# 2012-13 Corn, Wheat and Feed Grains Situation and Outlook

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## Outline

Situation and outlook for corn, wheat and sorghum

- Soil moisture and crop progress
- Supply and demand balance sheets
- Impacts of changes in production on stocks-use for corn
- RFS2 Waiver Background and Potential Impact
- Fear mongering and things that keep me awake at night
- Projected Illinois 2013 Corn and Soybean Profitability
- Acreage in 2013 and Supply-Use examples



# 2012-13 Corn Situation and Outlook



## U.S. Corn Planting Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.





## U.S. Corn Silking Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.





## U.S. Corn Dough Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.

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Source: NOAA. Climate Prediction Center.

## U.S. Corn Dent Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.

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## U.S. Corn Maturity Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.

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## U.S. Corn Harvest Progress for 2012 vs. 2011 and 2006-10 Average



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.

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|                         | U.S.         | Corn Suppl   | y and Use    |               |                 | Largest since 1944       |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
|                         | 2009-10      | 2010-11      | 2011-12      | 2012-13       | Change from     | (Yield = 33  bpa in  44) |
|                         | Actual       | Actual       | Estimated    | Sep. Forecast | 2011-12         |                          |
|                         |              |              | Million Act  | res           |                 | Largest since 2007       |
| Planted Acres           | 86.4         | 88.2         | 91.9         | 96.4          | +4.5            |                          |
| Harvested Acres         | 79.5         | 81.4         | 84.0         | 87.4          | +3.4            |                          |
| % Abandoned             | -8.0%        | -7.7%        | -8.6%        | -9.3%         | -0.7%           |                          |
|                         |              |              | Bushels per  | Acre          |                 |                          |
| Yield                   | 164.7        | 152.8        | 147.2        | 122.8         | -24.4           | Lowest since 2004-05     |
|                         |              |              | Million Bus  | hels          |                 |                          |
| Beginning Stocks        | 1,673        | 1,708        | 1,128        | 1,181         | +53.0           | Smallest crop since 2006 |
| Production              | 13,092       | 12,447       | 12,358       | 10,727        | -1,631.0        |                          |
| Imports                 | <u>8</u>     | <u>28</u>    | <u>25</u>    | <u>75</u>     | +50.0           | Creallast supply sizes   |
| Total Supply            | 14,774       | 14,182       | 13,511       | 11,983        | -1,528.0        | 2003-04                  |
| Feed & Residual         | 5,140        | 4,792        | 4,400        | 4,150         | -250.0          | Lowest since 1099 90     |
| Food, Seed & Industrial | 5,939        | 6,428        | 6,390        | 5,850         | -540.0          | Lowest since 1966-69     |
| Ethanol for Fuel        | 4,568        | 5,021        | 5,000        | 4,500         | -500.0          |                          |
| Exports                 | <u>1,987</u> | <u>1,835</u> | <u>1,540</u> | <u>1,250</u>  | <u>-290.0</u> < | Lowest since 1985-86     |
| Total Use               | 13,066       | 13,054       | 12,330       | 11,250        | -1,080.0        |                          |
| Ending Stocks           | 1,708        | 1,128        | 1,181        | 733           | -448.0          | 2006-07                  |
| Avg. Farm Price         | \$3.55       | \$5.18       | \$6.25       | \$7.90        | +\$1.65         |                          |
| Stocks-Use              | 13.1%        | 8.6%         | 9.6%         | 6.5%          | -3.1%           |                          |
| Days of Ending Stocks   | 48           | 32           | 35           | 24            | -11.2           |                          |



## Corn Balance Sheet Changes from 2010-11 to 2011-12



Source: USDA-WAOB: WASDE. September 2012.

## Corn Balance Sheet Changes from 2011-12 to 2012-13



Source: USDA-WAOB: WASDE. September 2012.

## U.S. Corn Planted and Harvested Acres from 1995-2012



Source: USDA-NASS.

## Evolution of 2012 Yield Estimate

| February 2012  | 164   | Excluded 2011 Yield   |
|----------------|-------|---|
| May 2012       | 166   | Early Planting = Higher Yields  |
| July 2012      | 146   | Drought Estimated Yield Loss  |
| August 2012    | 123.4 | Actual Field / Producer Survey  |
| September 2012 | 122.8 | Actual Field / Producer Survey  |
| October 2012   | ??    | Incorporates FSA Certified Acreage, Grain<br>Stocks Survey, and Actual Field / Producer<br>Survey |



## U.S. Corn % Harvested Acreage from 1980-2012\*



Source: USDA-NASS. Crop Progress.

\* 2012 is projected from the September USDA: WAOB WASDE.

## U.S. Corn Average Yield and 20-Year Rolling-Trend Yield from 1990-2012



Source: USDA-NASS ..

## U.S. Corn Yield % Deviation from 20-Year Rolling Trend



Source: USDA-NASS

#### State Corn Yield % Deviation from 20-Year Trend



## China Corn and Soy Complex Net Exports from 2002-2012 with ERS Baseline Projections to 2021



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## U.S. Corn Ending Stocks from 1980-2012



### U.S. Corn Stocks-Use Ratio and Marketing-Year Average Price



## Corn World Ending Stocks and Days of Inventory



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## Impact of Changing Acreage and Yield on Corn Production and Ending Stocks

| Planted  | Harvested          | U.S. Average Corn Yield (bushels/acre) |              |              |              |              |  |  |
|----------|--------------------|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| Acres    | Acres <sup>1</sup> | <u>124.8</u>                           | <u>123.8</u> | <u>122.8</u> | <u>121.8</u> | <u>120.8</u> |  |  |
| (Millior | n Acres)           | (Million Bushels)                      |              |              |              |              |  |  |
| 96.4     | 87.4               | 10,908                                 | 10,820       | 10,733       | 10,645       | 10,558       |  |  |
| 96.4     | 84.8               | 10,587                                 | 10,502       | 10,417       | 10,333       | 10,248       |  |  |
| 96.4     | 82.9               | 10,346                                 | 10,264       | 10,181       | 10,098       | 10,015       |  |  |

1. Abandonment assumed to be -9.3% (Sep WASDE), -12% (2002) and -14% (1988), respectively.

| Planted     | Harvested |              | 2012-        | 13 Corn Endi  | ng Stocks    |              |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Acres       | Acres     | <u>124.8</u> | <u>123.8</u> | <u>122.8</u>  | <u>121.8</u> | <u>120.8</u> |
| (Millior    | n Acres)  |              |              | (Million Bush | els)         |              |
| 96.4        | 87.4      | 914          | 826          | 739           | 651          | 564          |
| 96.4        | 84.8      | 593          | 508          | 423           | 339          | 254          |
| 96.4        | 82.9      | 352          | 270          | 187           | 104          | 21           |
|             |           |              |              |               |              |              |
| Beg. Stocks | 1,181     |              |              |               |              |              |
| Imports     | 75        |              |              |               |              |              |
| Total Use   | 11,250    |              |              |               |              |              |



## Impact of Changing Acreage and Yield on Stocks-Use Ratio and Implied Additional Rationing

| Planted | Harvested |              | 2012-13 Corn Ending Stocks-Use Ratio |              |              |              |  |  |
|---------|-----------|--------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| Acres   | Acres     | <u>124.8</u> | <u>123.8</u>                         | <u>122.8</u> | <u>121.8</u> | <u>120.8</u> |  |  |
| (Millio | n Acres)  |              |                                      | (Stocks-Us   | se)          |              |  |  |
| 96.4    | 87.4      | 8.1%         | 7.3%                                 | 6.6%         | 5.8%         | 5.0%         |  |  |
| 96.4    | 84.8      | 5.3%         | 4.5%                                 | 3.8%         | 3.0%         | 2.3%         |  |  |
| 96.4    | 82.9      | 3.1%         | 2.4%                                 | 1.7%         | 0.9%         | 0.2%         |  |  |

| Planted          | Harvested | Cha          | Change in Total Use to Maintain 5% Stocks/Use |              |              |              |  |  |
|------------------|-----------|--------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
| Acres            | Acres     | <u>124.8</u> | <u>123.8</u>                                  | <u>122.8</u> | <u>121.8</u> | <u>120.8</u> |  |  |
| (Millio          | n Acres)  |              |   | (Days)-      |              |              |  |  |
| 96. <del>4</del> | ,<br>87.4 | 334          | 251   | 168          | 85           | 1            |  |  |
| 96.4             | 84.8      | 29           | (52)  | (132)        | (213)        | (294)        |  |  |
| 96.4             | 82.9      | (200)        | (279)   | (358)        | (437)        | (516)        |  |  |

# 2012-13 Wheat Situation and Outlook

## U.S. Wheat Planted and Harvested Acres from 1995-2012



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## U.S. Average Wheat Yield and Trend Yield from 1992-2012



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|                       | U.S. V     | Wheat Suppl  | ly and Use   | •             | -           |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|
|                       | 2009-10    | 2010-11      | 2011-12      | 2012-13       | Change from |  |  |  |  |
|                       | Actual     | Actual       | Estimated    | Sep. Forecast | 2011-12     |  |  |  |  |
| Million Acres         |            |              |              |               |             |  |  |  |  |
| Planted Acres         | 59.2       | 53.6         | 54.4         | 56.0          | +1.6        |  |  |  |  |
| Harvested Acres       | 49.9       | 47.6         | 45.7         | 48.8          | +3.1        |  |  |  |  |
| % Abandoned           | -15.7%     | -11.2%       | -16.0%       | -12.9%        | +3.1%       |  |  |  |  |
|                       |            |              | Bushels per  | Acre          |             |  |  |  |  |
| Yield                 | 44.5       | 46.3         | 43.7         | 46.5          | +2.8        |  |  |  |  |
|                       |            |              | Million Bus  | hels          |             |  |  |  |  |
| Beginning Stocks      | 657        | 976          | 862          | 743           | -119.0      |  |  |  |  |
| Production            | 2,218      | 2,207        | 1,999        | 2,268         | +269.0      |  |  |  |  |
| Imports               | <u>119</u> | <u>97</u>    | <u>112</u>   | <u>130</u>    | +18.0       |  |  |  |  |
| Total Supply          | 2,993      | 3,279        | 2,974        | 3,141         | +167.0      |  |  |  |  |
|                       |            |              |              |               |             |  |  |  |  |
| Food                  | 917        | 926          | 941          | 950           | +9.0        |  |  |  |  |
| Seed, Feed & Residual | 219        | 203          | 240          | 293           | +53.0       |  |  |  |  |
| Exports               | <u>881</u> | <u>1,289</u> | <u>1,050</u> | <u>1,200</u>  | +150.0      |  |  |  |  |
| Total Use             | 2,018      | 2,417        | 2,231        | 2,443         | +212.0      |  |  |  |  |
|                       |            |              |              |               |             |  |  |  |  |
| Ending Stocks         | 976        | 862          | 743          | 698           | -45.0       |  |  |  |  |
|                       |            |              |              |               |             |  |  |  |  |
| Avg. Farm Price       | \$4.87     | \$5.70       | \$7.24       | \$8.10        | +\$0.86     |  |  |  |  |
| Stocks-Use            | 48.4%      | 35.7%        | 33.3%        | 28.6%         | -4.7%       |  |  |  |  |
| Days of Ending Stocks | 177        | 130          | 122          | 104           | -17.3       |  |  |  |  |

## Change in Wheat Balance Sheet from 2010-11 to 2011-12



#### Source: USDA-WAOB: WASDE. September 2012.

## Change in Wheat Balance Sheet from 2011-12 to 2012-13



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## U.S. Wheat Ending Stocks from 1995-2012

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## U.S. Wheat Stocks/Use and Marketing-Year Average Price





## Wheat World Ending Stocks and Days of Stocks



## **2013 Winter Wheat Projected Price**



|                         | U.S. Sorghum | Supply and Us | se           |               |             |
|-------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
|                         | 2009-10      | 2010-11       | 2011-12      | 2012-13       | Change from |
|                         | Actual       | Actual        | Estimated    | Sep. Forecast | 2011-12     |
|                         |              | Mil           | lion Acres   |               |             |
| Planted Acres           | 6.63         | 5.40          | 5.48         | 6.21          | +0.7        |
| Harvested Acres         | 5.52         | 4.81          | 3.93         | 5.10          | +1.2        |
| % Abandoned             | -17%         | -11%          | -28%         | -18%          | +10.4%      |
|                         |              | Bushe         | els per Acre |               |             |
| Yield                   | 69.4         | 71.8          | 54.6         | 48.3          | -6.3        |
|                         |              | Milli         | on Bushels   |               |             |
| Beginning Stocks        | 54.7         | 41.3          | 27.4         | 27.0          | -0.4        |
| Production              | 383.0        | 345.6         | 214.4        | 246.0         | +31.6       |
| Imports                 | 0.0          | 0.0           | <u>0.0</u>   | 0.0           | +0.0        |
| Total Supply            | 437.7        | 387.0         | 242.0        | 273.0         | +31.0       |
| Feed & Residual         | 140.7        | 122.8         | 75.0         | 70.0          | -5.0        |
| Food, Seed & Industrial | 90.0         | 85.0          | 85.0         | 80.0          | -5.0        |
| Exports                 | <u>165.8</u> | <u>151.7</u>  | <u>55.0</u>  | <u>100.0</u>  | +45.0       |
| Total Use               | 396.4        | 359.5         | 215.0        | 250.0         | +35.0       |
| Ending Stocks           | 41.3         | 27.4          | 27.0         | 23.0          | -4.0        |
| Avg. Farm Price         | \$3.22       | \$5.02        | \$6.10       | \$7.50        | +\$1.40     |
| Stocks-Use              | 10.4%        | 7.6%          | 12.6%        | 9.8%          | -2.7%       |
| Days of Ending Stocks   | 38           | 28            | 46           | 36            | -10         |



## Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS2)

|      |                                  |                      | Advanced Biofuel (Nes | ted Standards)     |                |                |
|------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Voor | Conventional Renewable Fuels     |                      | Non Cellulosic        |                    |                | Total          |
| Tedi | (Grandfathered or 20% Reduction) | Biomass-Based Diesel | Advanced (50%         | Cellulosic Biofuel | Total Advanced | Renewable Fuel |
|      |                                  | (50% Reduction)      | Reduction)            | (60% Reduction)    | Biofuel        |                |
| 2008 | 9.00                             |                      |                       |                    |                | 9.00           |
| 2009 | 10.50                            | 0.5                  | 0.10                  |                    | 0.60           | 11.10          |
| 2010 | 12.00                            | 0.65                 | 0.20                  | 0.10               | 0.95           | 12.95          |
| 2011 | 12.60                            | 0.8                  | 0.30                  | 0.25               | 1.35           | 13.95          |
| 2012 | 13.20                            | 1                    | 0.50                  | 0.50               | 2.00           | 15.20          |
| 2013 | 13.80                            | 1                    | 0.75                  | 1.00               | 2.75           | 16.55          |
| 2014 | 14.50                            | 1                    | 1.00                  | 1.75               | 3.75           | 18.25          |
| 2015 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 1.50                  | 3.00               | 5.50           | 20.50          |
| 2016 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 2.00                  | 4.25               | 7.25           | 22.25          |
| 2017 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 2.50                  | 5.50               | 9.00           | 24.00          |
| 2018 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 3.00                  | 7.00               | 11.00          | 26.00          |
| 2019 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 3.50                  | 8.50               | 13.00          | 28.00          |
| 2020 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 3.50                  | 10.50              | 15.00          | 30.00          |
| 2021 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 3.50                  | 13.50              | 18.00          | 33.00          |
| 2022 | 15.00                            | 1                    | 4.00                  | 16.00              | 21.00          | 36.00          |

## **Ethanol Margins - Iowa**



#### Iowa Weekly Ethanol Margins (2010 - Present)

Source: AFBF - Author Calculations

## **Ethanol Production & Inventories**





## **RFS** Waiver Petition

# States requesting a waiver: AR, DE, GA, MD, NC, NM, TX, and VA

Letters encouraging waivers from a coalition of livestock, poultry, meat, dairy, and feed organizations

Letters from 156 Representatives and 34 Senators



## 2008 Texas Waiver Request (Cattle)



## Section 211(o)(7) of the Clean Air Act

allows the Administrator of EPA, in consultation with the Secretaries of Agriculture and Energy, to waive the requirements of the national renewable fuel standard, in whole or in part, if the Administrator determines, after public notice and opportunity for public comment, *<u>"that implementation of</u>* the RFS requirements would severely harm the economy or environment of a State, a region, or the United States."



## Discussion of the Potential of a RFS Waiver

Where is the greatest value of using corn through a tail pipe?





## Let's Talk about RINS

RIN = Renewable Identification Number How EPA accounts for meeting mandate

Can buy excess RIN's to use to meet commitment

Blender's can carry-forward 20% excess years into next year



## Example: 20% "Banking" Provision



"Bank" Provision: 20% of 1.3 Bn = 260 million

Remaining 40 million = sold to obligated parties

#### Table 1: Production, Net Exports, Mandates, and Estimated RIN Stocks for Conventional Ethanol, 2007-2011

|                    |               |              | Conventi  | onal Ethanol |                  |            |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|------------|
| B                  | Beginning RIN |              | Net       |              | Potential Ending | Ending RIN |
| Year               | Stocks        | + Production | - Exports | - Mandate =  | RIN Stocks       | Stocks     |
| 2007               | 0             | 6,521        | (439)     | 4,700        | 2,260            | 940        |
| 2008               | 940           | 9,309        | (530)     | 9,000        | 1,778            | 1,778      |
| 2009               | 1,778         | 10,938       | (198)     | 10,500       | 2,414            | 2,100      |
| 2010               | 2,100         | 13,298       | 383       | 12,000       | 3,015            | 2,400      |
| 2011P <sup>a</sup> | 2,400         | 13,852       | 1,004     | 12,600       | 2,648            | 2,520      |

Sources: Production and Net Export from the Energy Information Administration, Mandate levels from EPA, RIN Stock levels calculated by the author.

<sup>a</sup>Production and Net Exports for 2011 were only available through November 2011 at the time of this writing. These values were scaled by a factor of 1.091 (12/11) to arrive at annual estimates for 2011.

Source: U of I farmdocdaily

## Purdue University Study

2013 partial RFS waiver: \$0.00 - \$1.30/bu. impact on corn prices.

## A lot depends on blender flexibility...

- If there is no flexibility, issuing a waiver will do little to change the current market's status quo.
- If there is flexibility, waiver helps livestock producers and consumers of livestock products (hurts crop growers and ethanol producers).

Currently and projected, there's an incentive for blenders to blend 10% ethanol in gasoline – even during \$8/bu. corn!



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## **RFS** Outlook and Conclusions

## The RFS provides flexibility

- 2012: RFS mandate will be met; 2013: conditions warrant uncertainty
  - For 2012: 2.5 Bn RINs for carry-over + over 796 million gallons in storage

Waiving RFS for 2013 has uncertain impacts on corn prices.

- Purdue University study: Corn prices decreasing \$0.00 \$1.30/bu.
- Still incentive for blender to blend 10% ethanol with gasoline even at \$8/corn.

Structural inflexibility would limit any response to a waiver.



# Fear Mongering



## **General Fearmongering**

- El Nino or La Nina or whatever? Currently the El Nino is weak. A strong El Nino would bring rain to South America (help their corn, soybean crop) and increase likelihood of breaking Midwest drought.
- Australia has been dry while Argentina is too wet. Black Sea has short wheat crop and will have limited exports. Potential for wheat exports = greater Springtime bidding for acres.
- 3. Climatologist study of droughts from 1890-today: Shortest drought was 18 months the 1930/1950 droughts were 51 and 47 months, respectively. The 2012 drought started in July so a short drought would cover the 2013 crop year.
- 4. Barge traffic low river levels make it more costly and difficult to ship through port of New Orleans. What about fertilizer imports flowing upriver?
- 5. Seed supply. Will producers' first choice be available in sufficient quantities?

## **General Fearmongering**

6. How long will it take to recover from demand destruction?

- Corn for feed: 3-years after 1983 & 1988 drought and 4 years after 1995 drought
- Soybean crush: 3-years after 1983 & 1988 drought and 1 year after 1995 drought
- Soybean exports: 16 years after the 1983 drought and 4 years after the 1988 drought. Exports snapped-back immediately after the 1995 drought



## University of Illinois Budgeted Profitability Comparison for 2013 Corn vs. Soybeans



- Survey of subscribers (1800 producers) in August (released August 28, 2012) of their 2013 Planting Intentions
- Plan to plant 93.1 million corn acres (down 4%) and 78.1 million soybean acres (up 1.2%)
- Similar shift to soybeans in North America as in South America
- Respondents indicated a desire to get rotations back aligned with less continuous corn



## Informa Economic's 2013 Planting Intentions Projections

|               | 2013 Planted  | Change from 2012     | % Change            |  |  |
|---------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|--|
|               | (1,000 Acres) | (Data from 2012 Acro | 012 Acreage report) |  |  |
| Corn          | 97,537        | 1,132                | 1.2%                |  |  |
| Soybeans      | 79,872        | 3,792                | 5.0%                |  |  |
| All Cotton    | 10,017        | -2,618               | -20.7%              |  |  |
| All Wheat     | 57,127        | 1,110                | 2.0%                |  |  |
| Grain Sorghum | 6,950         | 740                  | 11.9%               |  |  |
| Oats          | 2,697         | -49                  | -1.8%               |  |  |
| Barley        | 3,679         | 1                    | 0.0%                |  |  |
| Rice          | 2,580         | -81                  | -3.0%               |  |  |
| Sunflowers    | <u>1,960</u>  | <u>156</u>           | <u>8.6%</u>         |  |  |
|               | Total         | 4,183                |                     |  |  |



## Which Trend Yield Will the WAOB Use?





## 2013-14 Supply and Use Sensitivity Analysis

|                           | <u>Informa</u> | <u>199</u> | <u>93-2012 Tre</u> | <u>end</u> | <u>4%</u> | <u>4% Below Trend</u> |        |  |
|---------------------------|----------------|------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|--------|--|
| Planted Acres (Million)   | 97.5           | 96         | 97                 | 98         | 96        | 97                    | 98     |  |
| % Harvested               | 92.5%          | 91.5%      | 91.5%              | 91.5%      | 91.5%     | 91.5%                 | 91.5%  |  |
| Harvested Acres (Million) | 90.2           | 87.8       | 88.8               | 89.7       | 87.8      | 88.8                  | 89.7   |  |
| Yield (bushels/acre)      | 162.2          | 156.9      | 156.9              | 156.9      | 150.6     | 150.6                 | 150.6  |  |
| Beginning Stocks          | 579            | 733        | 733                | 733        | 733       | 733                   | 733    |  |
| Production                | 14,630         | 13,782     | 13,926             | 14,069     | 13,229    | 13,367                | 13,504 |  |
| Imports                   | 10             | 10         | 10                 | 10         | 10        | 10                    | 10     |  |
| Total Supply              | 15,219         | 14,525     | 14,669             | 14,812     | 13,972    | 14,110                | 14,247 |  |
| Total Use                 | 13,230         | 13,000     | 13,000             | 13,000     | 13,000    | 13,000                | 13,000 |  |
| Ending Stocks             | 1,989          | 1,525      | 1,669              | 1,812      | 972       | 1,110                 | 1,247  |  |
| Stocks-Use                | 15.0%          | 11.7%      | 12.8%              | 13.9%      | 7.5%      | 8.5%                  | 9.6%   |  |
| Price                     | \$3.55         |            |                    |            |           |                       |        |  |

Factors contributing to lower prices: 1. Large South American Soy/Corn crops 2. Large North American crops 3. Demand recovers slowly



## Corn Futures Closing Prices for September 25, 2012

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## Conclusions

- Corn will drive the markets again but will face greater competition from soybeans than previous years.
- Greater risk of margin squeeze if obtain trend/above trend yields with increased harvested acres
- However, bidding for acres should provide crop insurance price guarantees at levels to help mitigate some of the cost margin squeeze
- Spring wheat could be competitive if winter wheat has production problem in Southern Plains.



# Thank you!

I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

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