

Materials to be discussed during  
the May 9, 2008 ANRE Wisline  
teleconference an  
"Open Discussion on Food and  
Fuel Issues"



United States  
Department  
of Agriculture

WRS-0801

May 2008



A Report from the Economic Research Service

[www.ers.usda.gov](http://www.ers.usda.gov)

# **Global Agricultural Supply and Demand: Factors Contributing to the Recent Increase in Food Commodity Prices**

**Ronald Trostle**

**Abstract**

**Figure 1**  
**Food commodity prices rose more than 60 percent in the last 2 years**

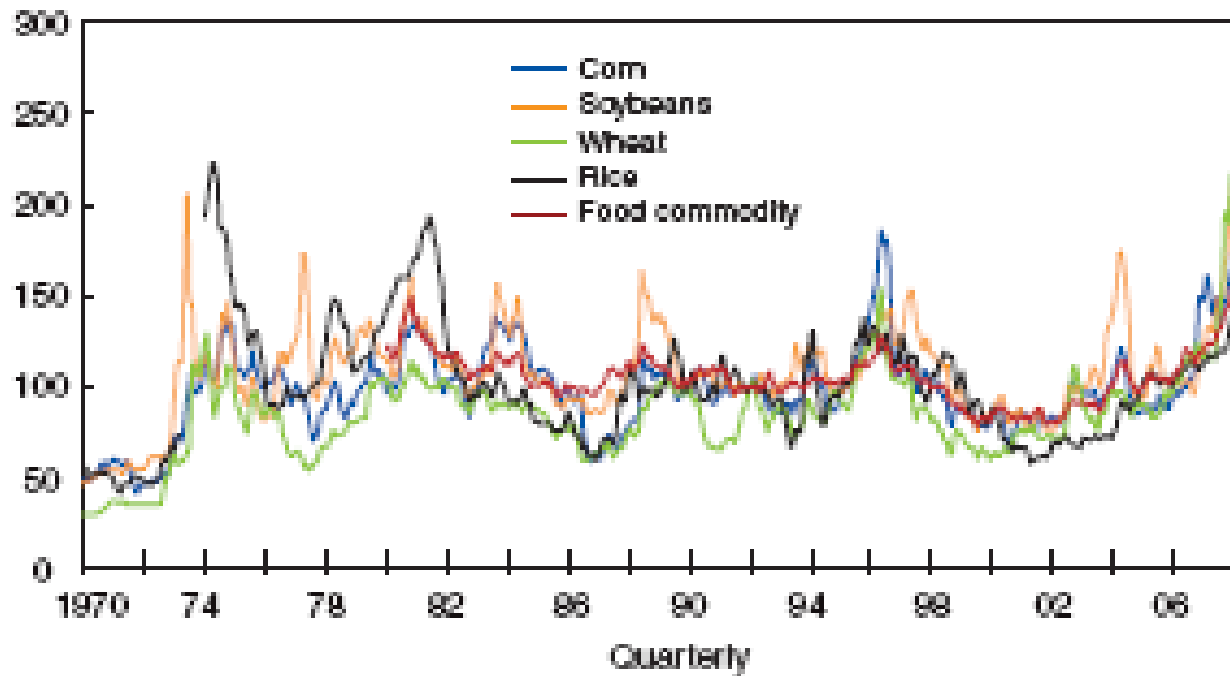
Index: January 1992 = 100



Source: International Monetary Fund: International Financial Statistics.

Figure 2  
Food commodity price spikes since 1970

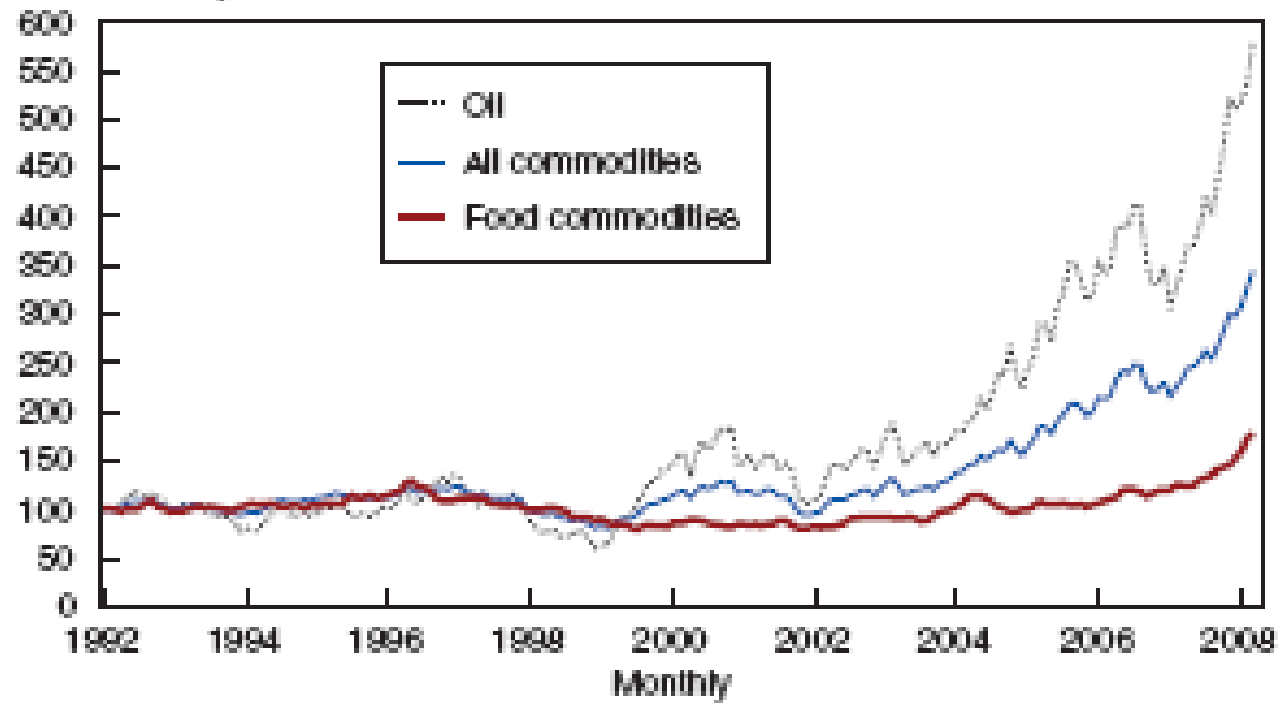
Index: January 1992 = 100



Source: International Monetary Fund: International Financial Statistics.

Figure 3  
Prices of many commodities rose

Index: January 1992 = 100

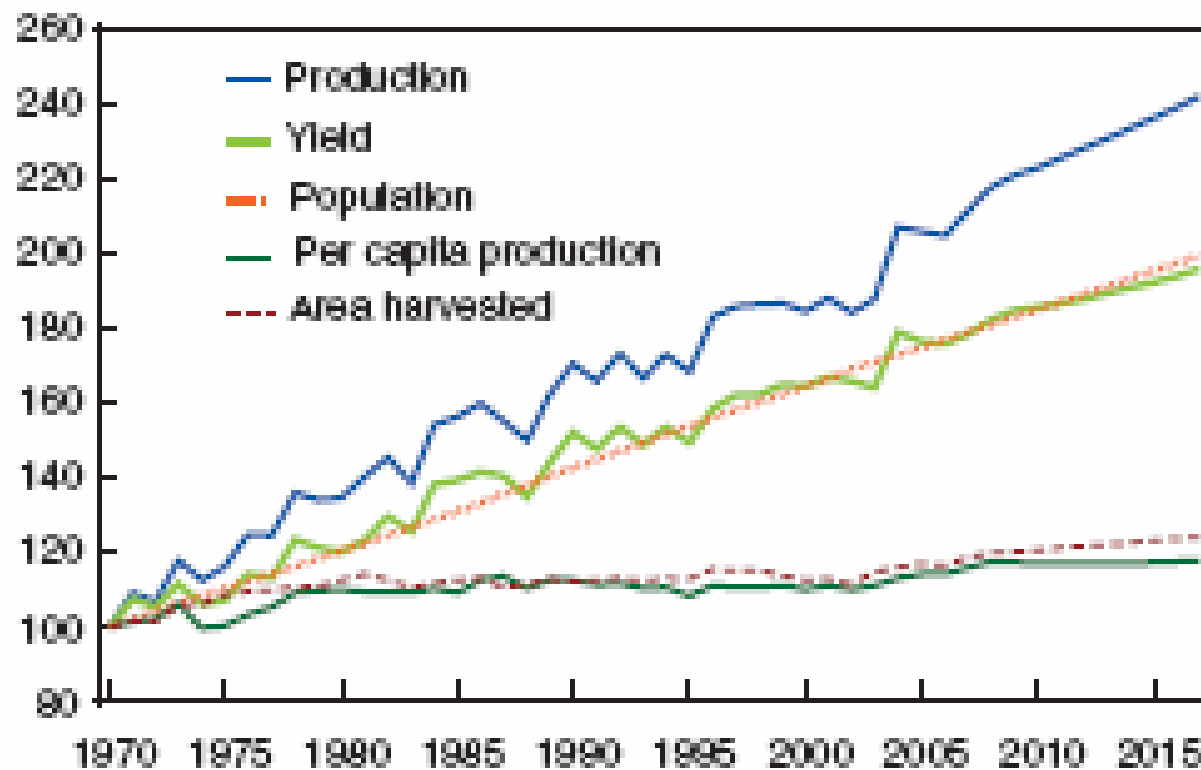


Source: International Monetary Fund: International Financial Statistics.

## Total world grain & oilseeds<sup>1</sup>

Production, yield, area harvested, population & per capita production

Index: 1970 = 100



<sup>1</sup>Total oilseeds = soybeans + rapeseed + sunflowers.

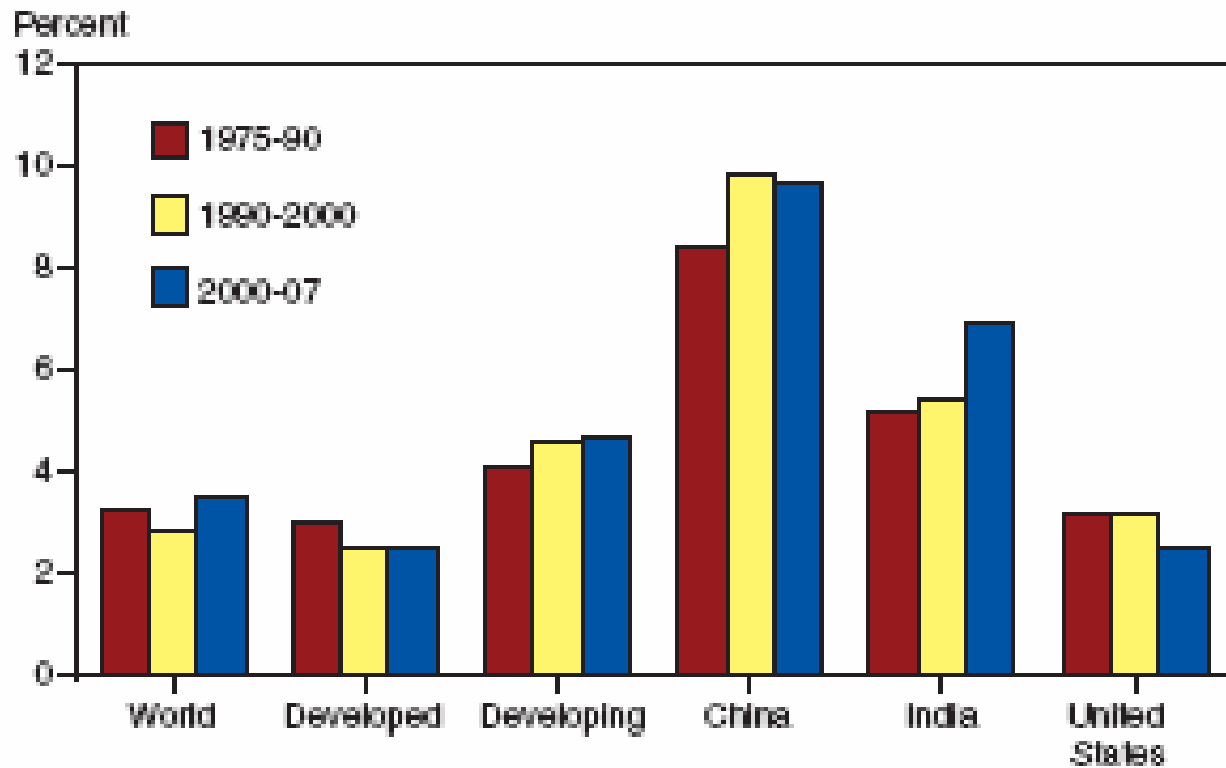
Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

## Total world grain & oilseeds<sup>1</sup>

*Production, yield, area harvested, population & per capita production*

Exponential trend growth rates:			
	1970-80	80-07	2008-17
Production	2.2	1.3	1.2
Yields	2.0	1.1	0.8
Area	0.15	0.14	0.39
Population	1.7	1.4	1.1
Per capita production	0.58	0.11	0.02

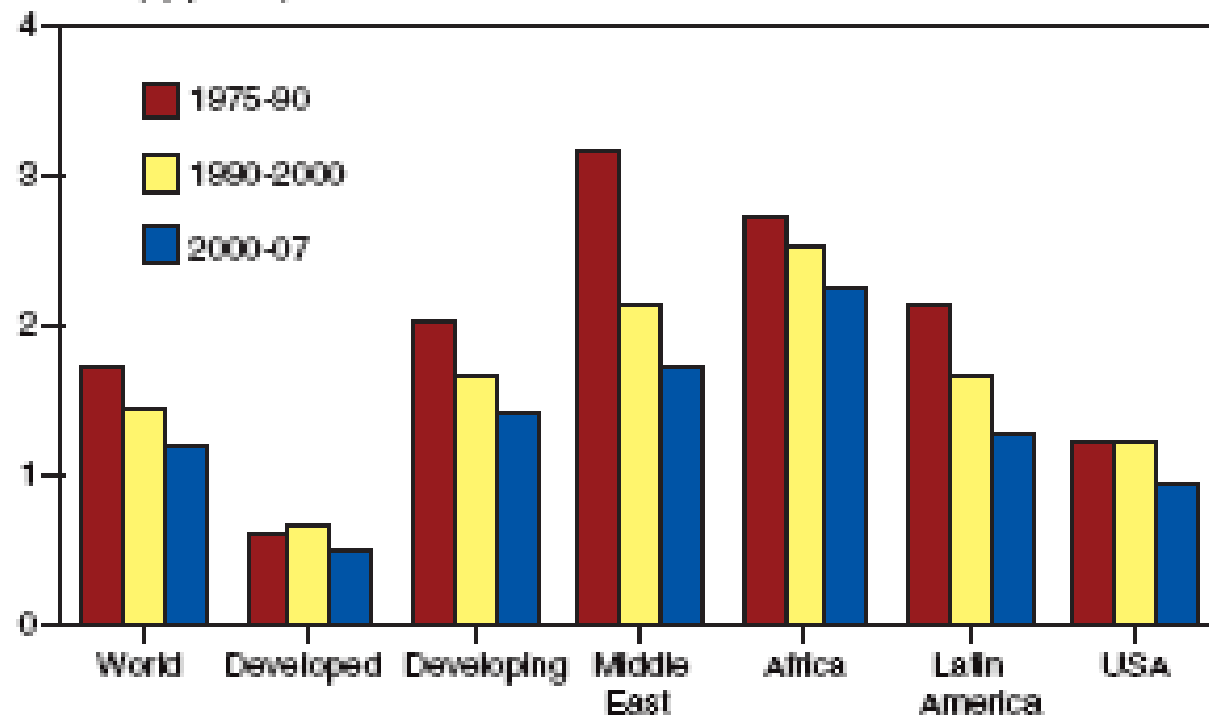
Figure 5  
Strong economic growth  
Average real GDP growth rates



Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

Figure 6  
Population growth rates decline  
But still high in developing countries

Percent (by period)



Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

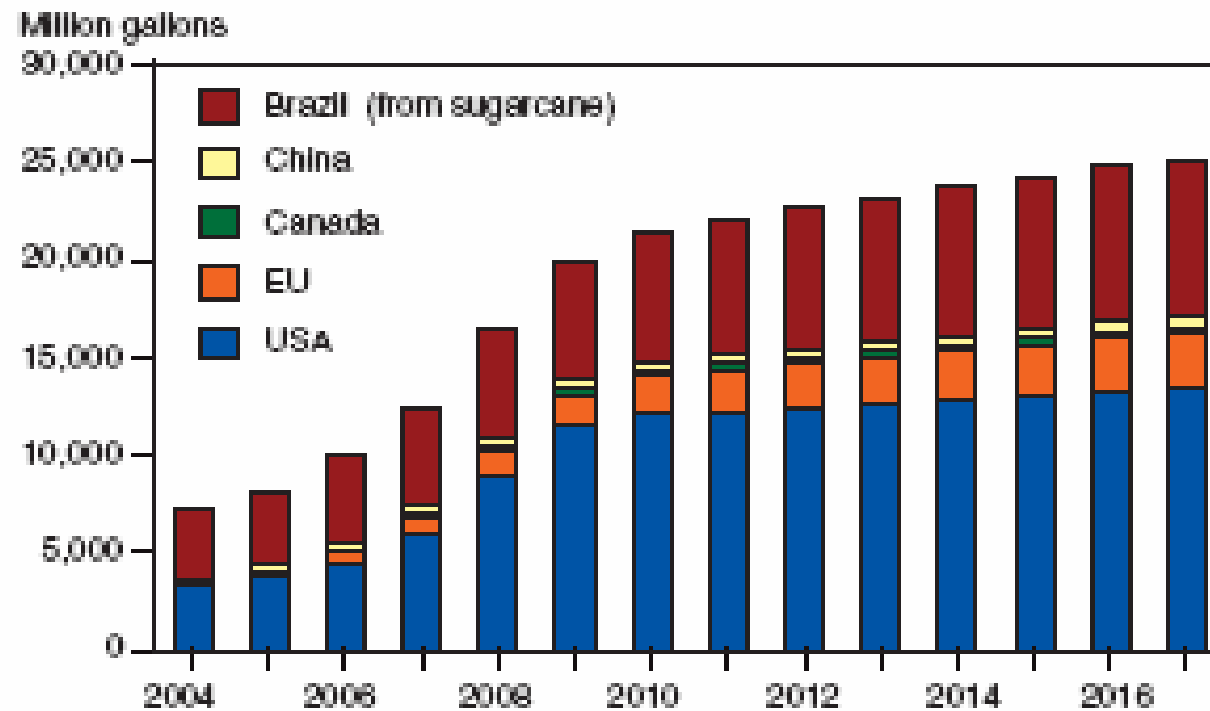
## Global meat<sup>1</sup>

*Production, per capita consumption, and population*

### Exponential trend growth rates:

	1975-80	80-07	2009-17
Production	2.2	2.5	2.1
Population	1.7	1.4	1.1
Per capita use	1.4	1.1	1.0

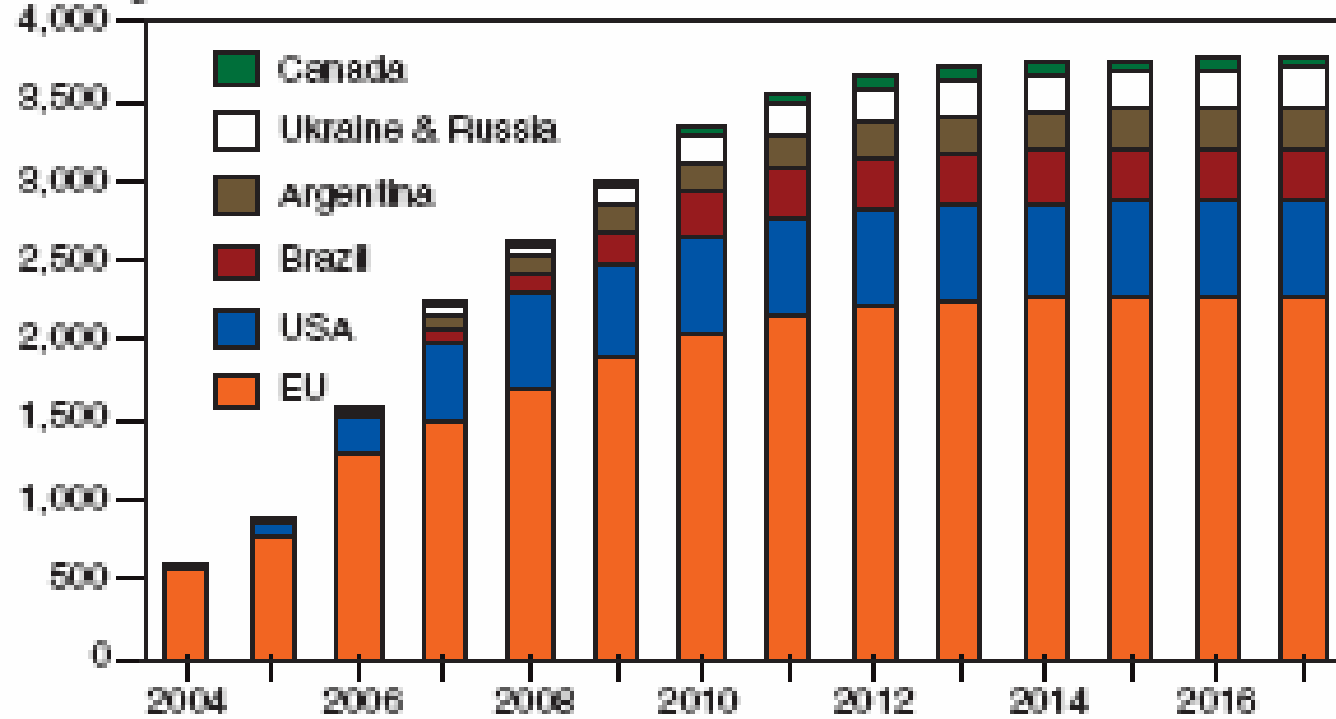
Figure 17  
Ethanol production  
*Mostly from grain feedstocks except for Brazil*



Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

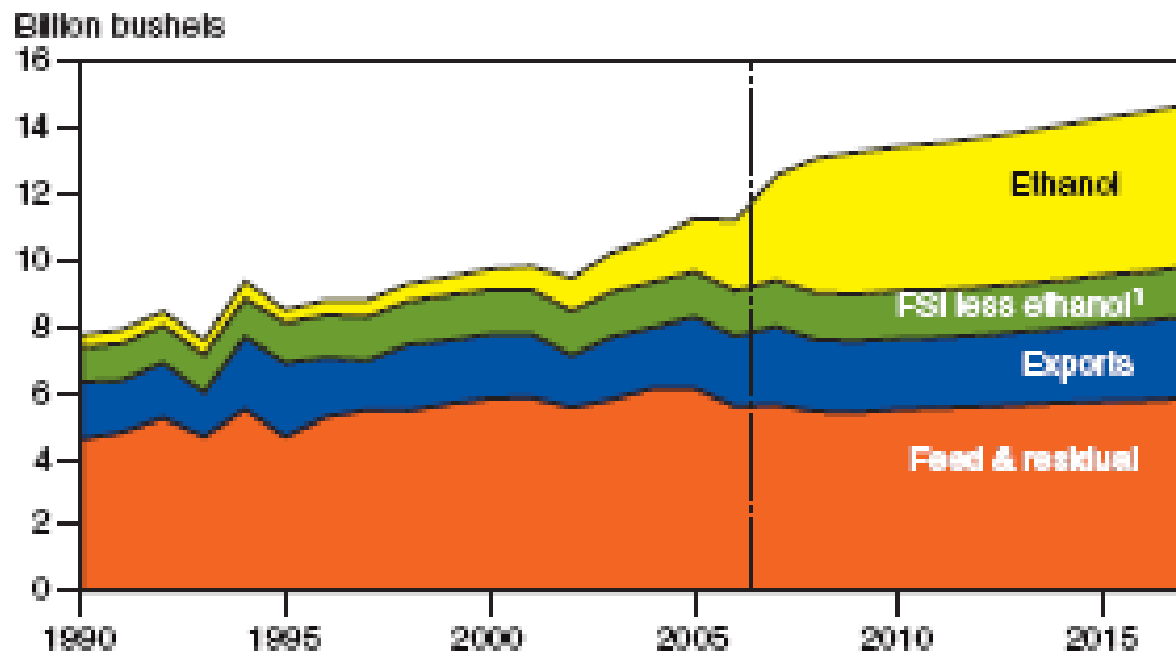
Figure 18  
Biodiesel production

Million gallons



Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

Figure 19  
U.S. corn use

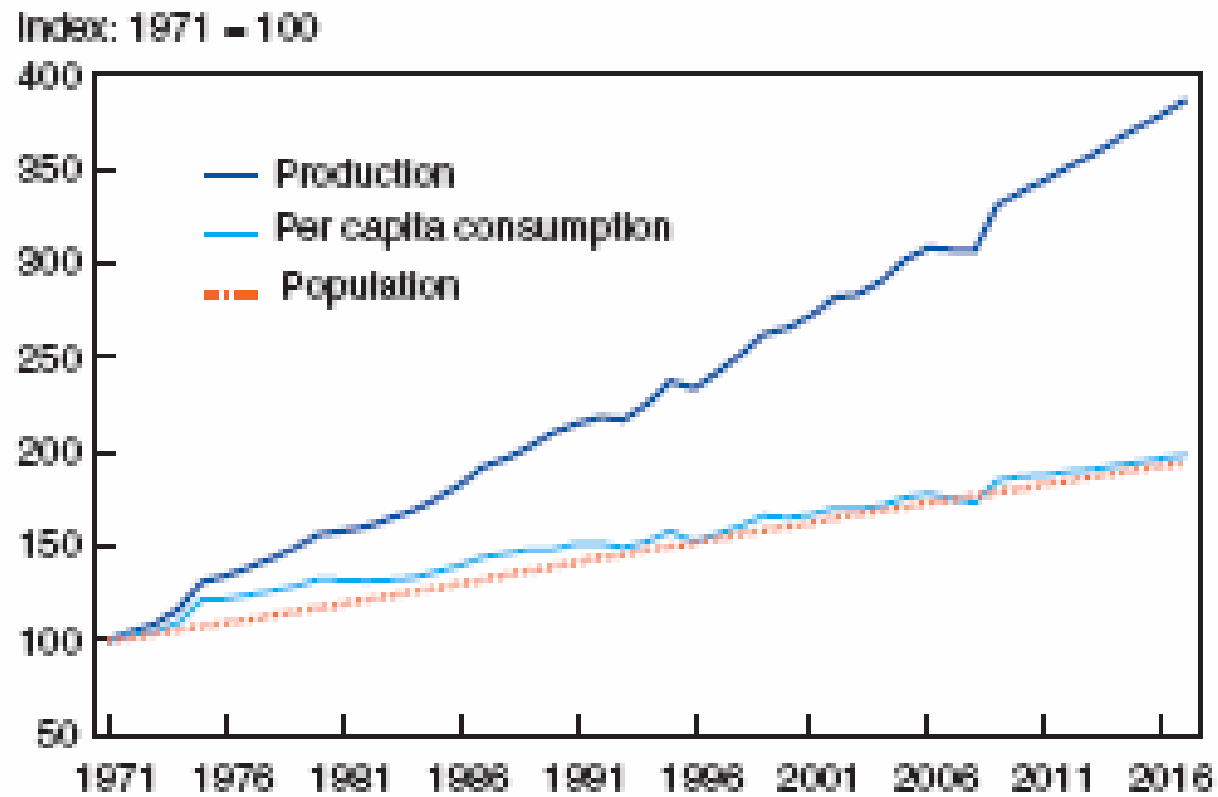


<sup>1</sup>Food, seed, and industrial less ethanol.

Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

# Global meat<sup>1</sup>

Production, per capita consumption, and population

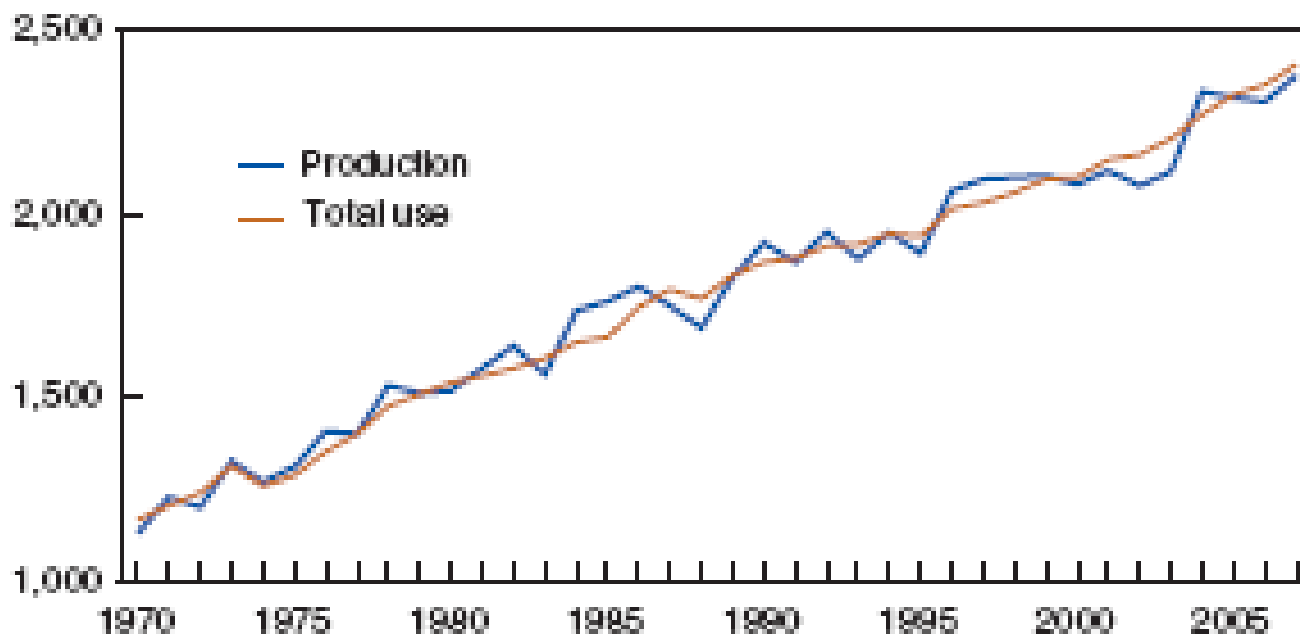


<sup>1</sup>Total meat = beef + pork + chickens & turkeys.

Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

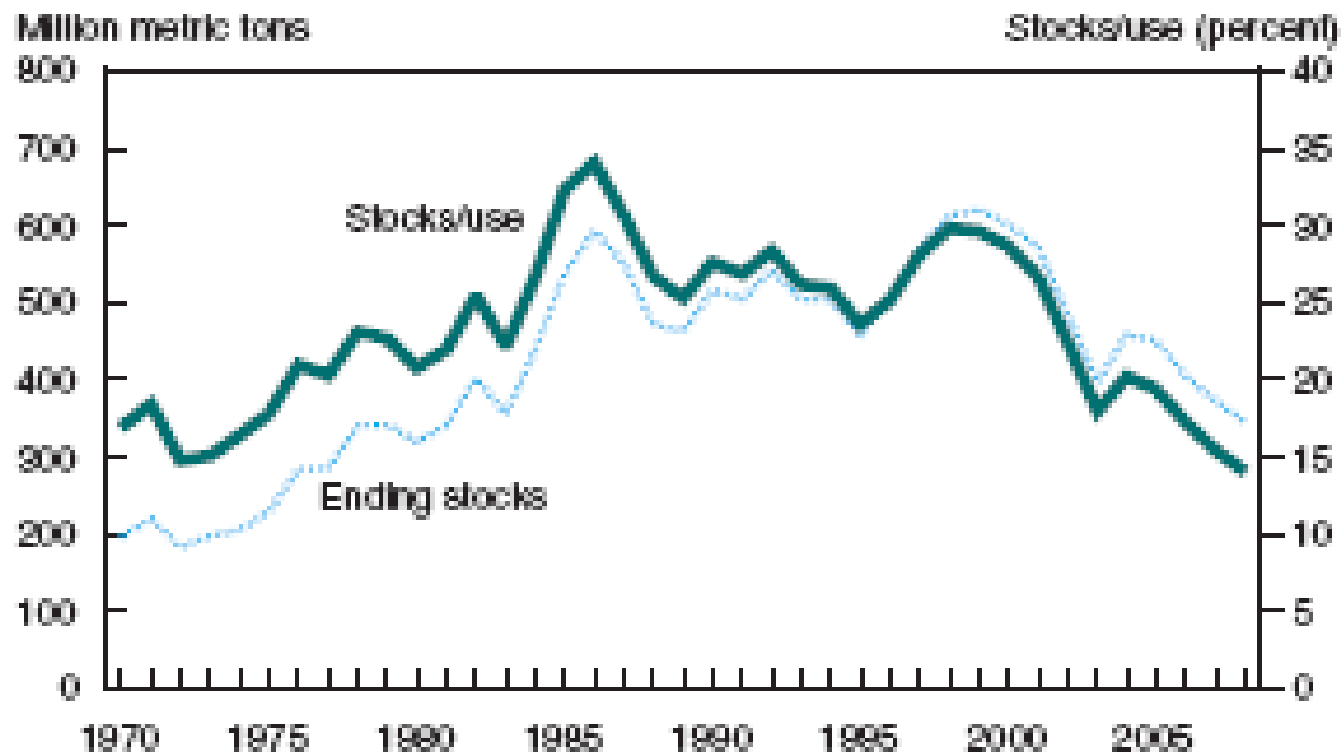
Figure 14  
Total world grain & oilseeds  
*Production and total use*

Million metric tons



Source: USDA PS&D Database.

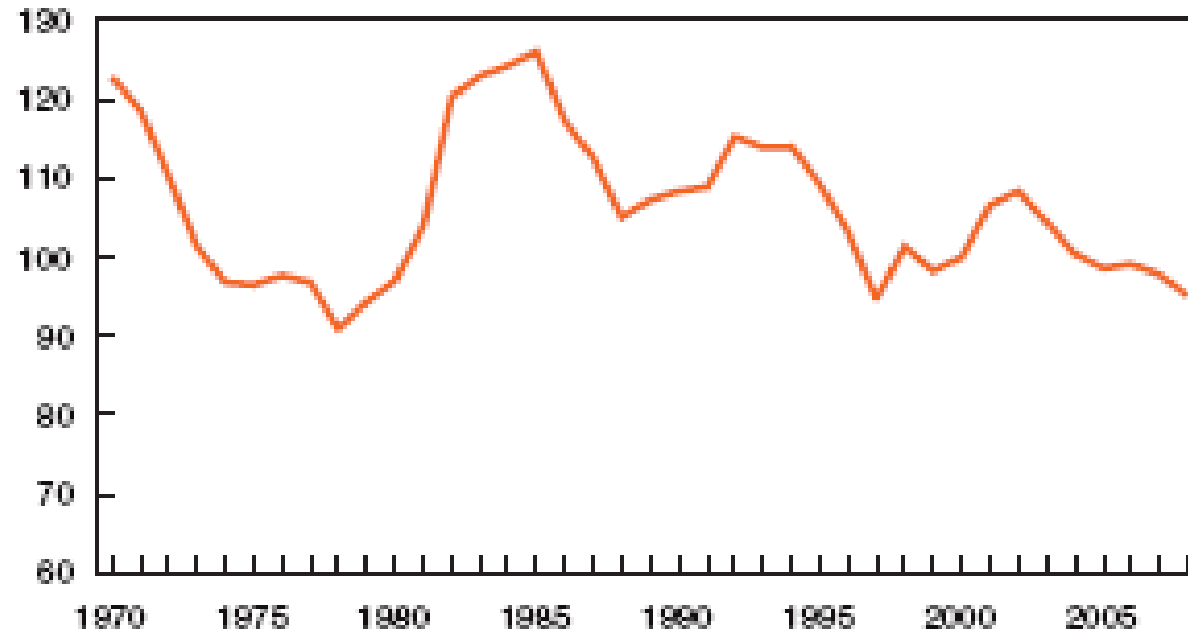
Figure 15  
Total world grain & oilseeds  
Stocks and stocks-to-use ratio



Source: USDA PS&D Database.

Figure 16  
Value of U.S. dollar declines after 2002<sup>1</sup>

Index values, 2000=100

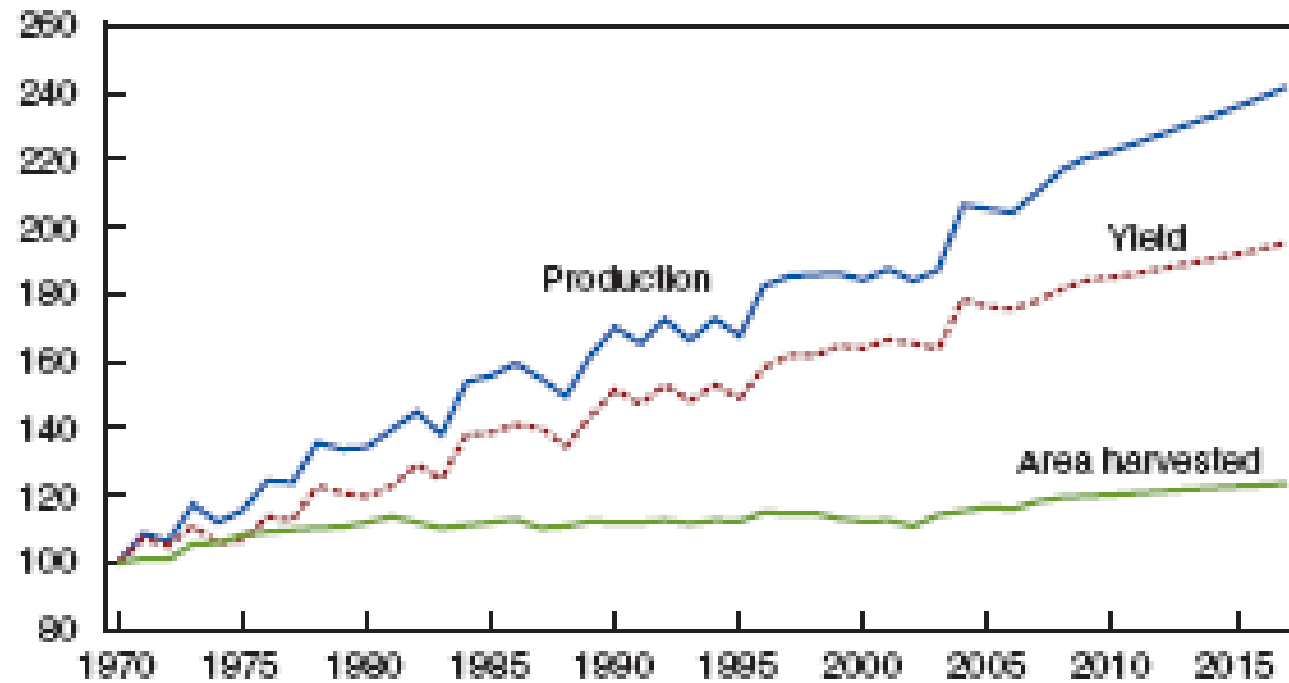


<sup>1</sup>Real U.S. agricultural trade-weighted dollar exchange rate, using U.S. agricultural export weights, based on 192 countries.

Source: ERS International Macroeconomics Dataset.

**Figure 23**  
**Total world grain and oilseeds<sup>1</sup>**  
*Production, yield, and area harvested*

Index: 1970=100



<sup>1</sup>Total oilseeds = soybeans + rapeseed + sunflowers.

Source: USDA Agricultural Projections to 2017.

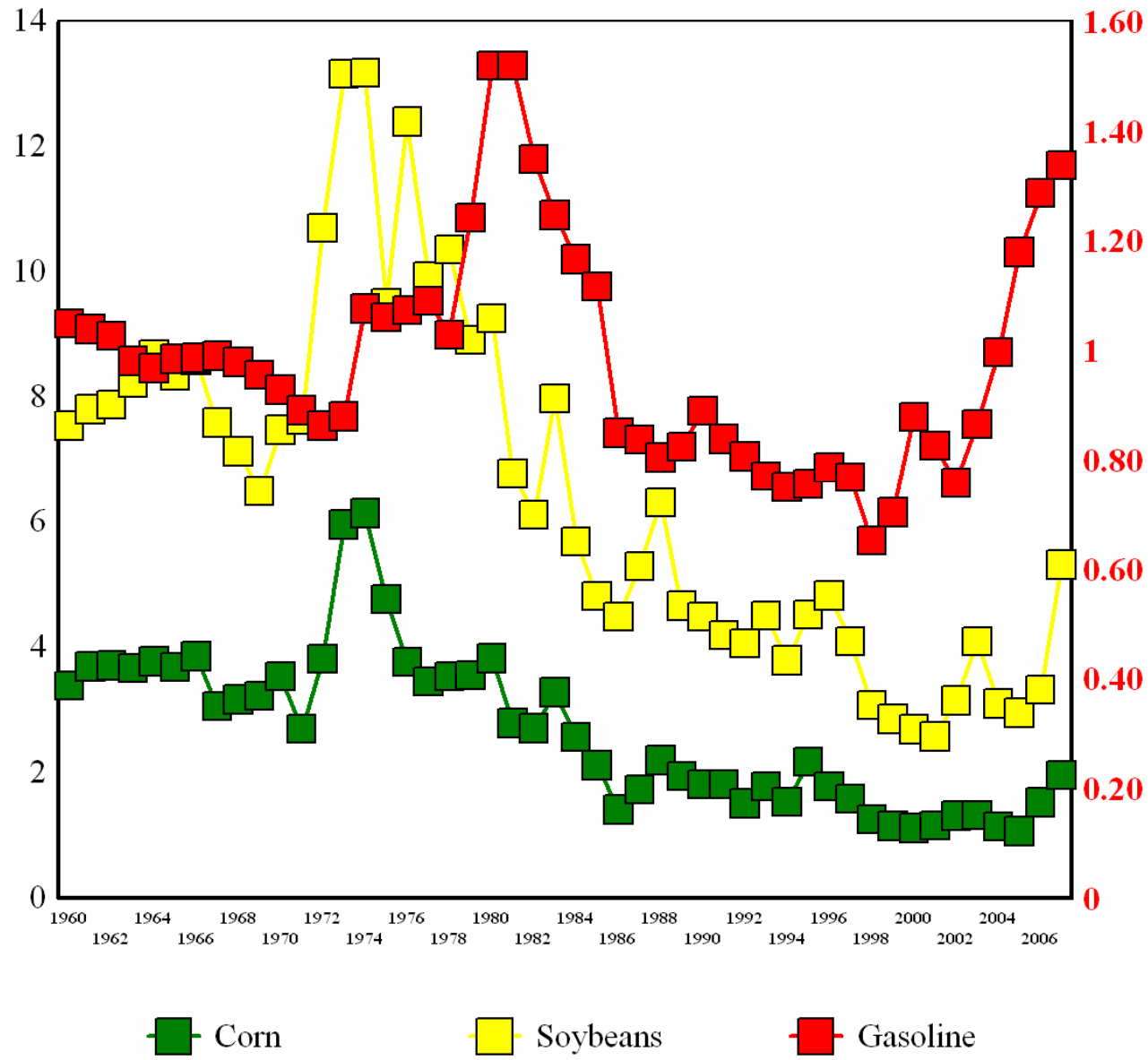
## Developments in 2007

In 2007, a number of adverse weather events affected yields across the globe, including:

- Northern Europe had a dry spring and harvest-time floods.
- Southeast Europe experienced a drought.
- Ukraine and Russia experienced a second year of drought.
- A large area of the U.S. hard red winter wheat area had a late, hard, multi-day freeze that killed some of the crop and reduced yields over large areas.
- Canada's summer growing season was hot and dry, resulting in lower yields for wheat, barley, and rapeseed.
- Northwest Africa experienced a drought in some of its major wheat- and barley-growing areas.
- Turkey had a drought that reduced yields in its nonirrigated production areas.
- Australia was in the third year of the worst multiyear drought in a century. Grain yields were very low and exports plummeted.
- Argentina had a late freeze followed by drought that reduced corn and barley yields.

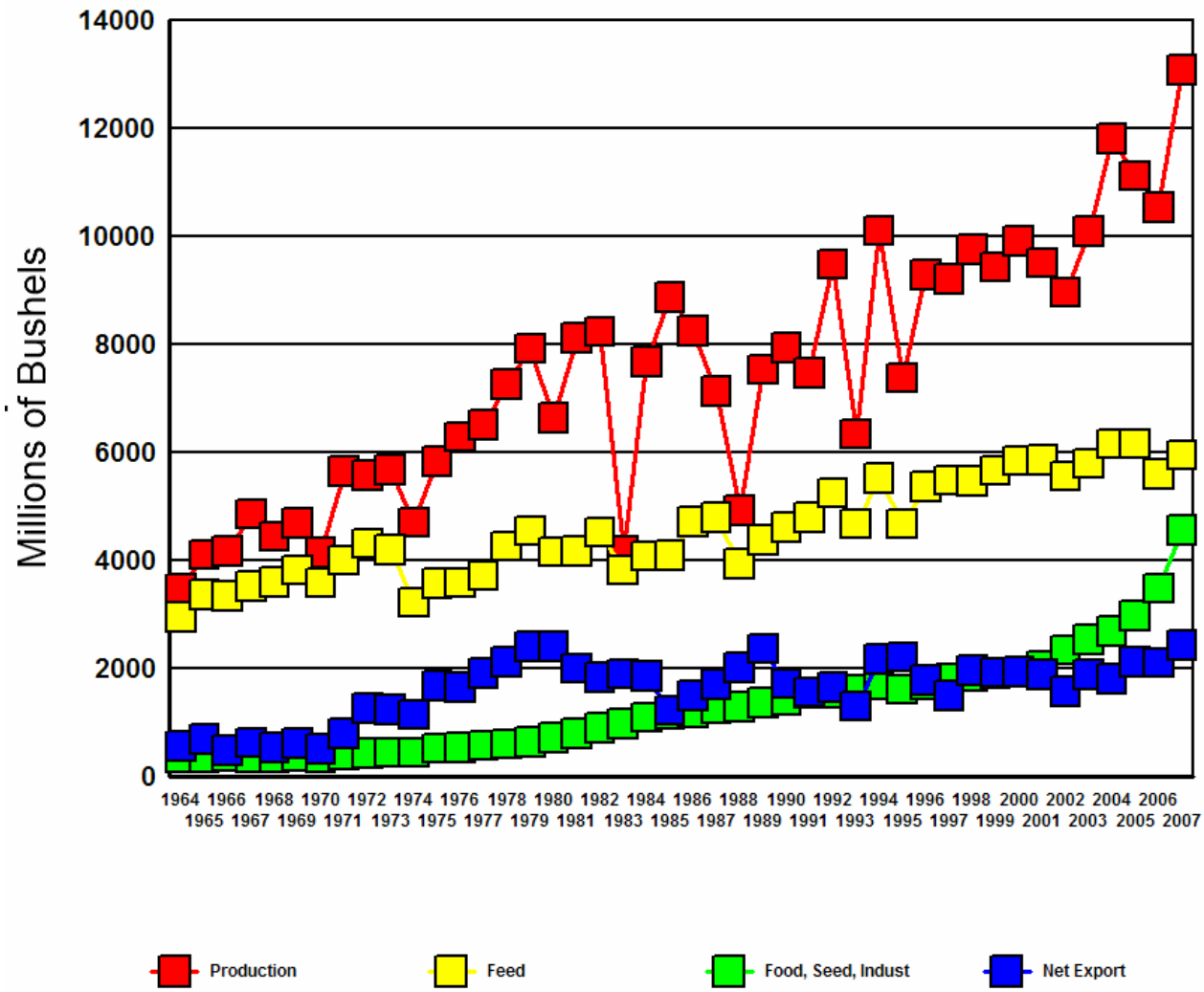
Supplemental Materials Pulled Together by B. L.  
Jones, UW-Madison Ag Econ and UWEX-CES

# Real Prices-- 1982-84 CPI



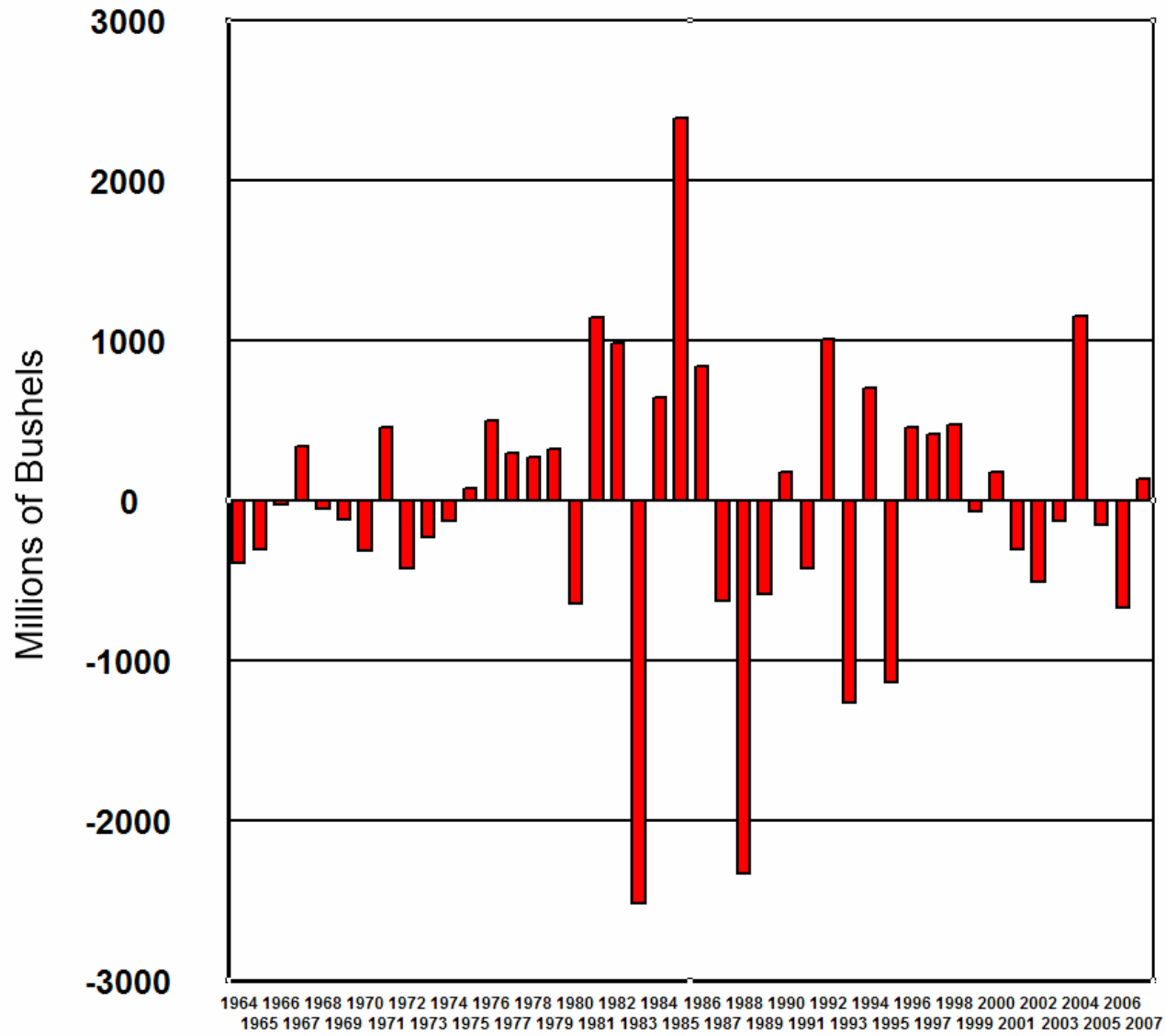
# US Corn Production and Usage

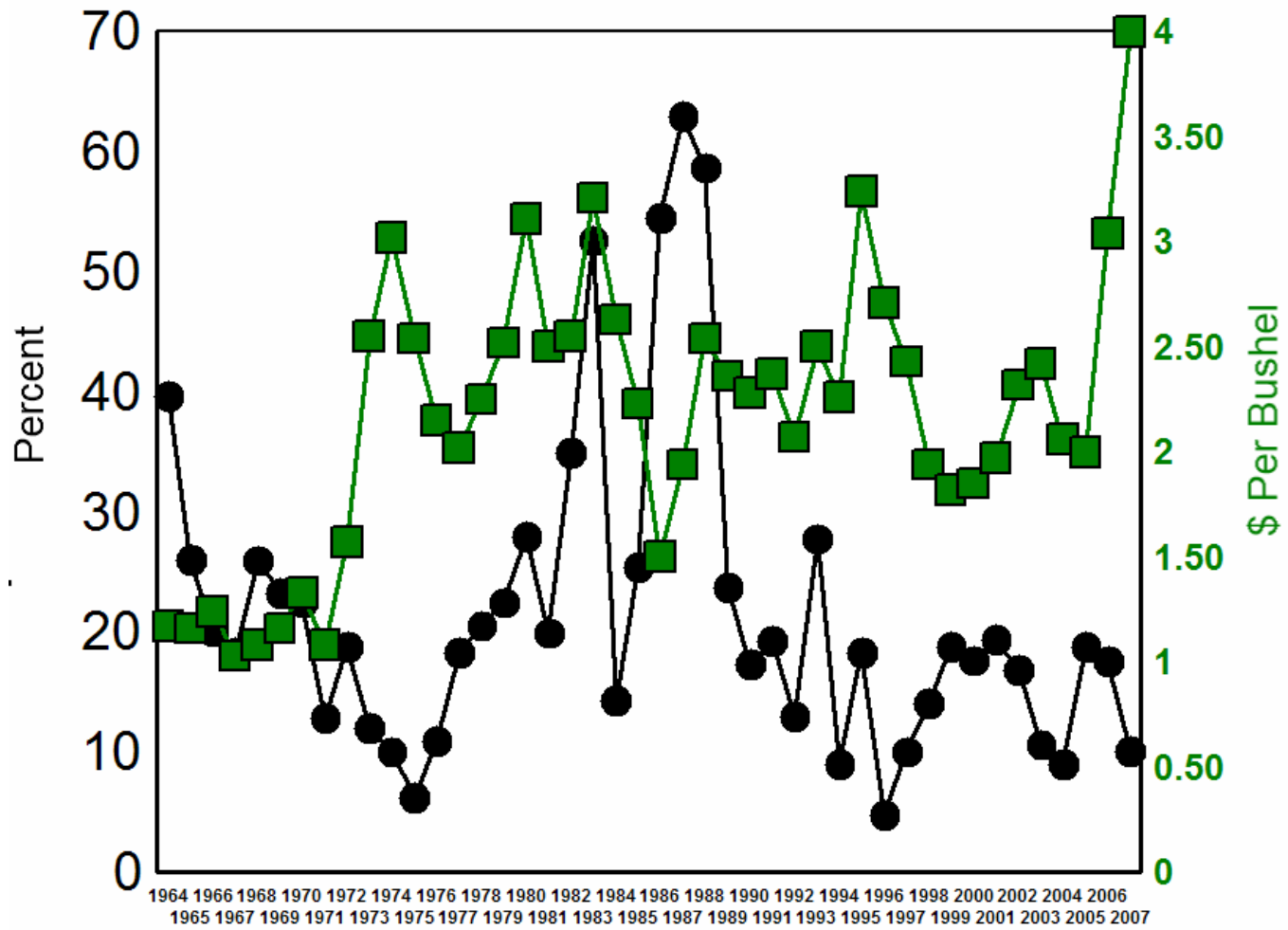
Agricultural Statistics, NASS-USDA



# Net Production of Corn

Total Production Less Total Usage





● Stocks % Usage

■ US Corn Price

# Corn Dry Milling Process Overview

What's in a bushel of corn?



1 Bushel of  
Corn

=



2.85 Gallons of  
Ethanol

+



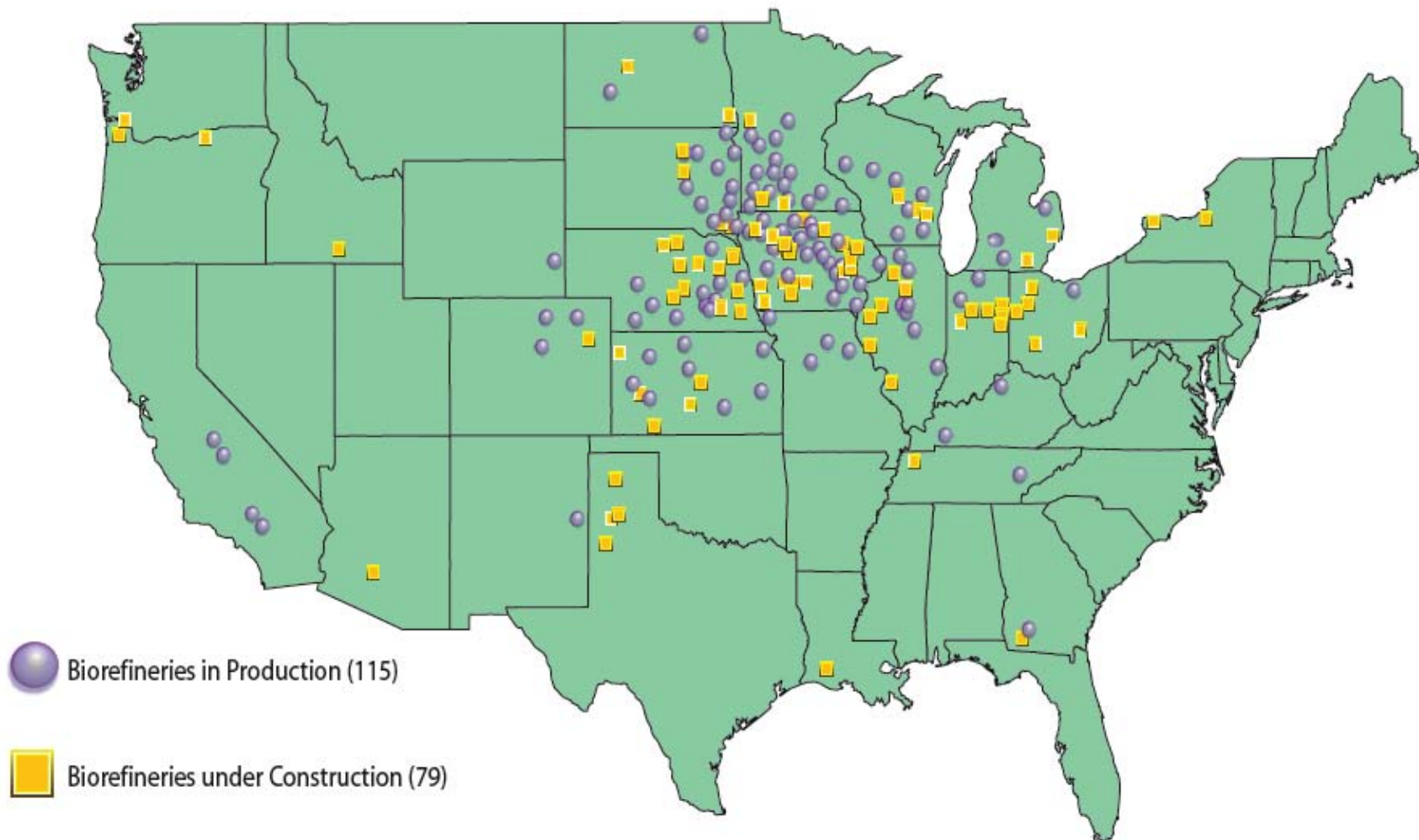
18 Pounds of  
DDGS

+



18 Pounds of  
CO<sub>2</sub>

# U.S. Ethanol Biorefinery Locations



Source: Renewable Fuels Association  
4.3.07

# US Gasoline Consumption

380 Million Gallons / Day --- 139 Billion Gallons / Year

Potential Ethanol Production From Corn (2006) :	Gal / Yr (Billion)	% Annual US Gasoline Consumption
Exports	6.39	4.6
Feed, Seed, Etc.	17.03	12.3
Food, Alcohol, Industrial	9.98	7.2
Total	33.4	24.1

# Ethanol Related Demands For Corn

Annual US Gasoline Consumption

@ 140 Billion Gallons (Source: Energy Information Administration)

Potential Use of Ethanol with 10% Blending

@ 14 Billion Gallons

Potential Demand For Corn

@ 4.9 Billion Bushels (Assuming 2.85 Gal. Ethanol per Bu. Corn)

Current Usage of Corn For Ethanol

@ 3.2 Billion Bushels (Source: USDA estimate)

# Ethanol Related Demands For Corn

-Continued-

Potential Use of Ethanol with 10% Blending  
@ 14 Billion Gallons/Yr

Current Refining Capacity On Line

@ 7.6 Billion Gallons/Yr (Source: Renewable Fuels Assoc.)

Refining Capacity Currently Under Construction

@ 5.7 Billion Gallons/Yr (Source: Renewable Fuels Assoc.)

# Ethanol Related Demands For Corn

-Continued-

Demands For Corn For The Production of Ethanol May Be Slowing As We Approach Upper Limits For Ethanol Production And Consumption

Blending Rates For Fuel Will Probably Need To Increase ( E-85) If Demands For Corn Used In Ethanol Production Are To Rise Above Current Levels