# US and NC Outlook for Corn, Soybeans, and Wheat 

Nick Piggott
Dept of Agricultural \& Resource Economics North Carolina State University

Email: nick_piggott@ncsu.edu

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## 2018F U.S. agricultural economy setting new lower levels from historical highs

Income Statement U.S. Farm Sector 2011-2018F

|  | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017F | 2018F | $\begin{gathered} 2018 F \\ \text { v. } \\ 2017 F \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2018 \mathrm{~F} \\ \mathrm{v.} \\ 2013 \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ billion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cash Receipts | 365.9 | 401.4 | 403.6 | 424.2 | 377.1 | 357.9 | 374.3 | 374.0 | -0.1\% | -7.3\% |
| Crops | 201.0 | 231.6 | 220.8 | 211.4 | 187.6 | 195.0 | 198.3 | 107.6 | -0.3\% | -10.4\% |
| Livestock | 164.9 | 169.8 | 182.7 | 212.8 | 189.5 | 162.8 | 176.0 | 176.2 | 0.1\% | -3.5\% |
| Direct Govt. Pay | 10.4 | 10.6 | 11.0 | 9.8 | 10.8 | 13.0 | 11.5 | 9.5 | -17.4\% | -13.5\% |
| Farm-related income | 30.8 | 39.3 | 41.0 | 36.6 | 34.4 | 27.9 | 32.9 | 34.7 | 5.6\% | -15.3\% |
| Gross Cash Income | 407.1 | 451.3 | 455.5 | 470.6 | 422.3 | 398.7 | 418.7 | 410 | -0.1\% | -8.2\% |
| Cash Expenses | 283.9 | 316.1 | 320.0 | 339.0 | 315.9 | 303.8 | 314.8 | 326. | 3.8\% | 2.1\% |
| NET CASH INCOME | 123.2 | 135.3 | 135.6 | 131.6 | 106.3 | 94.9 | 104.0 | 91.5 | 12.0\% | 32.5\% |
| Selected ratios: |  |  |  | Percen |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Debt-to-equity | 14.5 | 12.7 | 12.8 | 13.3 | 14.0 | 14.5 | 15.1 | 15.5 | 2.7\% | 21.1\% |
| Debt-to-asset | 12.7 | 11.3 | 11.4 | 11.7 | 12.3 | 12.7 | 13.1 | 13.4 | 2.3\% | 18.3\% |

US agriculture is now experiencing a cost-price squeeze--a period of increasing costs and simultaneous decreasing prices.

US Net Cash Income 2011-2018F


## Trade Wars Implications for Agriculture

- In March 2018, U.S. imposes tariffs to protect U.S. manufacturing jobs ( $25 \%$ tariff on steel and $10 \%$ on aluminum)
- The response from the rest of the world has been tit-for-tat tariff increases on U.S. exports. A focus has been on the retaliation tariffs from China.
- U.S. agriculture in the spotlight for tariff retaliation
- China has threatened to impose a $25 \%$ tariff on 128 U.S. products in response to a U.S. proposal to impose a $25 \%$ tariff on imported products from China
- The Chinese list includes soybeans, wheat, corn, sorghum, and beef.
- Soybeans is the largest agricultural export from the United States to China.
- US soybean exports account for approximately $48 \%$ of total use annually. More than $60 \%$ of these exports are destined to China so the Chinese tariff on U.S. soybeans alone could generate major economic consequences for U.S. agriculture.
- China also imports significant quantities of wheat, sorghum, and corn from the United States. Extending the coverage of Chinese tariffs on these products could amplify the economic implications of China's retaliation policy for U.S. agriculture.


## US Soybean Exports By Destinition for 2017--Total 55.5 MMT



Soybean Export Volume by Country


## What is a Tariff? Why Use Them?

A tariff is a tax levied on an imported good. There are two types:

- A per unit tariff is a fixed charge for each unit-\$90 per metric ton of imported soybeans
- A proportion tariff ("ad valorem") is levied as a proportion of the value of imports-25\% tariff on imported soybeans
$\square$ Why do countries impose tariffs?
- To raise revenues-more prominent historically
- To alter the balance of trade. Tariffs make imports more expensive.
- To protect and develop infant industries
- To protect domestic employment from more competitive foreign products
- Retaliation when a country thinks a trading partner has not played by the rules


## Tariffs: Winners and Losers

Beneficiaries:

- Governments receive increased revenues
- Producers and workers in domestic industries enjoy reduced competition (inflated prices)
$\square$ Losers:
- Domestic consumers-individuals and businesses because of higher priced goods.
- Domestic exporters who experience retaliatory tariffs
- Economic welfare-there are deadweight losses from tariffs in the form of production and consumption efficiencies


## US Major Corn, Soybean, Wheat, and Cotton Acreage 1975-2018F



## NC Major Row Crop Acreage: 2008-2018

$\square$ Past 11 years reveals, over the pre- and post- feed grain initiative, a decline in total acres of $10.7 \%$, with a decline in feed grain acres (19\%).
. Corn acres have slightly increased 3.3\%
$\square$ Wheat acreage has declined by $43.5 \%$ but this masks a significant run-up between 2010 and 2013 when wheat acres more than doubled but then significantly declined back to 2010 levels by 2017. Projections for 2018 show slight increase.
$\square$ Sorghum acreage increased by $25 \%$ this also masks that acreage spiked to 70 K and 80K in 2012 and 2013 in the initial two years of the feed grain initiative

- Feed grain acres projected to increase by 5.1\% in 2017 over 2018 levels

NC Acres Planted 2008-2018


## NC Major Row Crop Acreage 2010-2018



## USDA SUPPLY/DEMAND BALANCE SHEET FOR SOYBEANS

|  | 2016/17 | 2017/18 | 2018/19 Proj | \% $\Delta$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Millions of Acres |  |  |  |
| Acres Planted | 83.4 | 90.1 | 89.1 | -1.1\% |
| Acres Harvested | 82.7 | 89.5 | 88.3 | -1.3\% |
| Bu./Harvested Acre | 52.0 | 49.3 | 52.1 | 5.7\% |
|  | Millions of Bushels |  |  |  |
| Beginning Stocks | 197 | 302 | 438 | 45.0\% |
| Production | 4,296 | 4,111 | 4,600 | 11.9\% |
| Total Supply | 4,515 | 4,734 | 5,063 | 6.9 |
| Use: |  |  |  |  |
| Crushing | 1,899 | 2,055 | 2,080 | 1.2\% |
| Exports | 2,174 | 2,129 | 1,900 | -10.8\% |
| Seed \& Residuals | 141 | 112 | 96 | -14.0\% |
| Total Use (Demand) | 4,213 | 4,296 | 4,107 | -4 |
| Ending Stocks | 302 | 438 | 955 | 118.0\% |
| Ending Stocks, \% of Use | 7.2\% | 10.2\% | 23.3\% | 128.1\% |
| U.S. Season Average Farm Price, $\$ / \mathrm{Bu}$. | \$9.47 | \$9.33 | \$8.60 | $-7.8 \%$ |

Source: WASDE, USDA, November 2018
U.S. Soybean Supply and Disappearance 1971/72-2018/19F


## US Soybeans Ending Stocks 1968/69-2018/19





## U.S. Soybean Stocks/Use and Average Farm Price 1970/71-2018/19



## Soybean Futures S-Nov18

CBOT:ZSX2018, D 871'6 $-3^{\prime} 4(-0.4 \%)$ O:874'0 H:874'O L:868'2 C:871'6


## Sovbean Futures S-Nov19

CBOT:ZSX2019, D 932'4 7-4'O (-0.43\%) O:933'0 H:936'O L:930'4 C:932'4


## Final Thoughts

Tariffs are trade distorting. Farmers are better off with trade not aid. Retaliator tariffs can be lose-lose as trade relationships that take years to establish can be decimated and are hard to rebuild.
$\square$ Lost agricultural exports to China will mostly be rerouted to other destinations limiting export impacts. World demand has not declined.

Recent announcement of $\$ 12$ billion aid package to offset tariffs is a short-term fix. Returning to free trade is a long term fix.
$\square$ Cost-price squeeze is impacting US agricultural economy
$\square$ Current and new crop futures charts reveal corn, soybean, and wheat markets are general trading sideways. As we approach planting early next year, look for upside breakouts in Jan-Mar, as corn and soybeans bid for acres. The massive soybean endingstocks will weigh on soybean prices.

## New Enterprise Budgets Posted

## - Current Budgets:

E. Corn Coastal Plain, Conventional.p...<br>Z. Corn Coastal Plain, No Till.pdf<br>E. Corn Tidewater, Conventional.pdf<br>Corn Tidewater, No Till.pdf<br>Corn Tidewater, Strip Till.pdf<br>Sorghum-2018.pdf<br>Sorghum-NT-2018.pdf<br>Soybean Coastal Plain, Convention...<br>2. Soybean Coastal Plain, Strip Till.pdf<br>I. Soybean Tidewater, Conventional....<br>Z. Soybean Tidewater, No Till.pdf<br>き. Soybean Tidewater, Strip Till.pdf<br>I. Soybean Wheat.pdf<br>Soybean-Wheat old.pdf<br>E. Wheat-2018-TW.pdf

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## Planting Decision Tool

Budget Comparison 2018 Crop Year of Crop Choices Given Current Market Conditions and Expected Yields


## THANK YOU

## QUESTIONS?

Figure 1. Value fo U.S. Soybean Exports to World and China 1995 to 2016 Calendar Year

- U.S. Exports to Rest of World - U.S. Exports to China China Share of U.S. Exports


Source: USDA FAS


## Timeline for Corn and Soybeans



Source: Swanson, K, J. Coppess, and G. Schnitkey. "Trade Timeline and Corn and Soybean Prices." farmdoc daily (8): 141, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, July 31, 2018.

