#### FINANCIAL & RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR 2023

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# Ag Economy Barometer Survey Details

Monthly phone survey of 400	U.S. agricultural producers, focused on
major crop & livestock enter	prises

Respondents estimated value of production is equal to or greater than U.S. \$500,000

Not same producers surveyed each month, but characteristics of survey sample are held constant from month-to-month

Respondents are stratified by enterprise, based on USDA's *Census of Agriculture* 

Representative of U.S. producers that provide vast majority of U.S. agricultural production

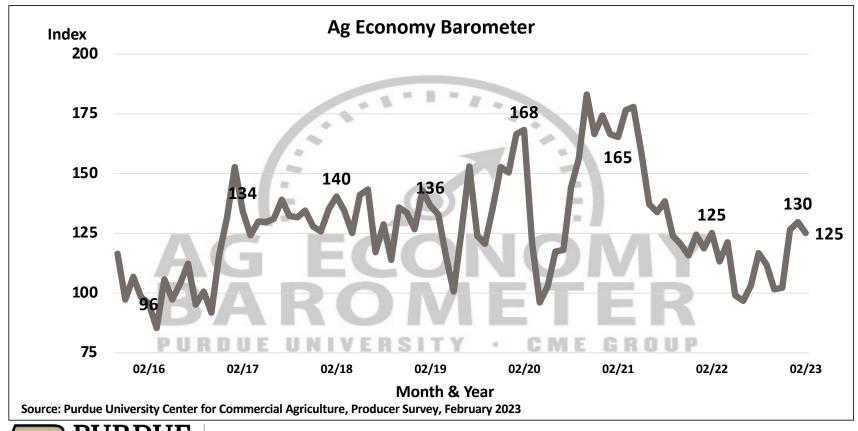
Survey accuracy is +/- 5% @ 95% confidence level for population we sample

# **Survey Respondents By Enterprise Every Month**

Corn/Soybeans	53%
Beef	19%
Wheat	14%
Hogs	6%
Dairy	5%
Cotton	3%
	100%

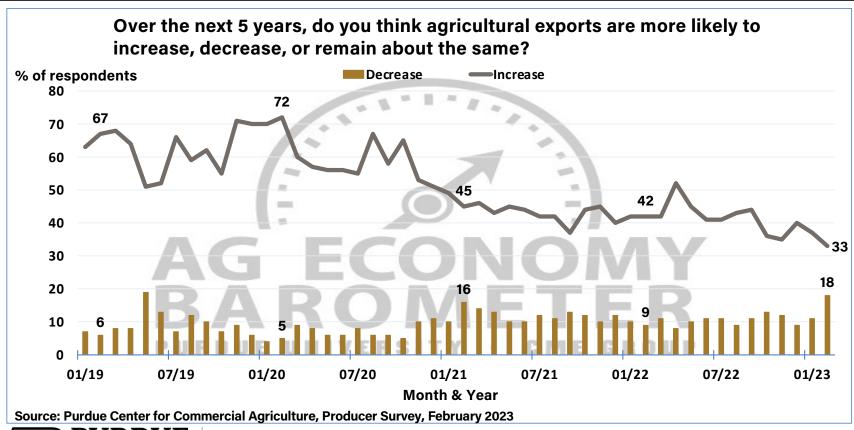
%'s are minimum targets since some farms are engaged in more than 1 enterprise

#### Although It Rebounded Recently, Farmer Sentiment Remains Much Weaker Than 2 Years Ago, Despite Record High Farm Income



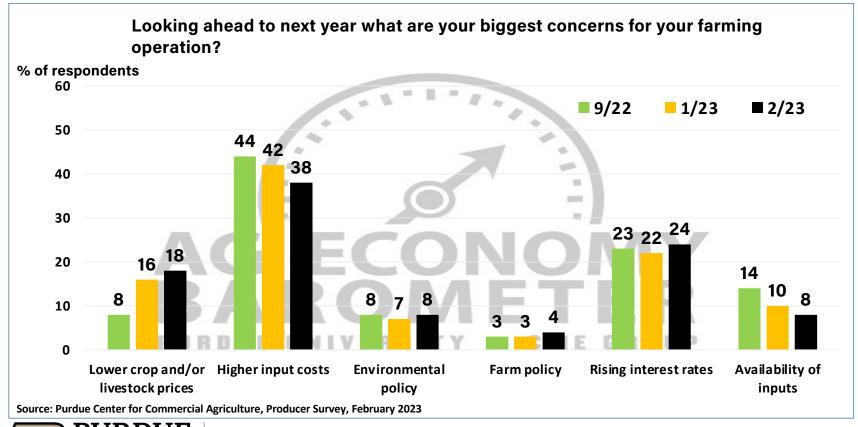


## Producers Are Losing Confidence in Ag Exports as a Growth Engine for Ag



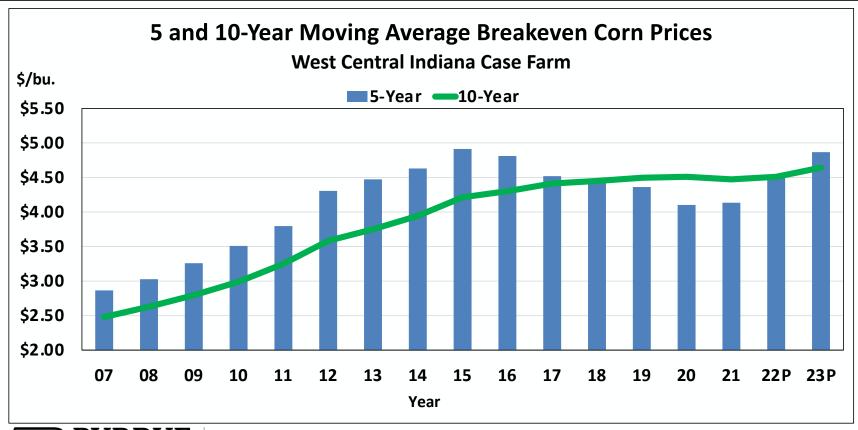


#### Input Costs Still #1 Concern, More Are Worried About Rising Interest Rates & Declining Output Prices



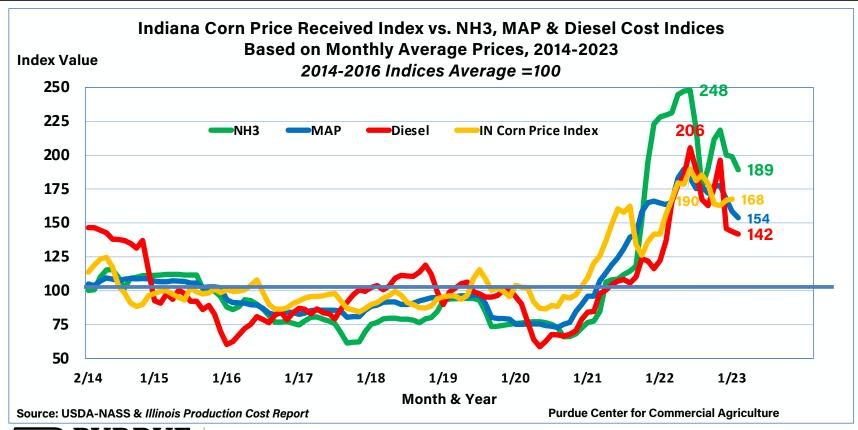


### Breakeven Prices for Corn Are Near Their Peak...Will They Adjust Downward?



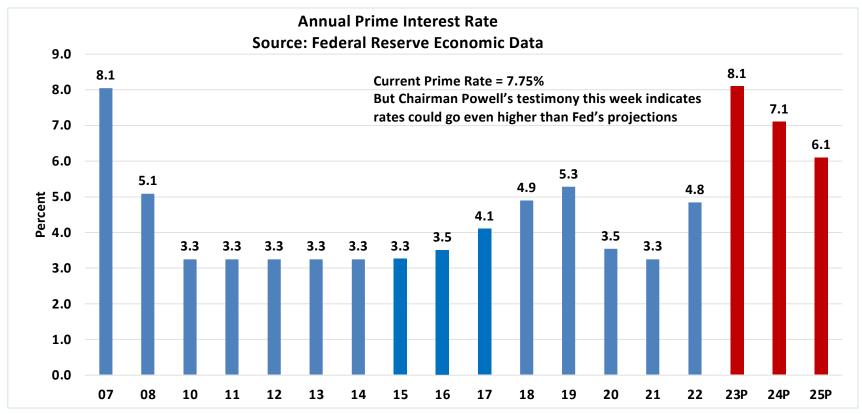


#### Although Input Prices Have Started to Decline, Farmers Are Concerned About a Possible Cost-Price Squeeze



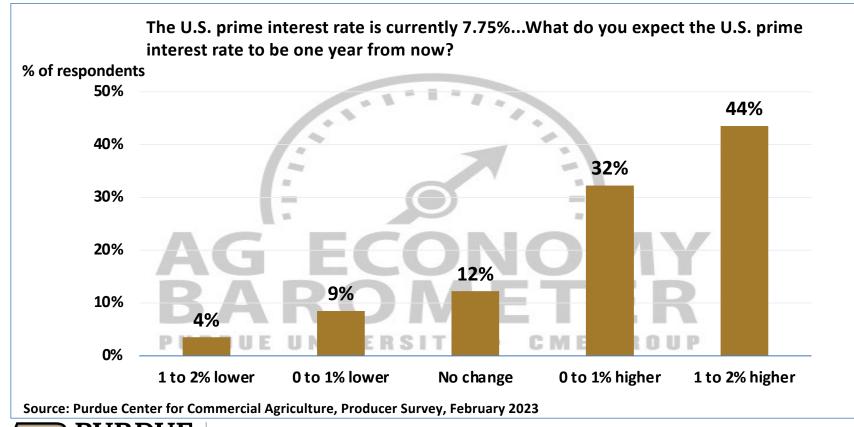


### Fed's Projections Suggest Prime Rate Climbing Above 8% & Then Weakening



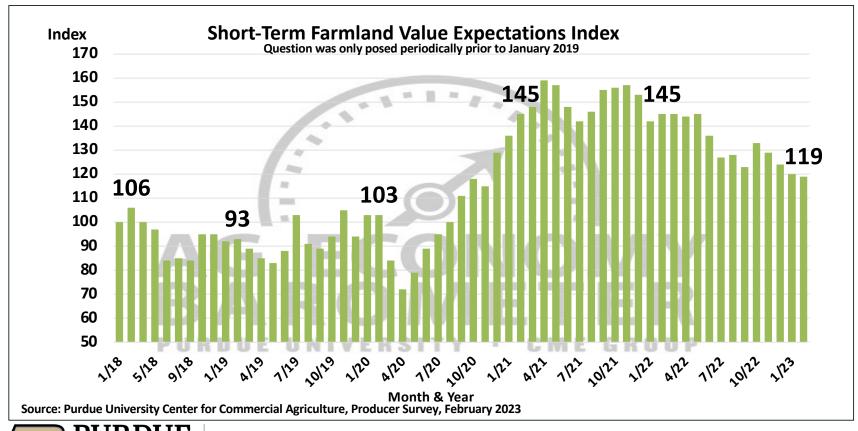


### 44% of Farmers Expect Prime Rate to Reach 8.75-9.75% By Early 2024





### Farmland Sentiment Is Still Positive, But Noticeably Weaker than a Year Ago



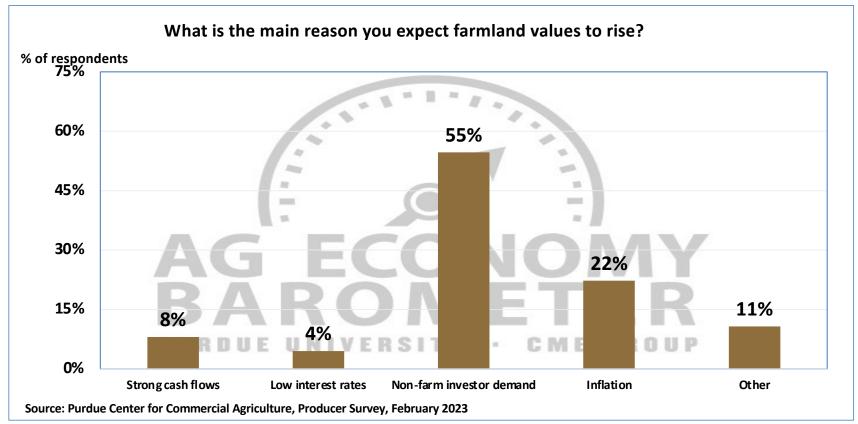


#### Fewer Farmers Expect Values to Rise & More Farmers Expect A Decline Than in the Last 3 Years



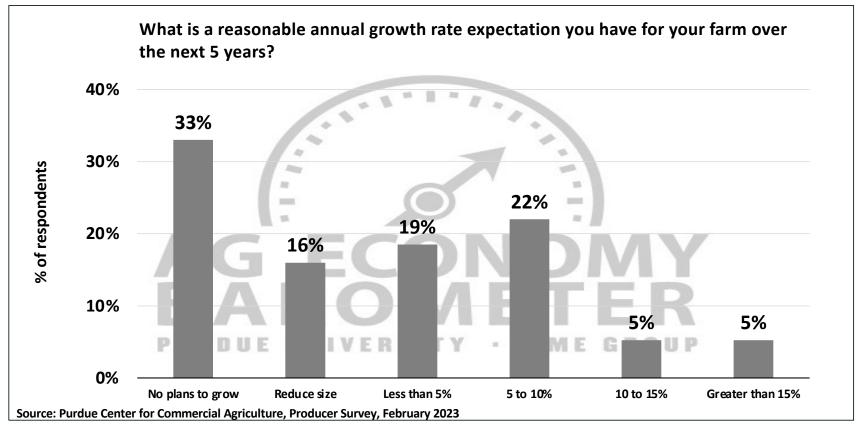


### Producers Say Investment From Outside Agriculture is #1 Reason for Expecting Values to Rise





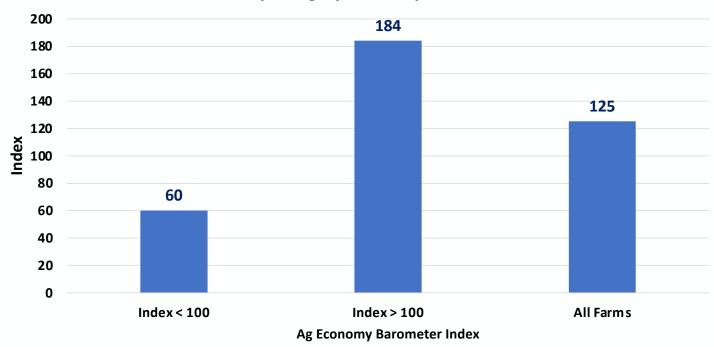
## Our Surveys Reveal Wide Variations in Farm Operations' Plans for Growth





## There Are Big Differences in Sentiment Among Survey Respondents

# Individual Survey Respondents *Ag Barometer* Index Value By Category, February 2023





### Examining Each Respondents Index Values Provides Insights Into Growth Strategies

	Growth < 0	Growth = 0	Growth > 0
Index of Current Conditions			
Index of Future Expectations			
Ag Economy Barometer Index			



### Farm Operators Who Plan to Retire or Reduce Operation Size Are More Pessimistic

	Growth < 0	Growth = 0	Growth > 0
Index of Current Conditions	116		
Index of Future Expectations	107		
Ag Economy Barometer Index	110		



#### Farm Operators With No Plans to Grow Are A Bit More Optimistic...But Current Situation Might Be Holding Them Back

	Growth < 0	Growth = 0	Growth > 0
Index of Current Conditions	116	115	
Index of Future Expectations	107	126	
Ag Economy Barometer Index	110	122	



### Who Plans to Grow? It's The "Optimists"

	Growth < 0	Growth = 0	Growth > 0
Index of Current Conditions	116	115	150
Index of Future Expectations	107	126	130
Ag Economy Barometer Index	110	122	136



### In the Long Run, Growth Is Not Optional...Consider Key Reasons Why Growth Is Necessary

- 1. Adoption of New Technology
  - ✓ Reduce costs
  - ✓ Improve profit margins
- 2. Improve asset utilization
- 3. Bring in new family members
- 4. Invest retained earnings
- 5. More fully utilize the skills of key managers



## Thinking About Farm Growth...

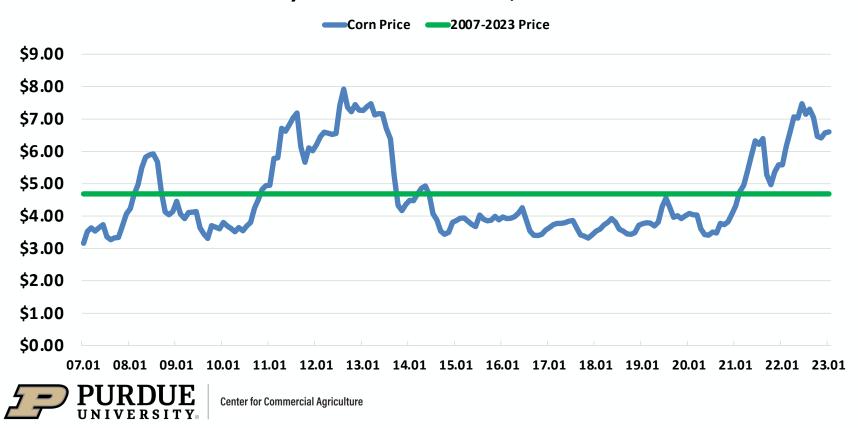
#### What Are The Key Factors Influencing Farmland Values?

- 1. Net Return to Land
  - What is the long-run corn price?
    - \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00 or ?
- 2. Capitalization Rate
  - Long-run average cap rate = 5.3%
  - Recent history = 2.5% or less
- 3. Inflation
- 4. Alternative Investments



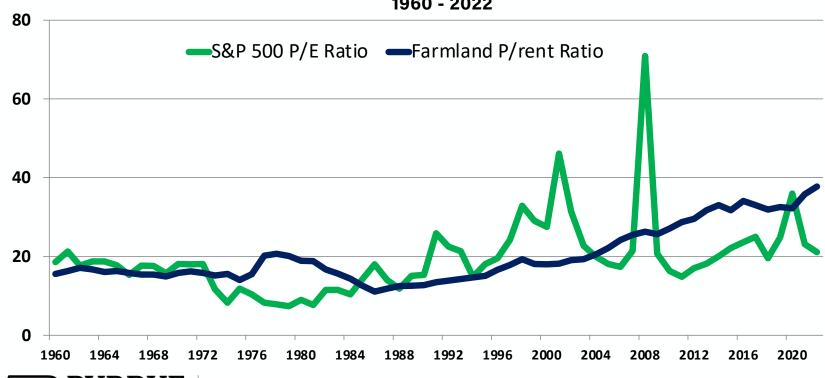
## Will Corn Prices Revert to the Long Run Average?

#### Monthly Indiana Corn Prices, 2007 to 2023



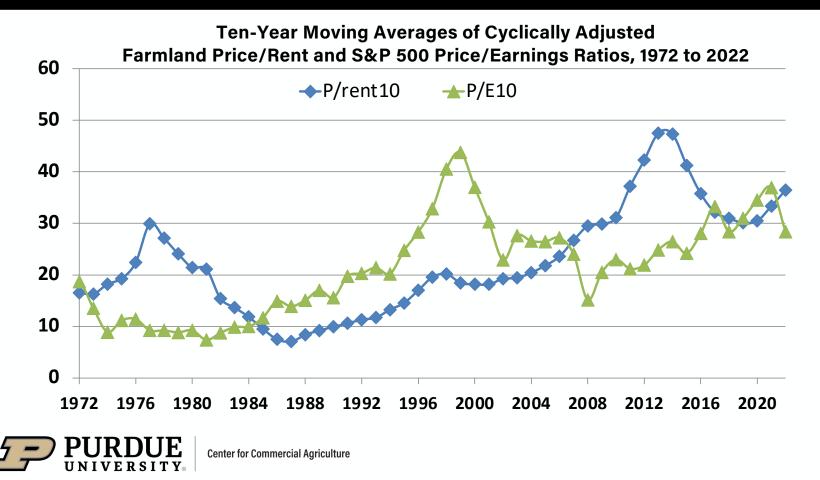
## Thinking About Your Long-Run Reinvestment Plan for Growth

#### Farmland Price/Rent and S&P 500 Price/Earnings Ratios 1960 - 2022



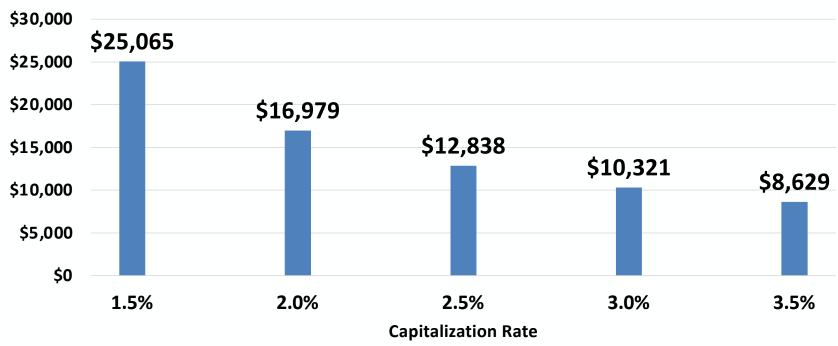


### Long-Run Trends in Cyclically Adjusted Stock Market Price/Earnings and Price/Rent Ratios



## Land Values Are Also Very Sensitive to Changes in the Capitalization Rate

#### Present Value of Farmland At Various Capitalization Rates Real Cash Rent = \$262 in Year 1, Growing @ 0.45%/Year





## When Considering Management Strategies For Your Farm, Remember...

No One Actually Knows What's Going to Happen!

Good Managers Embrace Uncertainty and Develop Strategies to Increase the Odds of Success

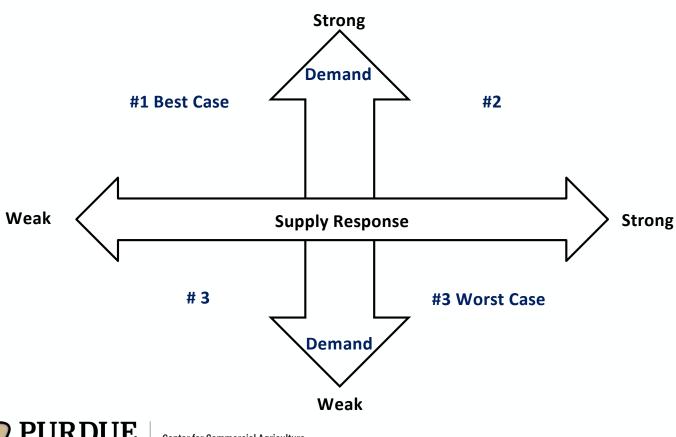


## Long-Run Farm Management Strategies to Increase Your Odds of Success

- 1. Decide what your competitive advantage is
  - a) Low cost strategy
  - b) Value added strategy
- 2. Identify strategies that increase your odds of success such as
  - 1. Taking advantage of seasonal trends in prices & basis
  - 2. Growing value added crops
  - 3. Upgrading farmland via improved drainage
  - 4. Developing a long-run reinvestment plan for growth
- 3. Use scenarios to enable you to respond quickly to changing conditions
  - a) Develop 1) Favorable, 2) Most Likely, and 3) Worst case scenarios
  - b) Identify strategies you could pursue under each scenario



# Characterize Scenario's Using A Quadrant Approach





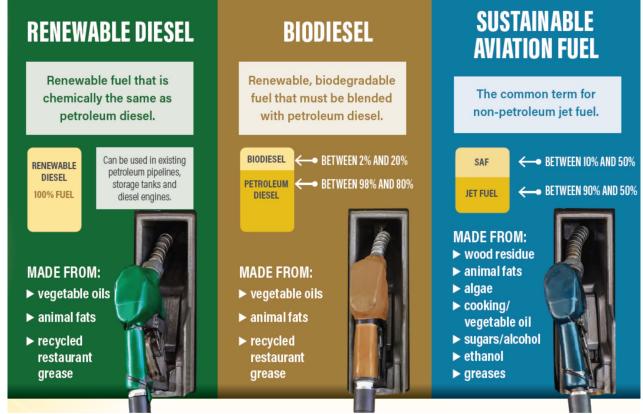
# Looking Ahead...Upside and Downside Risks

#### **Upside**

- Long-run world population growth
- Tight world supplies
- Growth in demand for renewable fuels

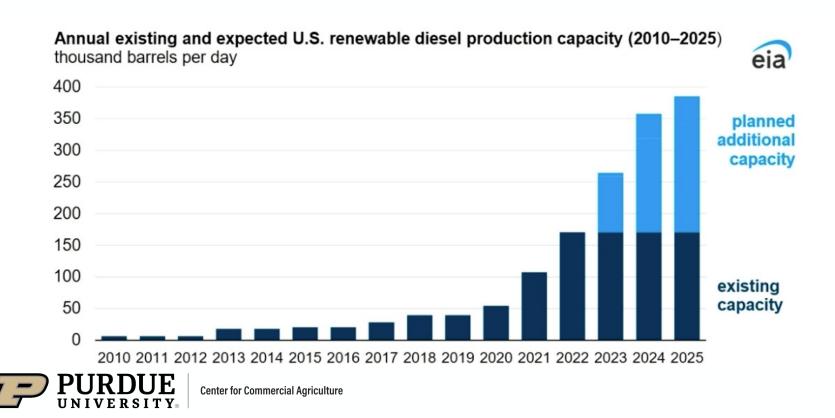


### Guide to Bio-Based Fuels





## Lots of Additional Capacity Announcements...How Many Will Be Built?



### Looking Ahead...Upside and Downside Risks

#### **Upside**

- Long-run world population growth
- Tight world supplies
- Growth in demand for renewable fuels
- Limited expansion capacity in key growing regions
- Conflict continues to inhibit Black Sea region's production & exports

#### **Downside**

- Increasing S. American acreage & production
- Rebound from weak yields in N. & S. America increases exportable supplies
- Possible world recession
- Strong U.S. dollar inhibits U.S. exports
- Rising interest rates raises production costs and negatively impacts land values



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