
U.S. CROPS

U.S. Wheat

Wheat yields were below normal in 2007/08 in the EU, Australia, and Canada. According to February 2008 USDA estimates, total wheat exports of those three exporters are 16.7 mmt lower in 2007/08 than two years ago.

Reduced supplies in competing exporting countries have resulted in high U.S. wheat exports and prices in 2007/08. If foreign wheat yields return to normal levels and producers around the world respond to high wheat prices, U.S. wheat exports could decline in 2008/09.

Global grain demand remains strong, so projected exports remain near 1.0 billion bushels in spite of wheat prices in excess of \$5.00 per bushel.

Domestic wheat use increases slightly over the next 10 years, as population growth results in more wheat food use.

The sharp increase in wheat prices dramatically increases producer returns in 2007/08. Projected prices and returns decline in 2008/09 but remain well above pre-2007 levels.

Wheat net returns over operating costs remain strong throughout the baseline, but even greater returns to corn and soybean production means the long-term decline in wheat acreage is likely to resume in 2009.

U.S. Rice

U.S. rice exports have increased in 2007/08, resulting in lower stocks and higher prices. Limited supplies may reduce rice exports in 2008/09 and 2009/10, but strong global rice demand leads to projected export increases in later years.

Domestic rice use increases over the next 10 years, primarily because of population growth.

The season-average farm price of rice is expected to increase for the third straight year in 2007/08. World and domestic rice prices are projected to decline slightly in 2008/09.

Average adjusted world prices far exceed the loan rate, suggesting marketing loan benefits are likely to be available only rarely.

Until 2006/07, changes in rice prices had offset government payments. Rice prices have risen to levels whereby fixed direct payments are the only payments available, so payments do not decline when prices rise.

Rising rice production costs and lower government payments mean producer net returns have increased much less than market prices.

U.S. Long-Grain Rice Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Area	(Million Acres)										
Planted Area	2.06	2.19	1.94	2.10	2.06	2.20	2.17	2.29	2.30	2.30	2.34
Arkansas	1.19	1.26	1.11	1.20	1.18	1.25	1.24	1.30	1.31	1.31	1.33
California	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Louisiana	0.36	0.38	0.33	0.36	0.35	0.38	0.38	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.41
Mississippi	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.22
Missouri	0.18	0.17	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18
Texas	0.14	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
Harvested Area	2.05	2.17	1.93	2.09	2.05	2.19	2.16	2.28	2.29	2.28	2.33
Yield	(Pounds per Acre)										
	6,929	6,847	6,917	6,982	7,048	7,113	7,179	7,245	7,311	7,376	7,442
Supply	(Million Hundredweight)										
Beginning Stocks	28.54	12.18	13.27	12.88	13.00	12.85	12.89	12.69	12.64	12.70	12.74
Production	142.18	148.86	133.74	146.09	144.76	155.66	155.15	165.24	167.17	168.41	173.51
Imports	14.84	15.12	15.29	15.52	15.69	15.91	16.09	16.30	16.52	16.73	16.96
Domestic Use	88.95	90.98	91.41	92.47	92.73	93.29	93.58	94.10	94.85	95.72	96.26
Exports	84.43	71.92	58.00	69.02	67.87	78.25	77.86	87.47	88.77	89.38	94.08
Residual	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ending Stocks	12.18	13.27	12.88	13.00	12.85	12.89	12.69	12.64	12.70	12.74	12.86
Prices	(U.S. Dollars)										
Farm Price/cwt	11.16	10.17	10.75	10.65	11.13	11.23	11.76	11.97	12.08	12.28	12.32
Milled Rice, Gulf/cwt	22.25	20.28	21.44	21.24	22.19	22.39	23.46	23.88	24.08	24.49	24.57

U.S. Medium- and Short-Grain Rice Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Area	(Million Acres)										
Planted Area	0.70	0.72	0.70	0.74	0.75	0.76	0.75	0.77	0.76	0.76	0.78
Arkansas	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.18
California	0.53	0.53	0.54	0.56	0.57	0.57	0.56	0.57	0.56	0.56	0.57
Louisiana	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02
Mississippi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Missouri	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Texas	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Harvested Area	0.70	0.71	0.70	0.74	0.75	0.76	0.75	0.77	0.76	0.75	0.77
Yield	(Pounds per Acre)										
	7,942	7,764	7,835	7,876	7,927	7,964	8,018	8,063	8,112	8,161	8,211
Supply	(Million Hundredweight)										
	71.81	73.21	73.92	77.84	79.35	80.91	81.59	83.68	83.87	84.12	86.25
Beginning Stocks	10.02	11.08	12.08	12.31	12.88	13.22	13.68	13.81	14.15	14.30	14.18
Production	55.27	55.43	54.95	58.44	59.19	60.21	60.25	62.00	61.67	61.56	63.61
Imports	6.51	6.70	6.89	7.08	7.28	7.47	7.66	7.86	8.06	8.26	8.46
Domestic Use	35.34	36.10	36.18	36.65	37.28	38.20	38.70	39.50	40.16	40.39	41.53
Exports	25.38	25.04	25.43	28.31	28.85	29.03	29.08	30.03	29.42	29.56	30.20
Residual	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ending Stocks	11.08	12.08	12.31	12.88	13.22	13.68	13.81	14.15	14.30	14.18	14.52
Prices	(U.S. Dollars)										
Farm Price/cwt	11.89	11.36	11.96	12.01	12.20	11.93	12.17	12.04	11.97	12.26	11.78
Milled Rice, Gulf/cwt	26.52	25.21	26.39	26.37	26.65	26.08	26.60	26.32	26.16	26.80	25.75

U.S. Corn

Ethanol use of corn has almost doubled between 2005/06 and 2007/08 and is projected to approach 4 billion bushels in 2008/09.

Export demand for corn in 2007/08 has been surprisingly strong. Foreign supply response to high prices could lead to lower exports in 2008/09.

Given EISA provisions, high petroleum prices, a weak dollar, and foreign economic growth, both ethanol use and exports could grow after 2008/09.

Reported feed and residual use of corn dropped in 2006/07 and appears likely to rebound in 2007/08. Growth in the feed use of distillers grains and other coproducts of ethanol production is likely to reduce feed use of corn grain in 2008/09.

By 2015/16, almost as much corn is used to produce ethanol as is fed directly to U.S. livestock.

Sharply higher corn prices in 2006/07 and 2007/08 have resulted in a large increase in producer market receipts. Marketing loan benefits and CCPs would occur only if prices fell dramatically below projected levels.

In spite of rising variable production expenses, net returns to corn producers remain very high by historical standards. This helps sustain corn planted area at over 90 million acres throughout the baseline.

U.S. Ethanol and Biofuel Policy Provisions

Projected growth in corn-based ethanol production slows after 2008/09, but production still reaches 15 billion gallons by 2015/16.

Future levels of cellulosic ethanol production are very uncertain. Projected production falls short of the levels envisioned in EISA (see Box 1 on the EISA, page 6).

Imported sugar-based ethanol is assumed to satisfy most of the renewable fuel standard for advanced ethanol not met by cellulosic ethanol or biodiesel.

Projected rack (wholesale) prices of ethanol decline until 2009/10, as ethanol production in the near term exceeds the levels of use required under EISA. In later years, ethanol rack prices increase in response to EISA mandates.

Because projected cellulosic ethanol production falls short of EISA mandates, cellulosic ethanol producers receive a subsidy equal to \$3.00 per gallon minus the wholesale price of gasoline or \$0.25 per gallon, whichever is greater.

Additive uses of ethanol increased sharply when methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) was replaced in the nation's fuel supply. Voluntary use of 10% ethanol blends and E-85 must absorb increasing supplies unless other blends enter the market.

Ethanol blends must be price competitive with regular gasoline to encourage the required increase in use.

U.S. Corn Products

Projected U.S. exports of HFCS grow to 1.3 million tons by 2017/18, with Mexico as the primary market.

Domestic use of HFCS has declined since 2001/02. Projected per capita use declines slowly, leaving total domestic use flat.

HFCS wholesale prices have risen sharply over the last two years and are only slightly lower than wholesale sugar prices.

Increasing dry mill ethanol production results in large additional supplies of distillers grains. Most of the coproduct is fed to U.S. livestock, primarily beef and dairy cattle. The table reports the sum of wet and dried distillers grains and brewers grains on a dry-equivalent basis.

Exports of distillers grains have increased rapidly but remain modest relative to total supplies as well as relative to corn exports.

Over the long run, prices of distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) and corn gluten feed generally move with corn prices. Projected DDGS prices dip slightly below corn prices on a per ton basis to encourage consumption of rapidly increasing supplies.

Corn oil prices have increased in response to strong global demand for vegetable oils. These high corn oil prices benefit wet millers and may encourage new processes to extract corn oil in dry mill plants.

U.S. Corn Products Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
High-Fructose Corn Syrup											
	(Thousand Tons, Oct.-Sept. Year)										
Production	9,158	9,568	9,797	9,947	10,027	10,088	10,053	10,057	10,044	10,121	10,228
Domestic Use	8,510	8,830	8,897	8,896	8,935	8,961	8,891	8,867	8,818	8,852	8,917
Net Exports	648	737	900	1,051	1,092	1,127	1,161	1,190	1,226	1,269	1,311
	(Pounds per Capita, Oct.-Sept. Year)										
Domestic Use per Capita	55.71	57.31	57.24	56.75	56.51	56.20	55.30	54.68	53.94	53.70	53.65
	(Cents per Pound, Oct.-Sept. Year)										
Price, 42% Midwest	20.29	21.74	21.43	21.21	21.18	21.54	21.84	22.38	22.55	22.30	22.33
Distillers, Brewers Grains											
	(Thousand Tons, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Production (Dry Equivalent)	22,776	29,618	30,690	31,317	31,188	33,749	36,529	37,966	38,993	39,014	38,821
Domestic Use	20,376	26,873	27,847	28,369	28,287	30,742	33,360	34,677	35,582	35,487	35,190
Net Exports	2,400	2,745	2,843	2,948	2,902	3,007	3,169	3,290	3,411	3,527	3,630
	(Dollars per Ton, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Price, Lawrenceburg, IN	142.48	134.20	133.13	131.69	137.80	135.18	133.05	132.22	133.39	135.38	137.55
DDGS Price/Corn Price	100%	97%	96%	98%	101%	98%	95%	95%	95%	97%	99%
Corn Gluten Feed											
	(Thousand Tons, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Production	9,102	9,695	9,832	9,973	9,981	10,209	10,419	10,570	10,699	10,782	10,838
Domestic Use	7,634	8,175	8,336	8,490	8,553	8,776	8,985	9,147	9,299	9,413	9,503
Net Exports	1,468	1,520	1,496	1,484	1,427	1,434	1,434	1,423	1,399	1,369	1,335
	(Dollars per Ton, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Price, 21%, IL Points	104.35	98.15	95.81	92.96	95.24	94.19	93.71	92.81	92.97	92.66	92.88
Corn Gluten Meal											
	(Thousand Tons, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Production	2,395	2,551	2,587	2,625	2,626	2,687	2,742	2,782	2,815	2,837	2,852
Domestic Use	1,338	1,472	1,485	1,506	1,495	1,544	1,588	1,616	1,638	1,649	1,652
Net Exports	1,057	1,079	1,102	1,118	1,131	1,143	1,154	1,165	1,177	1,189	1,201
	(Dollars per Ton, Sep.-Aug. Year)										
Price, 60%, IL Points	438.34	416.72	379.96	364.73	356.72	355.90	352.92	350.45	344.75	339.38	330.50
Corn Oil											
	(Million Pounds, Oct.-Sep. Year)										
Production	2,793	2,975	3,018	3,061	3,063	3,133	3,198	3,244	3,283	3,309	3,326
Domestic Use	2,205	2,213	2,293	2,339	2,335	2,396	2,460	2,504	2,542	2,569	2,583
Net Exports	664	738	733	729	730	734	737	739	742	742	744
Ending Stocks	105	129	121	114	112	114	116	116	116	114	113
	(Cents per Pound, Oct.-Sep. Year)										
Chicago Price	55.30	51.53	54.77	57.86	59.18	60.01	61.13	62.30	63.50	65.15	66.37

U.S. Corn Processing

Ethanol use accounts for most of the growth in corn food and industrial use. HFCS and other food and industrial uses of corn grow slowly over time.

Falling ethanol prices and rising corn prices have resulted in lower returns over operating costs for dry mill ethanol producers in 2006/07 and 2007/08. Net returns over operating costs increase only after 2011/12, when EISA mandates become binding and returns must increase to encourage increased production.

From 2008 to 2017, dry mill net returns over operating costs average about \$0.32 per gallon. Operating costs exclude capital costs, so net profits would be lower.

The pattern of net returns for wet mill ethanol plants over time is very similar to that for dry mill plants. Average returns over operating costs generally are higher for wet mill plants than for dry mill plants, primarily because of high corn oil values. Capital costs are typically higher for wet mill plants than for dry mill plants.

The recent decline in net returns explains the slowdown in ethanol plant capacity expansion. Actual net returns to ethanol production depend on petroleum prices, the weather, and other factors that are difficult to predict. For example, high petroleum prices may raise ethanol prices and net returns, while a drought could raise corn prices and reduce ethanol net returns.

U.S. Corn Processing

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Corn Food, Industrial Use	(Million Bushels)										
Fuel Alcohol	3,141	4,019	4,151	4,237	4,215	4,550	4,913	5,104	5,245	5,253	5,231
HFCS	511	534	547	555	559	563	561	561	560	565	571
Glucose and Dextrose	235	239	241	242	243	244	244	246	246	247	249
Starch	269	273	276	279	282	285	287	290	293	296	299
Beverage Alcohol	134	135	137	138	139	141	142	143	144	145	147
Cereals and Other	189	192	194	196	198	199	201	203	204	206	208
Total	4,479	5,391	5,545	5,647	5,637	5,981	6,348	6,547	6,693	6,714	6,704
Corn Dry Milling	(Units per Bushel)										
Corn Dry Milled for Ethanol	2,559	3,363	3,489	3,563	3,548	3,850	4,178	4,347	4,468	4,470	4,448
(Share of Total Ethanol)	81.5%	83.7%	84.1%	84.1%	84.2%	84.6%	85.0%	85.2%	85.2%	85.1%	85.0%
Yields per Bushel of Corn	(Units per Bushel)										
Ethanol (Gallons)	2.74	2.76	2.77	2.79	2.80	2.82	2.83	2.85	2.86	2.88	2.89
Distillers Grains (Pounds)	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00
Costs and Returns	(Dollars per Gallon)										
Ethanol Value	2.04	1.94	1.82	1.77	1.75	1.83	1.99	2.11	2.17	2.02	1.94
Distillers Grains Value	0.44	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.42	0.41	0.40	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.40
Corn Cost	-1.45	-1.41	-1.40	-1.35	-1.36	-1.37	-1.39	-1.38	-1.38	-1.36	-1.35
Fuel and Electricity Cost	-0.29	-0.30	-0.31	-0.31	-0.31	-0.30	-0.30	-0.30	-0.31	-0.31	-0.32
Other Operating Costs	-0.32	-0.32	-0.33	-0.33	-0.33	-0.34	-0.34	-0.34	-0.35	-0.35	-0.35
Net Operating Return	0.43	0.32	0.20	0.18	0.17	0.24	0.36	0.49	0.53	0.40	0.32
Corn Wet Milling	(Million Bushels)										
Corn Wet Milled for Ethanol	582	655	662	674	667	700	736	757	777	783	783
(Share of Total Ethanol)	18.5%	16.3%	15.9%	15.9%	15.8%	15.4%	15.0%	14.8%	14.8%	14.9%	15.0%
Other Corn Wet Milling	1,015	1,046	1,063	1,076	1,084	1,091	1,092	1,097	1,100	1,108	1,119
Total Corn Wet Milling	1,597	1,701	1,725	1,750	1,751	1,791	1,828	1,854	1,877	1,892	1,901
Yields per Bushel of Corn	(Units per Bushel)										
Ethanol (Gallons)	2.69	2.70	2.71	2.71	2.72	2.73	2.74	2.74	2.75	2.76	2.77
Gluten Feed (Pounds)	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40	11.40
Gluten Meal (Pounds)	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Corn Oil (Pounds)	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75	1.75
Costs and Returns	(Dollars per Gallon)										
Ethanol Value	2.04	1.94	1.82	1.77	1.75	1.83	1.99	2.11	2.17	2.02	1.94
Gluten Feed Value	0.22	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
Gluten Meal Value	0.24	0.23	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.18	0.18
Corn Oil Value	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.40	0.40	0.41	0.42
Corn Cost	-1.48	-1.44	-1.43	-1.38	-1.40	-1.41	-1.43	-1.43	-1.43	-1.42	-1.41
Fuel and Electricity Cost	-0.22	-0.23	-0.24	-0.24	-0.24	-0.23	-0.23	-0.23	-0.24	-0.24	-0.25
Other Operating Costs	-0.51	-0.51	-0.52	-0.52	-0.53	-0.53	-0.54	-0.54	-0.55	-0.55	-0.56
Net Operating Return	0.66	0.52	0.40	0.39	0.36	0.43	0.56	0.69	0.73	0.59	0.51

U.S. Sorghum

U.S. sorghum exports have increased sharply in 2007/08 in response to tight global grain supplies and a large U.S. sorghum crop. Assuming a return to normal weather conditions around the world, projected sorghum exports decline in 2008/09.

Sorghum prices generally move with corn prices so that sorghum is competitive in feed rations. Sorghum feed use increases in 2008/09 when sorghum prices decline relative to corn prices, but it generally falls in later years as sorghum prices increase again relative to corn.

High sorghum prices and record yields have resulted in a large jump in the per acre value of sorghum production in 2007/08.

In 2008/09, projected sorghum prices decline and average sorghum yields return to the long-term trend. Sorghum net returns over variable expenses decline in 2008/09 but remain above levels that prevailed prior to 2007/08.

Sorghum acreage movements largely reflect changes in prices and returns. Sorghum acreage increases in 2008 and decreases in 2009.

U.S. Barley

Strong international demand for barley and other grains has contributed to a large increase in barley prices in 2007/08. U.S. barley exports have reached their highest level since 2000/01.

After declining in 2007/08, barley used in brewing and other food and industrial applications is expected to remain relatively flat over the next 10 years. Population increases offset declining consumption per capita.

Limited feed barley supplies and high prices for other grains have contributed to a sharp increase in feed barley prices in absolute terms and relative to the prices of malting barley in 2007/08. Projected feed barley prices fall to a more normal level relative to the price of malting barley in 2008/09.

As with other grains, sharply higher barley prices in 2007/08 increase producer returns. Barley prices and net returns remain high throughout the 10-year projection period.

The increase in barley returns contributed to higher barley acreage in 2007. Further barley area increases are expected in 2008 and 2009 before barley acreage resumes its long-term decline.

U.S. Oats

Reduced acreage resulted in the fourth consecutive year of declining U.S. oats production in 2007. Imports now exceed domestic production, and this pattern is expected to persist over the next 10 years.

High prices for other grains have contributed to an increase in estimated oats feed use and market prices in 2007/08. Projected oats feed use resumes its long-term decline in 2008/09.

Higher prices have increased the per acre value of oats production. At projected price levels, no marketing loan benefits or CCPs are available to oats producers.

The USDA's most recent estimates show oats production costs at a much higher level than reported previously. Because of these higher production costs, net returns over variable expenses for oats producers remain modest in spite of higher prices.

With stronger increases in returns for other crops, projected oats acreage declines in 2008/09 and remains below the 2007/08 level over the baseline.

U.S. Hay

National average hay yields were higher in 2007 than in 2006 but were below the long-term trend for the third straight year. If production does increase in 2008/09, it should allow some further modest rebuilding of hay stocks.

Projected hay area remains fairly stable over the next 10 years, so the expected increase in production is a result of slow growth in yields per acre.

Hay disappearance has been constrained by tight supplies in 2006/07 and 2007/08. Disappearance is expected to recover in 2008/09 if yields return to long-term trend levels. However, only in 2014/15 does hay disappearance reach the level achieved in 2005/06.

Hay prices rose for the fourth straight year in 2007/08 because of continued tight supplies. Hay prices are expected to remain high by historical standards even if yields return to average levels.

Hay markets are more fragmented than markets for most other agricultural commodities, so trends in national average prices may not be reflected at the local level.

U.S. Hay Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
					(Million Acres)						
Area Harvested	61.6	61.7	61.3	61.2	61.1	61.2	61.2	61.1	61.0	61.0	60.9
					(Tons per Acre)						
Yield	2.44	2.48	2.52	2.54	2.55	2.56	2.57	2.58	2.59	2.61	2.62
					(Million Tons)						
Supply	165.3	170.7	173.6	175.1	176.0	176.8	177.5	178.2	179.0	179.8	180.6
Production	150.3	153.3	154.6	155.1	155.8	156.5	157.2	157.8	158.3	158.8	159.3
Beginning Stocks	15.0	17.4	19.0	19.9	20.2	20.3	20.3	20.4	20.7	20.9	21.2
Disappearance	147.9	151.6	153.7	154.9	155.7	156.5	157.0	157.6	158.1	158.5	159.0
Ending Stocks	17.4	19.0	19.9	20.2	20.3	20.3	20.4	20.7	20.9	21.2	21.5
					(U.S. Dollars per Ton)						
Prices											
All-Hay (crop year)	128.30	118.69	116.30	116.78	118.28	119.92	120.55	120.79	120.85	120.68	120.55
Alfalfa (calendar year)	131.17	130.90	124.49	123.69	125.01	126.93	128.19	128.67	128.83	128.74	128.55

U.S. Soybeans and Soybean Products

Acreage shifts from soybeans to corn resulted in a large reduction in 2007 soybean production. With little change in 2007/08 soybean use, stocks have declined sharply and prices have increased.

Projected production increases in 2008. Supply and use are in closer balance, but stocks remain low and prices high by historical standards.

In response to strong domestic and global demand for vegetable oil and protein meal, soybean crush expands steadily over the next 10 years.

Projected soybean prices are high enough to encourage increased production in South America, reducing future U.S. soybean exports.

Higher soybean prices dramatically increased producer returns in 2007/08. The large increase in soybean prices and net returns makes soybeans more competitive with corn and other crops. This contributes to the projected increase in soybean acreage in 2008.

Rising use of soybean oil to produce biodiesel has resulted in higher soybean oil prices. These higher prices have slowed other domestic soybean oil consumption and reduced U.S. soybean oil exports.

Once projected growth in U.S. biodiesel production slows, strong global demand for vegetable oil results in renewed growth in U.S. soybean oil exports.

Soybean meal domestic use increases throughout the baseline in response to growth in poultry and livestock production and declining soybean meal prices.

U.S. soybean meal exports increase in response to lower prices and strong foreign demand for protein.

Increased biofuel production affects relative soybean meal and oil prices. Oil prices are strengthened by production of biodiesel. Meal prices are weakened by the resulting increase in crush.

Meal has accounted for most of the value in a bushel of soybeans. The oil share increases and actually exceeds the meal share by 2010/11. Projected crushing margins are relatively stable over the next decade.

U.S. Soybean Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Area	(Million Acres)										
Base Area	52.0	52.0	52.1	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2	52.2
Planted Area	63.6	69.5	72.9	70.3	72.1	70.9	71.0	70.4	70.8	70.5	71.1
Harvested Area	62.8	68.5	71.9	69.3	71.1	69.9	70.0	69.5	69.8	69.6	70.2
Yield	(Bushels per Acre)										
Actual	41.2	42.5	42.9	43.4	43.8	44.3	44.7	45.1	45.6	46.0	46.5
Program, Direct	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8	30.8
Program, CCP	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1	34.1
Supply	(Million Bushels)										
Beginning Stocks	3,165	3,114	3,284	3,236	3,334	3,322	3,353	3,359	3,403	3,425	3,481
Production	574	195	195	223	210	221	217	219	215	217	213
Imports	2,585	2,913	3,082	3,006	3,118	3,095	3,130	3,134	3,183	3,201	3,262
	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Domestic Use	1,975	2,037	2,142	2,174	2,226	2,251	2,282	2,310	2,347	2,383	2,426
Crush	1,815	1,868	1,968	1,997	2,046	2,070	2,099	2,125	2,159	2,191	2,231
Seed, Residual	160	169	174	177	180	181	183	185	188	191	195
Exports	995	882	918	852	886	854	852	835	839	829	838
Total Use	2,970	2,919	3,060	3,026	3,113	3,105	3,134	3,144	3,186	3,212	3,263
Ending Stocks	195	195	223	210	221	217	219	215	217	213	218
CCC Inventory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under Loan	9	9	11	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	10
Other Stocks	186	187	213	199	210	207	209	205	208	204	209
Prices and Returns	(U.S. Dollars)										
Farm Price/bu	10.30	10.43	9.84	9.99	9.88	10.03	10.12	10.23	10.23	10.29	10.20
Illinois Processor Price/bu	10.63	10.75	10.17	10.32	10.21	10.36	10.45	10.56	10.55	10.61	10.53
Loan Rate/bu	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Average LDP Rate/bu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Target Price/bu	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80	5.80
CCP Rate/bu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Direct Payment/bu	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Gross Market Revenue/a	424.02	443.61	421.95	433.07	432.91	444.20	452.19	461.61	466.00	473.48	474.05
LDP Revenue/a	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Variable Expenses/a	107.83	113.30	114.80	116.35	118.26	119.93	121.32	123.62	126.23	128.87	131.49
Mkt+LDP Net Returns/a	316.19	330.31	307.15	316.73	314.65	324.27	330.87	337.99	339.77	344.60	342.55
CCP Revenue/Base a	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Direct Payment/Base a	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52	11.52
Bean/Corn Ratio	2.60	2.68	2.54	2.66	2.60	2.61	2.58	2.61	2.59	2.64	2.61
48% Meal Price/ton	292.57	276.15	245.67	233.21	226.41	226.27	224.24	222.48	217.96	213.59	206.22
Oil Price/cwt	44.95	46.19	49.55	52.69	54.01	54.91	56.11	57.34	58.58	60.26	61.51
Crushing Margin/bu	1.47	1.10	1.33	1.25	1.34	1.29	1.30	1.29	1.33	1.35	1.41

U.S. Soybean Meal Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Thousand Tons)										
Supply	43,756	44,968	47,375	48,088	49,257	49,831	50,525	51,130	51,948	52,726	53,665
Beginning Stocks	351	306	320	339	348	352	353	354	356	360	363
Production	43,241	44,497	46,891	47,584	48,745	49,314	50,007	50,611	51,427	52,201	53,137
Imports	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165	165
Domestic Use	35,083	35,767	36,995	37,678	38,577	39,056	39,575	40,035	40,572	41,116	41,766
Exports	8,368	8,882	10,041	10,063	10,328	10,422	10,596	10,739	11,016	11,247	11,531
Total Use	43,450	44,649	47,036	47,741	48,905	49,478	50,171	50,774	51,589	52,363	53,297
Ending Stocks	306	320	339	348	352	353	354	356	360	363	368
	(U.S. Dollars per Ton)										
Prices, 48% Protein											
Decatur	292.57	276.15	245.67	233.21	226.41	226.27	224.24	222.48	217.96	213.59	206.22

U.S. Soybean Oil Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	23,655	23,621	24,219	24,359	24,803	25,011	25,314	25,537	25,893	26,224	26,624
Beginning Stocks	2,904	2,269	1,720	1,528	1,416	1,351	1,322	1,255	1,220	1,180	1,132
Production	20,713	21,315	22,462	22,794	23,350	23,623	23,955	24,244	24,635	25,006	25,454
Imports	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
Domestic Use	19,758	19,522	21,157	21,871	22,857	23,241	23,265	23,381	23,551	23,673	23,853
Food Use	15,920	15,817	15,679	15,529	15,582	15,686	15,760	15,849	15,947	16,010	16,128
Biodiesel Use	3,838	3,705	5,478	6,342	7,274	7,555	7,505	7,532	7,604	7,663	7,725
Exports	1,629	2,379	1,534	1,073	596	448	794	936	1,161	1,418	1,679
Total Use	21,387	21,901	22,692	22,944	23,453	23,689	24,058	24,317	24,712	25,092	25,533
Ending Stocks	2,269	1,720	1,528	1,416	1,351	1,322	1,255	1,220	1,180	1,132	1,091
	(U.S. Cents per Pound)										
Prices											
Decatur	44.95	46.19	49.55	52.69	54.01	54.91	56.11	57.34	58.58	60.26	61.51

U.S. Biodiesel

Biodiesel production capacity is expanding rapidly, but capacity utilization rates have been low.

In spite of rising soybean oil prices, biodiesel production increases to meet the EISA use mandate and to satisfy demand from Europe.

These projections assume that authority to waive the EISA biodiesel mandate is not utilized. Thus, enough biodiesel is produced to satisfy the billion-gallon biodiesel mandate for 2012. No growth in the biodiesel use mandate is assumed for years after 2012.

Biodiesel typically has sold at a premium to regular #2 diesel, in part because of a \$1.00-per-gallon tax credit. To satisfy the EISA biodiesel mandate, producers must be paid enough to generate the required supplies, further supporting the biodiesel price.

Rising vegetable oil prices mean the biodiesel price must increase over time. Part of the cost of rising biodiesel prices would be passed along to final consumers of diesel fuel.

Rising vegetable oil prices mean average biodiesel plant returns over operating costs may be narrow or even negative in 2007/08.

Over the next 10 years, projected returns are just enough to generate the required levels of supply but leave much capacity underutilized.

U.S. Biodiesel Sector

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Biodiesel Supply and Use											
	(Million Gallons, Oct.-Sep. Year)										
Production	592	578	819	940	1,071	1,110	1,103	1,107	1,117	1,125	1,133
From Soybean Oil	498	481	711	824	945	981	975	978	988	995	1,003
From Other Fats and Oils	93	96	108	116	127	129	128	129	129	130	130
Net Exports	188	239	225	190	138	110	103	107	117	125	133
Domestic Use	404	339	595	750	933	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fuel Prices*											
	(Dollars per Gallon, Oct.-Sept. Year)										
Biodiesel Rack	3.84	3.85	4.27	4.58	4.76	4.86	4.95	5.06	5.17	5.33	5.47
#2 Diesel, Refiner Sales	2.44	2.42	2.25	2.20	2.18	2.15	2.14	2.14	2.15	2.15	2.15
#2 Diesel, Retail	3.14	3.13	2.97	2.93	2.92	2.90	2.90	2.90	2.91	2.92	2.93
Tax Credit, Virgin Oil	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Tax Credit, Other Feedstocks	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Costs and Returns											
	(Dollars per Gallon, Oct.-Sep. Year)										
Biodiesel Value	3.84	3.85	4.27	4.58	4.76	4.86	4.95	5.06	5.17	5.33	5.47
Glycerin Value	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Soy Oil Cost	-3.46	-3.56	-3.81	-4.06	-4.16	-4.23	-4.32	-4.41	-4.51	-4.64	-4.74
Other Operating Costs	-0.54	-0.55	-0.55	-0.56	-0.56	-0.57	-0.57	-0.58	-0.58	-0.59	-0.60
Net Operating Return	-0.12	-0.21	-0.05	0.02	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.19

U.S. Vegetable Oil Consumption

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
(Pounds)											
Per capita consumption	71.24	70.31	69.77	69.04	68.93	68.91	68.81	68.69	68.59	68.35	68.23
Soy Oil (Exc. Biodiesel)	52.11	51.32	50.44	49.53	49.28	49.19	49.01	48.87	48.77	48.56	48.52
Corn Oil	7.22	7.18	7.38	7.46	7.39	7.51	7.65	7.72	7.77	7.79	7.77
Canola Oil (Exc. Biodiesel)	6.69	7.12	6.88	6.98	7.20	7.18	7.17	7.16	7.13	7.09	7.06
Cottonseed Oil	2.37	1.77	2.06	1.97	1.93	1.88	1.83	1.77	1.75	1.72	1.69
Sunflower Oil	1.87	1.98	2.05	2.10	2.13	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.14	2.15	2.15
Peanut Oil	0.98	0.93	0.96	0.99	1.00	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.03	1.03	1.04

U.S. Sunflower Seed and Sunflower Seed Products

Sunflower seed prices have increased sharply in 2007/08 in response to strong global demand for vegetable oil.

U.S. sunflower seed production increased in 2007 relative to the previous year but remained far below the 2005 level. Use is also expected to increase in 2007/08, and stocks remain tight.

Sunflower seed returns per acre increased sharply in 2007/08 because of higher prices and yields. Returns remain well above recent average levels and levels that would generate marketing loan benefits over the next 10 years.

As a result of high producer returns, projected sunflower seed planted area remains above two million acres over the next 10 years. Sunflower seed acreage does not increase more because of strong competition from other crops.

Demand for both sunflower oil and sunflower meal is very strong in 2007/08, leading to sharply higher prices for both commodities. Over the baseline, continued strength in vegetable oil demand leads to rising sunflower oil prices, while sunflower meal prices generally decline over time.

U.S. Sunflower Meal Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Thousand Tons)										
Supply	380	380	379	388	399	407	419	430	443	456	471
Beginning Stocks	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Production	375	375	374	383	394	402	414	425	438	451	466
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use	369	370	369	377	389	397	409	420	432	445	460
Exports	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Total Use	375	375	374	383	394	402	414	425	438	451	466
Ending Stocks	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	(U.S. Dollars per Ton)										
Price											
28% Protein, Minnesota	165.00	149.25	135.53	129.92	126.86	126.80	125.89	125.09	123.06	121.09	117.78

U.S. Sunflower Oil Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	769	780	776	790	808	825	845	862	883	905	932
Beginning Stocks	60	68	67	65	64	66	65	63	62	62	61
Production	659	660	658	674	693	708	729	749	771	793	820
Imports	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Domestic Use	571	609	638	659	675	681	689	695	700	709	715
Exports	130	104	73	66	68	78	93	105	121	136	155
Total Use	701	713	711	725	743	760	782	800	822	844	870
Ending Stocks	68	67	65	64	66	65	63	62	62	61	61
	(U.S. Cents per Pound)										
Price											
Average Crude, Minnesota	82.00	79.91	81.70	83.57	84.14	85.32	86.74	88.33	90.01	91.85	93.47

U.S. Canola Seed and Canola Seed Products

Canola prices increase sharply in 2007/08 in response to strong global demand for vegetable oil.

Growth in U.S. and European biodiesel production, strong food demand in China and India, and a variety of other factors keep canola prices high over the next 10 years.

Canola returns remain well above recent average levels over the next 10 years. Increased receipts come from market returns, as price levels make producers ineligible for marketing loan benefits.

Strong canola prices and returns result in increases in canola acreage over the next 10 years. However, only in 2016 does projected U.S. canola area exceed the 2000 level.

While plants have been built to use canola oil as a feedstock in biodiesel production, projected canola oil prices are sufficiently high that relatively little U.S. canola oil is likely to be used for biodiesel production.

As with other oilseeds, both canola oil and canola meal prices have increased in 2007/08. Projected canola oil prices increase over the baseline because of strong global demand for vegetable oil, while canola meal prices moderate.

U.S. Canola Meal Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Thousand Tons)										
Supply	2,440	2,288	2,272	2,375	2,419	2,448	2,486	2,535	2,585	2,650	2,720
Beginning Stocks	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Production	668	735	757	799	818	822	837	851	866	882	901
Imports	1,766	1,546	1,508	1,570	1,595	1,620	1,643	1,678	1,713	1,762	1,813
Domestic Use	2,367	2,216	2,199	2,303	2,347	2,376	2,414	2,463	2,513	2,578	2,648
Exports	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
Total Use	2,434	2,282	2,266	2,369	2,413	2,442	2,480	2,529	2,579	2,644	2,714
Ending Stocks	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
	(U.S. Dollars per Ton)										
Market Price	220.00	226.17	211.03	193.02	188.92	188.01	184.30	180.03	173.77	166.76	157.30

U.S. Canola Oil Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	2,771	2,961	2,896	2,953	3,076	3,088	3,092	3,095	3,094	3,086	3,083
Beginning Stocks	163	121	135	128	122	126	124	117	109	100	90
Production	846	932	960	1,012	1,037	1,042	1,060	1,078	1,098	1,118	1,142
Imports	1,761	1,908	1,801	1,813	1,917	1,920	1,908	1,901	1,888	1,868	1,851
Domestic Use	2,083	2,259	2,201	2,264	2,384	2,398	2,409	2,420	2,427	2,430	2,437
Biodiesel Use	38	65	61	77	108	107	103	99	95	91	90
Food and Other	2,045	2,194	2,140	2,188	2,276	2,291	2,306	2,321	2,332	2,338	2,347
Exports	567	567	567	567	567	567	567	567	567	567	567
Total Use	2,649	2,826	2,767	2,831	2,950	2,964	2,975	2,987	2,994	2,997	3,004
Ending Stocks	121	135	128	122	126	124	117	109	100	90	80
	(U.S. Cents per Pound)										
Market Price	60.00	55.91	62.11	64.30	63.30	64.77	66.52	68.36	70.38	73.01	75.21

U.S. Peanuts and Peanut Products

Reduced peanut acreage in 2006 and 2007 resulted in production levels low enough to allow stock levels to decline. These lower stocks have contributed to an increase in peanut prices in 2007/08.

Peanut production and consumption stabilize at nearly four billion pounds over the next 10 years.

Domestic food use of peanuts increased significantly after policy reforms were enacted in the 2002 farm bill but has declined in 2006/07 and 2007/08. A modest projected increase in peanut food use can be attributed to population growth, as per capita consumption is flat or declining.

Peanut crush and exports can vary a great deal from year to year, but little growth is expected in either category.

The projected peanut price increase in 2007/08 significantly increases the per acre value of peanut production.

The increase in market prices results in lower countercyclical payments to producers with peanut base acreage. Increases in variable production expenses also offset part of the increase in peanut prices.

Projected peanut acreage increases in 2008 and 2009 but remains well below the levels of 2004 and 2005.

U.S. Peanut Meal Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	236	246	266	272	260	261	258	252	252	248	246
Beginning Stocks	7	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Production	229	242	262	268	255	256	253	248	247	243	242
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use	220	231	251	257	244	245	242	237	236	232	231
Exports	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Total Use	231	242	262	268	255	256	253	248	247	243	242
Ending Stocks	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	(U.S. Dollars per Ton)										
Price											
Southeast Mills, FOB	190.76	180.18	172.13	166.73	167.56	170.43	172.98	174.32	174.77	174.21	172.44

U.S. Peanut Oil Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	333	321	333	344	349	354	359	363	368	374	379
Beginning Stocks	22	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Production	172	168	182	187	178	178	176	173	172	169	168
Imports	139	128	126	133	148	152	158	167	172	181	186
Domestic Use	300	288	300	311	316	321	326	330	335	341	346
Exports	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Total Use	309	297	308	320	325	330	335	339	344	350	355
Ending Stocks	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
	(U.S. Cents per Pound)										
Price											
50% Southeast Mills	82.92	80.47	81.49	82.41	82.99	83.24	83.87	84.62	85.15	86.07	86.55

U.S. Upland Cotton and Cottonseed Products

Upland cotton production declined in 2007, as a large reduction in acreage more than offset the effects of record yields. A further decline in cotton area and production is expected for 2008.

Stocks exceeded nine million bales at the end of the 2006/07 marketing year. Reduced production allows stocks to return to more normal levels in 2008/09.

Projected mill use continues to decline. U.S. upland cotton exports far exceed domestic mill use as demand becomes increasingly export dependent.

Changes in Chinese cotton purchasing patterns have contributed to large annual swings in U.S. cotton exports. Average projected exports are flat after 2009/10, but significant annual variation can be expected.

Higher cotton prices and yields have increased market receipts per acre in 2007/08. The increase in market receipts is partially offset by reduced marketing loan benefits and higher production costs. Producers with base acreage also receive reduced CCPs when prices rise.

Higher prices for all oilseeds and reduced cottonseed production contribute to an increase in cottonseed prices in 2007/08. Cottonseed oil prices have been especially strong, doubling between 2005/06 and 2007/08.

U.S. Cottonseed Meal Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Thousand Tons)										
Supply	1,282	939	1,153	1,149	1,154	1,131	1,113	1,084	1,081	1,077	1,068
Beginning Stocks	63	50	36	51	52	54	53	52	51	52	52
Production	1,219	888	1,117	1,098	1,102	1,077	1,060	1,032	1,029	1,026	1,016
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Use	1,147	817	1,018	1,012	1,016	993	976	948	944	940	930
Exports	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
Total Use	1,232	902	1,103	1,097	1,101	1,078	1,061	1,033	1,029	1,025	1,015
Ending Stocks	50	36	51	52	54	53	52	51	52	52	53
	(U.S. Dollars per Ton)										
Prices											
Memphis	218.66	223.63	188.91	178.95	172.75	173.40	172.17	171.60	167.63	163.90	157.77

U.S. Cottonseed Oil Supply and Utilization

	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
	(Million Pounds)										
Supply	946	697	851	841	840	822	809	788	785	781	773
Beginning Stocks	106	85	81	84	81	80	78	77	75	74	72
Production	839	612	769	756	759	742	730	710	709	706	700
Imports	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Domestic Use	726	546	639	619	612	599	589	574	571	566	560
Exports	136	70	128	142	149	145	143	139	140	142	141
Total Use	861	616	767	761	761	744	733	713	711	709	702
Ending Stocks	85	81	84	81	80	78	77	75	74	72	71
	(U.S. Cents per Pound)										
Prices											
Valley Points	60.59	56.30	59.30	62.52	63.85	64.86	66.16	67.51	68.83	70.60	71.93

U.S. Sugar

Sugarcane and sugar beet area both declined slightly in 2007, but rising sugarcane yields resulted in little net change in 2007 sugar production. Projected area declines in 2008 because of weak returns to sugar production and strong returns to competing crops.

Rising sugar imports continue to put downward pressure on sugar prices in 2007/08. Future import levels are an important source of uncertainty for the U.S. sugar sector. While imports under the TRQ for sugar are fairly predictable, it is much more difficult to estimate future sugar trade with Mexico.

This baseline assumes a moderate level of U.S. sugar imports from Mexico, so total U.S. sugar imports average about 2.3 million tons per year. Separate stochastic analysis looks at a range of possible outcomes for sugar trade, with important implications for sugar prices and farm program costs.

Per capita consumption of sugar and HFCS has been declining, and a further modest reduction is projected. Total domestic sugar deliveries increase slowly over the next 10 years, as the effect of a growing population more than offsets the small projected decline in per capita consumption.

Even small deviations from the projected trends in sugar and sweetener consumption could have significant impacts on the long-run outlook.

Projected average sugar prices consistently exceed the loan rate. However, in years with above-average imports or production or below-average use, prices could fall to levels that would trigger sugar loan forfeitures.

