# THINKING ABOUT AGRICULTURE ON THE HIGH PLAINS

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#### LET'S START WITH A QUESTION

• WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE SINGLE MOST CRITICAL ISSUE FACING AGRICULTURE TODAY AND OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS?

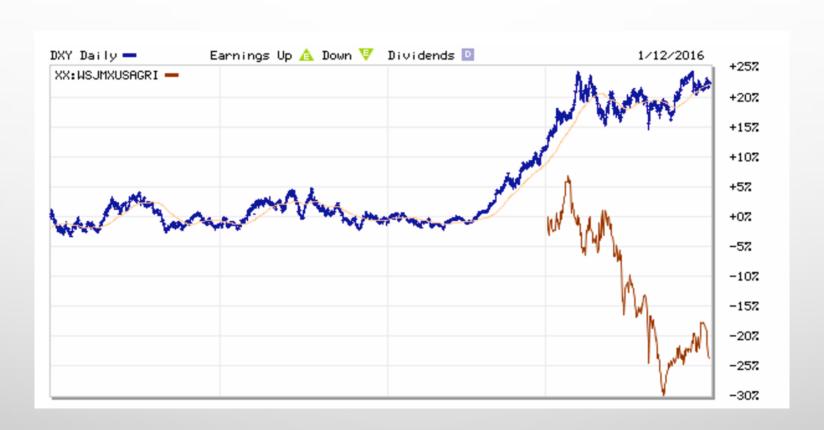


#### **OVERVIEW**

- MACROECONOMICS
  - DOLLAR APPRECIATION
  - INTEREST RATE INCREASES
  - ENERGY PRICES
  - GENERAL ECONOMIC CHANGES
- COTTON OUTLOOK



#### **DOLLAR APPRECIATION**



The dollar value index over the last 4 years compared with the commodity price index over the last year.

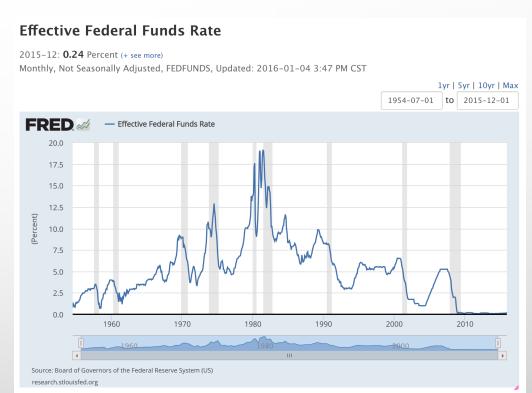


#### INTEREST RATES

#### 10-Year Treasury Constant Maturity Rate

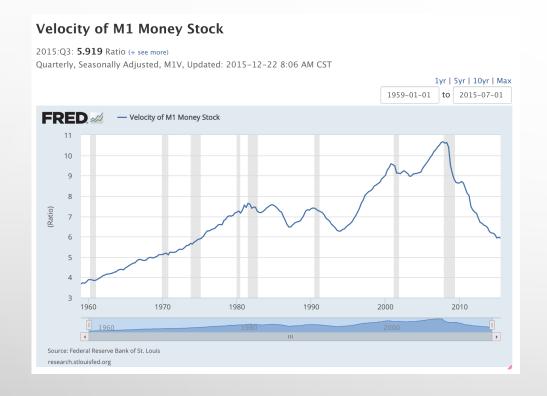


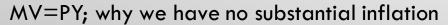
A long way to go to pre-recession levels...but, borrowing decisions are made "at the margin," not the level of interest rates.

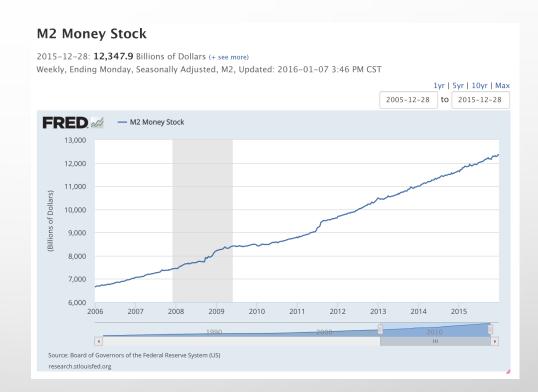




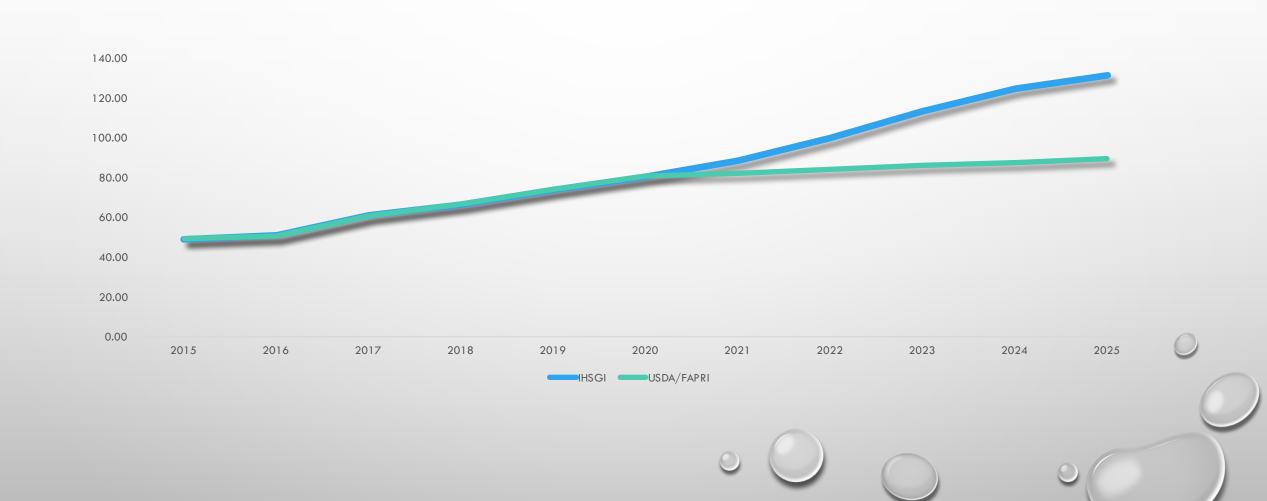
#### MONEY VELOCITY AND SUPPLY







### OIL PRICE ASSUMPTION GOING FORWARD



#### TAKE-AWAY FROM MACRO ENVIRONMENT

- CURRENCY APPRECIATION WILL FAVOR WEAKER COMMODITY PRICES IN THE U.S., OTHER THINGS EQUAL
- INTEREST RATES (AND SO BORROWING COSTS) WILL RISE...BUT HOW FAST? WITH LOWER COMMODITY PRICES AND WEAKER FARM POLICY, BORROWING CAPACITY WILL BE CURTAILED; PRODUCERS WILL ALSO BE LOOKING TO SAVE DOLLAR WHERE THEY CAN ON INPUTS
- IF THE SQUEEZE CONTINUES, THERE WILL BE EXITS FROM FARMING; SOME OF YOUR PATRONS WILL PROBABLY NOT BE HERE IN 5 YEARS
- TO EXACERBATE THE ISSUE, ENERGY COSTS, WHICH HAVE BEEN A COST SAVINGS OF LATE, WILL SLOWLY RISE AGAIN



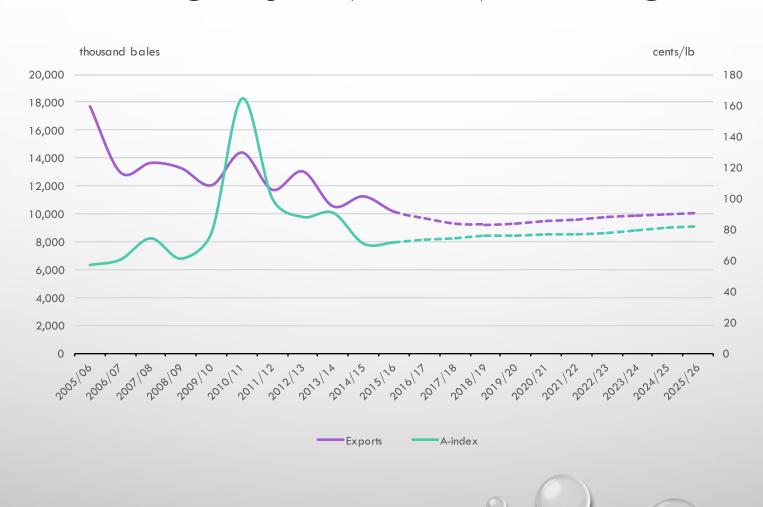
## COTTON OUTLOOK

#### US COTTON ACRES AND PRODUCTION



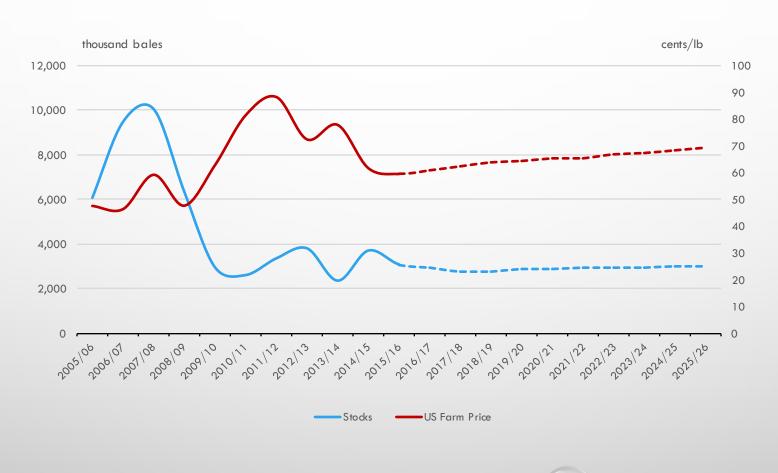


#### **EXPORTS AND A-INDEX PRICE**

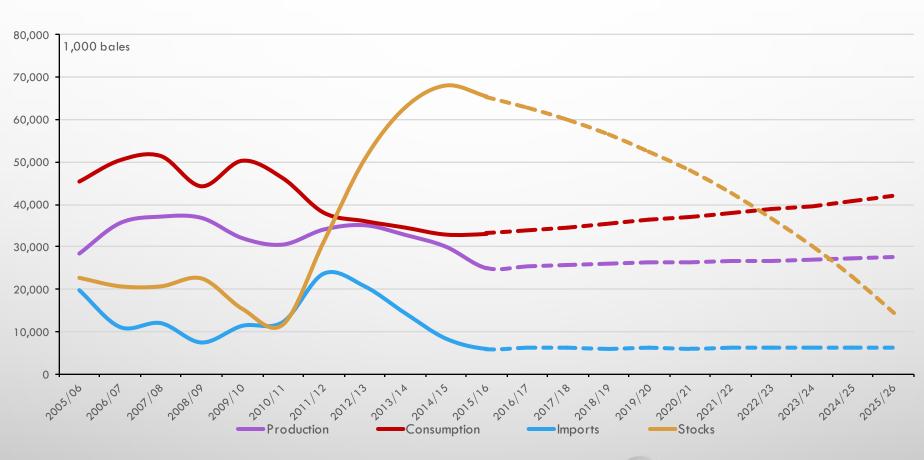




#### US STOCKS AND FARM PRICE



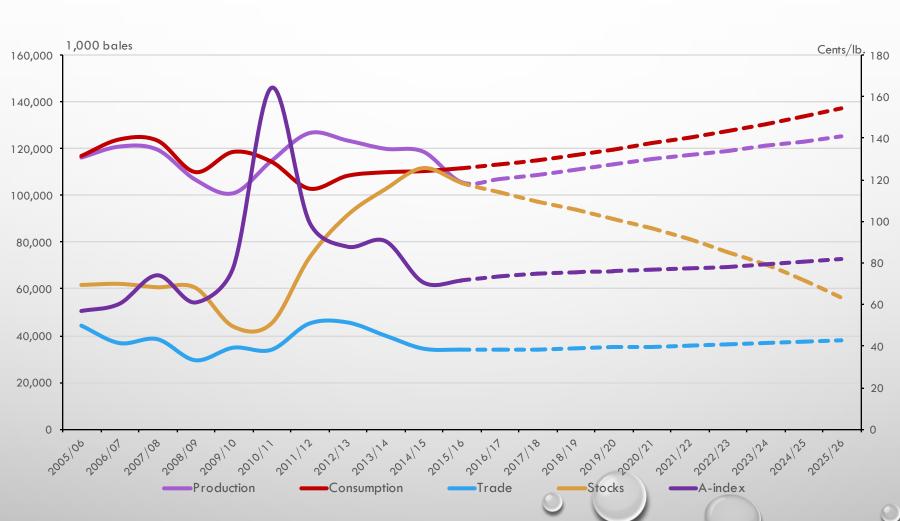
## **CHINA**



# INDIA



## WORLD





#### **TAKEAWAYS**

- STAGNANT TO SLIGHTLY INCREASING PRICES
- CONSUMPTION EXCEEDING PRODUCTION, BUT FED BY EXISTING STOCKS
- SOME RECOVERY IN THE US, BUT ONLY SMALL IN THE NEAR TERM