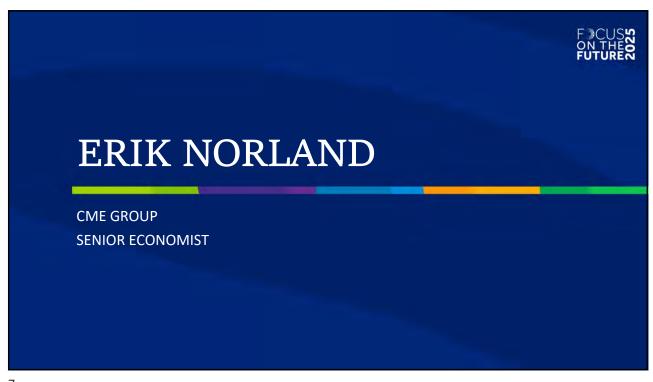




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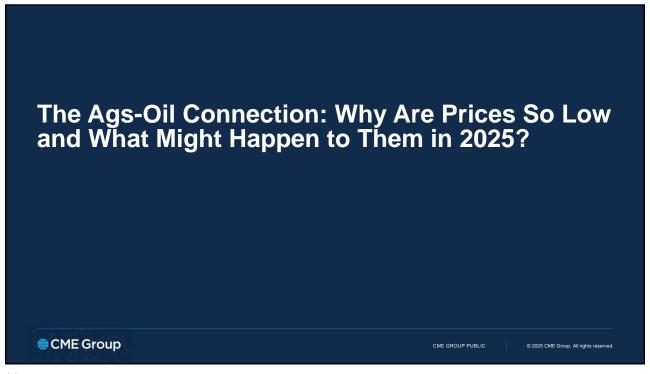
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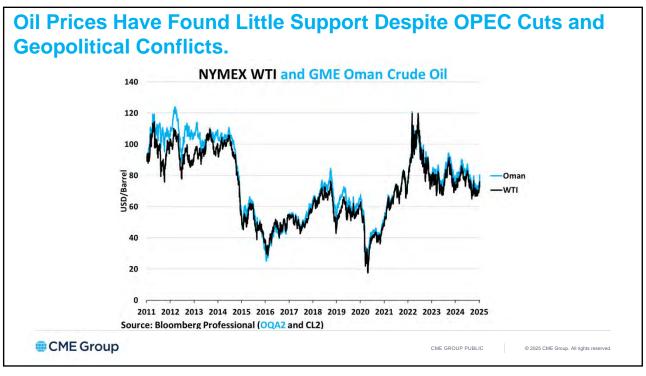
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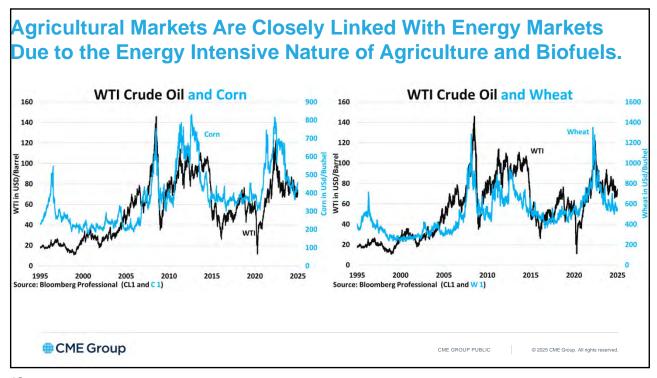
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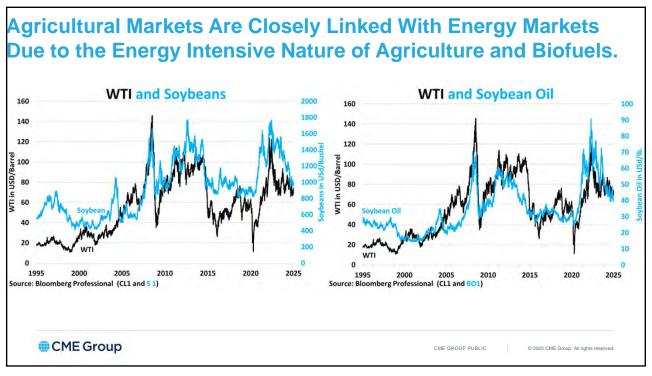
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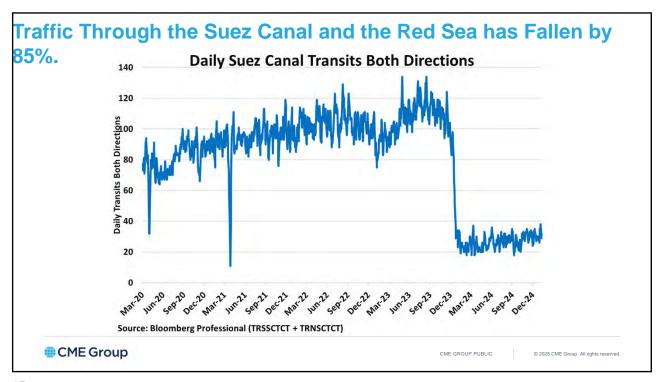
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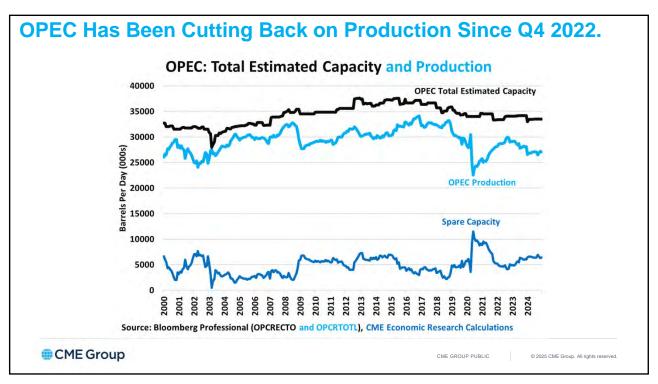


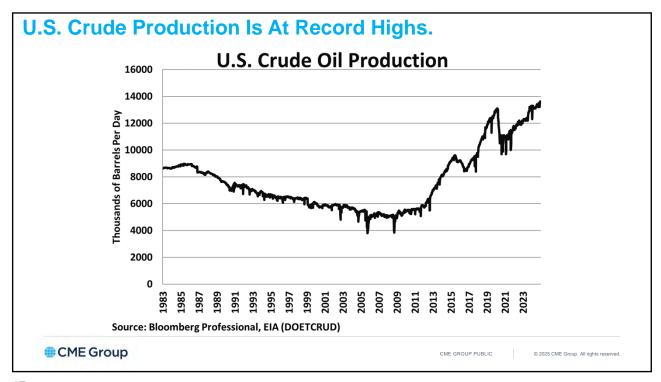


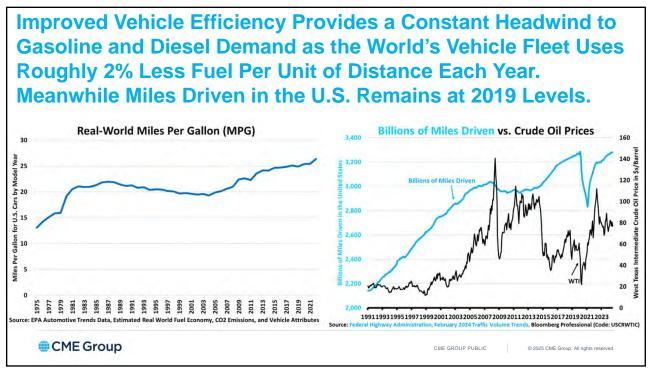


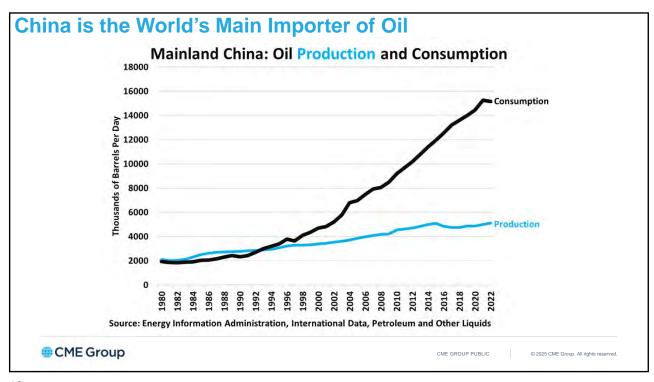


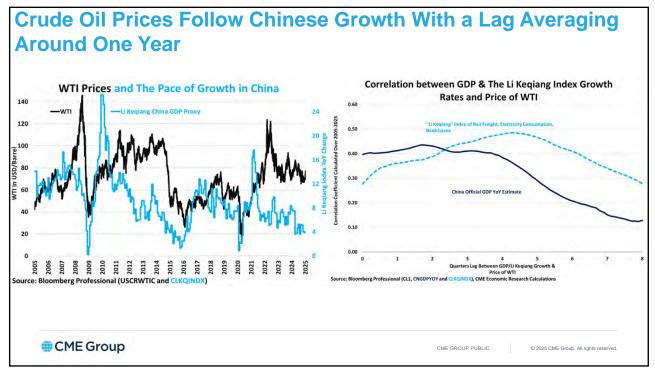


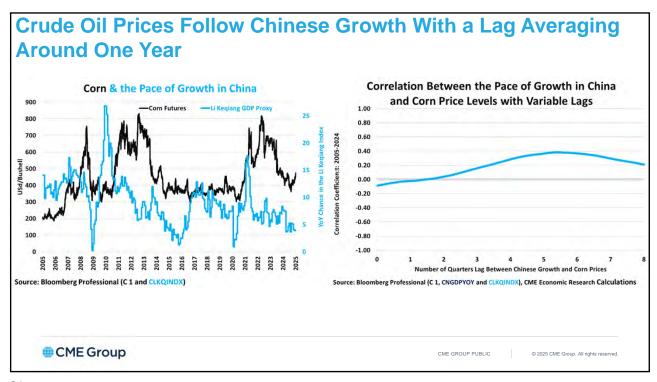


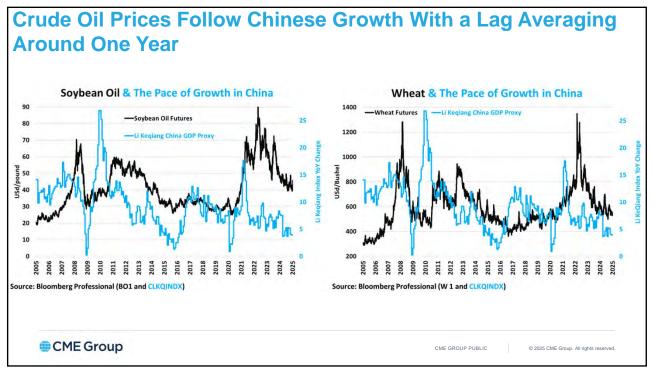










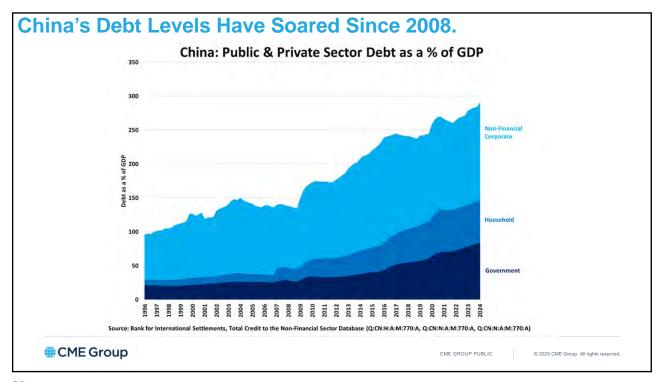


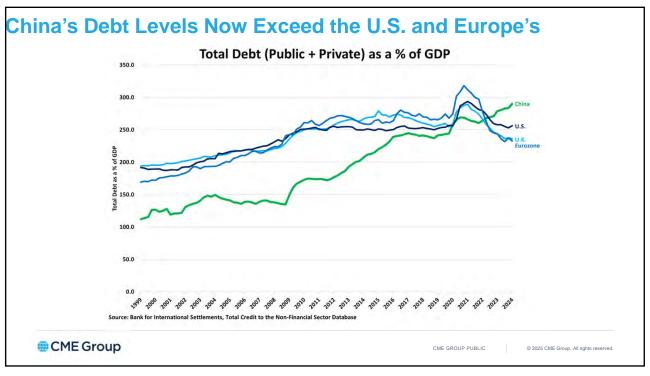


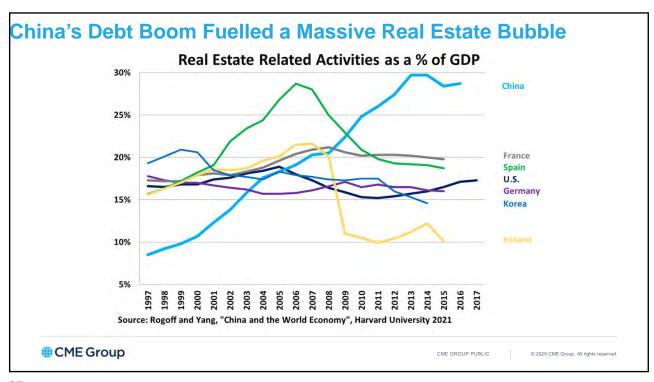
Perilous Times to Be an Economist in China

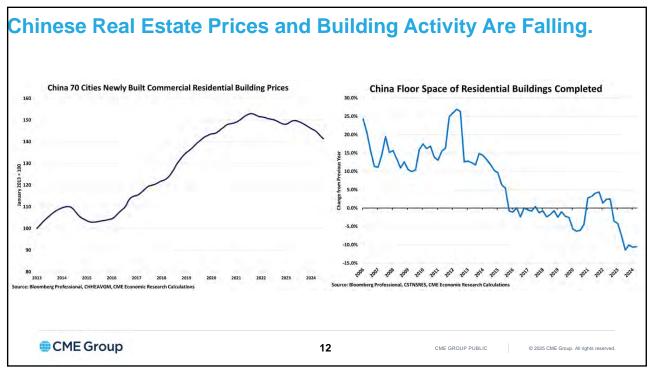
Gao Shanwen, Chief Economist at the state owned SDIC Securities/advisor to the CCP on economic and financial polices, has been placed under investigation after he told a Peterson Institute Conference in Washington, DC, "We do not know the true number of China's real growth figure. My own speculation is that in the past two to three years, the real [gross domestic product growth] number on average might be around 2% even though the official number is close to 5%." He also cast doubt on Beijing's ability to take the steps needed to bolster growth. "Their efforts to stimulate the economy will be very opportunistic," Gao said at the forum. "In the end, I don't think they can very confidently deliver what they have promised."

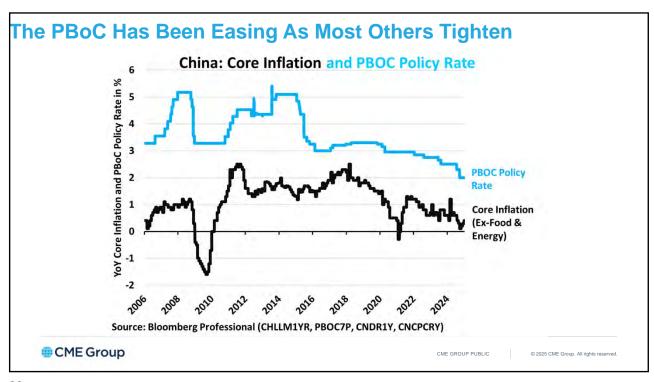
Last year, Zhu Hengpeng, a senior economist at one of China's top think tanks was placed under investigation, <u>detained and removed from his post</u> after he allegedly made remarks in a private chat group that were critical of Xi's management of the economy.



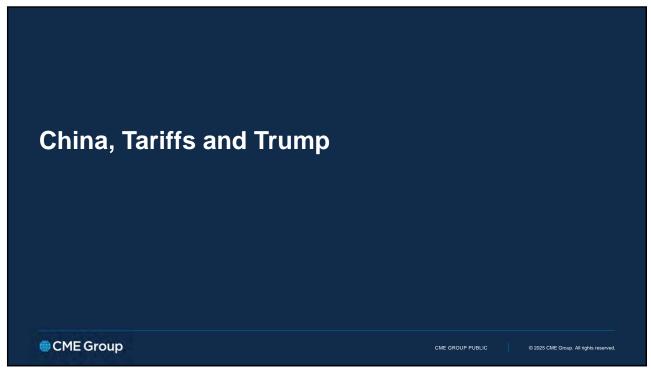


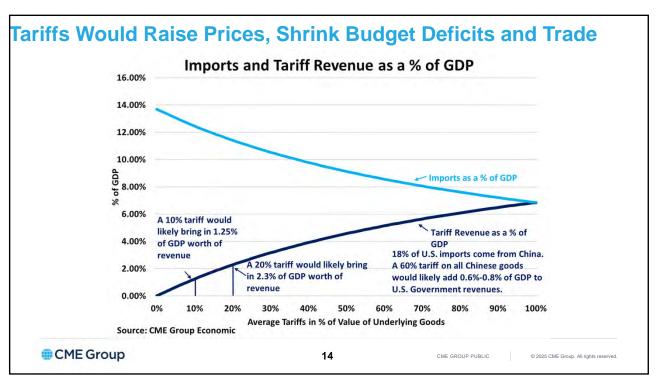


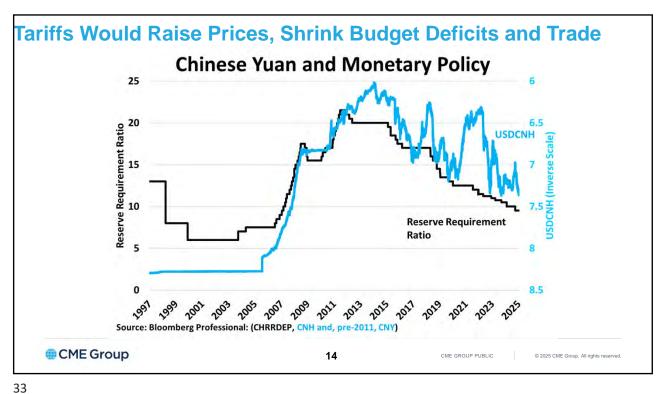


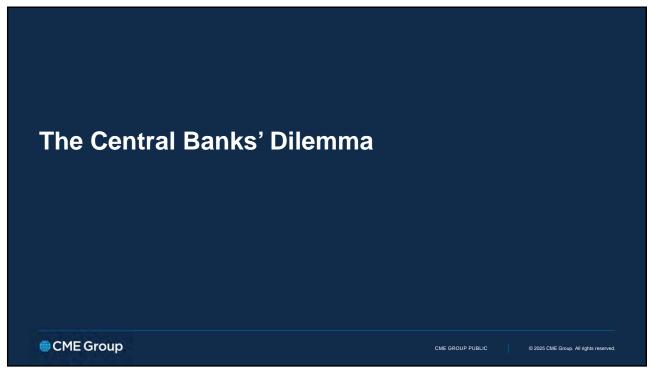


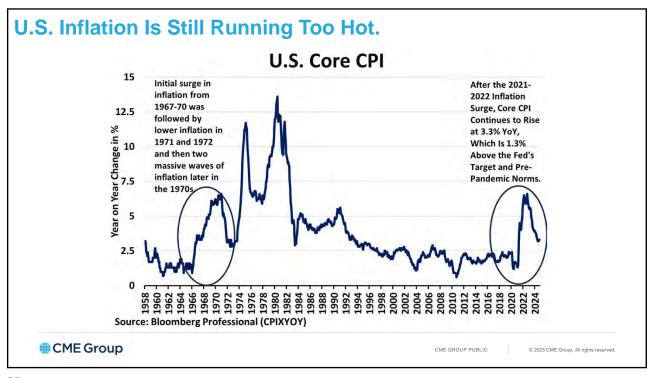


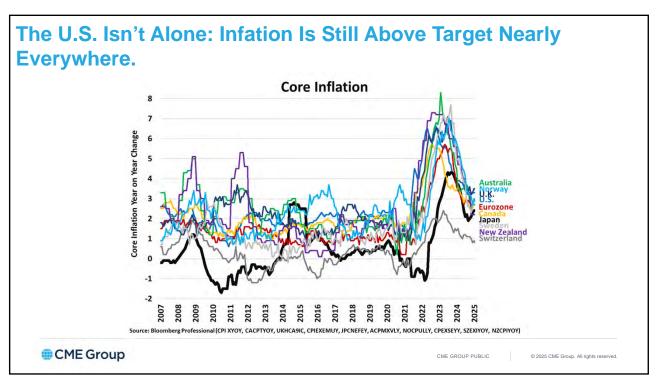


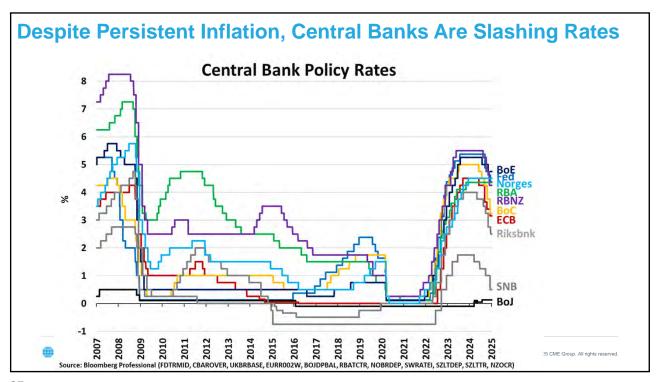


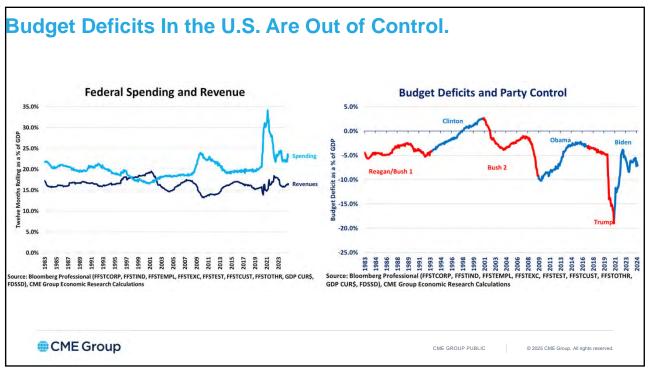


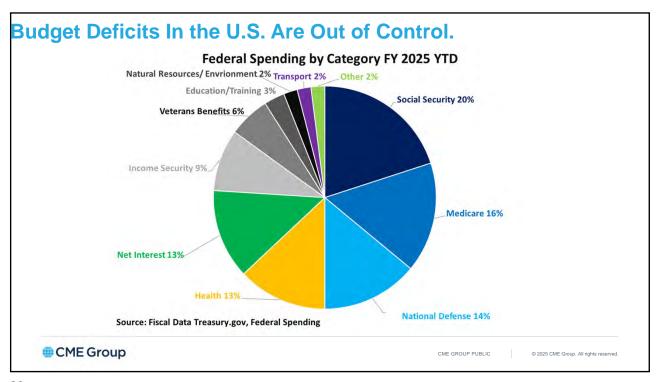


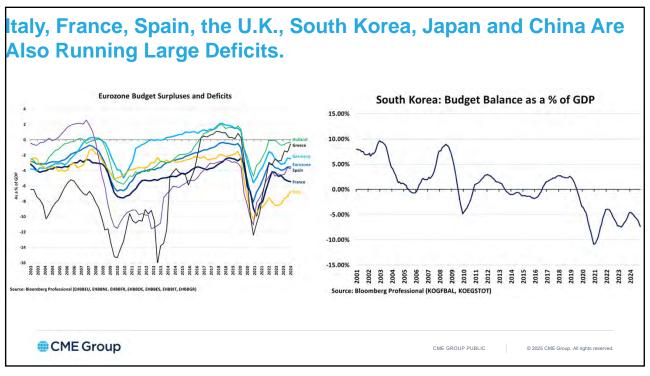


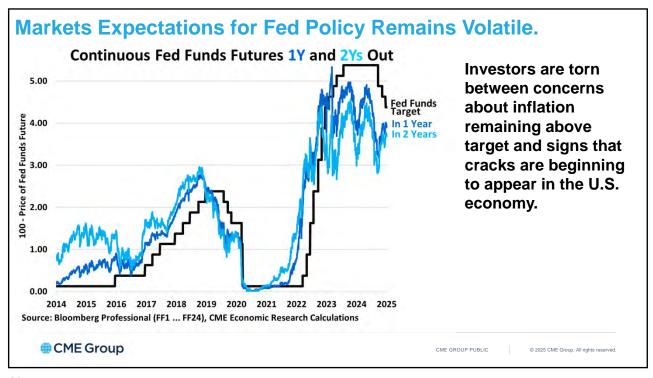


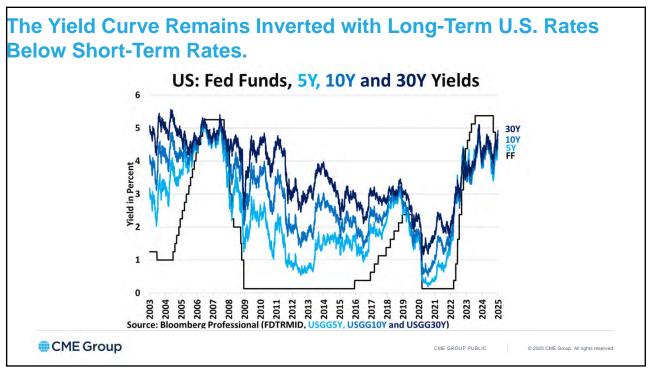


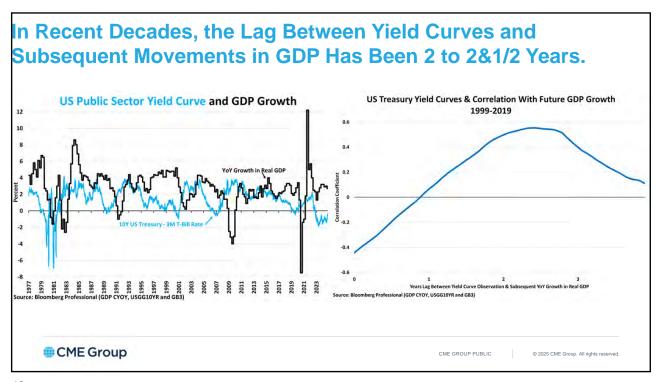


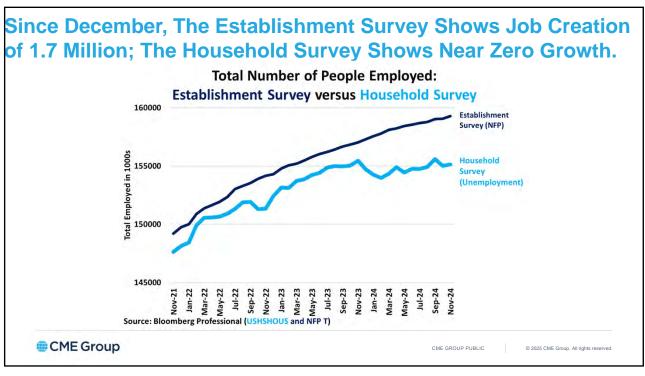


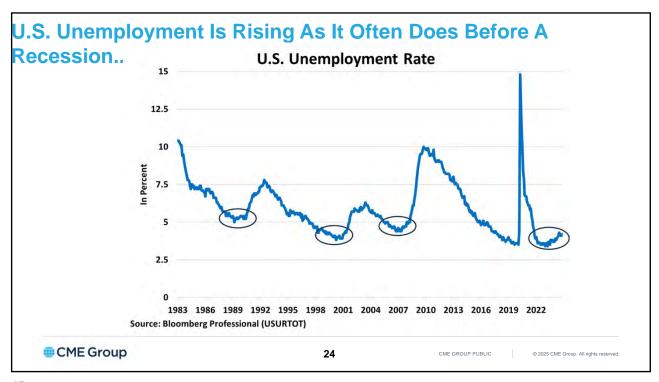


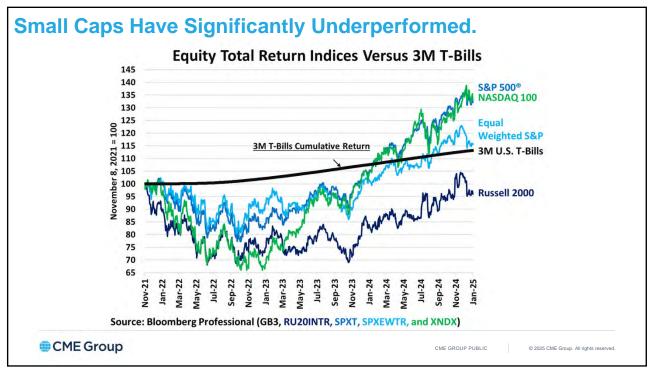


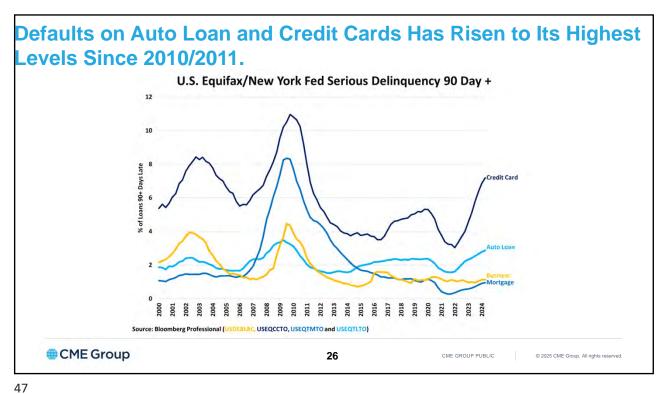


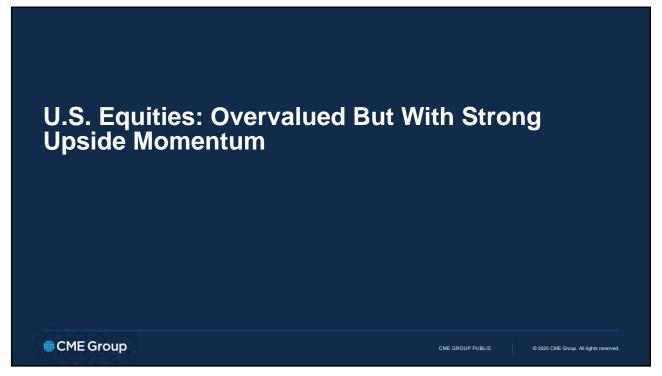




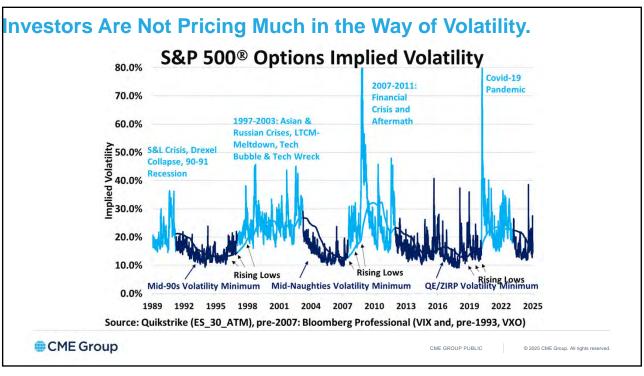












Since the End of the Global Financial Crisis, The NASDAQ 100 Is Up 2000%; The S&P 500 Is Up 800%.

U.S. Equities Now Account for 74% of the Market Capitalization of the Entire Developed World's Equity Markets.

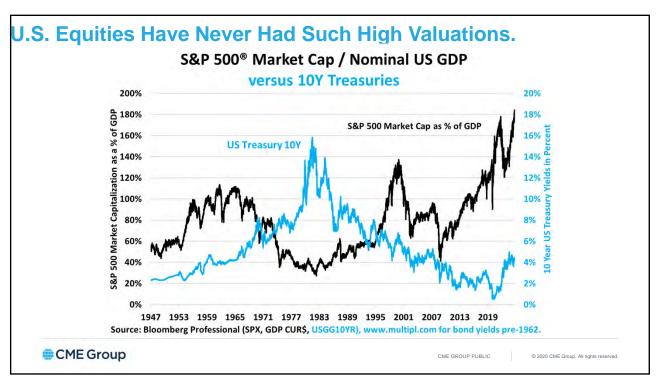
Nvidia Has a Greater Market Cap Than the Entire London Stock Exchange.

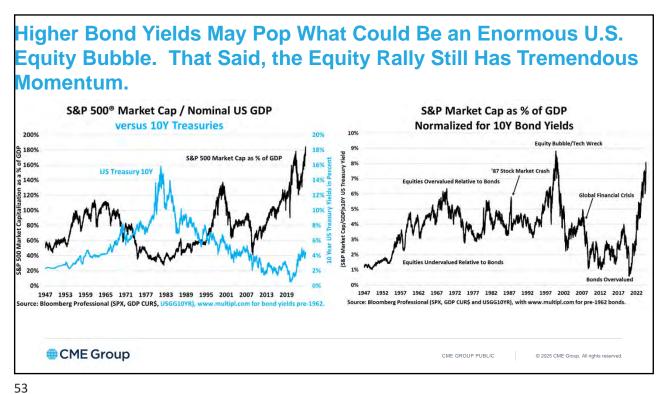
Investing in U.S. Stocks Has Become a Contest Between Dangerously High Valuation Levels and Continued Strong Upward Momentum.

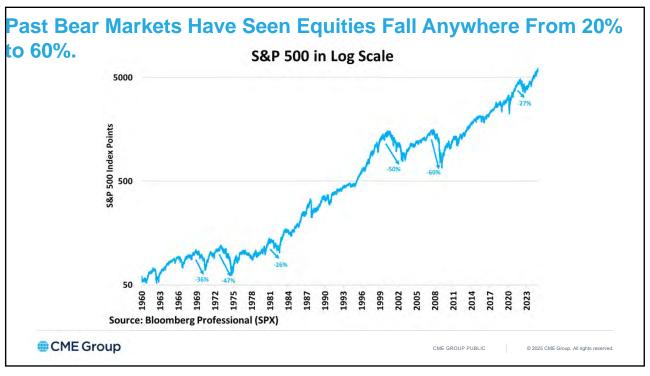
What Warning Signs Should We Be Looking For Equity Markets?

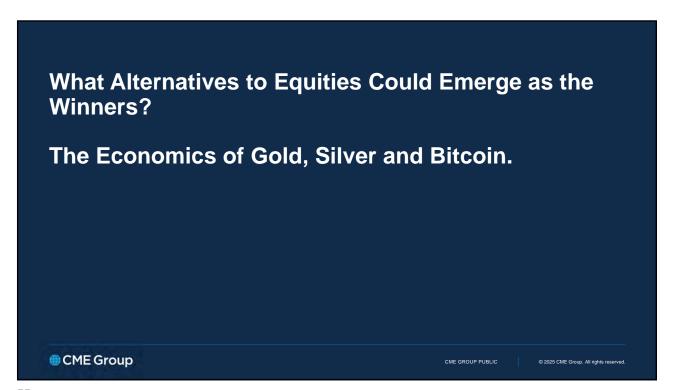
Futures Allow One to Gain Both Long and Short Exposures As Well as to Diversify Portfolios Into Other Asset Classes.

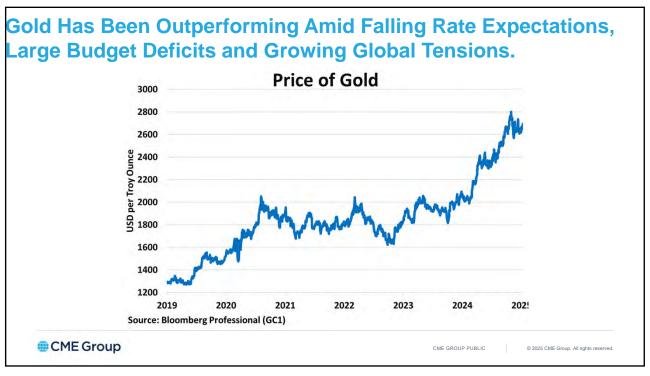
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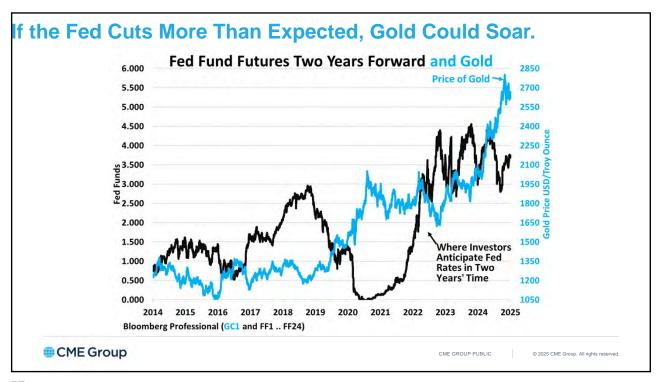


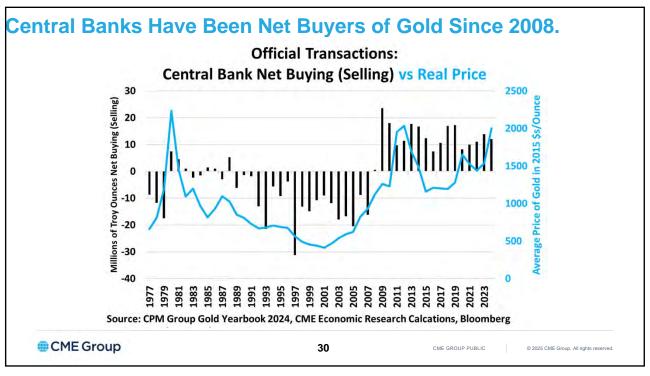


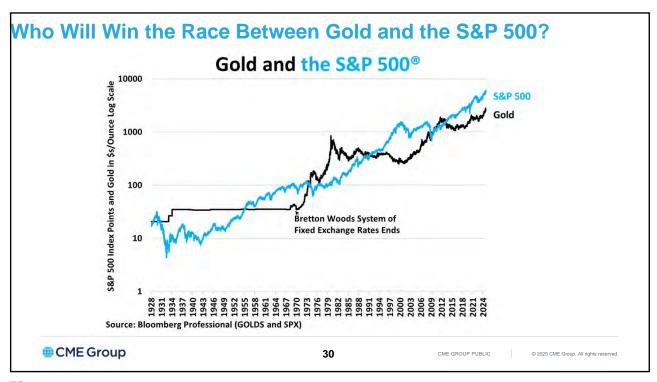


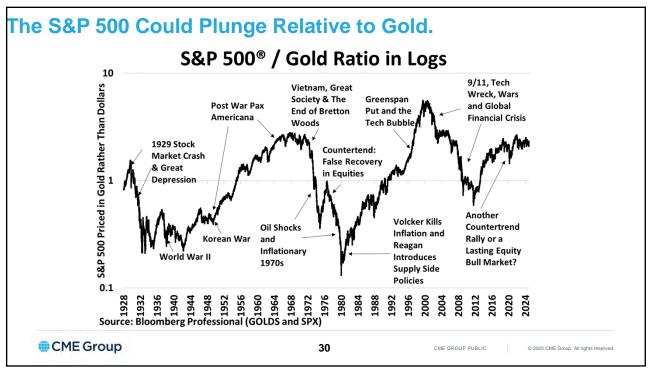


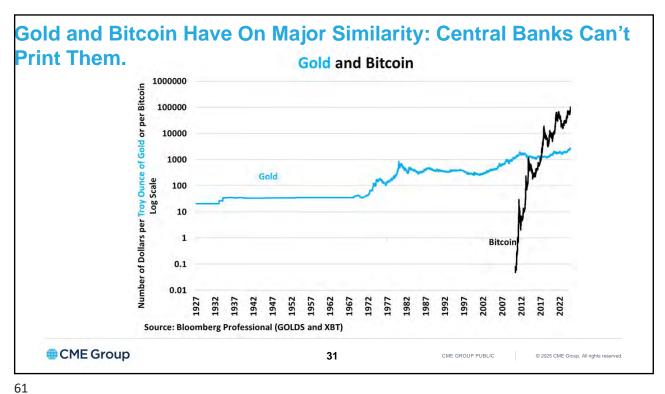
























'25 Ag Economy: New US Grain Demand Drivers Needed



- World Geopolitics are fast changing Between G7/BRIC nations. The US has been the center of
 economic/military might since the end of WWII. Globalism is dying, and the speed of the new world
 order depends on the upcoming politics of President-elect Trump with Russia/China/Brazil. The
 US/China clash on economic/geopolitical policy which is dramatically altering world ag trading patterns.
- US grain farmers are economically struggling amid sinking grain values while their costs (inputs/equipment/rent) stay elevated. US grain farmer margins are the lowest since the harvest of 2016. Across the world, negative margins have sparked EU/Indian farmer protests. Interior Chinese grain prices are also below their estimated cost of production. Unless you're a Russia/Brazilian or Argentine farmer amid currency depreciation, the economic year ahead for grain farmers is gloomy. US farmers are looking to cut costs for the 2025 crop, which is difficult amid fertilizer, seed, land rent and equipment costs that are sticky. Fertilization applications to fall this spring Farming for bushels is the manta.
- US Government debt to accelerate amid the Trump Tax holiday Extensions. Will DOGE (Elon/Vivek) be
 able to substantially cut US government costs? Amid lingering inflationary fears, US interest rates hold
 higher for longer and the US dollar to rise which will curtail emerging market demand for grain/
 foodstuffs. And Beijing/Washington spend to boost their military prowess.
- Brazil is an ag behemoth with annual exports of 105 MMTs of soybeans and 45-50 MMTs of corn. And
 Brazil's export gain has not stopped with 2-4% annual seeded area expansion forecast into 2027. Brazil's
 growing season has become the most important in the world. China seeks out the reliability of Brazil as
 food supplier which steals future grain export demand from the US. The US's share of world grain export
 trade will sink to 11-12% in 2024/25.

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2025 US Ag Economy: Where Next?



- Chinese corn, soybean, and wheat imports sink as their economy slows, deflation spreads, and China seeks to be self-reliant on food production through GM seed/improved fertilization rates. ARC forecasts China to import 8-9 MMTs of corn, 7-8 MMTs of wheat, and 99-101 MMTs of soybeans in 2025/26. Does China return as corn exporter in 2027? And who can step forward to replace China?
- 2025 US Net Farm row crop income stays depressed but improves in livestock/dairy on tightening supplies. US politicians seek new demand drivers to boost grain price/profitability, such as 45Z.
 However, there is no replacement for China as a grain importer. Absent weather/supply shortfalls, soymeal will be the downside leader amid a massive Brazilian soy crop and the onboarding of new US crush capacity. "Trump Bucks" will be needed in 2025 to bridge farm income gaps produced by tariffs and a rise in the US dollar. Uncertain US biofuel outlook due to the 45Z credit policy for green diesel and SAF (sustainable aviation fuel) from the Trump Administration.
- For ADMIS farm clients, this is a year to sell and defend. A sizeable Midwest or Black Sea drought is needed to sustain lasting CBOT rallies. Supply not demand is the bull price driver into 2026.

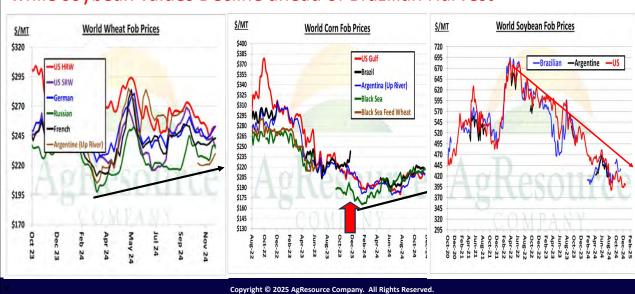


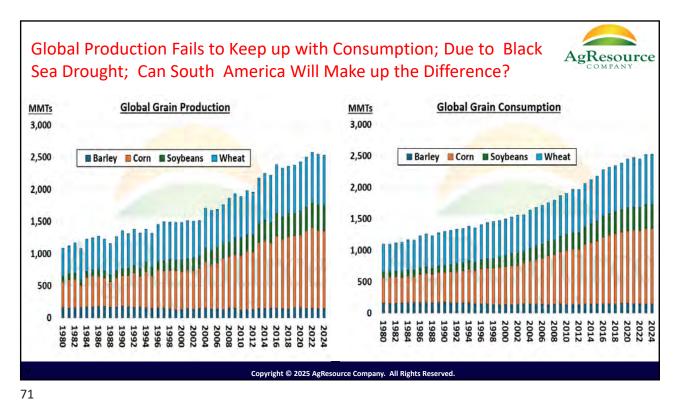
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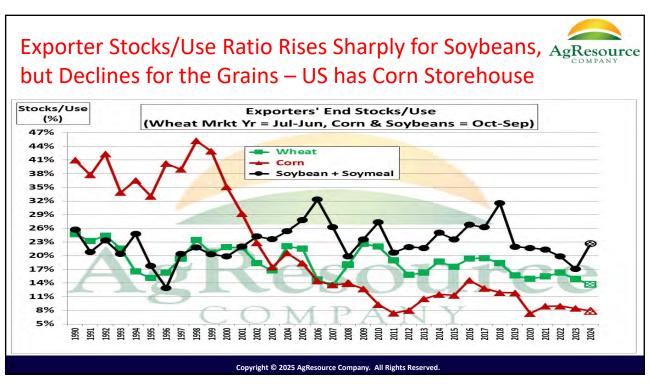
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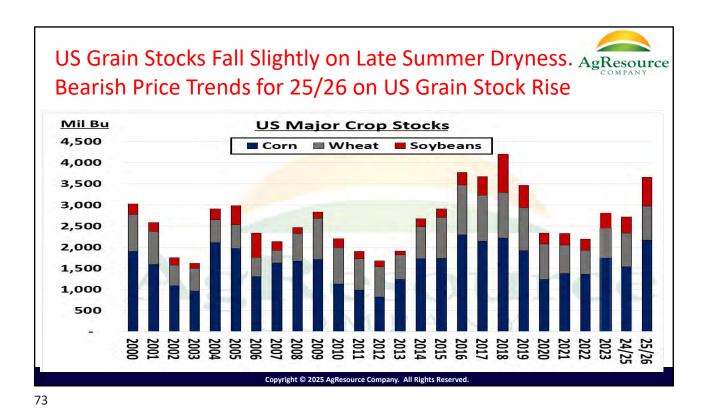
World FOB Grain Export Prices; Grain Prices Hold in range while soybean values Decline ahead of Brazilian Harvest





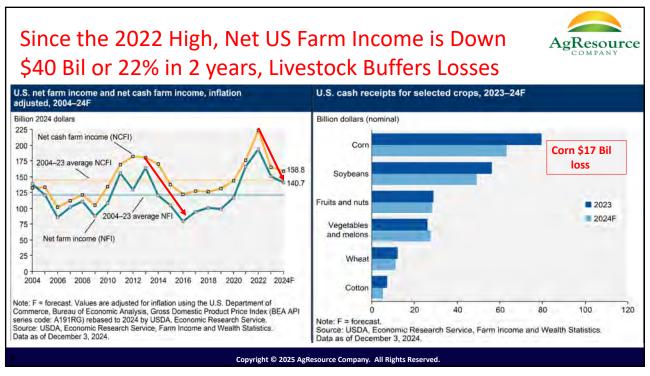


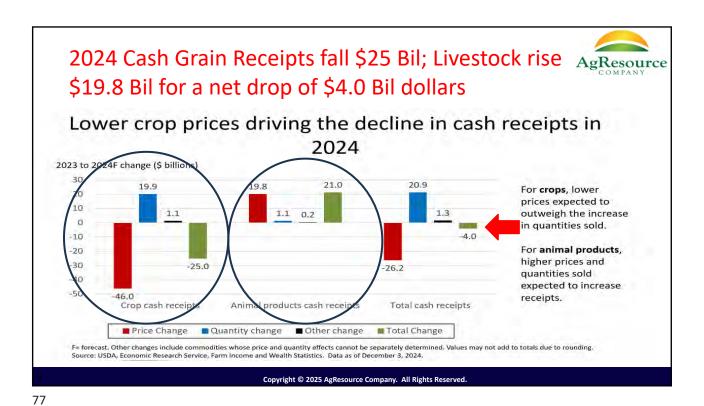


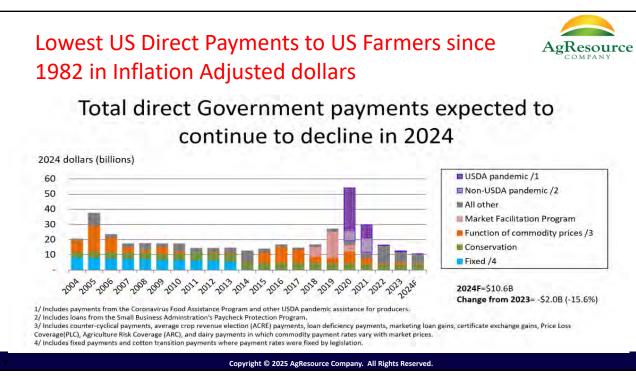


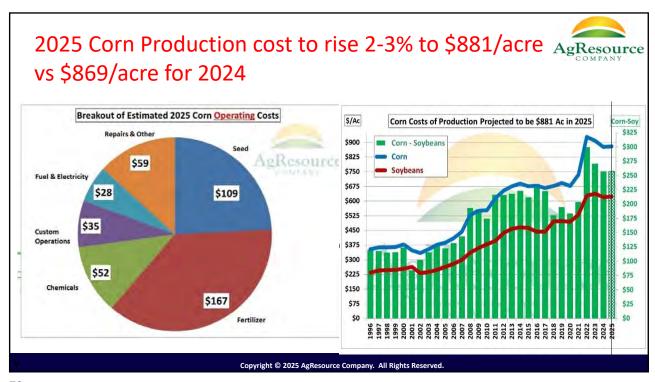
US Farmers Optimistic About President-Elect Trump **AgResource** Most Optimism since the Pandemic Summer of 2020 Looking ahead, do you think it is more likely that US agriculture Purdue University's Ag Economy Barometer during the next five years will have widespread good times or 210 widespread bad times? 200 % of Respo 190 100 180 90 170 Good Times 160 150 **Bad Times** 70 140 130 120 100 30 20 10 Ag Economy Barometer Copyright © 2025 AgResource Company. All Rights Reserved.

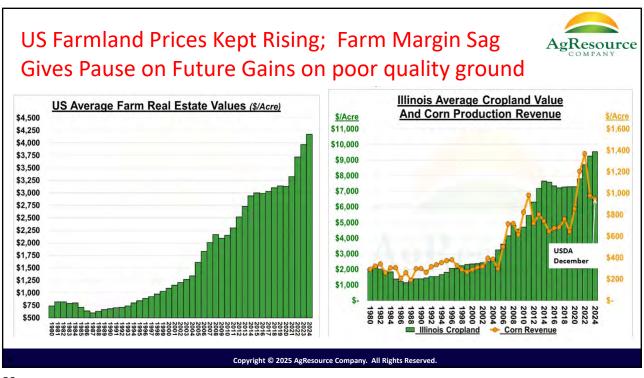


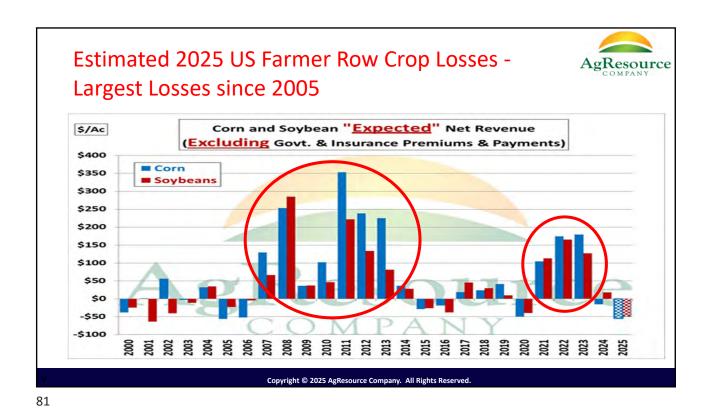






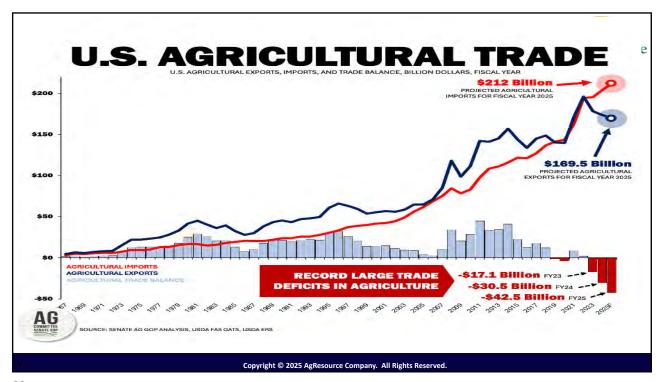


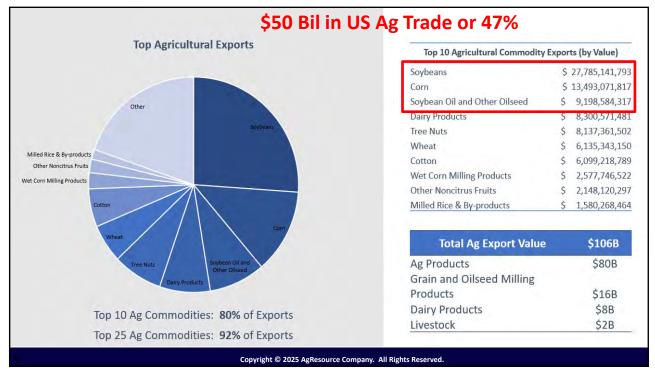


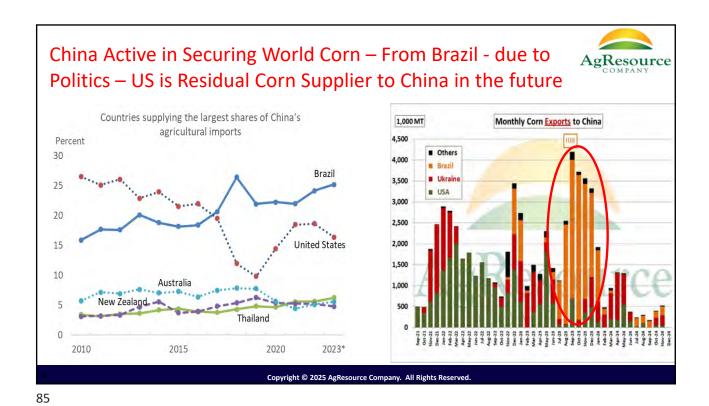


Why the Bearishness for the US Grain Farmer?

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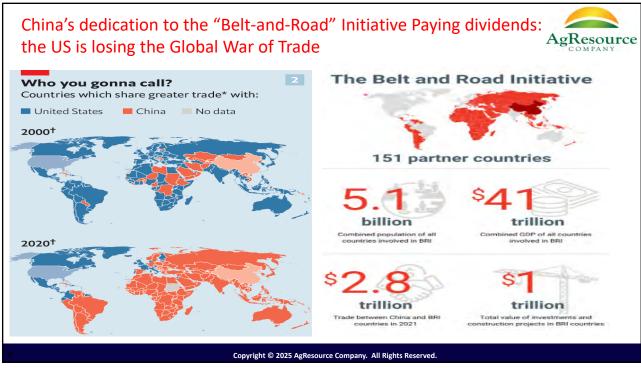


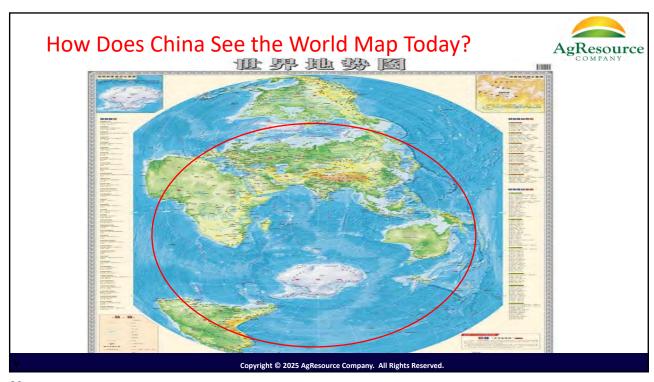


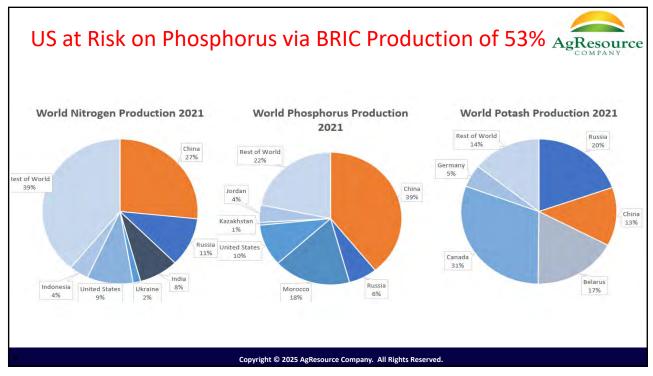


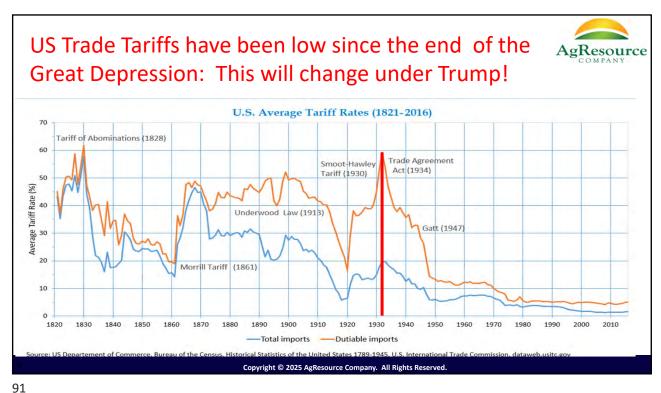
Chinese Major Crop Imports to Slow with US Ag **AgResource** exports to China being just \$16 Bil in 2025 \$ Bil MMTs China Annual Purchases of US Ag Goods **Chinese Major Crop Imports** 160 \$50 \$43.5 ■ Soybeans ■ Corn ■ Wheat 140 \$45 \$40 120 \$35 100 \$30 \$30 80 \$25 60 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Copyright © 2025 AgResource Company. All Rights Reserved.

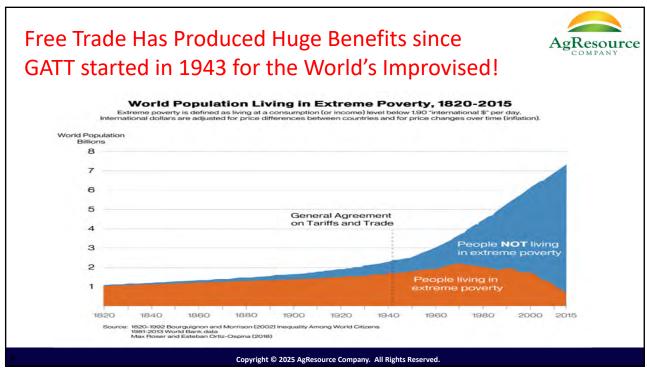






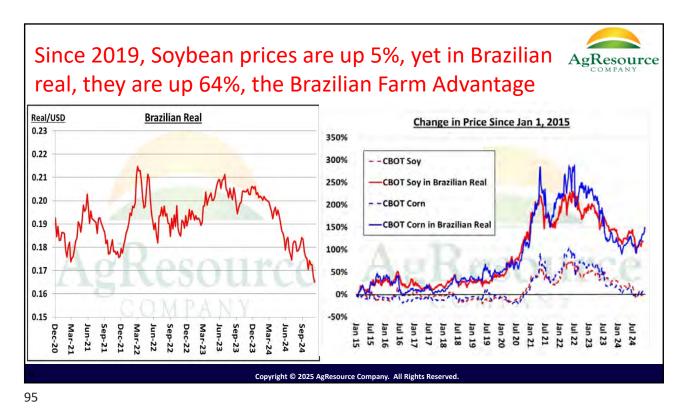


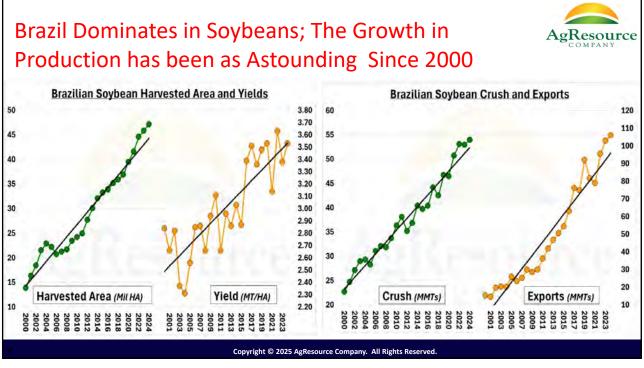


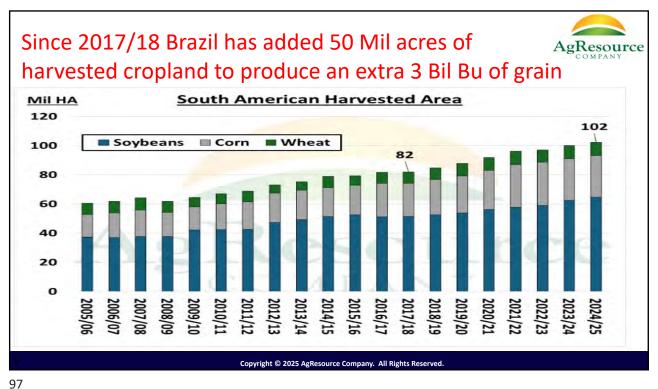


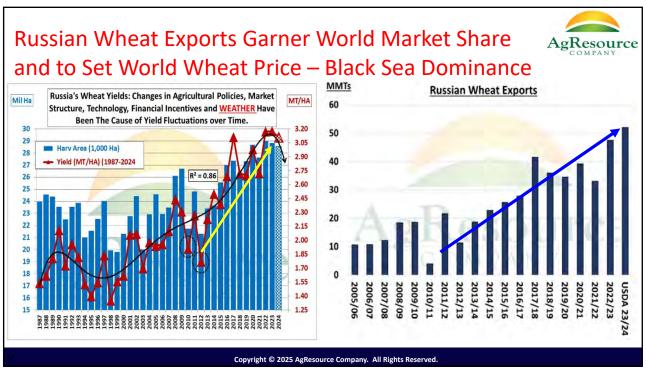


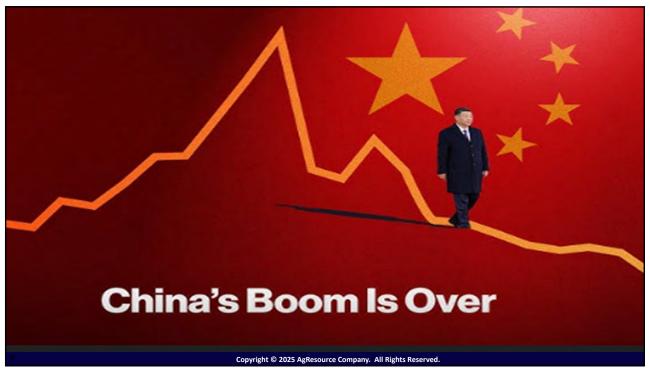
The US dollar was up 9% against the Euro and AgResource 23% against Brazilian real; Yuan to new Lows? Yuan/USD **Currency Value Change Last 12 Months Chinese Yuan** 0.165 -- Euro -- Chinese Yuan -- Aussie Dollar -- US Dollar 6% 0.160 5% 0.155 4% 3% 0.150 1% 0.145 0% 0.140 -1% -2% 0.135 -3% 0.130 Oct-22 Dec 24 Copyright © 2025 AgResource Company. All Rights Reserved.

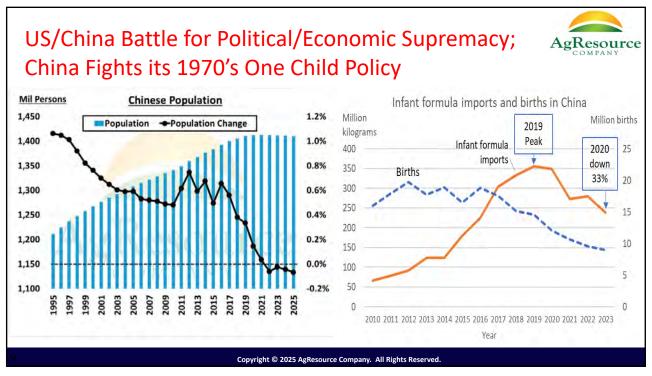




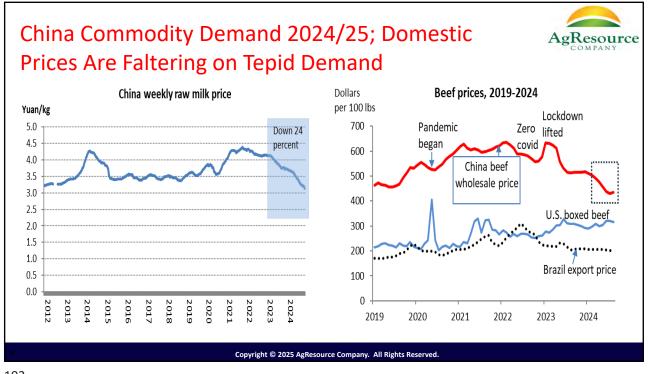


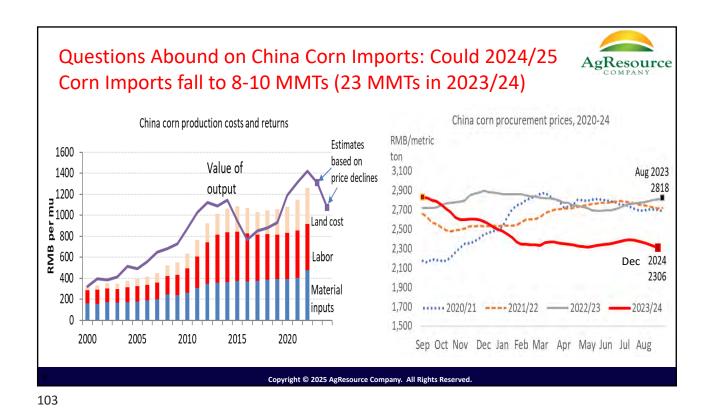






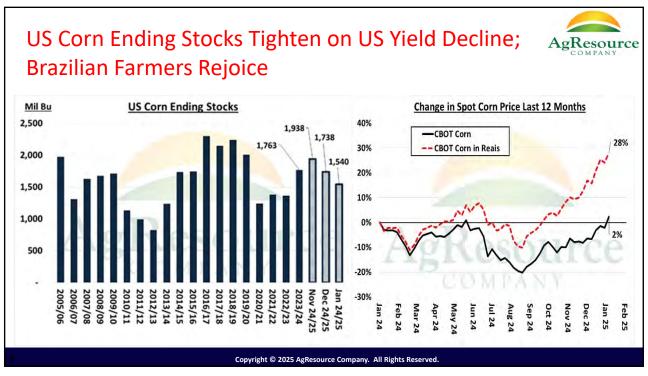


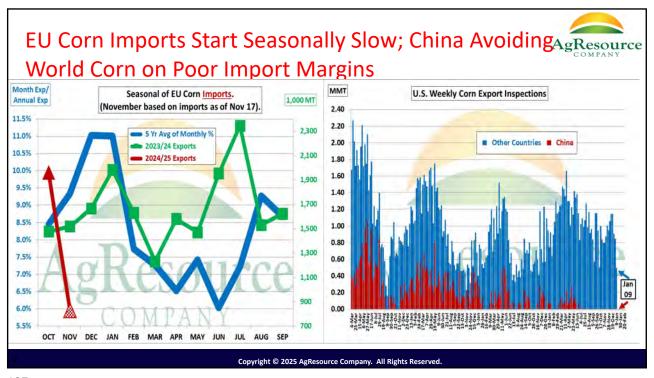


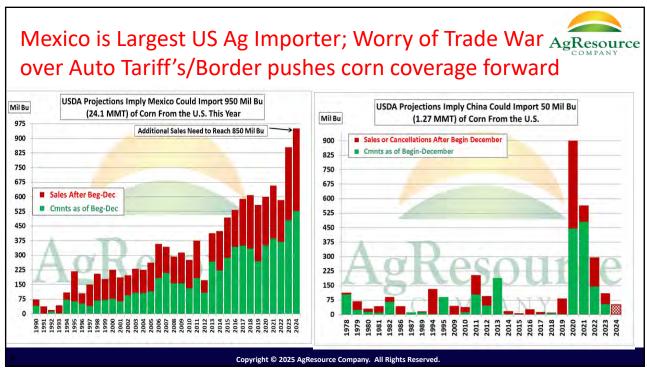


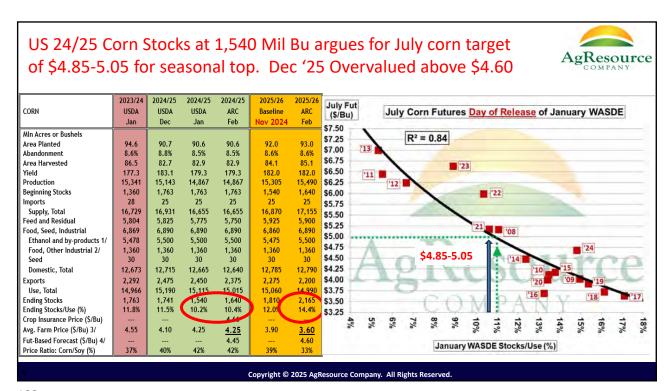


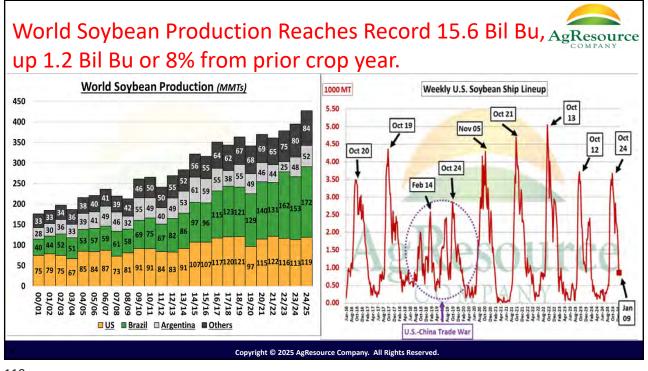


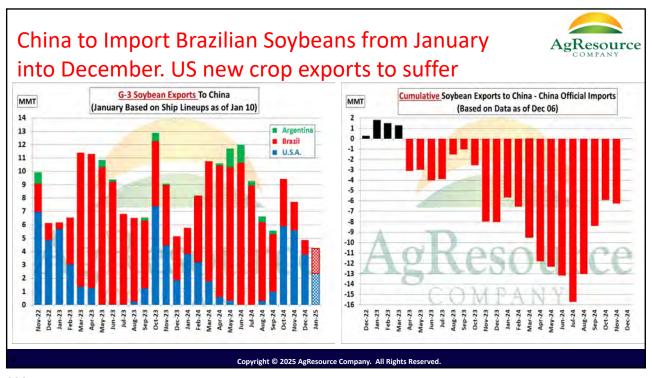


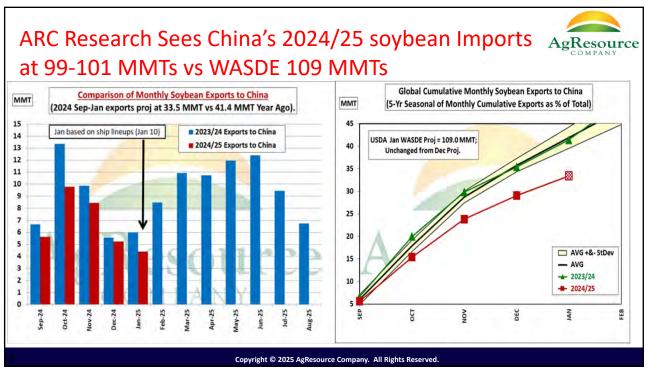






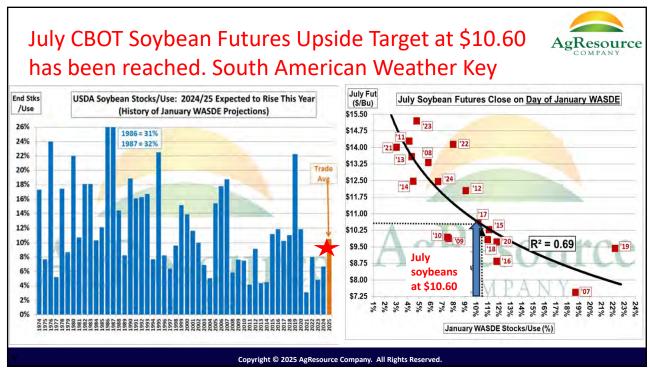


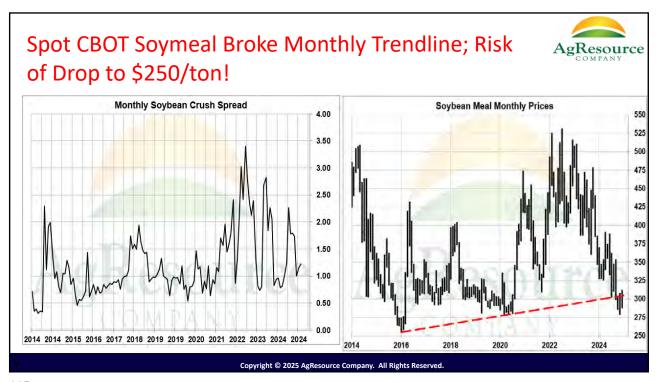


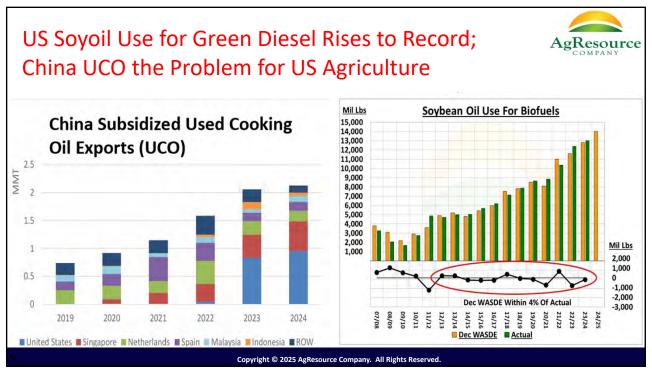


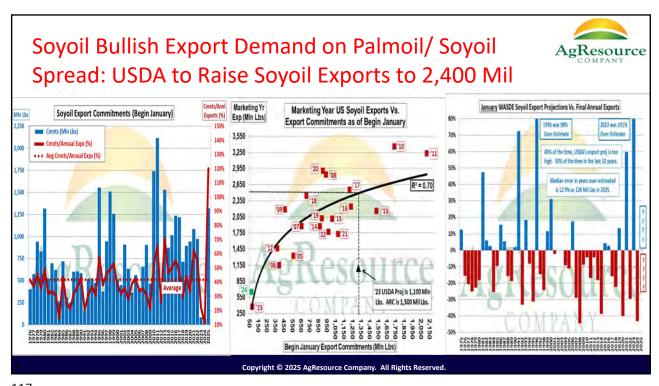
Spot Soybeans Struggle to rise above \$10.25 -**AgResource** Normal Brazilian Weather to Pressures Below \$9.00 World Soybean+Meal Stocks/Use Ratio: 2023/24 2024/25 2024/25 2024/25 SOYBEANS 2024/25 To Be 2nd Highest in History. Dec Feb ov 2024 Feb Jan Jan MIn Acres or Bushels 85.0 85.0 Area Planted 83.6 87.1 87.1 87.1 Abandonment (%) 1.6% 0.9% 1.1% 1.1% 0.9% 1.0% Area Harvested 82.3 86.3 86.1 86.1 84.2 84.2 Yield 50.6 51.7 50.7 50.7 52.5 52.5 4,162 4,366 4,420 Production 4,461 4,420 4,366 **Beginning Stocks** 342 342 380 433 342 264 Imports 15 21 15 20 20 4,818 4,815 Supply, Total 4,447 4,729 4,728 4,868 Crushings 2,287 2,410 2,410 2,410 2,475 1,600 Exports 1,695 1,825 1,825 1,775 1,885 78 78 78 32 Residual 45 35 33 32 1 185 4,105 4,348 4 295 4,470 Use, Total 4.349 380 433 683 **Ending Stocks** 342 470 345 Ending Stocks/Use (%) 8.3% 10.8% 8.7% 10.1% 7.7% 16.3% Crop Insurance Initial Price (\$/Bu) Avg. Farm Price (\$/Bu) 1/ 12 40 10.20 10.20 10.00 10.40 9.25 Futures-Based Forecast (\$/Bu) 2/ 256% Price Ratio: Soy/Corn (%) 273% 249% Copyright © 2025 AgResource Company.

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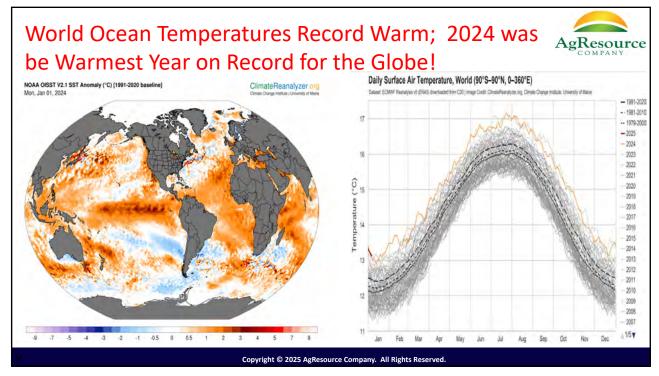


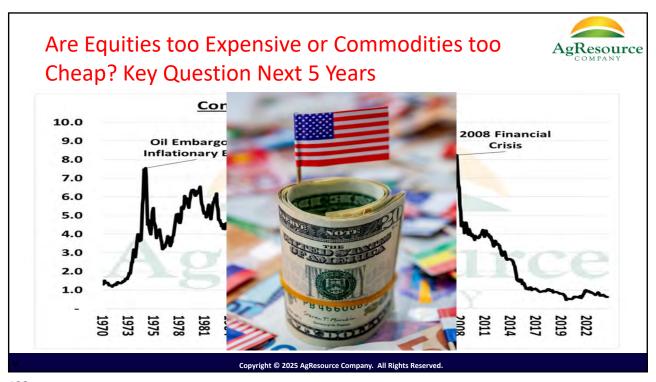




US Wheat Market Lacks A Fundamental Story into AgResource April/May. It's then all about new crop weather. 2024/25 2024/25 2024/25 2025/26 Mil Bu **US Winter Wheat Production** WHEAT USDA 1,800 Jan Jan MIn Acres or Bushels Area Planted 1,600 49.6 47.0 20.0% Abandonment (%) 25.2% 16.5% 16.5% 16.5% 1,400 37.6 50.1 38.5 38.5 38.5 Yield 48.7 51.2 51.2 51.2 1,200 1,885 798 Production 1,804 1,971 1,971 1,971 1.884 Beginning Stocks 570 696 696 696 798 1,000 125 130 130 Imports Supply, Total 2,512 2,793 2,798 2,798 2,802 2,798 800 Food 966 966 966 965 62 62 Seed 600 120 Feed and Residual 120 120 Domestic, Total 1,108 400 707 850 850 850 850 1,985 Use, Total 1,815 1,998 2,000 2,000 1,988 200 Ending Stocks 696 795 798 798 Ending Stocks/Use (%) 38.3% 39.8% 39.9% 39.9% 40.9% 41.0% HRW Crop Insurance Price (\$/Bu) HRS Crop Insurance Price (\$/Bu) 6.84 5.30 Avg. Farm Price (\$/Bu) 1/ 6.96 5.60 5.55 5.80 5.40 Fut-Based Forecast (\$/Bu) 2/ 5.95 Price Ratio: Wheat/Corn (%) 3/ 153% 137% 131% 123% 145% Copyright © 2025 AgResource Company. All Rights Reserved.



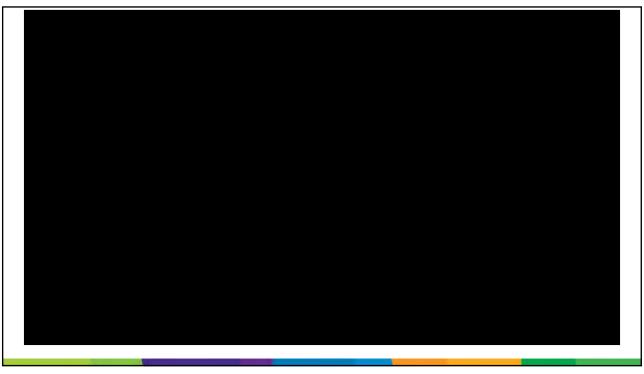


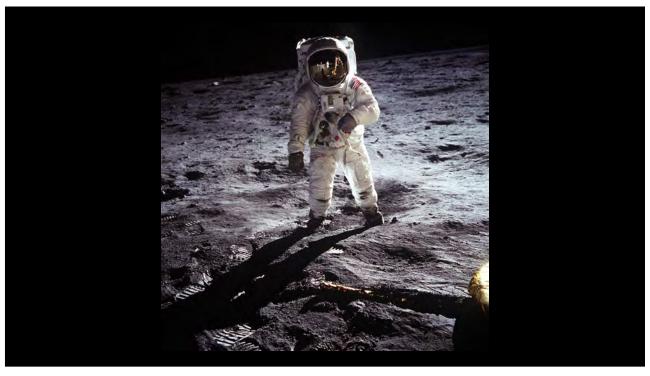






















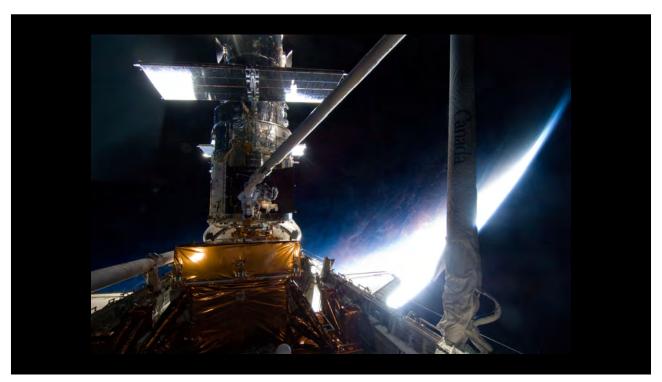






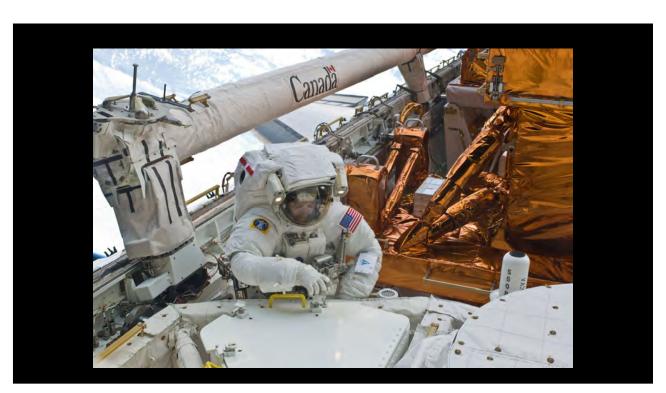










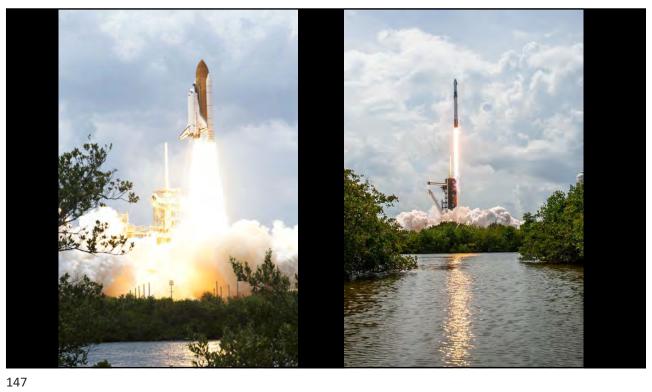


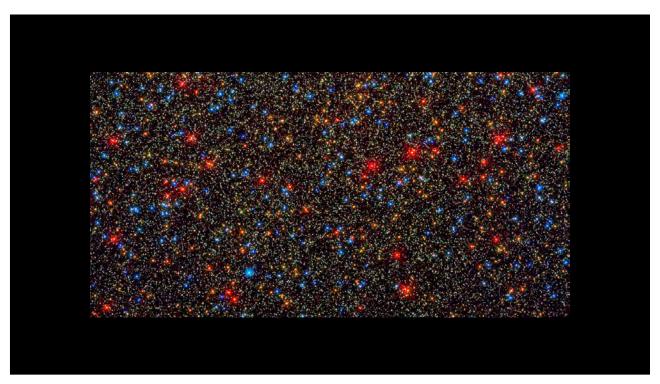


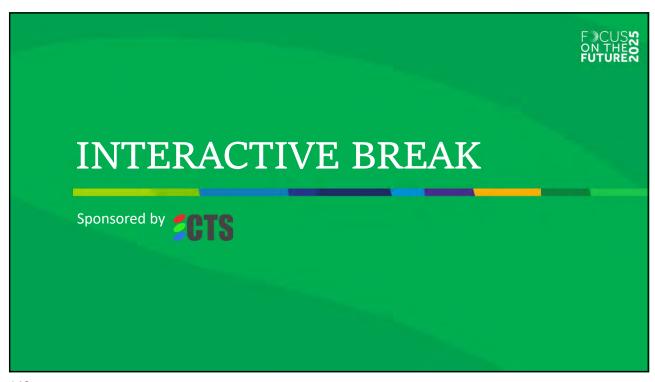


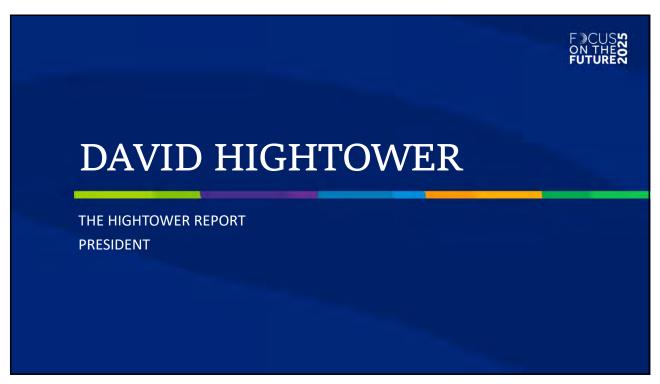








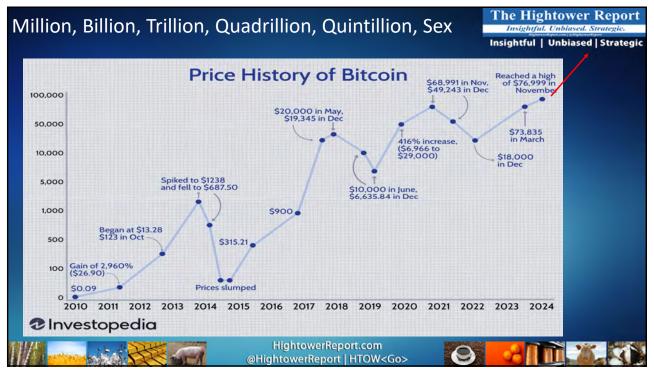






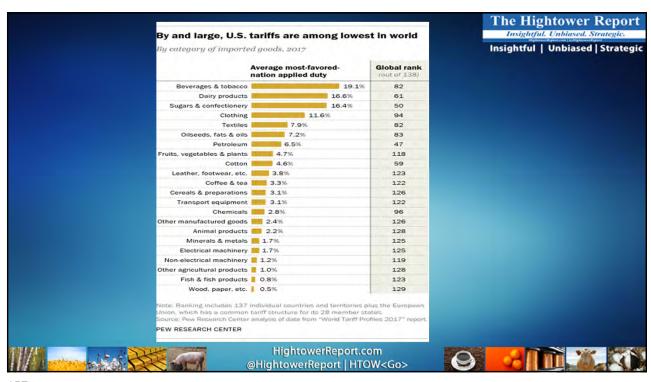


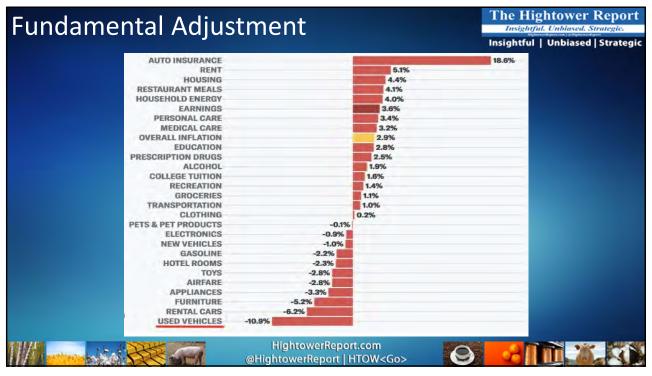


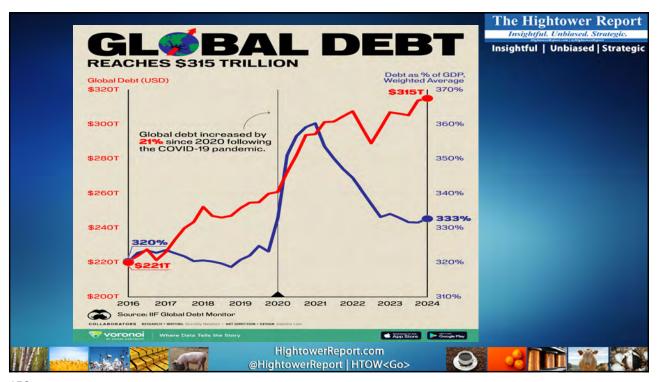


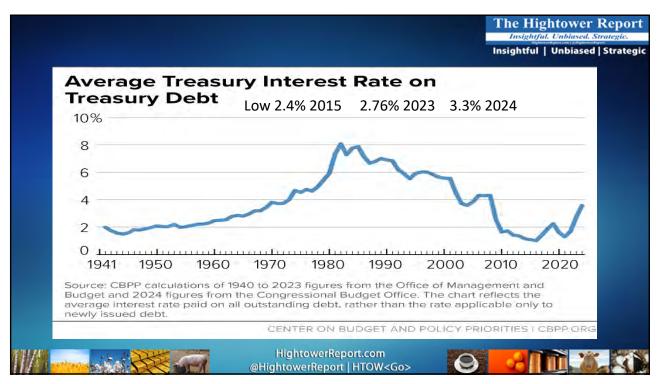


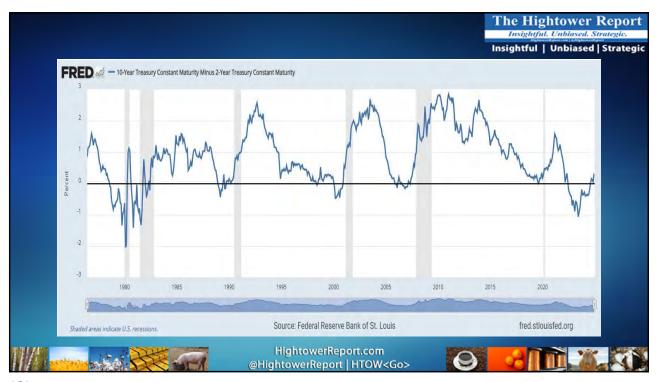




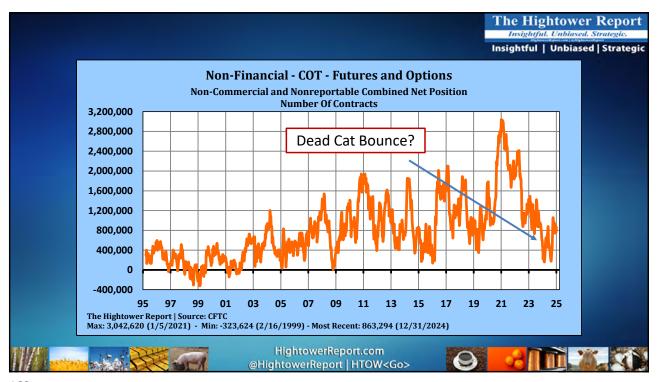




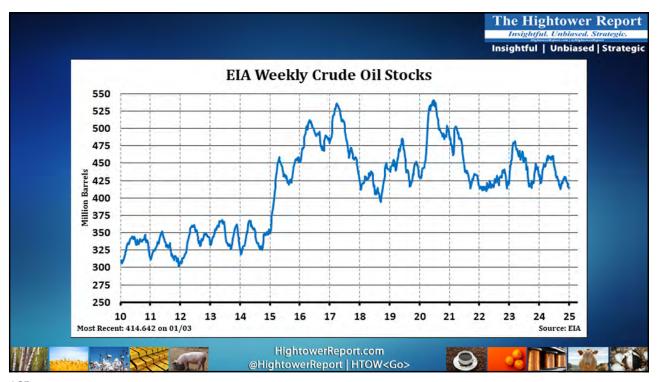


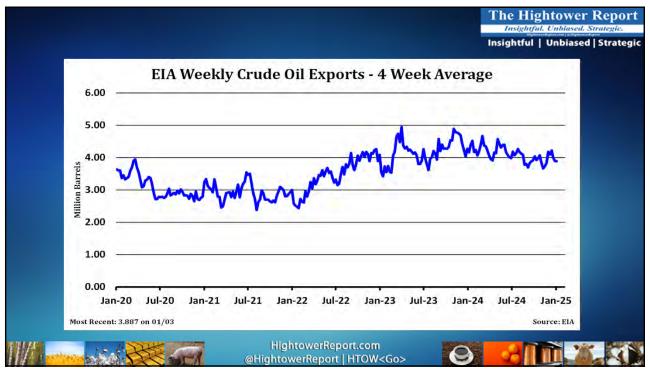


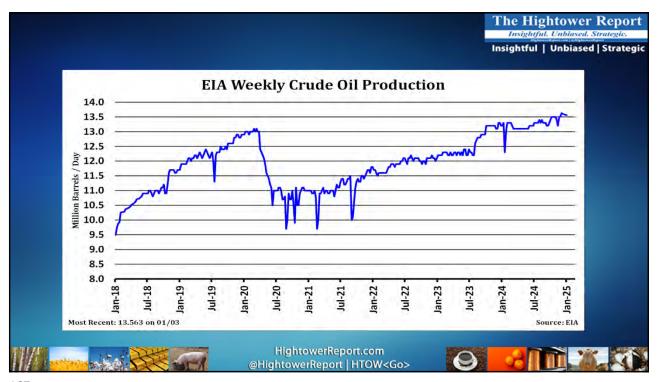




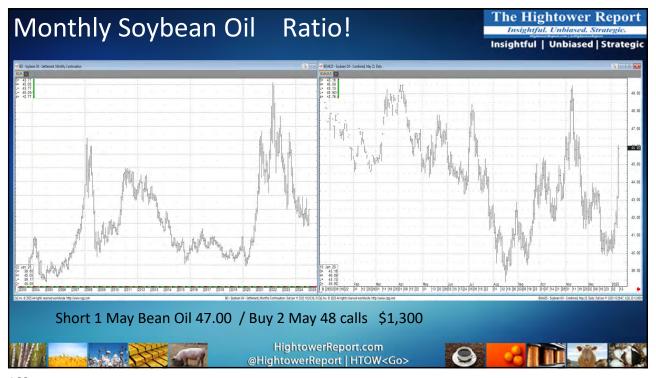




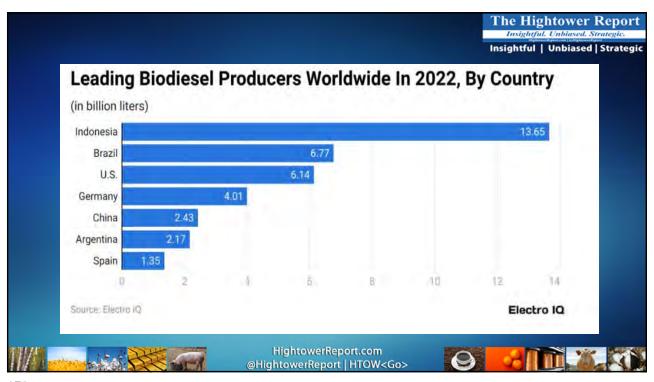


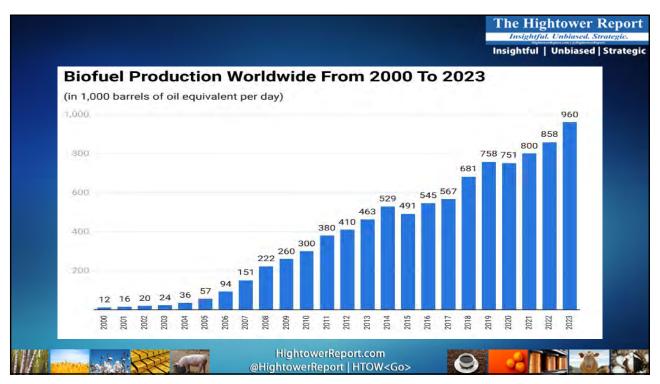


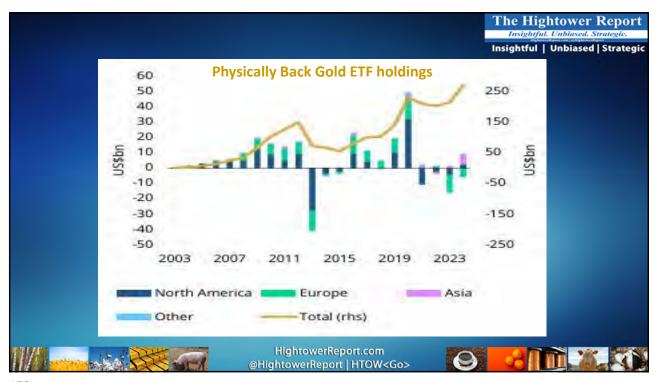


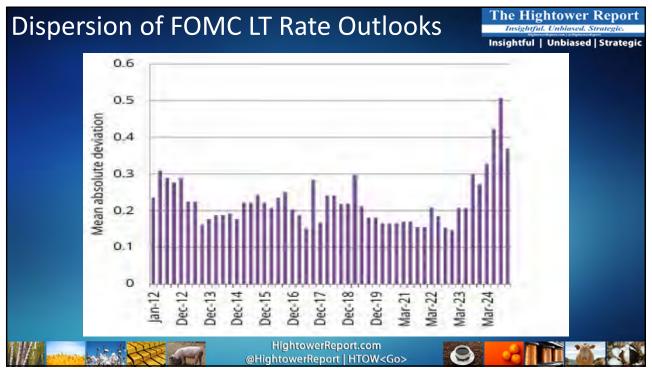


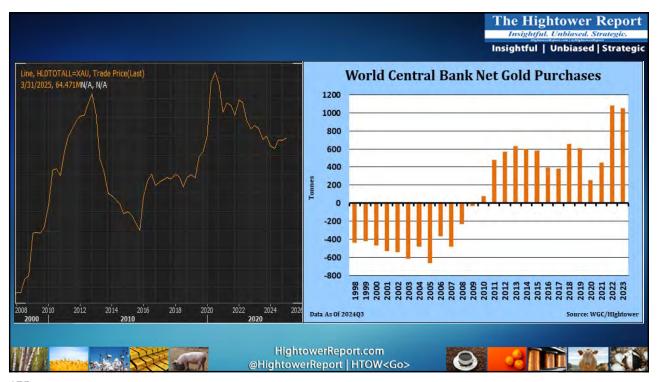








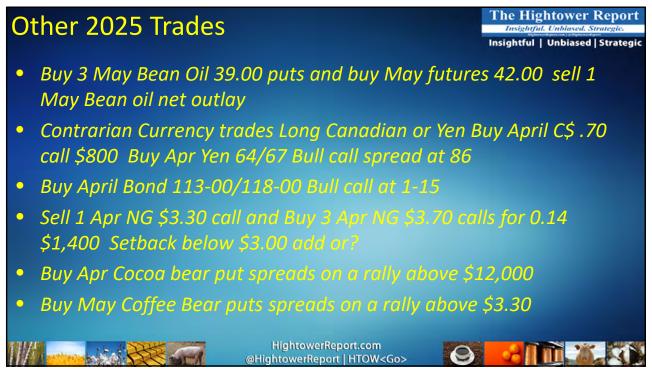








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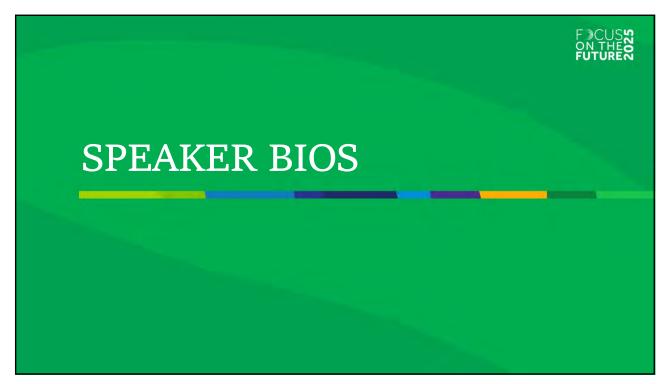


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KURT JOHNSON VP, Business Dev, ADM Investor Services

Kurt Johnson is Vice President, Business Development for ADM Investor Services and also serves as President of its wholly owned subsidiary, Archer Financial Services. His responsibilities include the oversight of both the ADMIS Sales & Marketing and Research departments.

He began his career in the futures industry in 1986 as a broker and a few years later founded the introducing brokerage firm, Sinclair Futures. Kurt currently serves on the IB Advisory Committee for the National Futures Association.

Kurt has been with ADMIS since 2002.

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RAY BRADBURY President, ADM Investor Services

Ray Bradbury is President at ADM Investor Services.

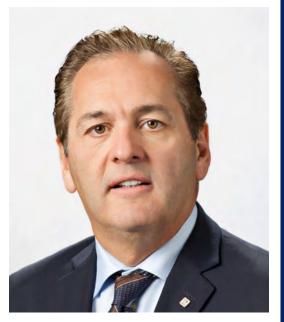
He is a twenty-year ADM veteran, since 2004, most recently serving as President of Risk Management.

Prior to ADM, Ray spent 20 years in senior positions in the Canadian grain industry, including 7 years as a broker on the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange. He brings to ADMIS significant and deep knowledge of our business and relationships established over his many years with the commany

Ray holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Manitoba.

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ERIK NORLAND Exec Dir & Sr Economist, CME Group

Erik Norland is Executive Director and Senior Economist of CME Group. He is responsible for generating economic analysis on global financial markets by identifying emerging trends, evaluating economic factors and forecasting their impact on CME Group and the company's business strategy, and upon those who trade in its various markets. He is also one of CME Group's spokespeople on global economic, financial and geopolitical conditions.

Prior to joining CME Group, Eric gained more than 18 years of experience in the financial services industry working for investment banks and hedge funds both in the United States and in France. He most recently served in sales and research at BEAM Bayesian Efficient Asset Management LLC. He began his career at Bankers Trust, Global Investment Management in New York working with the tactical asset allocation group.

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BRIAN HOWELL VP, Global Security, ADM

Greg Webb is vice president, State Government Relations of Archer Daniels Midland Company.

Greg joined ADM in 1986, working in the North American oilseeds processing business. In July 2002, he was named the company's North American trade representative for Grain and Oilseeds. He has served in his current role since October 2007.

Greg holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture economics from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. He serves on the boards of the Public Affairs Council, Chairman of the Board of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association, and is chair of the Central Illinois Political Action Committee.

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DAN BASSE President, AgResource Company

Dan Basse is a professional economist and analyst that has been in the commodity business since 1979. Raised on a dairy and grain farm in Waukesha, Wisconsin, Dan has a keen sense of production agriculture.

In 1988, he founded AgResource Company in Chicago. AgResource is a domestic and international Ag Advisory and Research firm which forecasts domestic and world agricultural price trends.

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ADA

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MIKE MASSIMINO Former NASA Astronaut, NY Times Bestselling Author; Media & TV Personality; Columbia University Professor

Mike Massimino, a former NASA astronaut, is a professor of Mechanical Engineering at Columbia University, and the senior advisor for space programs at the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Columbia and Master of Science degree in both Mechanical Engineering and Technology and Policy, as well as his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

After working as an engineer at IBM, NASA Headquarters and McDonnell Douglas Aerospace, along with academic appointments at both Rice University and the Georgia Institute of Technology, Mike was selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1996. A veteran of two space flights, the fourth and fifth Hubble Space Telescope servicing missions in 2002 and 2009, Mike has many accomplishments including a team record for the number of hours spacewalking in a single space shuttle mission and the first person to tweet from Space with over 1.3 million twitter followers currently. He has also received a number of awards including two NASA "Space Flight Medals", the NASA "Spistinguished Service Medal", and the American Astronautical Society's 2009 "Flight Achievement Award". He is also the holder of two patents and author of several engineering research papers.

Back at his alma mater, Columbia, Mike is teaching an undergraduate course, introduction to Human Space Flight, which harnesses his years of academic and professional experience. He is also working with The Art of Engineering, a course in which all first-year engineers attend design lectures and work on engineering projects with socially responsible themes.

When not in academia or at NASA, Mike has made several television appearances including a recurring role as himself on the CBS hit comedy, The Big Bang Theory. In addition, he frequently appears in specials on Discovery, History, PBS and National Geographic Channels, along with national and cable news. He has also been a guest on many of the late night talk shows including The Late Show with David Letterman and The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson.

Mike is author of Spaceman: An Astronaut's Unlikely Journey to Unlock the Secrets of the Universe (October 2016), where he tells the inspirational, unlikely, and often humorous story of his 18 years at NASA, including his four spacewalks to service the Hubble Space Telescope and his public relations work in telling the story of space. Massimino's account gives readers a first-hand look at the incredible legacy of the Hubble and the modern history of space travel in the final years of the shuttle era, including the tragedy of the 2003 Columbia disaster. It also offers an insider's take on the storied past and exciting future of manned space flight.



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DAVID HIGHTOWER President, The Hightower Report

David Hightower is a founding principal of The Hightower Report, a commodity research and information corporation, specializing in high quality futures research and analysis for individual investors, brokers, commercial producers and end users. The Hightower Report publishes one of the most widely read daily commodity wires in the world and has become a highly utilized industry consulting service with many brokerage

With over 35+ years of experience, David is thoroughly versed in the complex interaction of the world markets and global businesses, and his closeness to the markets is evidenced in his direct and opinionated analysis.

David has regularly appeared on CNN, Bloomberg Television and ONN.tv and is often cited in the Wall Street Journal, Futures Magazine, Reuters and many other industry publications.

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SHANE STILES President, Gate39 Media

Gate 39 Media is a digital marketing and technology firm specializing in serving the financial and agriculture industries.

With over two decades of experience in this sector, Shane has created a full-service agency that helps clients optimize their operations and build their business.

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