



















## **New LDEQ Secretary Aurelia Giacometto Announces Vision for Agency**



DOTD TERRENCE "JOE" DONAHUE JR.



# WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

**Secretary - Madison D. Sheahan**





# SUMMER STUDENT INTERNSHIP

June - July 2024

Applications accepted  
December 1 - February 28

This program is a paid internship for college students in the agriculture, forestry, soil and water conservation districts, animal health, and other related fields. Students must be committed and available to work full-time during the full 8 weeks.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices must be listed on the application.

## PROGRAM QUALIFICATIONS

- ✓ Full-Time College Student
- ✓ Junior or Senior Classification
- ✓ Completed Student Application
- ✓ Official School Transcript
- ✓ Minimum 2.5 GPA
- ✓ Letter of Recommendation from Department Dean



225-952-8011



bevans@ldaf.state.la.us



www.ldaf.state.la.us

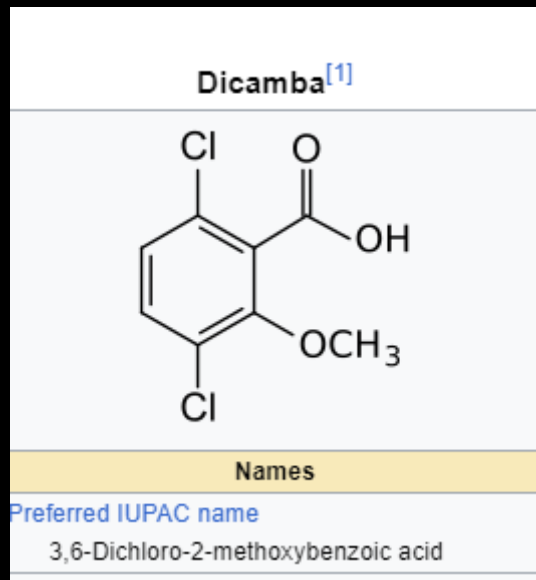
# US court cancels approvals for widely used dicamba weedkillers

Story by By Tom Polansek • 22h



FILE PHOTO: A view of soybean fields that are part of University of Wisconsin research into whether the weed killer dicamba drifted away from where it was sprayed in Arlington, Wisconsin, U.S., August 2, 2018. REUTERS/Tom Polansek  
© Thomson Reuters

# 1967



A ruling Tuesday by the U.S. District Court of Arizona in Tucson vacates the 2020 registrations for the popular dicamba products XtendiMax, Enginia, and Tavium. This ruling comes at a time when most farmers already have their herbicide programs booked for the 2024 growing season.

According to court documents, the district court determined the Environmental Protection Agency violated Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, Rodenticide Act rules regarding notice and comment periods for issuing “new use” pesticide registrations for dicamba on cotton and soybeans.

CHICAGO (Reuters) -A U.S. court has nullified the government's latest approvals of certain agricultural weedkillers sold by Bayer, BASF and Syngenta, fueling uncertainty among farmers who spray the products on genetically engineered soybeans and cotton.

Environmental activists cheered the court for halting use of the dicamba-based herbicides, which are known to drift away and damage crops that cannot tolerate the chemical.

Some farm groups and agribusinesses said the ruling, if enforced by the federal government, risks hurting farmers financially and reducing options for fighting weeds that are increasingly developing resistance to a limited number of herbicides.

U.S. District Court Judge David Bury in Arizona this week vacated the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) registrations of dicamba-based weedkillers from 2020, saying the agency violated procedures mandating public input. The ruling affects Bayer's XtendiMax, BASF's Engenia and Syngenta's Tavium, commonly used herbicides on U.S. farms.

Bayer soybeans that resist dicamba-based herbicide are the No. 2-most planted soybeans in the United States, though not all are sprayed with the chemical.

Most soybean and cotton farmers have already determined which seeds and chemicals they will use for their next crops that will be planted in the spring, BASF said.

Supply chains "will be significantly affected by the unanticipated chemistry demands on more than 40 million dicamba-tolerant soybean and cotton acres directly impacted by this order," BASF said.

The companies said they disagreed with the ruling and were awaiting guidance from the EPA.

"We haven't yet quite figured out what our response is to the decision itself," Michal Freedhoff, an assistant EPA administrator, said at the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture conference in Washington.

"We recognize there are some very near-term existing stocks questions we have to answer and we're definitely prioritizing those."

The ruling bars farmers from spraying dicamba products in the upcoming growing season unless the EPA allows them to use stocks of the herbicide that have already been shipped, said Meredith Stevenson, staff attorney for the Center for Food Safety.

"It's safe to say that, since most over-the-top dicamba products have likely not been shipped to growers, they will not be used this upcoming growing season," she said.

In June 2020, a U.S. appeals court blocked dicamba-based herbicide sales and ruled the EPA understated risks related to sprayings. The EPA, under former President Donald Trump, subsequently said farmers could use their existing supplies before it eventually reauthorized use again with new restrictions in October 2020.

Under President Joe Biden, the agency in December 2021 questioned whether dicamba weedkillers could be sprayed safely on soybeans and cotton without posing "unreasonable risks" to other crops.



MONDAY, JULY 3, 2023

BUSINESS

# Heat, drought raise concerns for Louisiana cash crops

By David Jacobs



*(File photo)*

Hot and dry weather may limit the yields for some of Louisiana's most important crops,

# Wildlife Affected by Extended Heat Wave, Drought in Louisiana

SEPTEMBER 11 2023

CONSERVATION

HUNTING

PUBLIC AREA AND FACILITIES

Trey Iles • Baton Rouge

Like humans, wildlife in Louisiana is being impacted by the current drought and heat wave that has plagued the state this summer.

According to the NOAA National Integrated Drought Information System (Drought.gov) 90% of Louisiana is currently experiencing drought conditions with 77% of the state experiencing severe to exceptional drought conditions. July 2023 was the second hottest July on record (average temperature) since 1895 (National Centers for Environmental Education; ncei.noaa.gov).

Here is a summary of some of the repercussions experienced by wildlife:

## Water birds

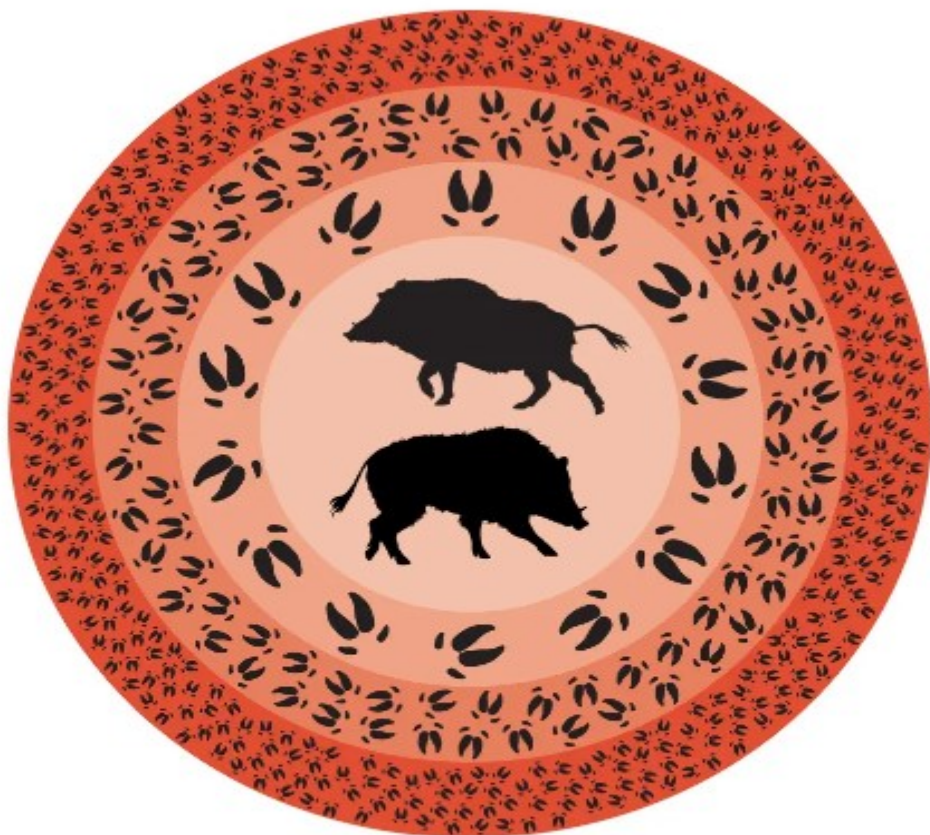
Reduced areas of water at a landscape level can result in concentrations of water birds wherever there is sufficient water, and the water that is present can become stagnant and have poor quality. Artificially high concentrations of ducks, or any species, increases the risk of widespread disease transmission and reduces the effort required by local predators. Excessive heat also increases physiological and behavioral thermoregulatory costs. Stressed plants (both natural and agricultural crops) which serve as the food source for waterfowl throughout the winter will be less productive. For locally breeding ducks, evaporation of isolated ponds or pools where non-volant broods (those incapable of flight) are growing significantly decreases survival, as they must travel overland to alternative ponds. Both predation and malnourishment during this travel may result in mortality.

## Deer

Drought affects the growth of plants utilized by deer for food and cover. Actively growing plants are more nutritious and better withstand the effects of herbivory. This is important if deer are to reach their growth and reproductive potential. Drought timing and severity has also been linked to increased bluetongue virus (BT) and epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD) outbreaks. The environmental conditions caused by drought have been correlated with higher insect vector populations that transmit the disease. Overall, deer in Louisiana have coped well with past drought events based on physical data collected from hunter-harvested deer. However, the timing and duration of droughts can have impacts.



# LSU DEVELOPS PATENT-PENDING BAIT TO FIGHT THE 'PIGDEMIC'



Wild pigs can replicate quickly. A single sow can produce more than 400 descendants in three years.



The wild pig bait developed by LSU researchers is a bouncy ball loaded with sodium nitrite, which ironically is the key ingredient for bacon. With support from commodity groups and the state, the research is now moving into controlled field trials.



# LOUISIANA MAY BE FACING AN INCREASING RAT PROBLEM



Mike Martindale | Published: September 26, 2023

Photo by Alexander Schimmeck on Unsplash

Diptera-Culicidae-Aedes sollicitans-Eastern Saltmarsh  
Mosquito (B ...

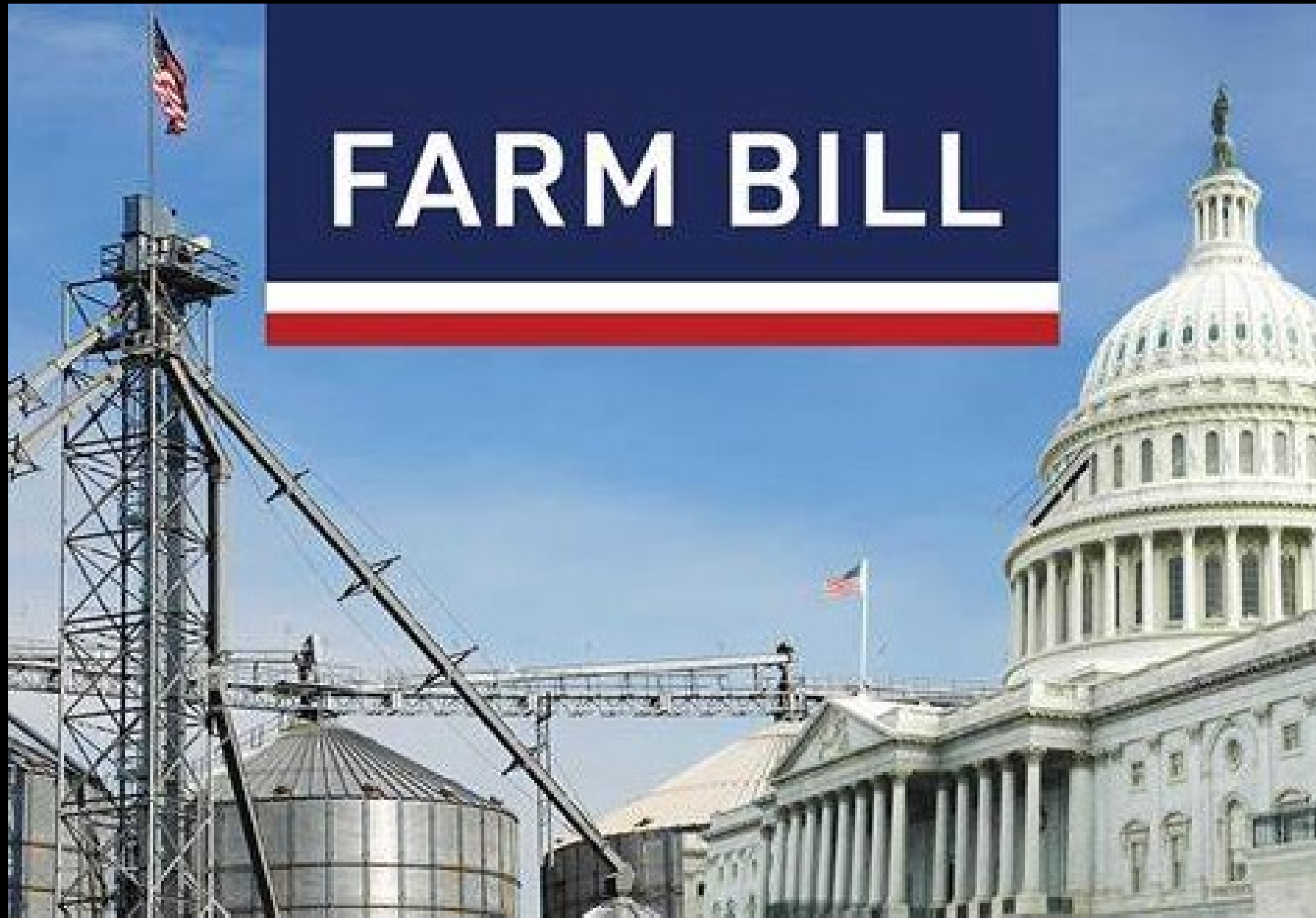






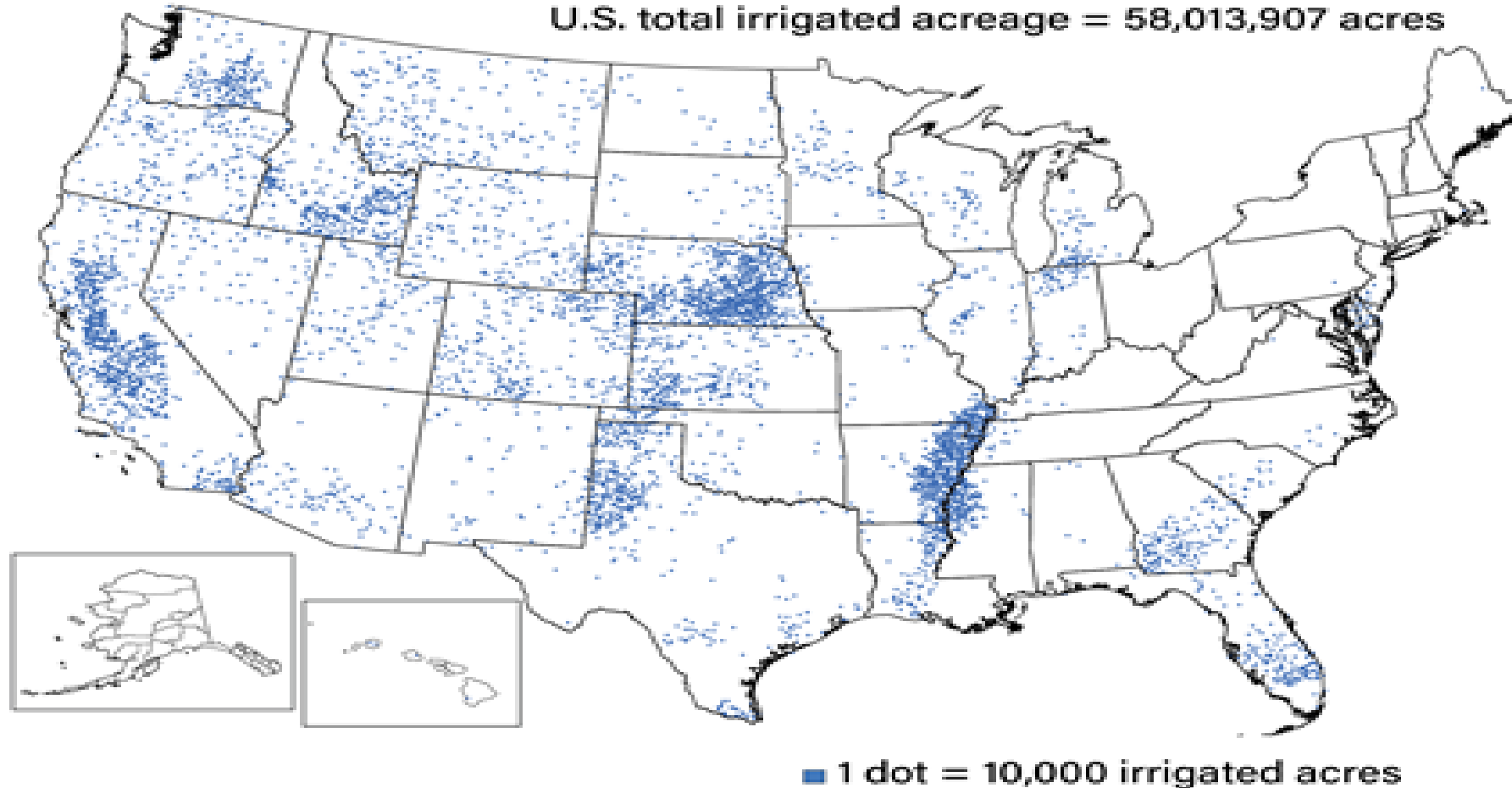


# FARM BILL



## Irrigated acreage is concentrated in the Western and Southeastern U.S.

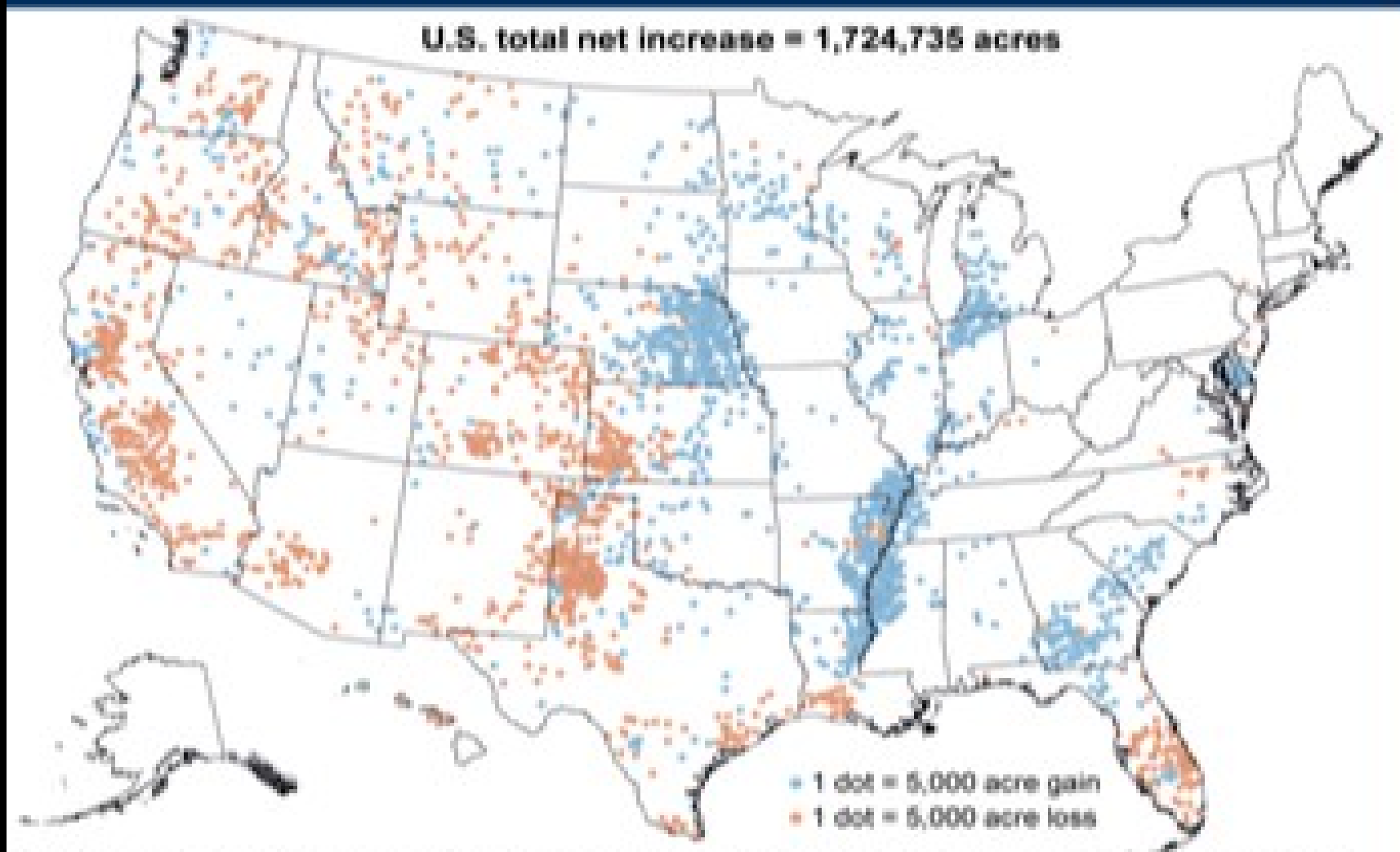
U.S. total irrigated acreage = 58,013,907 acres



Note: Map is based on 2017 county-level estimates of irrigated acreage.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2017 Census of Agriculture.

## Change in U.S. acres of irrigated agricultural land by county, 1997-2017

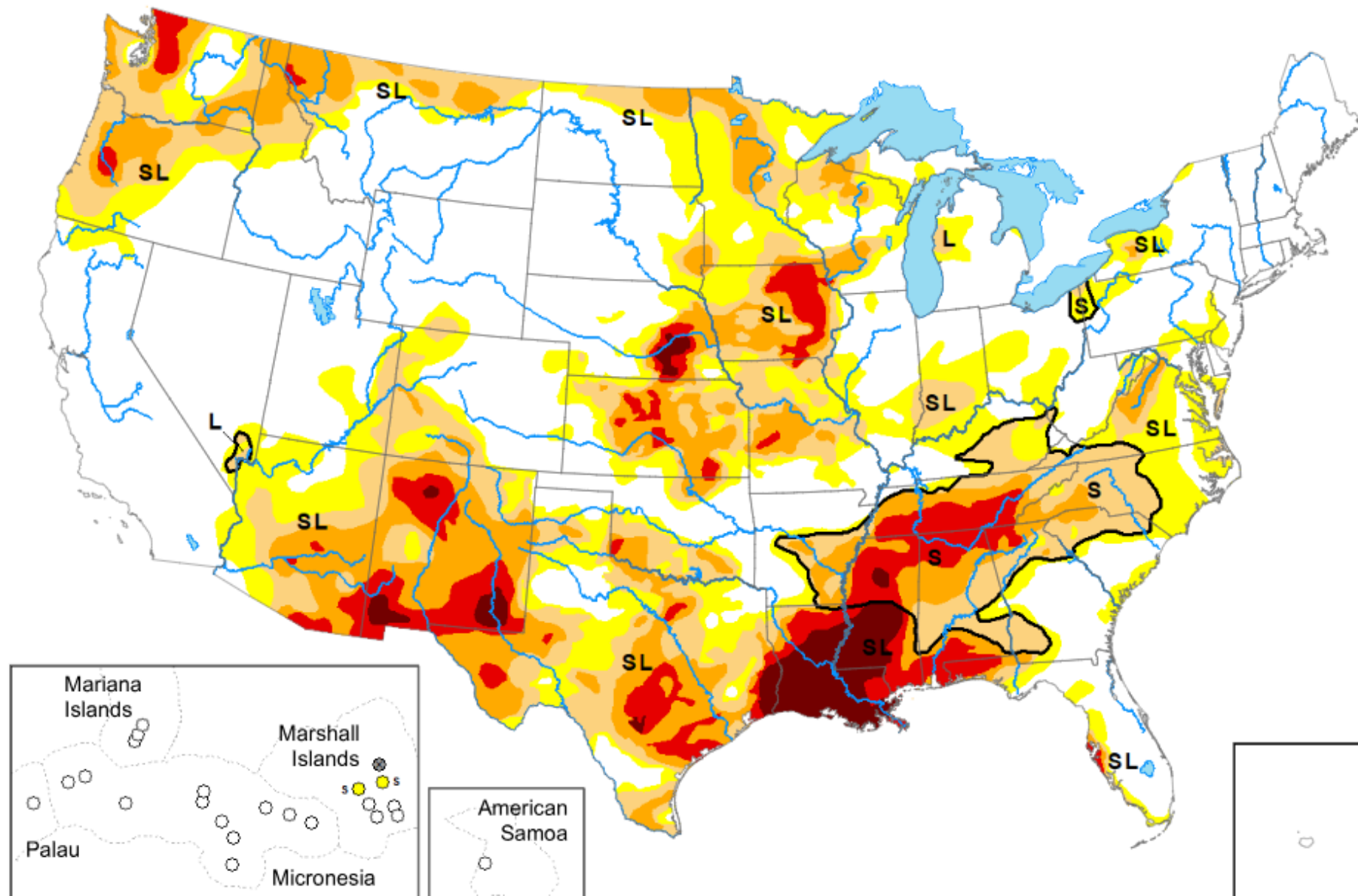


Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 1997 and 2017 Census of Agriculture.

Map released: November 2, 2023

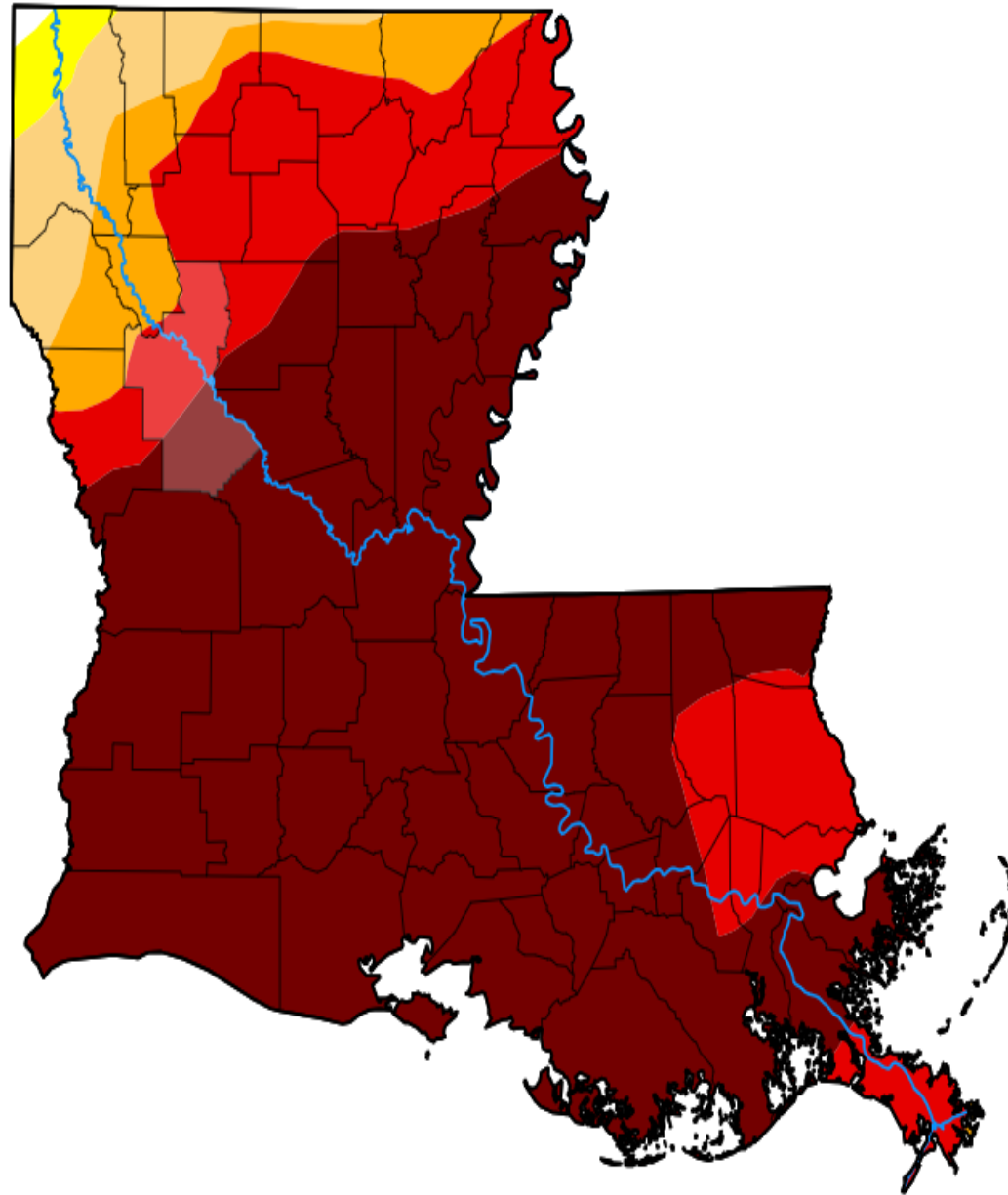
Data valid: October 31, 2023

View grayscale version of the map



Map released: Thurs. November 2, 2023

Data valid: October 31, 2023 at 8 a.m. EDT



## Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

## Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

[Brian Fuchs](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Brad Rippey](#), U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Table 3. Estimated Economic Impacts from Drought and Excessive Heat**

<b>Commodity</b>	<b>Total Economic Impact</b>
<b>Plant Enterprises</b>	
Cotton	\$24,301,227
Corn	\$55,612,230
Rice - Primary Crop	\$141,414,359
Rice - Ratoon Crop	\$13,499,280
Soybeans	\$322,079,793
Sweet Potatoes	\$927,802
Sugarcane	\$273,709,576
Sorghum	\$802,449
Wheat	\$17,006
Pecans	\$2,656,132
Peanuts	\$113,118
Other Plant Enterprises	\$1,389,493
<b>Total Plant Enterprises</b>	<b>\$836,522,465</b>
<b>Crawfish</b>	<b>\$139,830,001</b>
<b>Livestock and Hay</b>	
Beef	\$217,309,241
Dairy	\$613,589
Horses	\$15,266,964
Swine	\$365,570
Sheep	\$1,477,082
Goats	\$1,800,491
Poultry	\$864,965
Hay	\$151,539,909
<b>Total Livestock and Hay</b>	<b>\$389,237,811</b>
<b>Infrastructure &amp; Stored Commodity Damage</b>	<b>\$72,335</b>

Infrastructure & Stored Commodity Damage	\$72,335
<b>Forestry</b>	
Reduced Growth - Pine Sawtimber	\$86,114,906
Reduced Growth - Pine Pulpwood	\$17,443,187
Reduced Growth - Chip-n-Saw	\$354,939
Reduced Growth - Hardwood Sawtimber	\$135,045,373
Reduced Growth - Hardwood Pulpwood	\$10,506,459
Seedling Impacts	\$3,693,250
Wildfire Damage	\$71,392,500
<b>Total Forestry</b>	<b>\$324,550,614</b>
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED IMPACT</b>	<b>\$1,690,213,227</b>

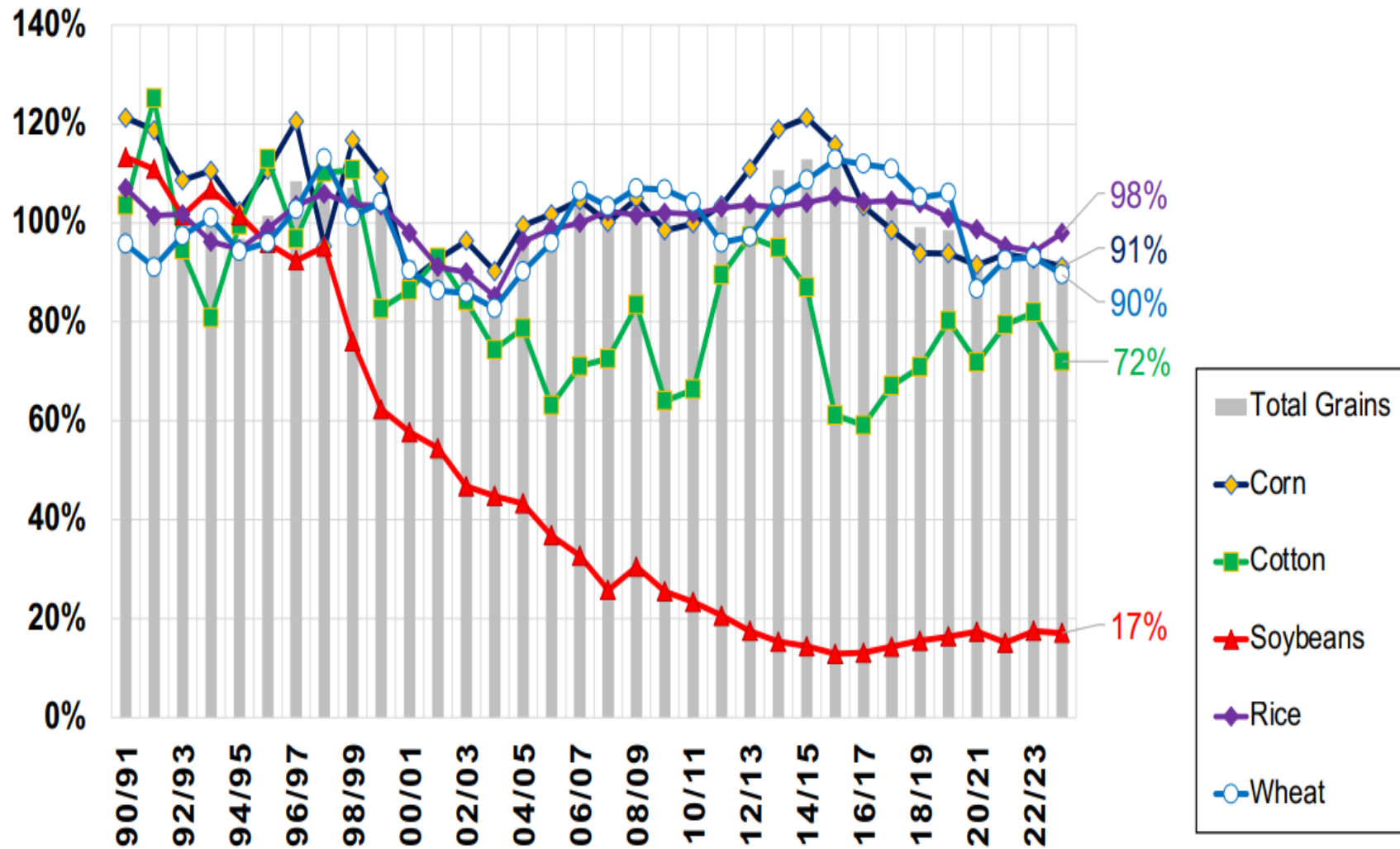
# Commodity Prices

- Dow: 38,694(36,784)
- Corn- \$ 4.45(8.25-2012)
- Wheat- \$ 5.96(11.92-2008)
- Beans- \$ 12.02(15.95-2012)
- Cotton- \$ .898(2.13-2011)
- Sugar- \$ .40 Brn(53.5-1974)
- Rice- \$ 18.82 (23.8-2008)
- Ethanol- \$ 2.16(3.47-2014),
- Oil - Brent Crude \$81.82 WTI \$ 76.53 Gas \$1.88
- Feeder Cattle \$ 1.86-- \$ 2.47 (1.70-2014)
- Lumber \$ 550 per thousand (1720)

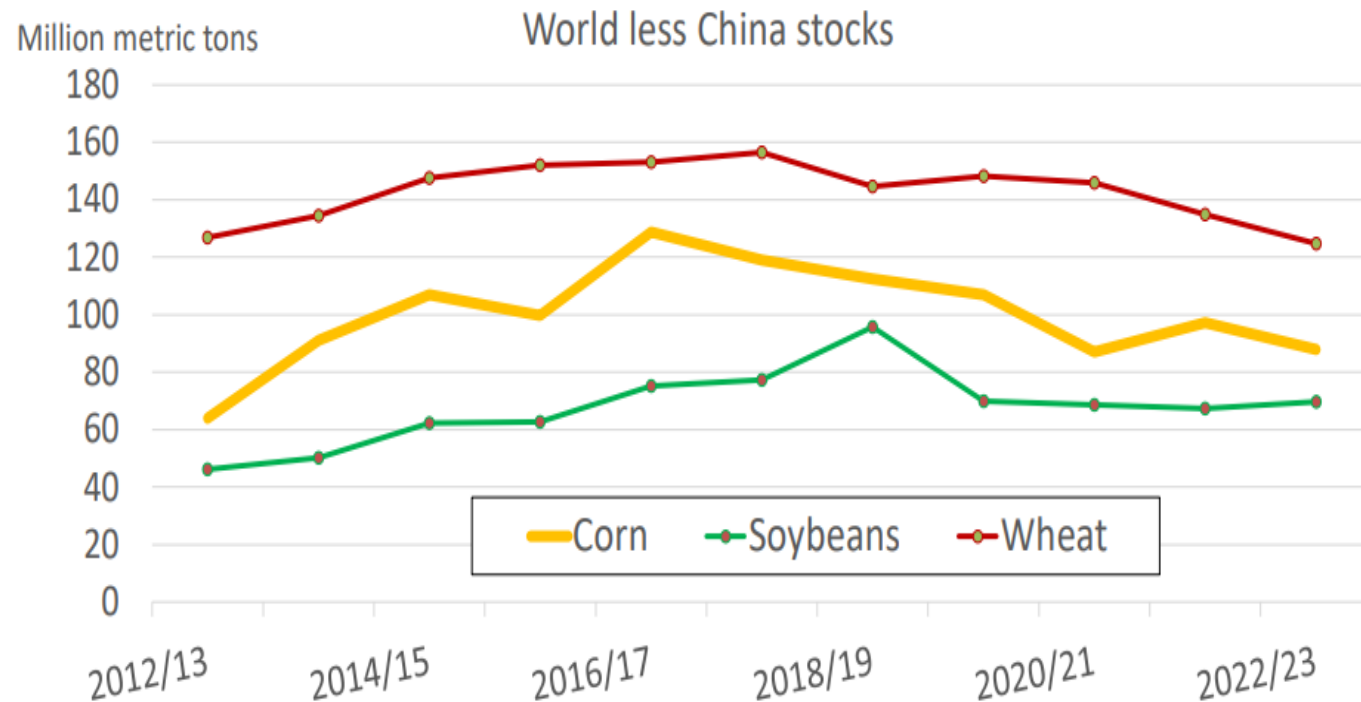




# China Crop Self Sufficiency

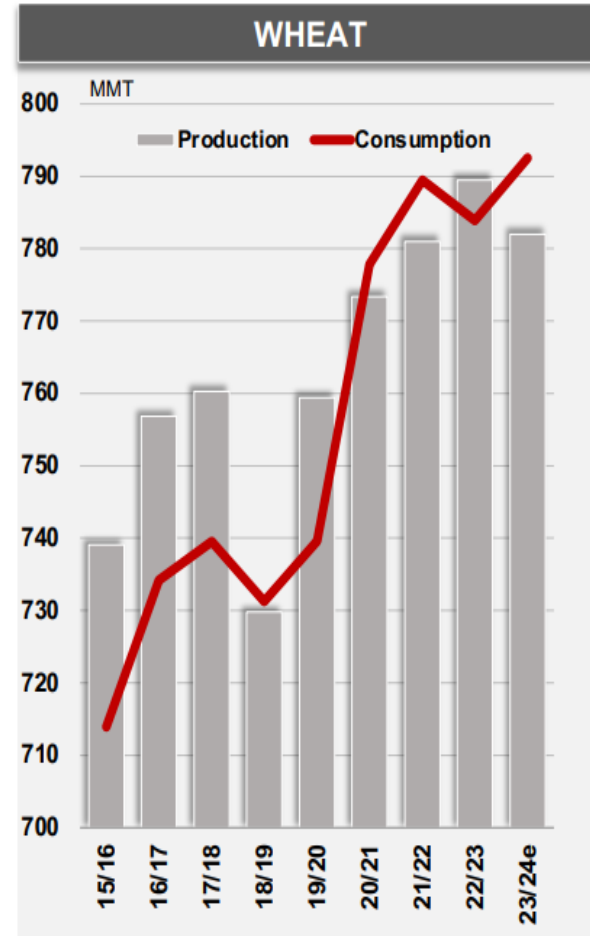
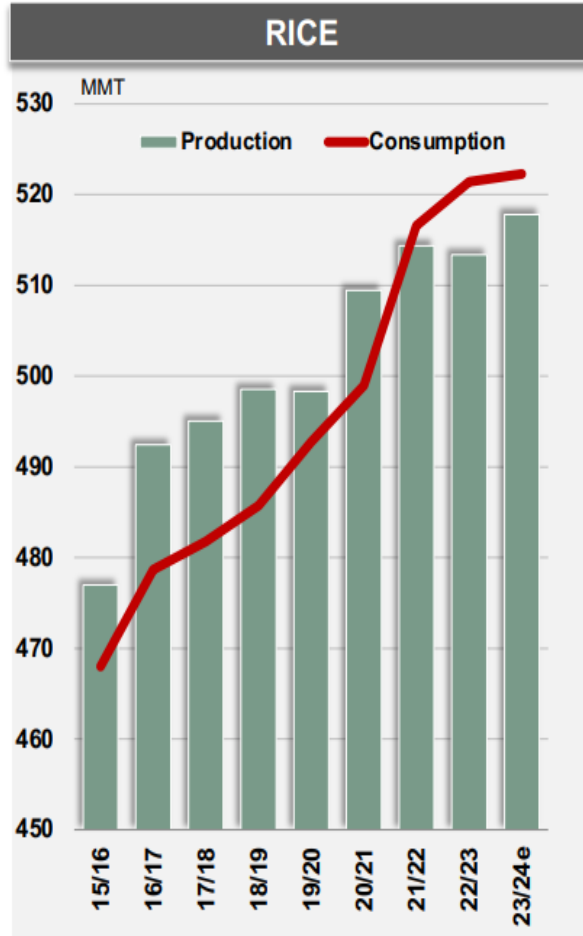
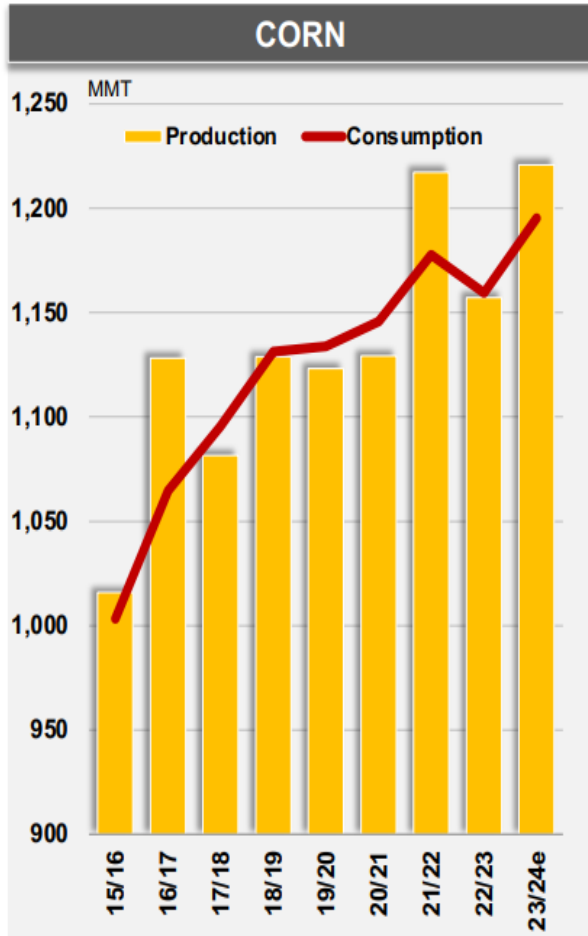


# Tight Global Supplies for Grains and Oilseeds



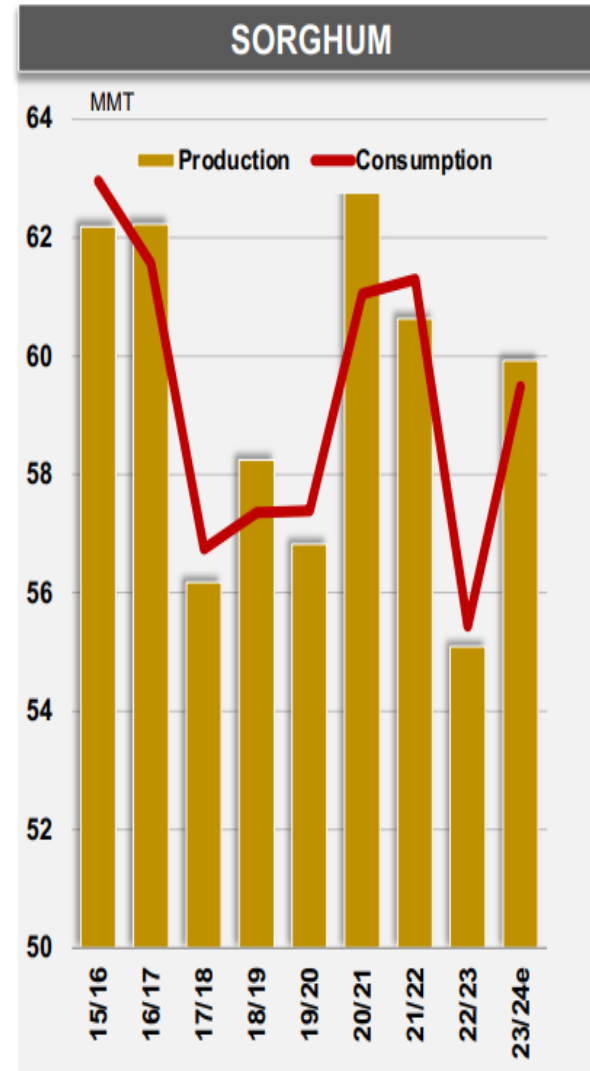
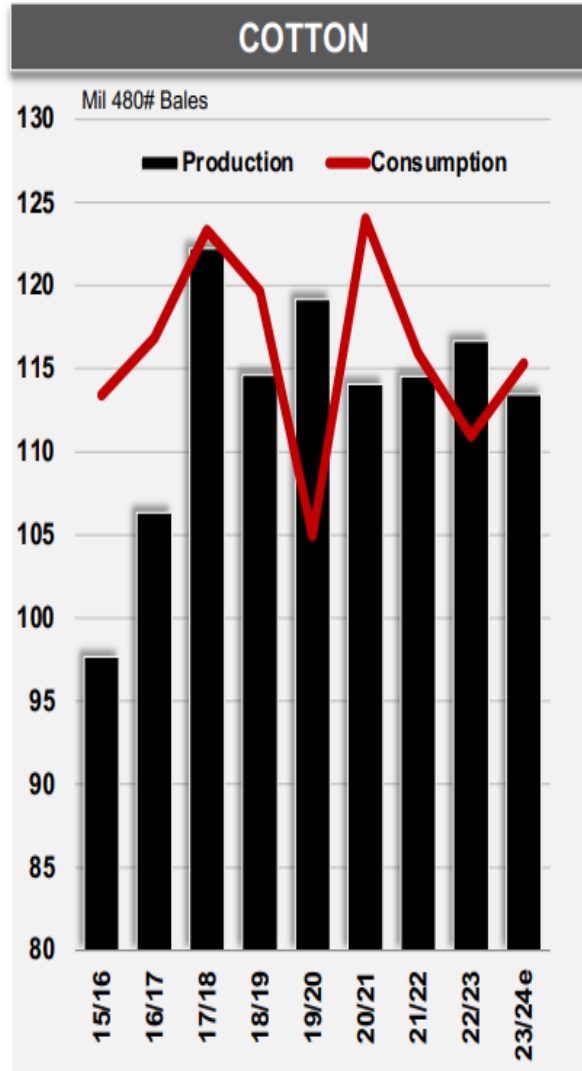
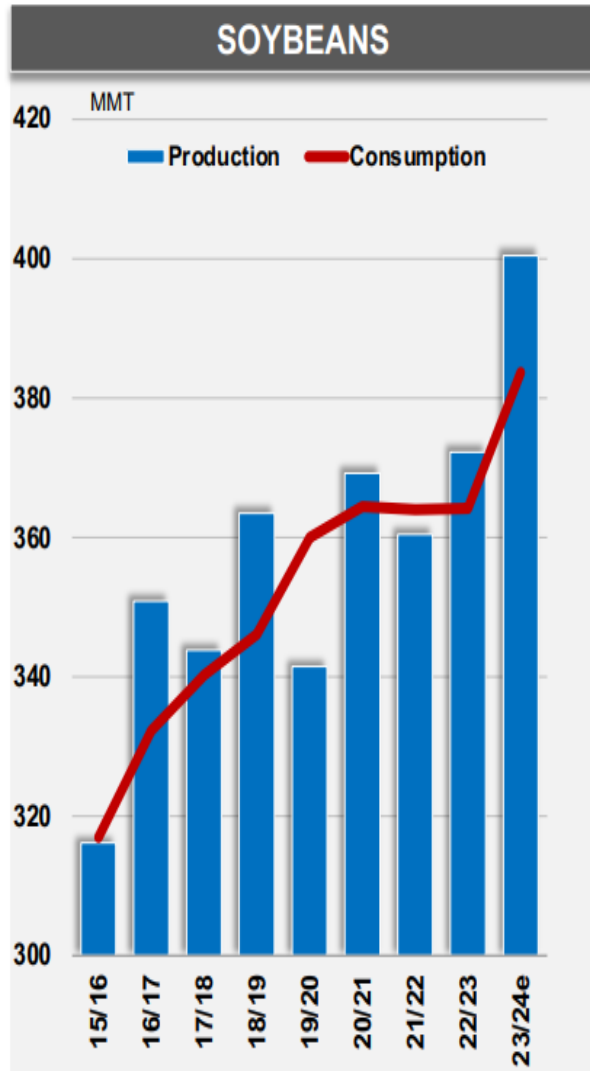
Note: Data based on local marketing years except for Argentina and Brazil soybeans which are adjusted to an October-September year.  
Source: USDA, Economic Research Service calculations; USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service *Production, Supply and Distribution Database*;  
USDA, World Agricultural Outlook Board, Agricultural Outlook Forum.

# Global Production & Consumption



Data Source: USDA November 2023

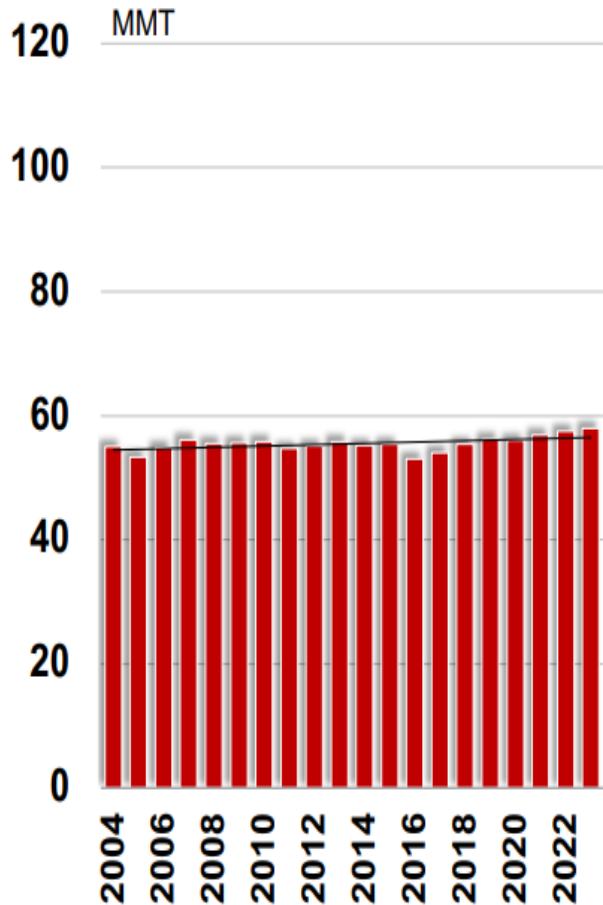
# Global Production & Consumption



Data Source: USDA November 2023

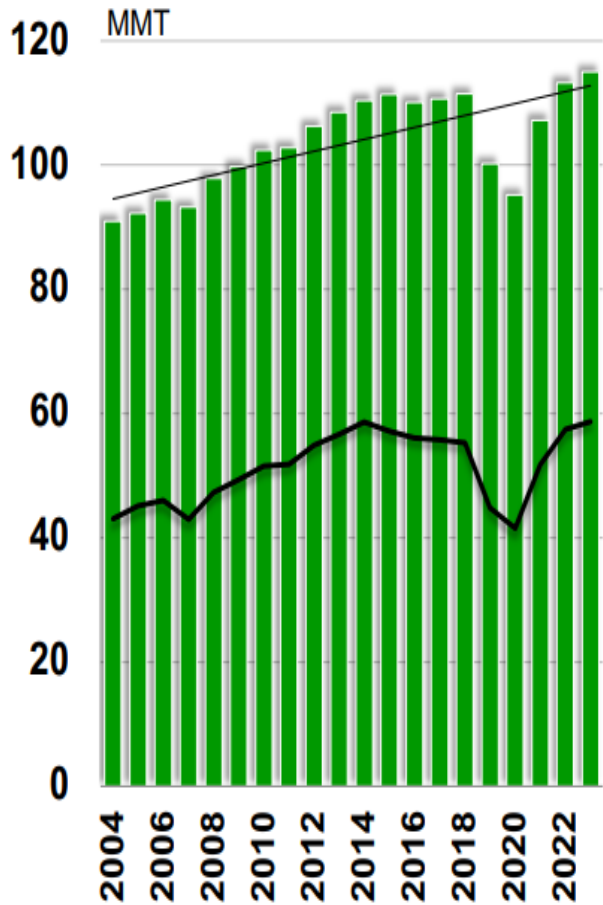
# Global Demand is Growing for Meat

**BEEF**



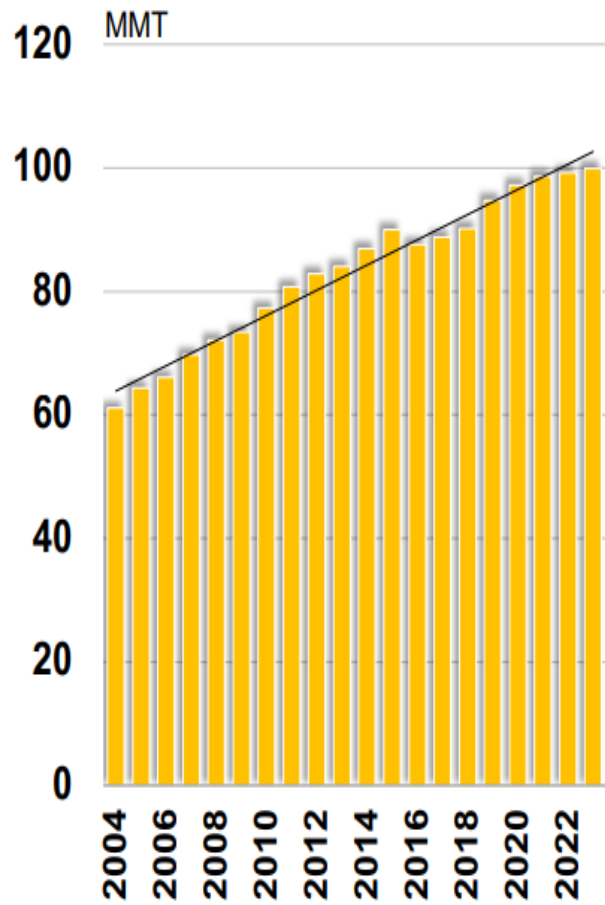
■ Beef

**PORK**



■ Pork (World) — Pork (China)

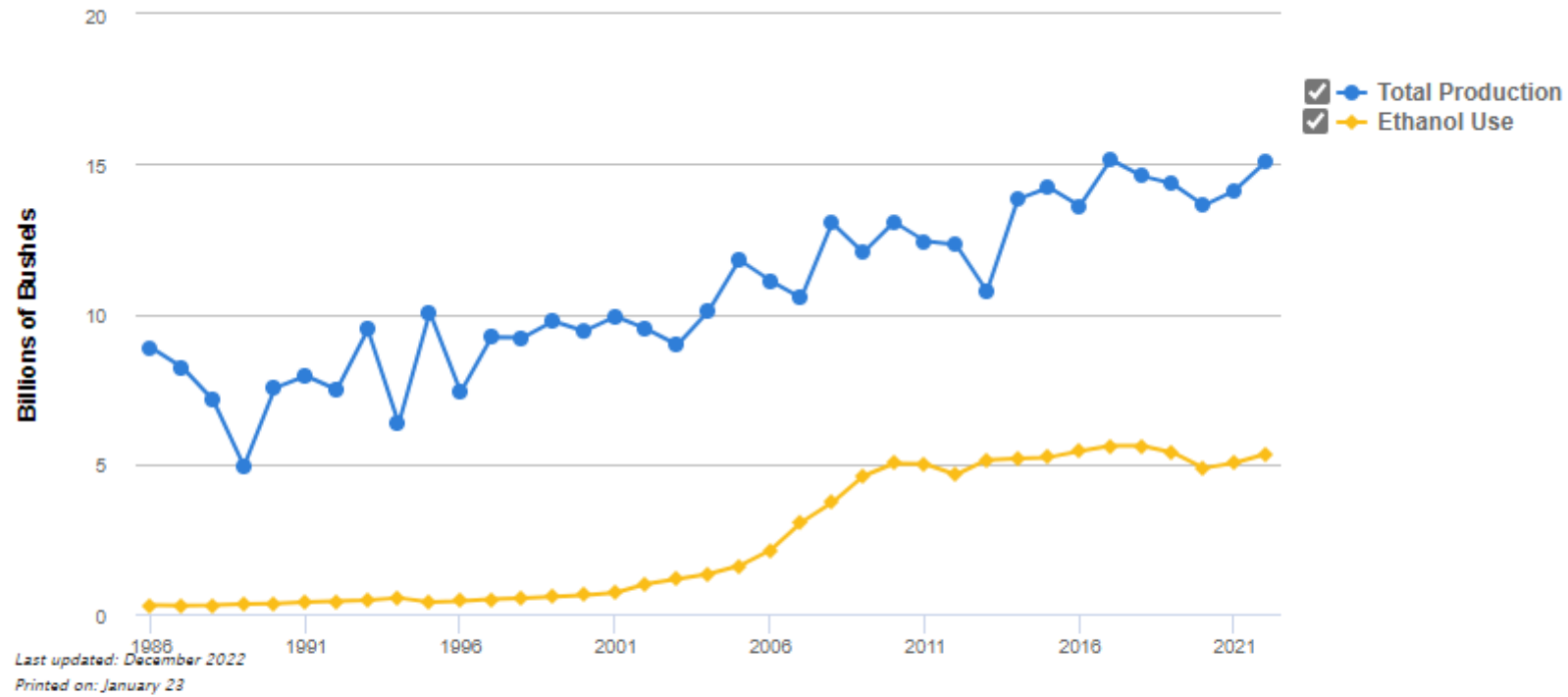
**CHICKEN**



■ Chicken

## U.S. Corn Production and Portion Used for Fuel Ethanol

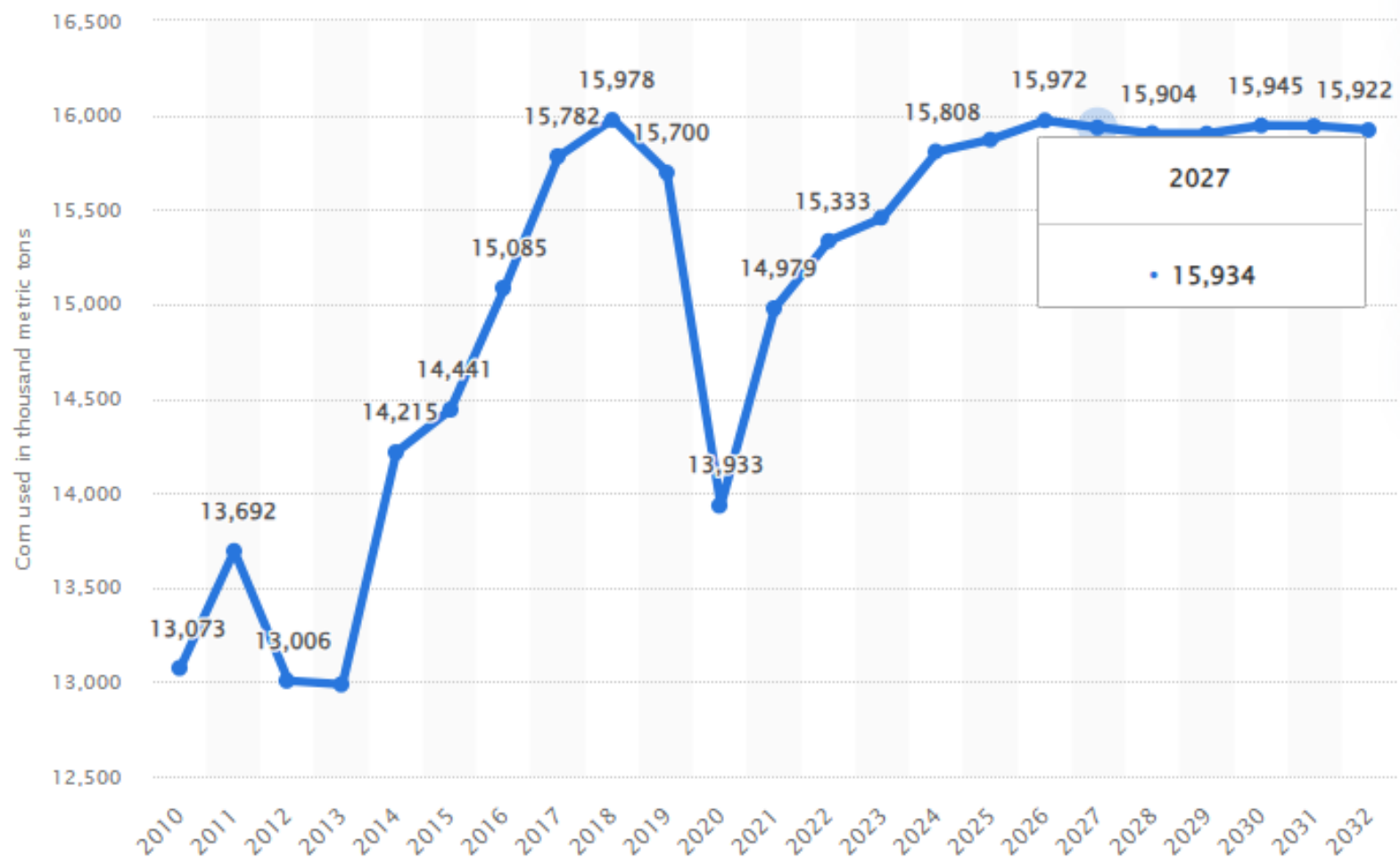
[Print](#) [Download](#)



Source: United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, [Feed Grains Yearbook](#)

This chart shows total U.S. corn use from 1986 to 2022. The overall trend had been one of increasing production with a small decline over the past three years. The amount of corn used for ethanol production increased substantially between 2001 and 2010, as nearly all gasoline was transitioned to 10% ethanol. The amount of corn used for each category has remained consistent in the past few years.

To view additional categories, details, and notes, please download the Excel spreadsheet.



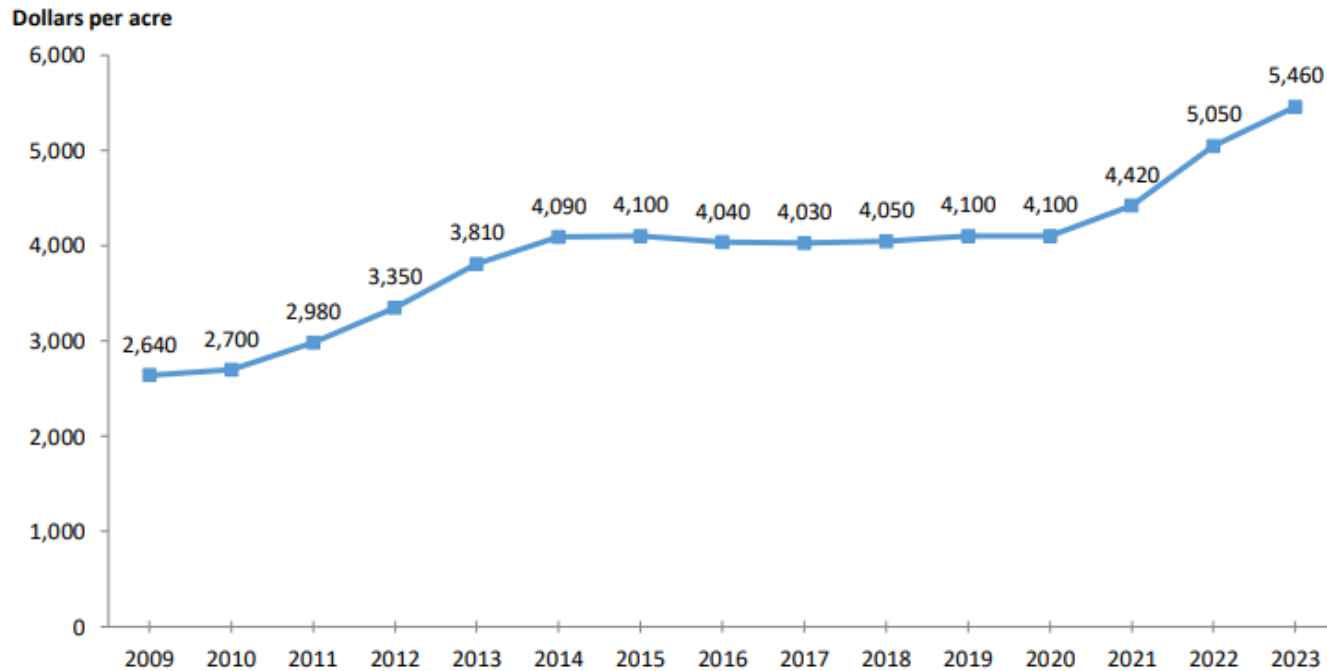
# Daybreak Aug. 7: Cropland values up 33% since 2020

08/07/23 10:00 AM By Philip Brasher, Steve Davies, and Jacqui Fatka

KEYWORDS [AGRICULTURE RISK COVERAGE](#) [AGRICULTURE SECRETARY TOM VILSACK](#) [FARM SERVICE AGENCY](#) [JONATHAN COPPES](#) [PRICE LOSS COVERAGE](#)

We have some fresh evidence of the continued strength of the U.S. farm economy. The average value of U.S. cropland jumped more than 8% this year.

## Average Cropland Value – United States: 2009-2023



USDA - NASS  
August 4, 2023





**IGC**

May 24, 2023

## **Delta Biofuel Announces \$100 Million Final Investment Decision for Renewable Fuel Facility in Jeanerette**

JEANERETTE, La. – Delta Biofuel has announced a \$100 million final investment decision for the construction and start up of a full-scale renewable fuel production...



Sector Spotlights

June 14, 2022

## **Clean Energy Start-Up Reveals Plan for \$800 Million Renewable Fuels Facility in Port Allen**

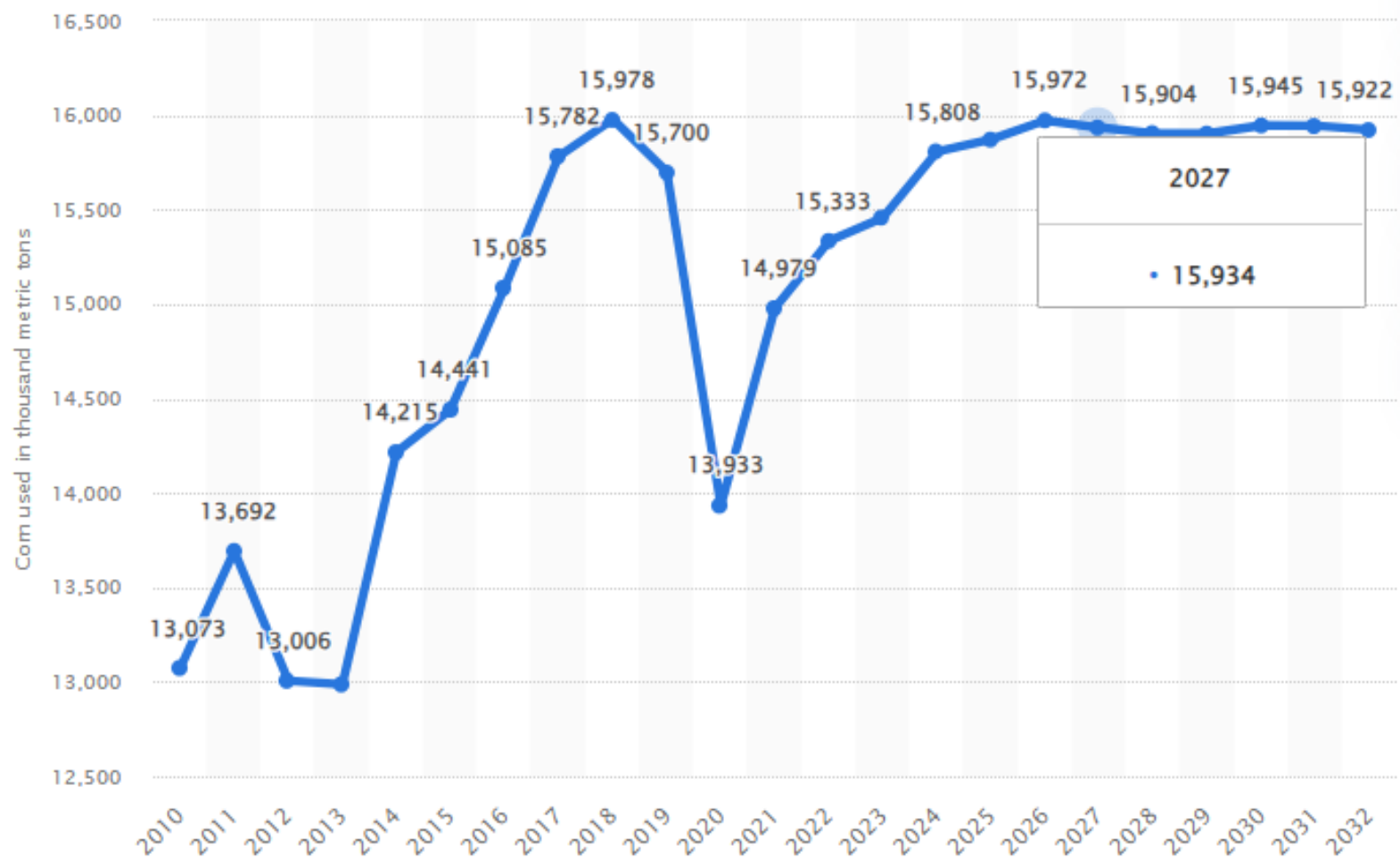
Arbor Gas to use wood waste from Louisiana forests to produce renewable gasoline and green hydrogen at West Baton Rouge Parish facility



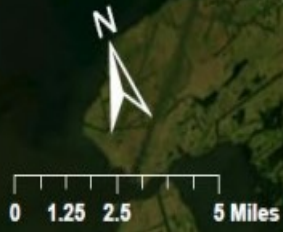
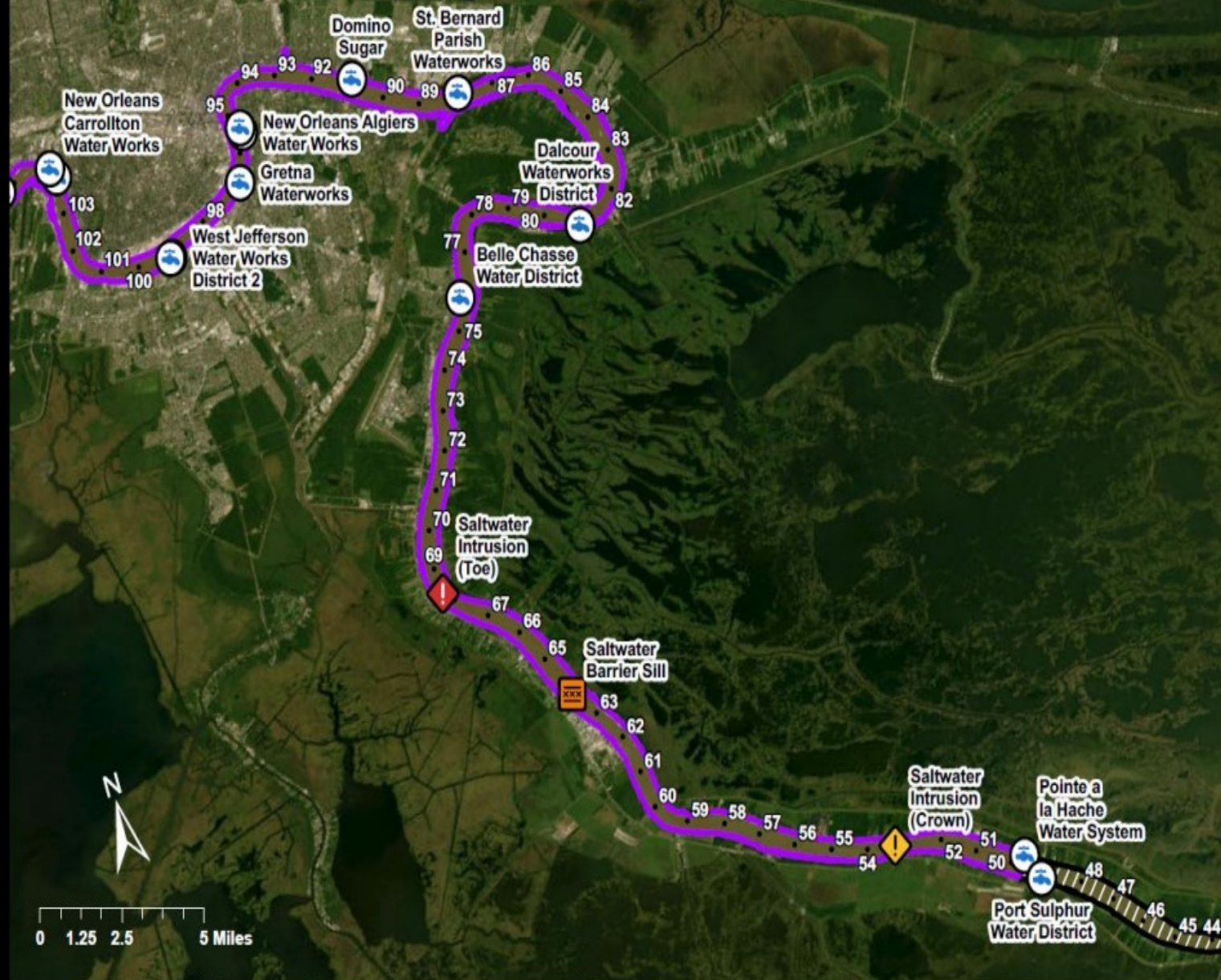
# FOOD versus FUEL



An Informed  
Introduction to Biofuels





# Mississippi River Saltwater Intrusion WebEOC Incident 23-023



## Points of Interest

-  Barrier
-  Saltwater Intrusion (Crown)
-  Saltwater Intrusion (Toe)
-  Water Intake Point
- River Mile Marker

## Forecast Inundation Date

-  September 20, 2023
-  No Forecast



This map was developed by the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness using data from LDH, USACE, and USGS.

Contact:  
Austin Dixon, Louisiana GOHSEP  
austin.dixon@la.gov

Last Updated:  
11/2/2023 9:21 AM

Location of Toe: 68.3

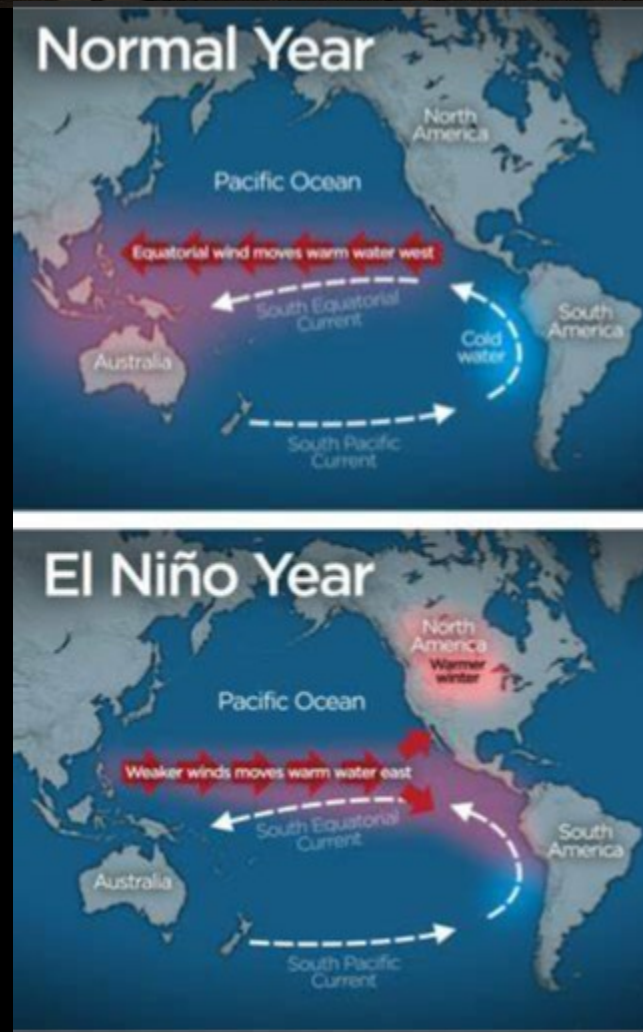






## How El Niño Could Scramble Commodity Markets

Climate pattern's forecast is pushing up sugar prices and could threaten some U.S. farmers

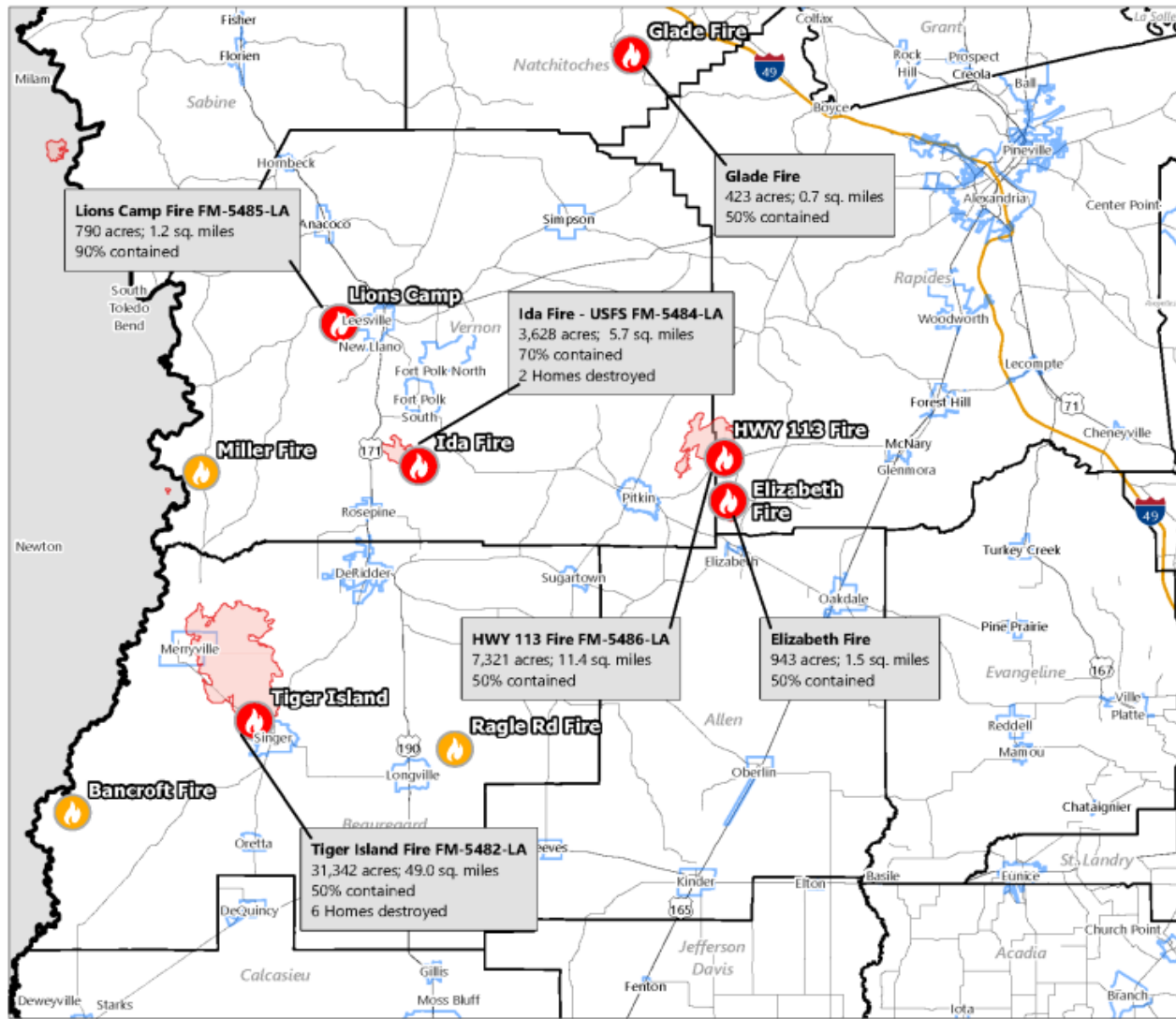




# Mississippi River Careens From Floods to Low Water, Threatening Barge Traffic



**August 2023 Wildfires - Beauregard, Natchitoches, Rapides, and Vernon Parishes, Louisiana As of 9/3/2023 1000 Fire Locations**



**Data Layer / Map Description:**  
 This product illustrates wildfires in Louisiana and key information corresponding to wildfires currently being responded to by local, state and federal officials.  
**Incident Period:** August 2023 and Continuing

**Wildfires**

- Active
- Monitoring
- Fire Perimeter
- Community Boundary

**Primary and Secondary Roads**

- Interstate
- US Highway
- State Highway

**New Fires**

- Bell City Fire
- Dehlco Fire

0 10 20 Miles  
 0 10 20 Kilometers  
 Created: Saturday, September 2, 2023 | Source: FEMA Region 6 Recovery GIS

















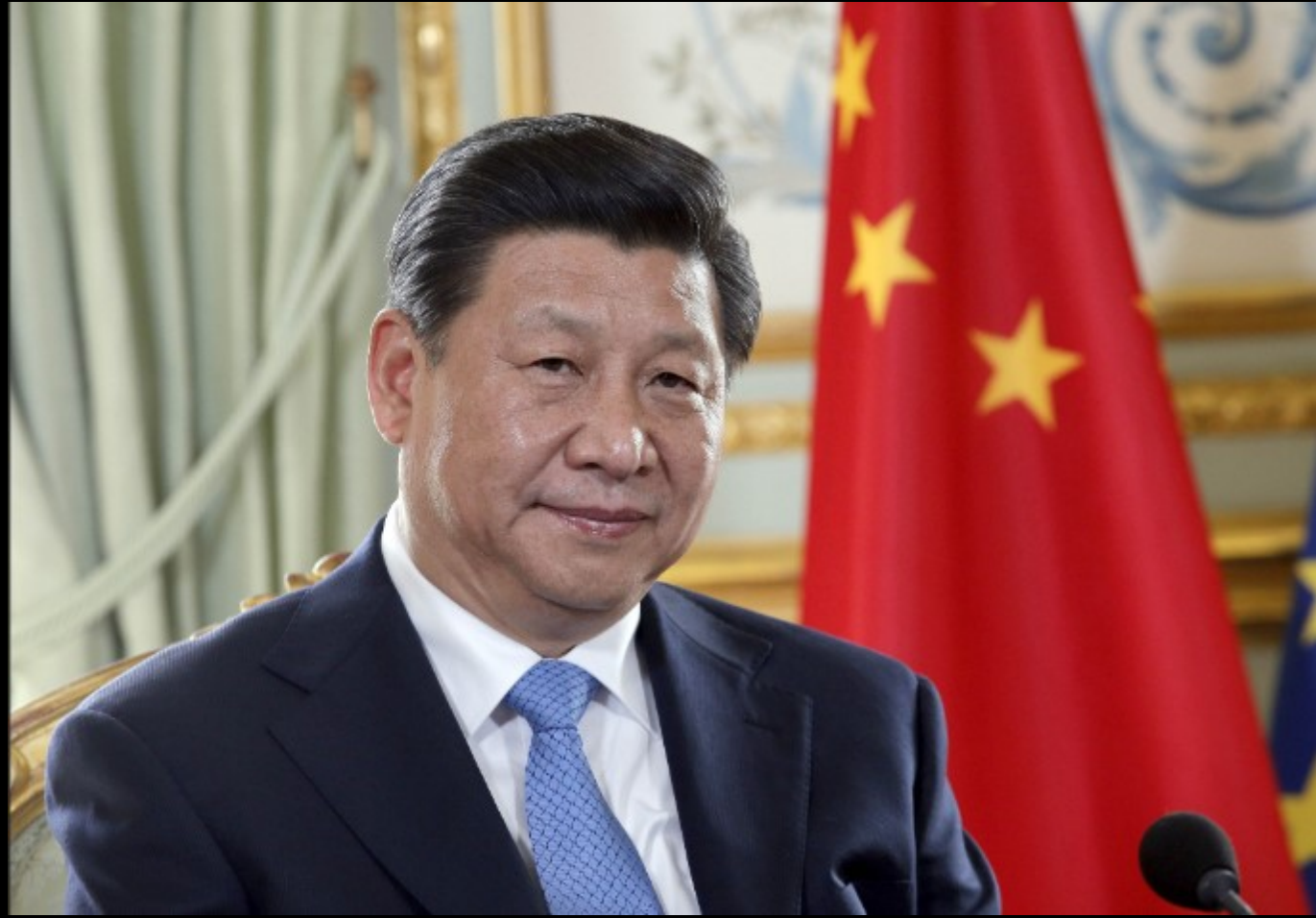
# OIL AND GAS



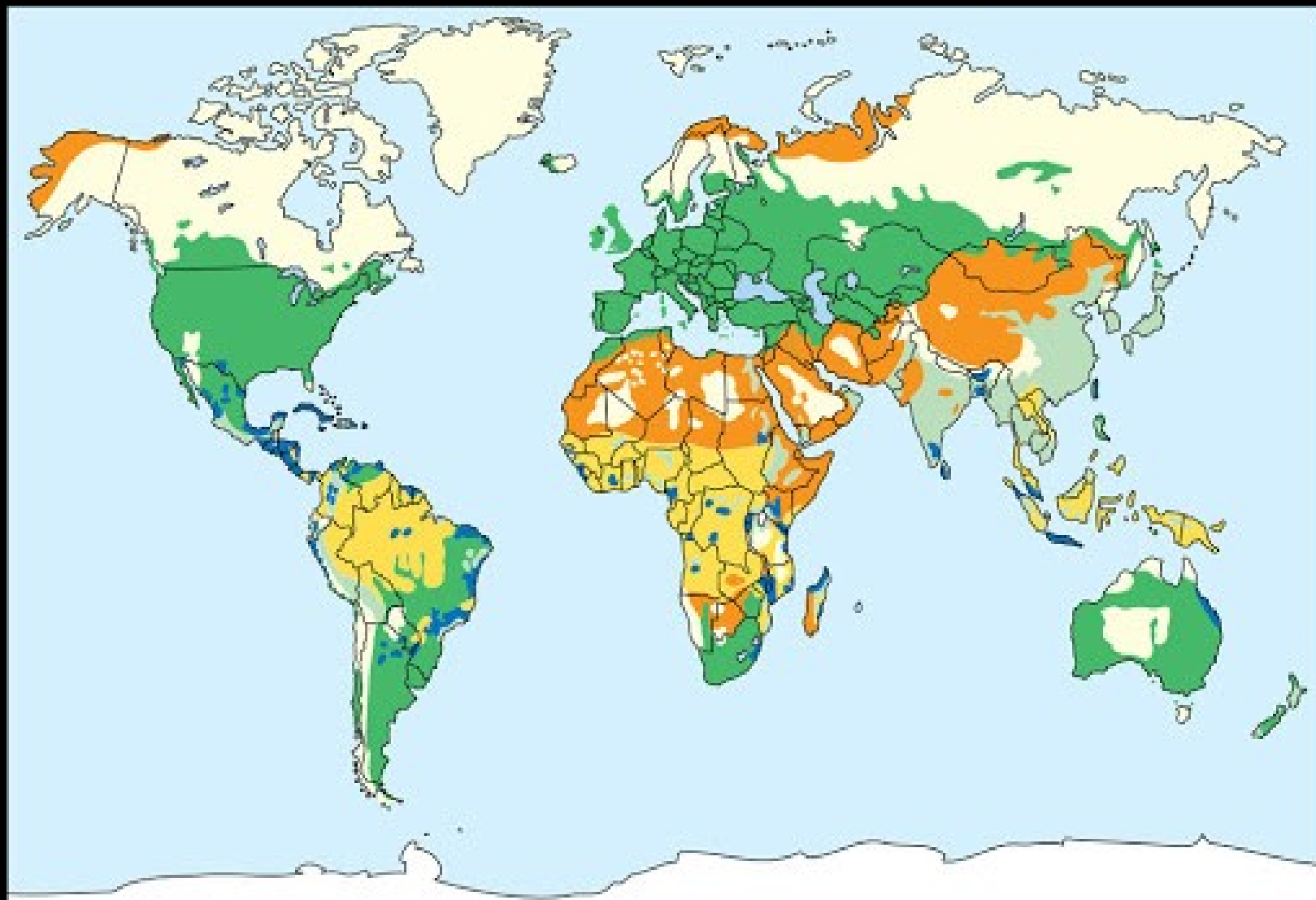












Industrialized agriculture

Plantation agriculture

Intensive traditional agriculture

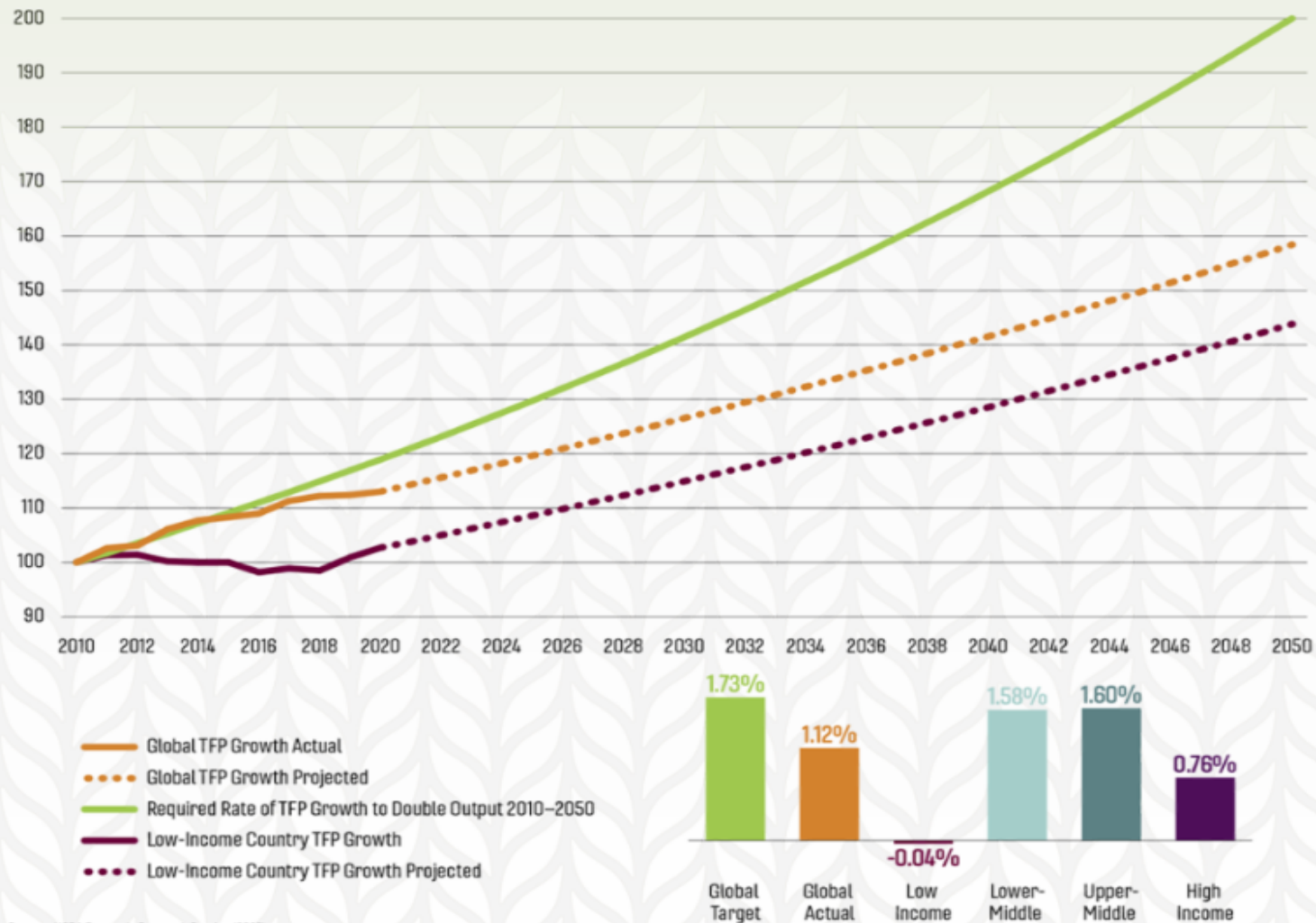
Shifting cultivation

Nomadic herding

No agriculture

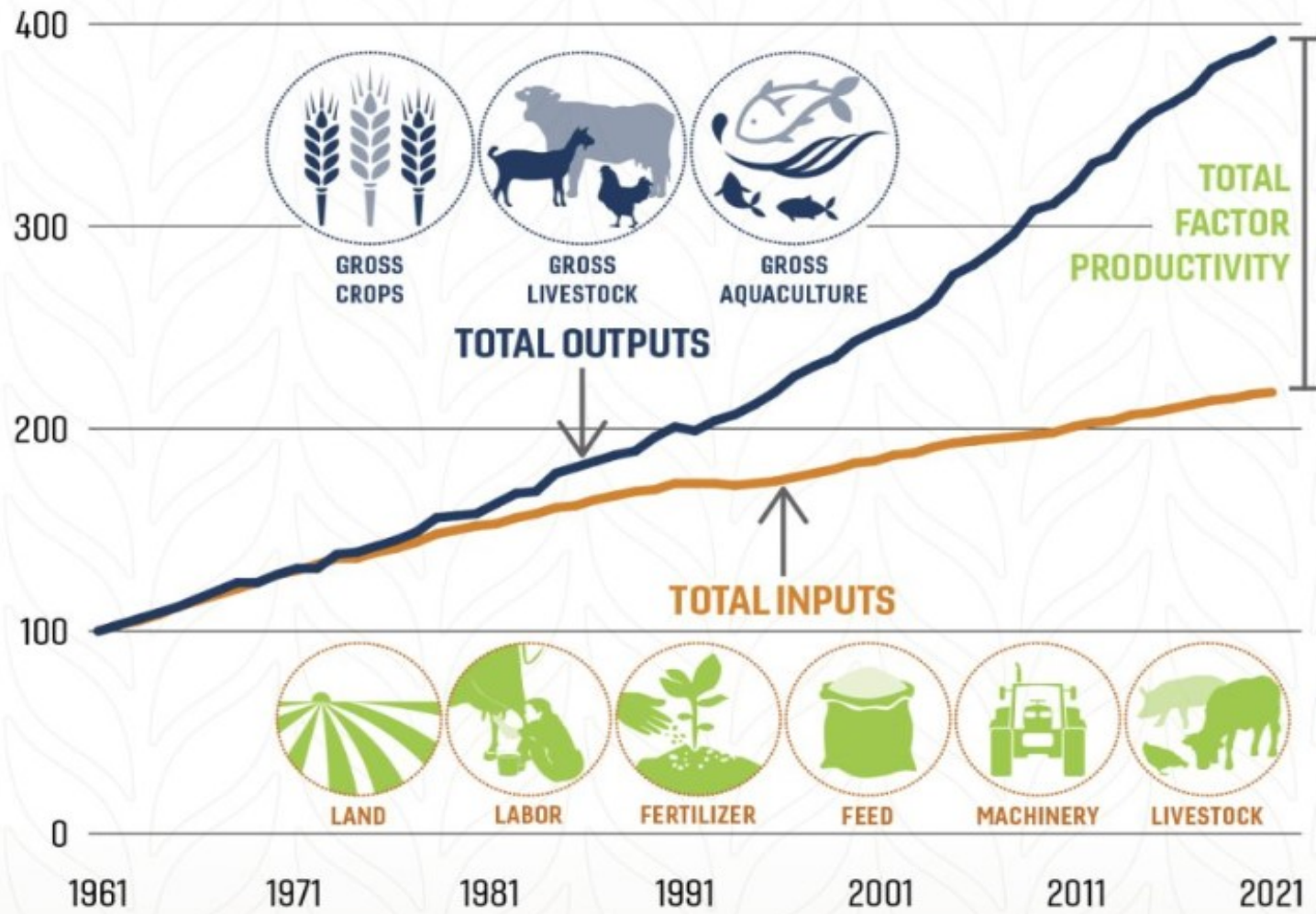
## 2022 Global Agricultural Productivity Index

TFP growth rates are based on a 10-year rolling average over a ten-year period.



Source: USDA Economic Research Service (2022).

Index, 1961=100



Source: USDA Economic Research Service (2022).

# Jet fuel plant proposed for Moonshine. Activists wary of clean energy promise. Here's why.

BY DAVID J. MITCHELL | Staff writer Jan 21, 2024 4 min to read



DG Fuels is deciding whether to build a \$4 billion low-emissions, sustainable aviation fuel complex in the Moonshine area of St. James Parish. The plant would use sugar cane bagasse and other waste plant and timber material to make the jet fuel. The company has recently proposed a \$26 million community benefits













# ALTERNATIVE FUEL





US Navy's Biofuel-Powered Great  
Green Fleet Sets Sail |...

- Global oil demand growth slowed to 1.7 mb/d y-o-y in 4Q23 – well below the 3.2 mb/d rate registered during 2Q23-3Q23, mirroring the unwinding of China’s post-pandemic release of travel demand. Growth is projected to ease from 2.3 mb/d in 2023 to 1.2 mb/d in 2024, as macroeconomic headwinds, tighter efficiency standards and an expanding EV fleet compound the baseline effect.
- World oil supply is forecast to rise by 1.5 mb/d to a new high of 103.5 mb/d, fuelled by record-setting output from the US, Brazil, Guyana and Canada. Non-OPEC+ production will dominate growth this year, accounting for close to 1.5 mb/d. By contrast, OPEC+ supply is expected to hold broadly steady on last year, assuming extra voluntary cuts that started this month are phased out gradually in 2Q24.

# Global Oil Demand

- Average Growth estimated at 1.5 Million Barrels per day
- Estimated consumption esp in China and Middle East to rise.
- 2025 forecast by OPEC to increase for next two decades
- International Energy Agency predicts oil growth will peak in 2030 as world shifts to cleaner energy

### Farm Futures January 2024 Survey Results - 2024 Acreage Forecasts

	USDA - 2023 (ac.)	Farm Futures - 2024 (ac.)	Change - Acreage	% Change	Trendline Yields (bpa)	2024 Production (bu.)
Corn	94,641,000	92,797,718	-1,843,282	-1.9%	181	15,237,667,502
Soybeans	83,600,000	84,952,964	1,352,964	1.6%	52.0	4,360,926,682
Winter Wheat	36,699,000	37,262,428	563,428	1.5%		
Spring Wheat	11,200,000	9,055,165	-2,144,835	-19.2%		
Durum Wheat	1,676,000	1,676,000	0	0.0%		
Total Wheat	49,575,000	47,993,592	-1,581,408	-3.2%	49.5	1,887,061,250
Total Acreage	227,816,000	225,744,275	-2,071,725	-0.9%		

Source: USDA-NASS, WAOB, Farm Futures January 2024 Survey

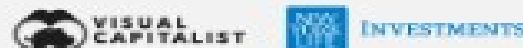
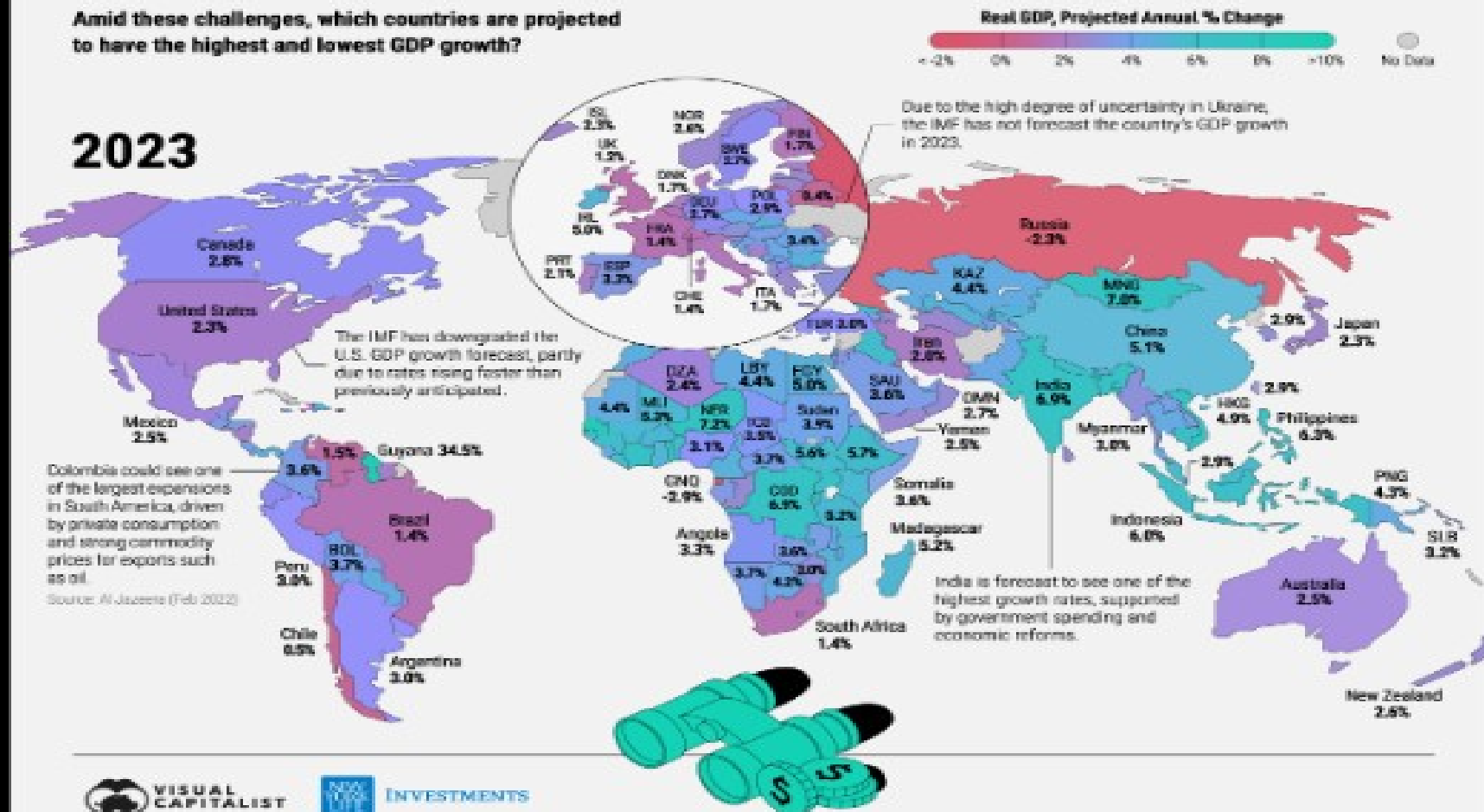
# Global GDP Forecasts FOR 2022 AND 2023



The economic recovery has been disrupted by the Russia-Ukraine war, lockdowns in China, and tightening monetary policy. In fact, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicts that global growth will drop from 6.1% in 2021 to 3.6% in 2022 and 2023.

**Amid these challenges, which countries are projected to have the highest and lowest GDP growth?**

## 2023



Source: International Monetary Fund (Apr 2022). In 2022 and 2023, data is not available for Afghanistan, Lebanon, and Syria. In 2023, data is not available for Taiwan and Ukraine. This is due to a high degree of uncertainty or, in the case of Russia, ongoing technical discussions.

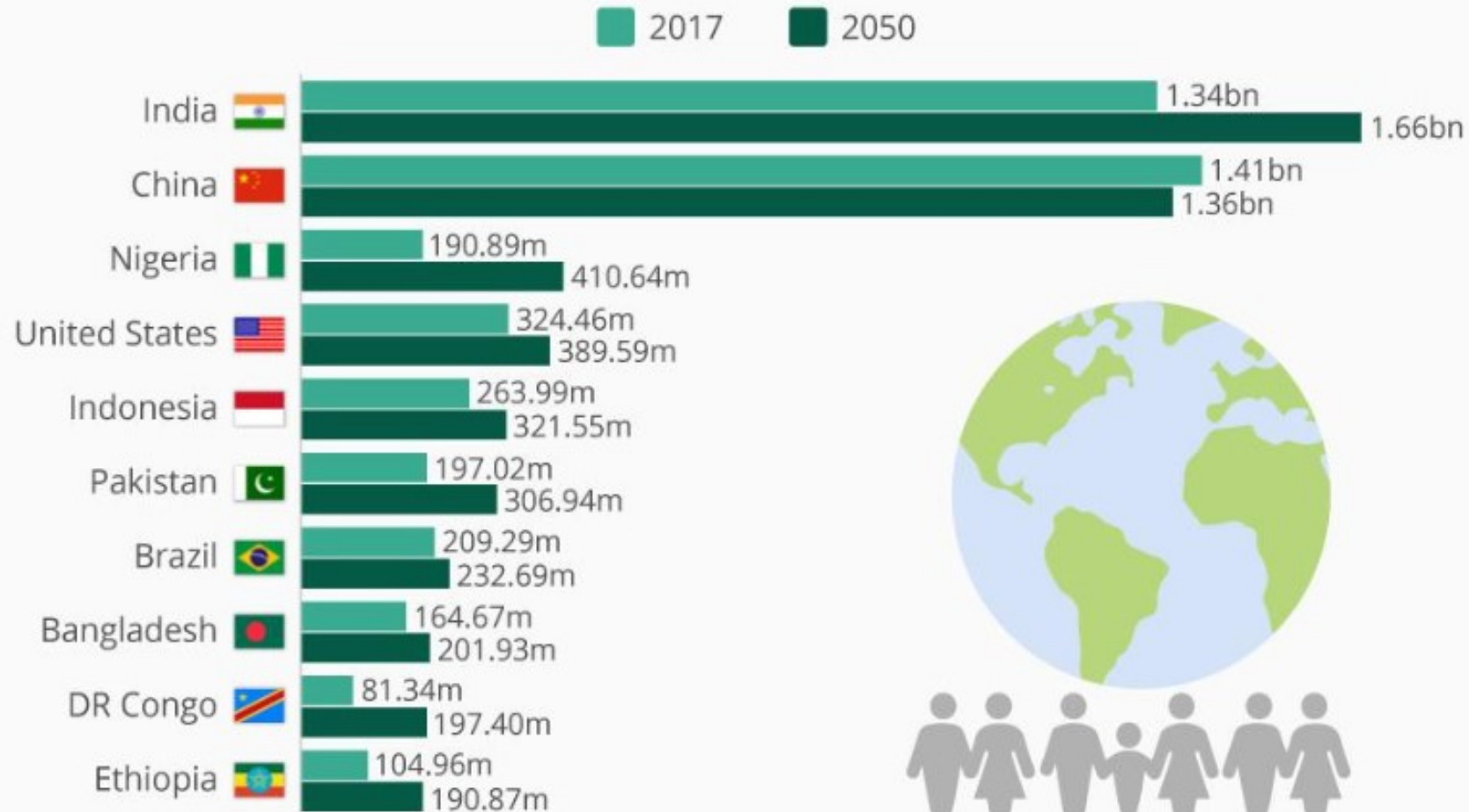
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\*New York Life Investments is a service mark, and the common trade name, of certain investment advisors affiliated with New York Life Insurance Company.

# The World's Most Populous Nations In 2050

Population in 2017 and forecast for 2050

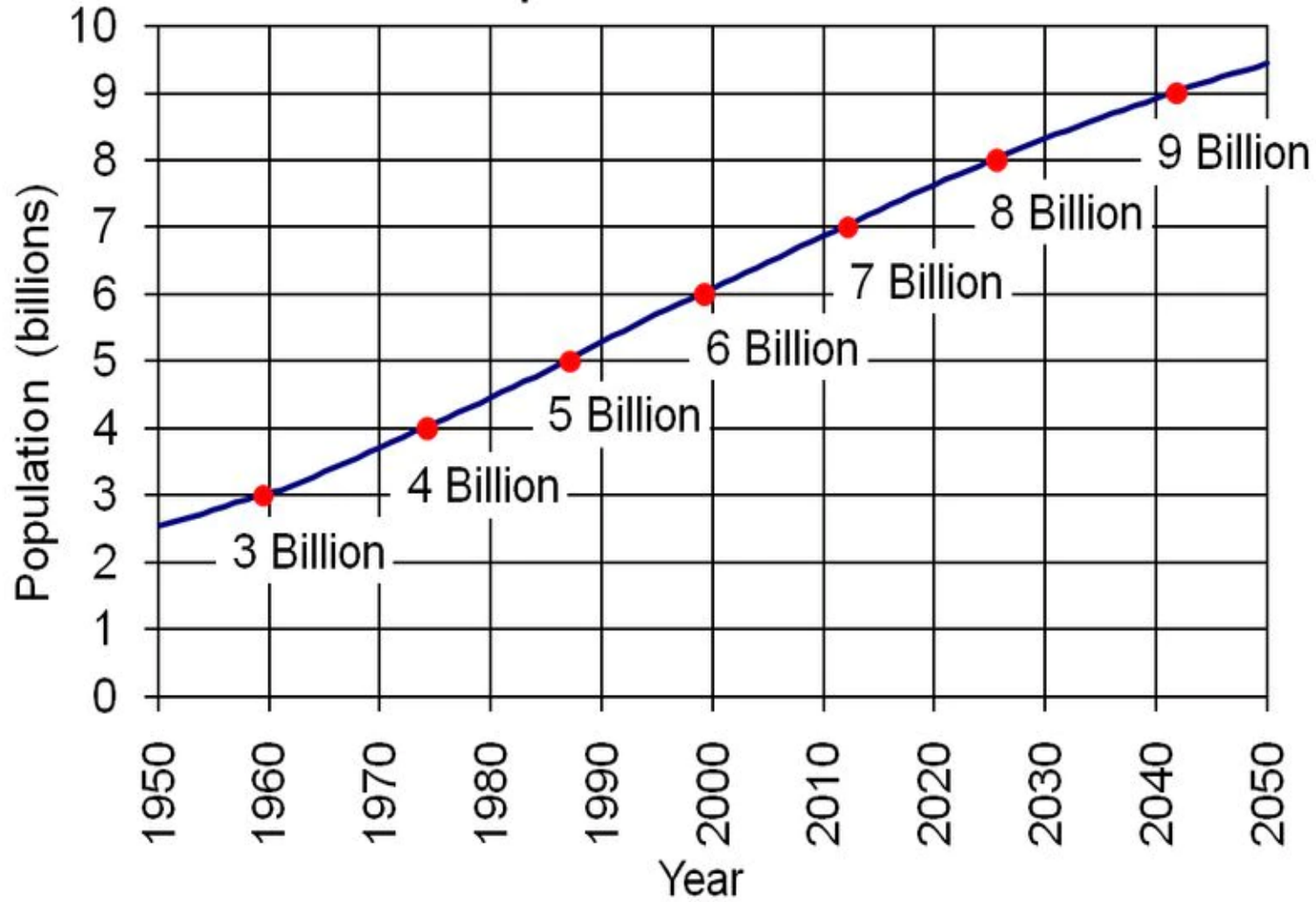


@StatistaCharts Source: UN Population Division





# World Population: 1950-2050



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base, June 2011 Update.

# GET REAL

