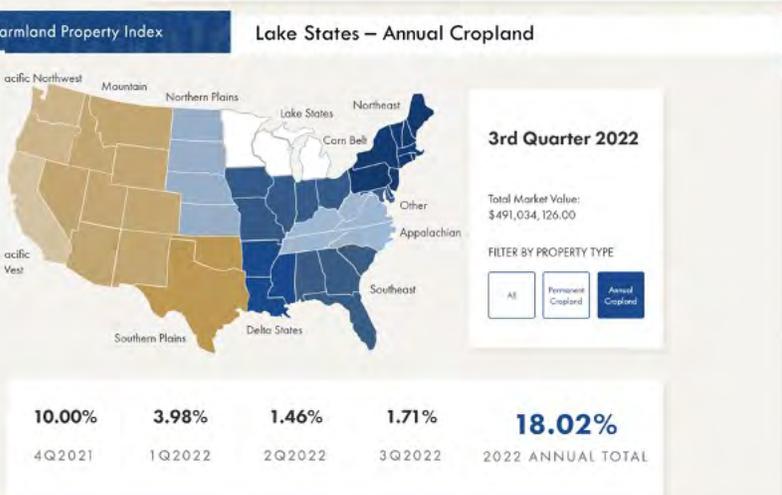
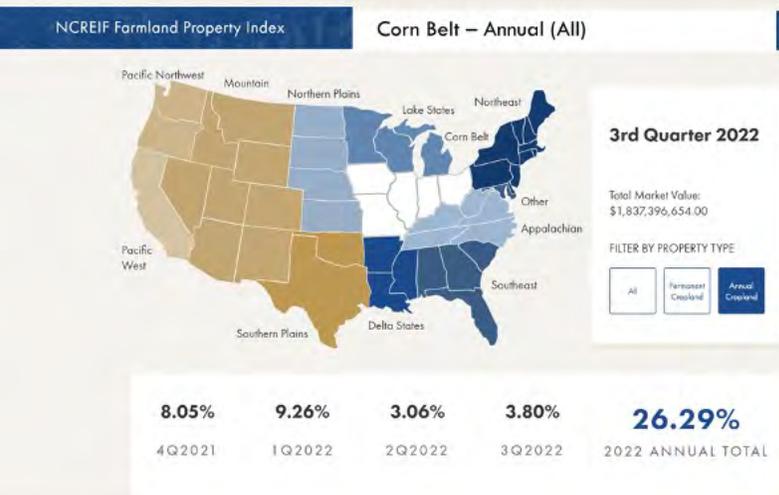
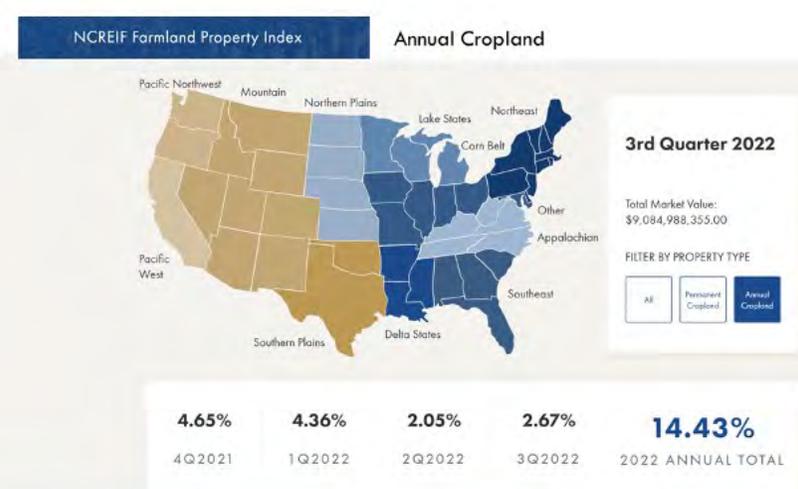
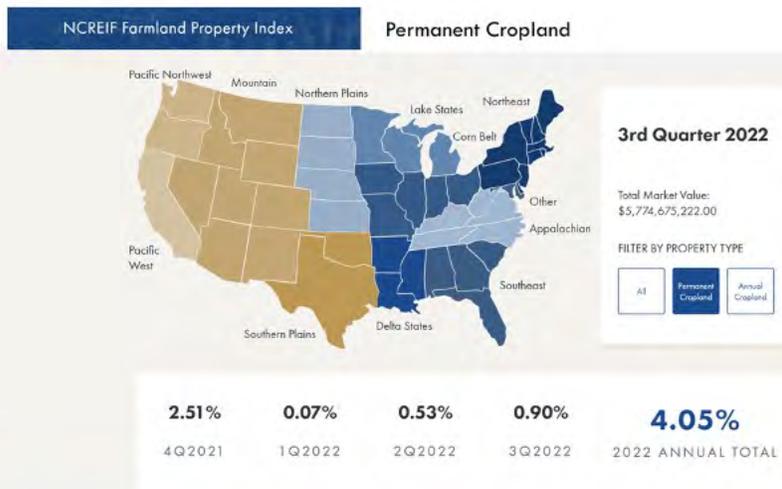
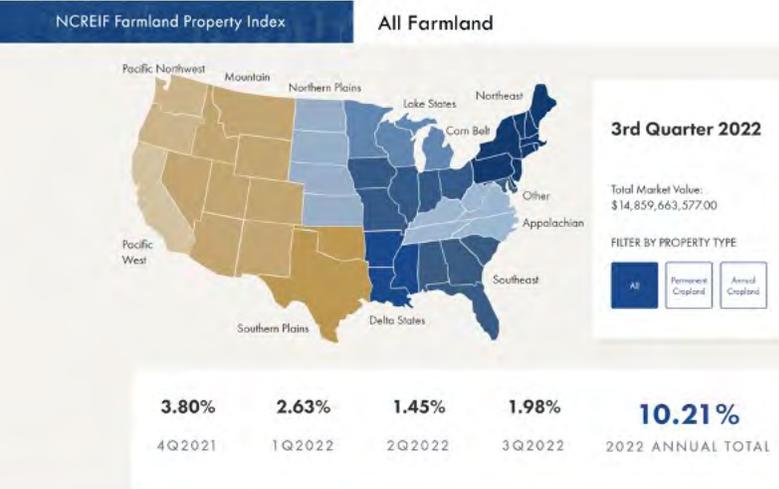
Cropland Values – selected states

Cropland Value \$/acre



Farmland Returns by region Q3-2022 (NCREIF 4Q rolling)

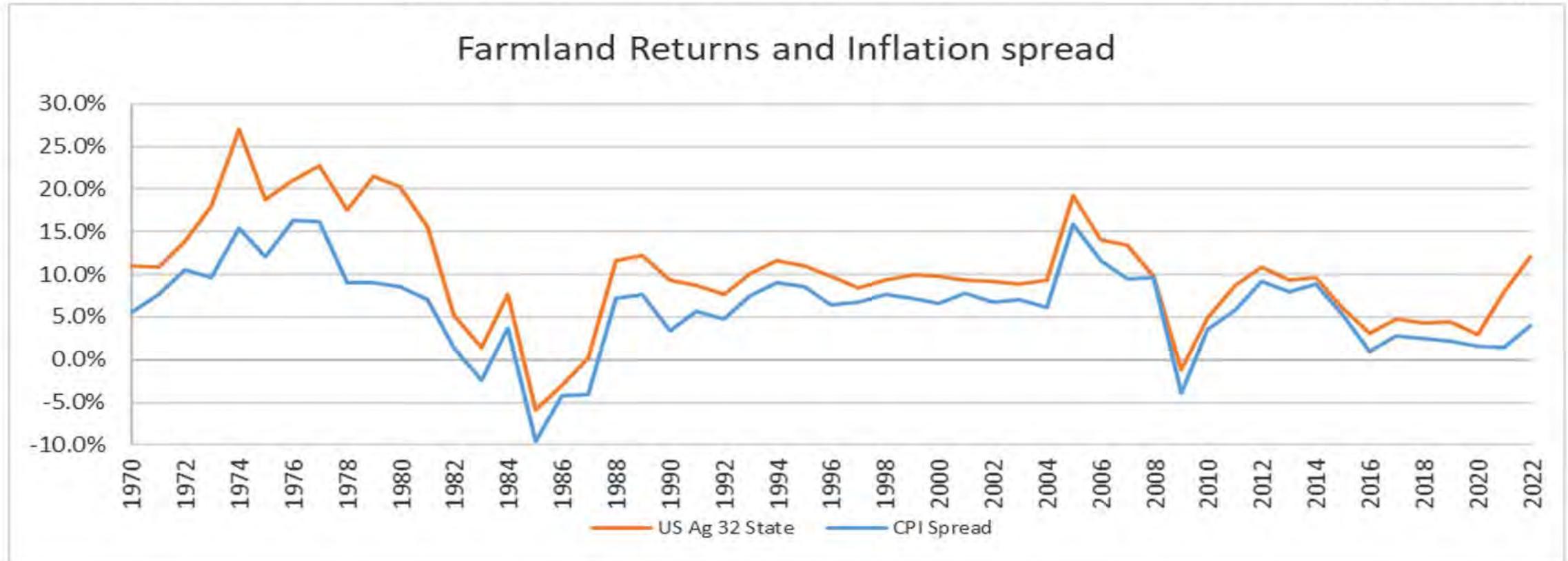
(1,300+ properties, \$14.9 Billion)



Inflation and Interest Rate Relationships (to 11/17/22...)



Farmland Returns and farmland returns minus inflation (spread)



Decade	Farmland to CPI Spread
1970 to 1979	11.1%
1980 to 1989	1.5%
1990 to 1999	6.7%
2000 to 2009	7.7%
2010 to 2019	4.9%
1970 to 2022f	6.2%

- **Farmland returns have been remarkably stable with positive alpha**
- **Perfect Storm in 1980s – still relatively good performance**
- **Low volatility annual returns, appreciation positive except 1980s**
- **Positive Inflation effect has been incredibly reliable – new forms?**

Balance Sheet of Ag Sector -- US

Table 1. Selected Balance Sheet Characteristics of US Agricultural Sector

	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010	2018	2020	2022
	<i>(\$ millions, except ratios - source ERS-USDA)</i>							
Farm Assets	278,823	1,000,422	840,609	1,203,215	2,170,832	3,026,679	3,174,623	3,835,151
Real Estate	202,418	782,820	619,149	946,428	1,660,114	2,510,163	2,640,942	3,188,219
Non Real Estate	76,405	217,602	221,459	256,787	510,718	516,515	533,681	646,931
Farm Debt	48,501	162,432	131,116	163,930	278,931	402,606	441,254	496,025
Real Estate	27,238	85,272	67,633	84,724	154,065	245,774	288,645	341,914
Non Real Estate	21,263	77,160	63,483	79,206	124,865	156,832	152,608	154,111
Equity	230,322	837,990	709,493	1,039,285	1,891,902	2,624,073	2,733,369	3,339,125
Selected Indicators								
Debt/Equity	21.1%	19.4%	18.5%	15.8%	14.7%	15.3%	16.1%	14.9%
Debt/Assets	17.4%	16.2%	15.6%	13.6%	12.8%	13.3%	13.9%	12.9%
Real Estate/Equity	87.9%	93.4%	87.3%	91.1%	87.7%	95.7%	96.6%	95.5%
Real Estate/Assets	72.6%	78.2%	73.7%	78.7%	76.5%	82.9%	83.2%	83.1%
Real Estate D/Total D	56.2%	52.5%	51.6%	51.7%	55.2%	61.0%	65.4%	68.9%

Farmland Returns in Context

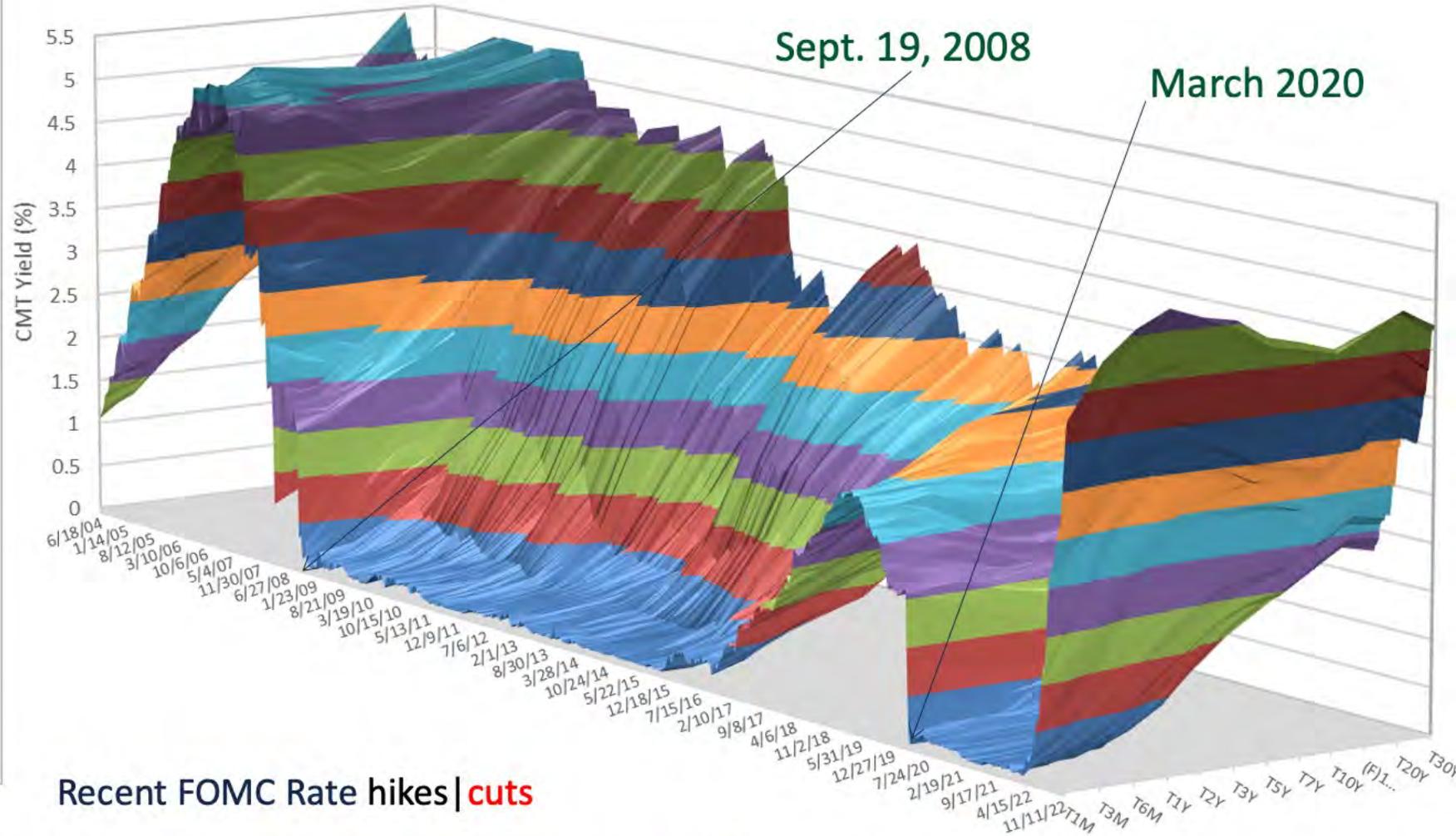
Table 1. Asset Return Characteristics

Asset/Index	Annual Ave. Return	Standard Deviation	Coefficient of Variation	US Ag 32 States Correlation	Minimum Return	Maximum Return
----- 1990 - 2022 -----						
US Ag 32 States	8.5%	3.6%	0.42	1.00	-1.2%	19.0%
Illinois	9.3%	5.5%	0.59	0.80	0.8%	26.0%
Iowa	10.9%	7.3%	0.67	0.64	-5.3%	24.9%
Indiana	9.1%	4.9%	0.54	0.64	-1.0%	22.0%
Minnesota	10.7%	5.5%	0.51	0.78	-1.8%	20.3%
California	8.3%	5.0%	0.60	0.55	2.5%	30.7%
Washington	12.1%	3.6%	0.30	0.45	5.4%	24.1%
Oregon	11.1%	4.8%	0.43	0.56	-1.6%	23.5%
Kansas	10.1%	6.8%	0.68	0.69	-4.6%	24.4%
----- 1990 - 2021 -----						
TCM10Y	4.30%	2.0%	0.47	0.28	0.9%	8.6%
S&P500	8.13%	16.7%	2.06	-0.14	-48.6%	29.3%
CompositeREITS	9.94%	18.3%	1.85	-0.13	-47.5%	33.7%
Gold	4.72%	13.9%	2.94	0.06	-31.9%	27.7%
PPI	2.43%	5.0%	2.07	0.14	-7.4%	20.5%
CPI	2.48%	1.3%	0.53	0.24	0.1%	6.7%

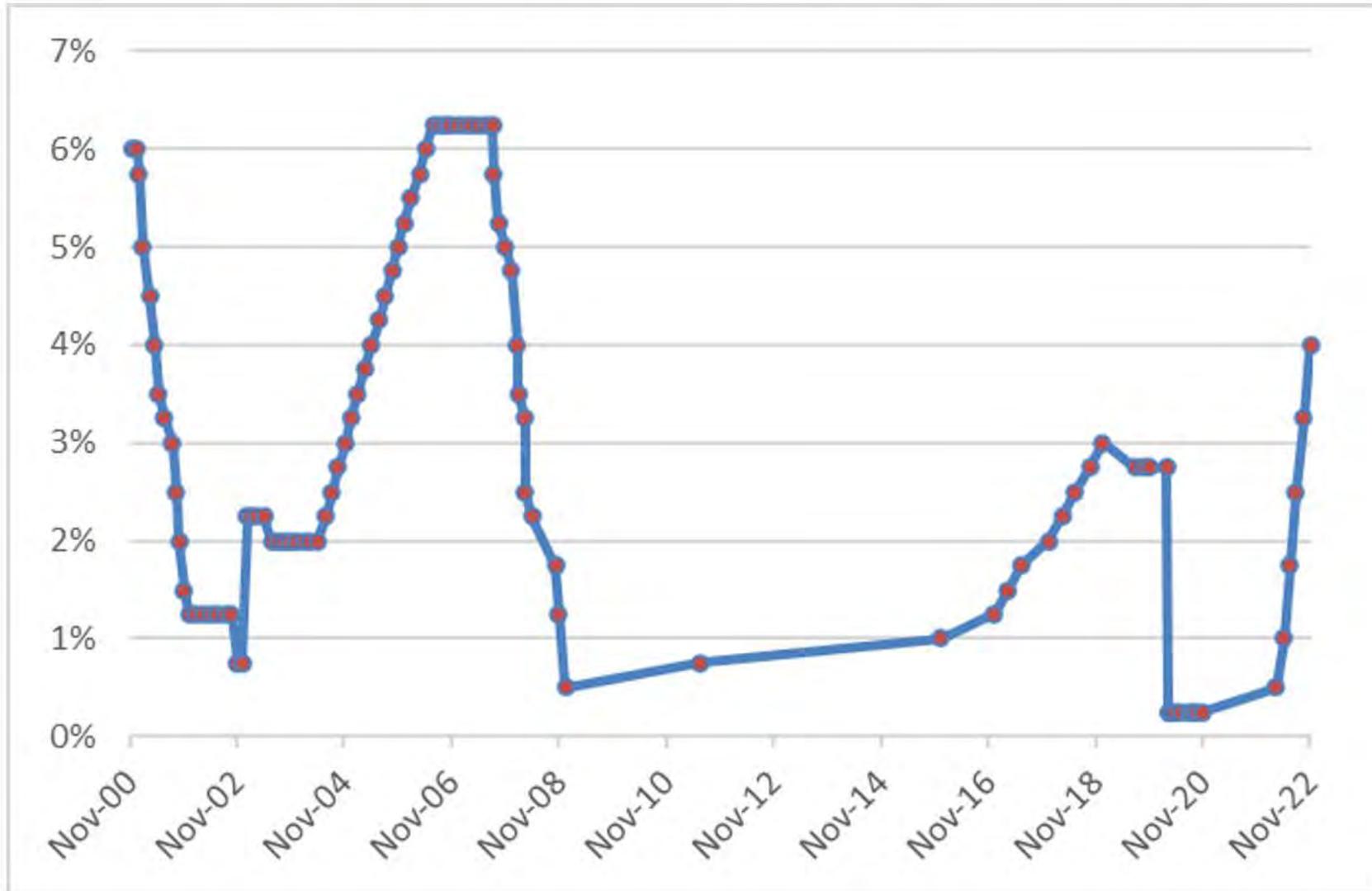
Yield Curve through November 11, 2022 (weekly)

- Credit easing events *since 2008, and start of pandemic*
- Natural Multiple expansion/contraction
- Massive stimulus on top is a somewhat different effect
- Fed Purchases from Treas. to manage interest rates
- Massive reversal in 2022
- Fed B/S debate settling on managed chaos

IMPACT ON REAL ESTATE via Inflation vs. Cap Rate effect?

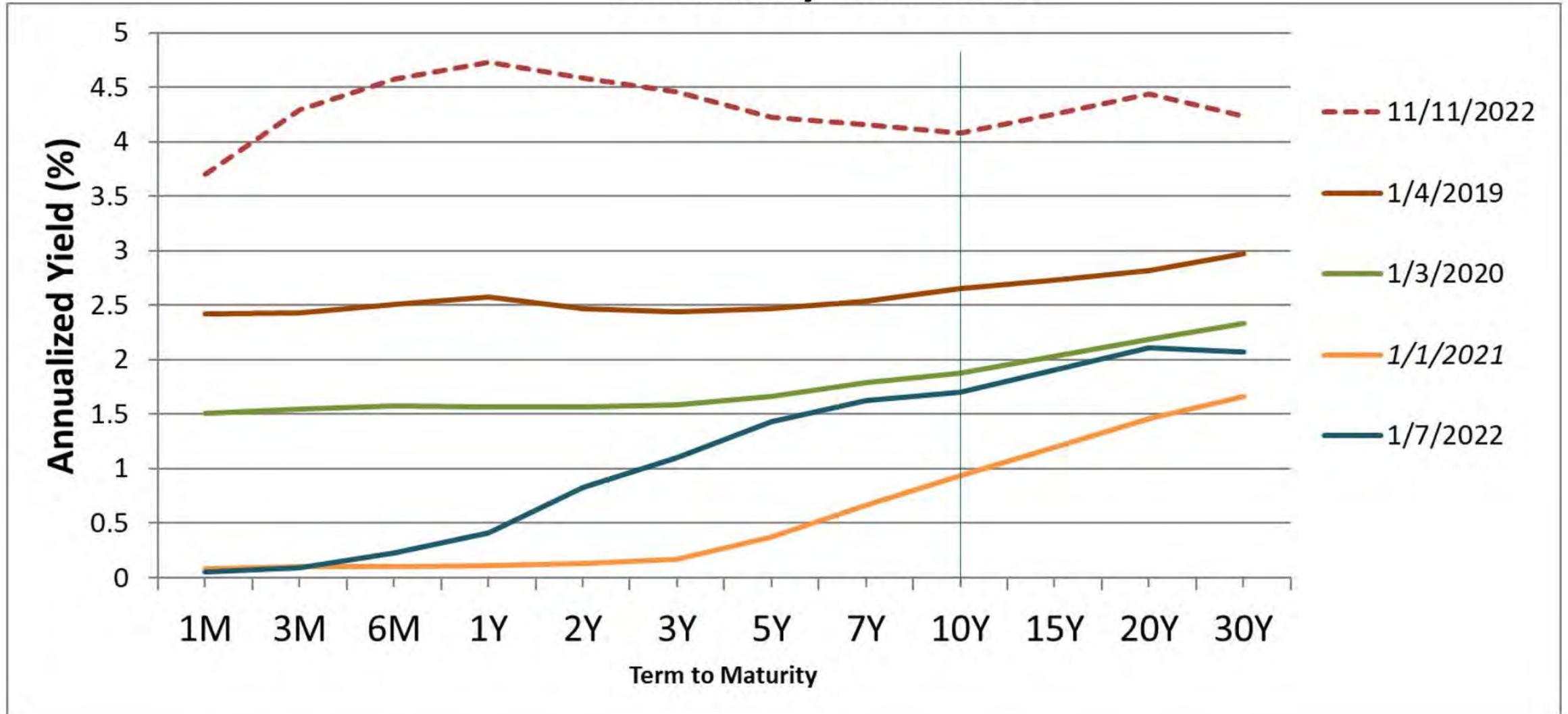


Fed Discount rate and vote patterns through time



Expected future rates, and the discount rate for Ag

US Treasury Yield Curves



Income expectations – out year prospects quite strong

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
CORN												
Projected Price	\$6.01	\$5.68	\$5.65	\$4.62	\$4.15	\$3.86	\$3.96	\$3.96	\$4.00	\$3.88	\$4.58	\$5.90
Harvest Price	\$6.32	\$7.50	\$4.39	\$3.49	\$3.83	\$3.49	\$3.49	\$3.68	\$3.90	\$3.99	\$5.37	\$6.86
Volatility	0.29	0.22	0.20	0.19	0.21	0.17	0.19	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.23	0.23
SOYBEANS												
Projected Price	\$13.49	\$12.55	\$12.87	\$11.36	\$9.73	\$8.85	\$10.19	\$10.16	\$9.54	\$9.17	\$11.87	\$14.23
Harvest Price	\$12.14	\$15.39	\$12.87	\$9.65	\$8.91	\$9.75	\$9.75	\$9.60	\$9.25	\$10.55	\$12.30	\$12.81
Volatility	0.23	0.18	0.17	0.13	0.16	0.12	0.16	0.14	0.12	0.12	0.19	0.19

- Forward Market Prices maintaining reasonable levels, insurance forwards similar.
- Input expenses (especially fertilizer and energy) dramatically higher, but slowing
- Demand Expansion thesis for Rest of World (ROW) positive but uncertain politically
- Export demand growth also dependent on strength of the dollar

Capitalized Value

A very simple (and reasonably accurate) capitalization formula

$$\textit{Capitalized Value} = \frac{\textit{Cash Rent}}{(r - g)}$$

Example:

Cash rent = \$400 per acre

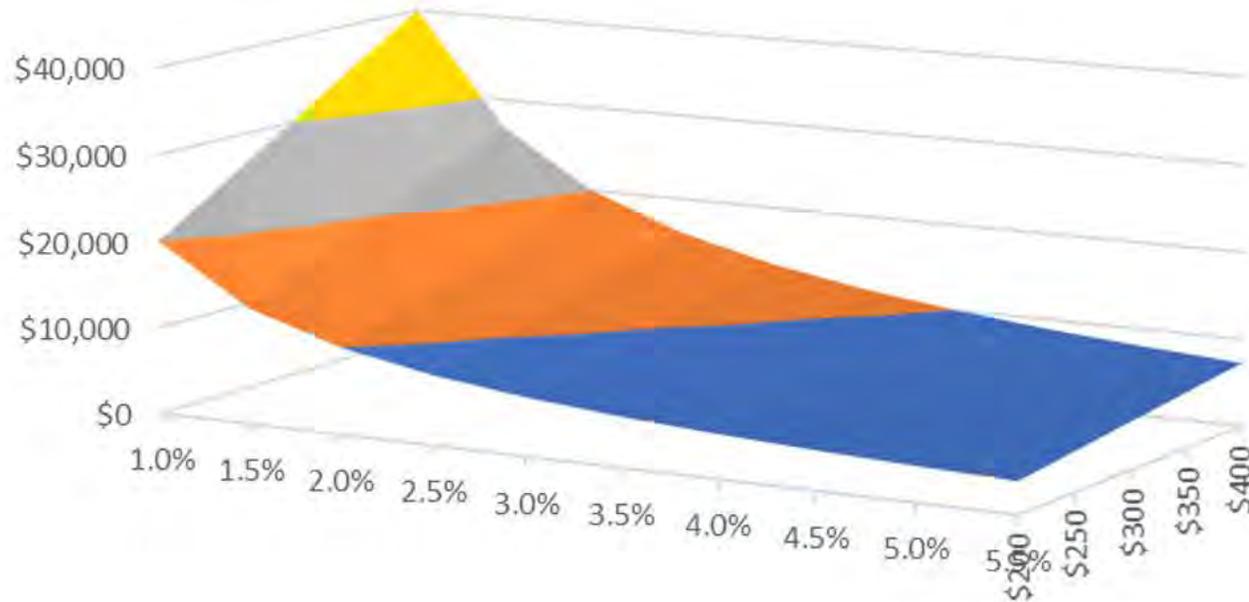
r = 6.5% (required rate of return)

g = 4.5% (growth rate in return or asset appreciation)

Capitalized value = \$20,000 = \$400 / .02

Capitalized Value – *very* sensitive at low Net DR

Land Value by Income and Net Discount Rate



Land Values by Income and Net Discount Rate

---- Income per year ----

	\$200	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$400
1.0%	20,000	25,000	30,000	35,000	40,000
1.5%	13,333	16,667	20,000	23,333	26,667
2.0%	10,000	12,500	15,000	17,500	20,000
2.5%	8,000	10,000	12,000	14,000	16,000
3.0%	6,667	8,333	10,000	11,667	13,333
3.5%	5,714	7,143	8,571	10,000	11,429
4.0%	5,000	6,250	7,500	8,750	10,000
4.5%	4,444	5,556	6,667	7,778	8,889
5.0%	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000
5.5%	3,636	4,545	5,455	6,364	7,273

Dec '23 Corn futures (best guess for 2023 PP)



The implied distribution indicates that there is a 49.91% probability that the price will be below \$5.94 at expiration.

Probability Below	Price at Expiration
5%	\$4.08
15%	\$4.69
25%	\$5.09
35%	\$5.44
45%	\$5.77
50%	\$5.94
55%	\$6.12
65%	\$6.49
75%	\$6.94
85%	\$7.54
95%	\$8.66

Accessed on November 20, 2022, 11:38 AM.

<https://fd-tools.ncsa.illinois.edu/pricedistribution>

Nov '23 SB futures (best guess for 2023 PP)



Probability Below	Price at Expiration
5%	\$10.07
15%	\$11.23
25%	\$11.98
35%	\$12.62
45%	\$13.22
50%	\$13.52
55%	\$13.82
65%	\$14.48
75%	\$15.25
85%	\$16.27
95%	\$18.14

The implied distribution indicates that there is a 50.06% probability that the price will be below \$13.52 at expiration.

Accessed on November 20, 2022, 11:40 AM.

<https://fd-tools.ncsa.illinois.edu/pricedistribution>

Key policy issues impacting Ag assets

- Inflation or recession seeds? Interest rate and productivity growth interaction – *(note: US productivity has not returned, just wages)*
 - FOMC stance becoming forced, world markets coordinated/integrated
 - Fed Balance sheet vs. stock market problem....up is down
- Continued demand growth for commodities in export markets, but strength of dollar and trade conflicts dampen effect
- Ag Policy impacts and changing emphasis of US Federal policy
 - Untethered spending in non-traditional titles and direct interventions
 - “Climate” as proxy for payment linkages in ag

Other Key issues impacting Ag assets

- Crop Insurance, changing technologies, and “practices” that overlap programs. Will remain key risk mitigator in any case.
- Financialization (“we’ve been 2 years away for the last 10”)
 - Public vehicles (REITs, Adjacency funds (MT), Opportunity Zones...)
 - De-Fi vehicles (mAigma, AcreTrader, FarmTogether, Steward...)
 - Institutional investors and HNW positions, role in scale expansion
 - Rationalization of debt within asset class did not occur while rates were low, lending reactions often rear-view mirrored.
 - Credit spreads in ag did not expand like commercial credit
 - Historic loss rates incredibly low
 - Capital in Farm Credit System exceptionally high, community bank LTD path

....What asset would you rather own?



Luke Worrell
Worrell Land Services

The Path We've Traveled

Surveyed increases covering January 2021 through July 2022.

Statewide Averages as reported by ISFMRA

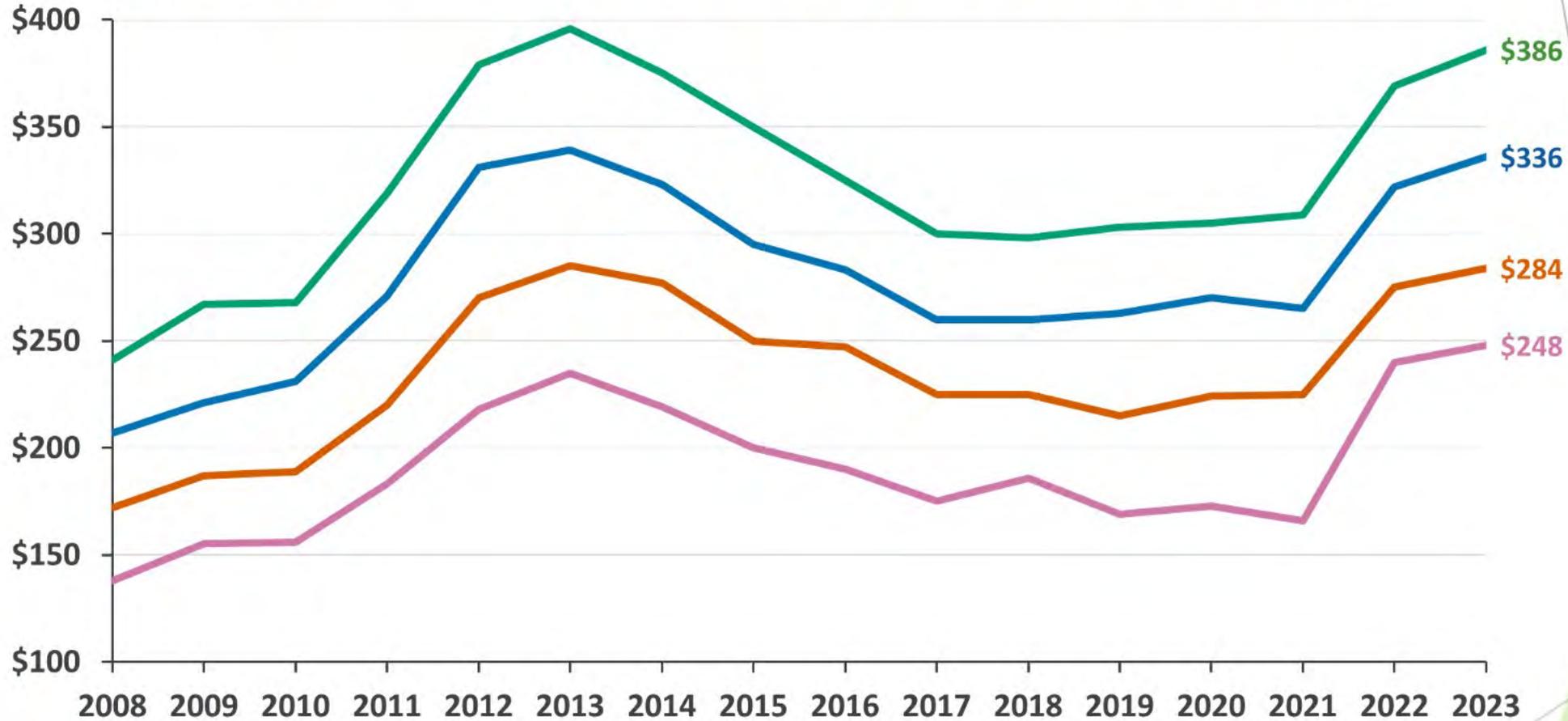
- ▶ “Excellent” -Class A Farmland increase of 43%
- ▶ “Good” -Class B Farmland increase of 44%
- ▶ “Average” -Class C Farmland increase of 43%
- ▶ “Fair” -Class D Farmland increase of 21%

The Path We've Traveled - Continued...

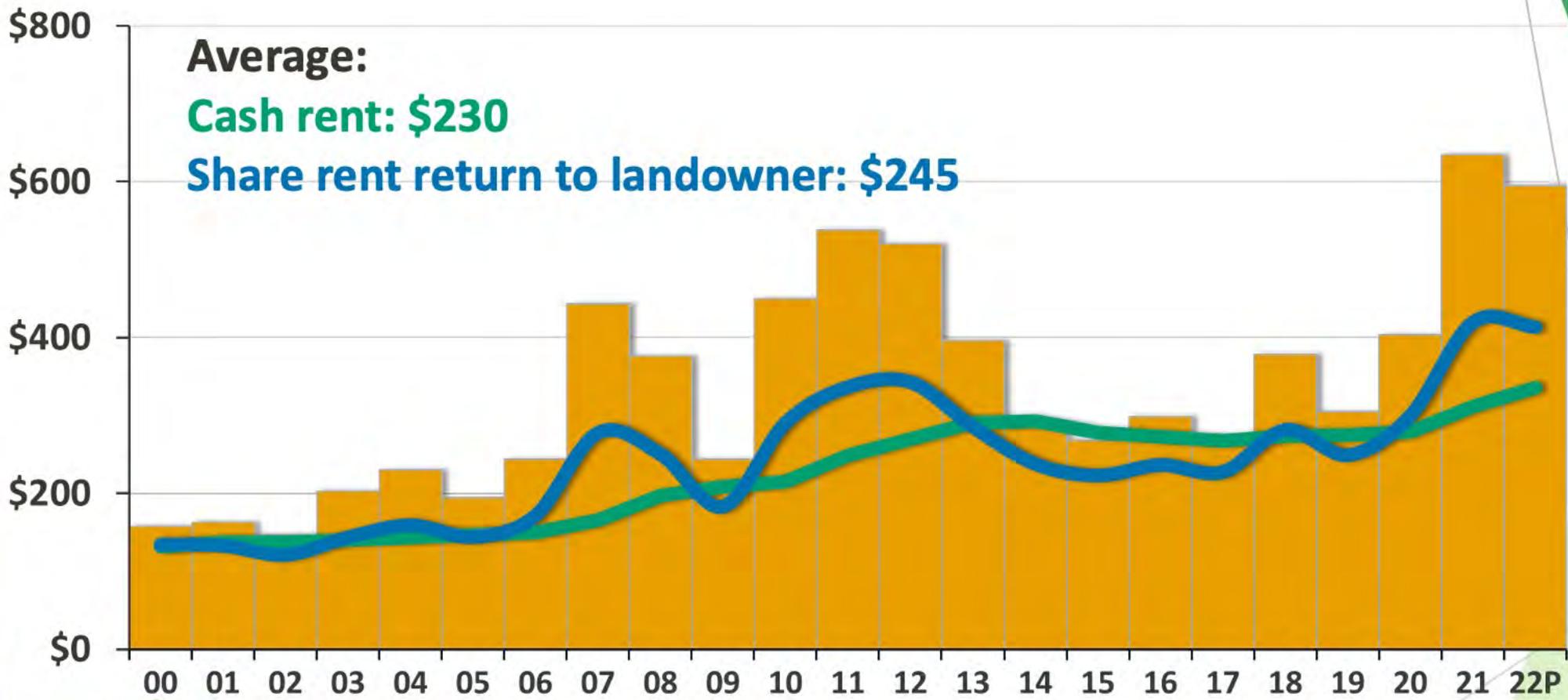
Increases in **Cash Rents** from January 2021 through 2023 Projections

- ▶ “Excellent” Class A Farmland - 2023P - \$386 - Up 25%
- ▶ “Good” Class B Farmland - 2023P - \$336 - Up 27%
- ▶ “Average” Class C Farmland - 2023P - \$284 - Up 26%
- ▶ “Fair” Class D Farmland - 2023P - \$248 - Up 49%

The Path We've Traveled - Continued...



Operator and Land Returns, Share Rent, and Cash Rents, High-Productivity Farmland in Central Illinois, 2000 to 2022P



What is around the corner?

- ▶ Continued volatility
- ▶ Flex leases continue to gain steam
- ▶ Rising interest rates
- ▶ Erratic Sales Results
- ▶ A softening of values
- ▶ Fewer transactions....at least temporarily
- ▶ The ratio between auctions vs listings to change
- ▶ A wild ride!



thank you