Brian C. Briggeman Economist Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City – Omaha Branch www.kansascityfed.org/omaha August 31, 2010

Protein Complex Outlook: Demand Side



The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System.

Today's Roadmap

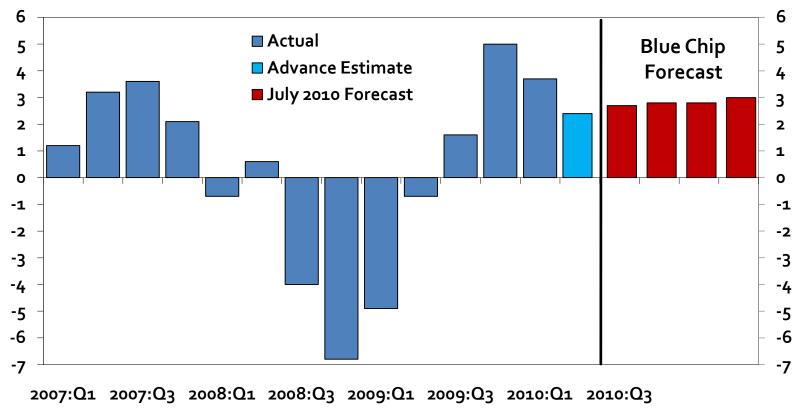
- Protein demand should be heavily influenced by the recovery
- Recovery is at hand but slower than expected
 - Financial Crisis and Impact on Credit
 - Unemployment and Slipping Demand
- Fiscal Challenges for the U.S. Government
- Monetary Challenges for the Federal Reserve
- What lies ahead?



Growth over the last four quarters points to recovery, but it is slower than expected.

Real GDP Growth

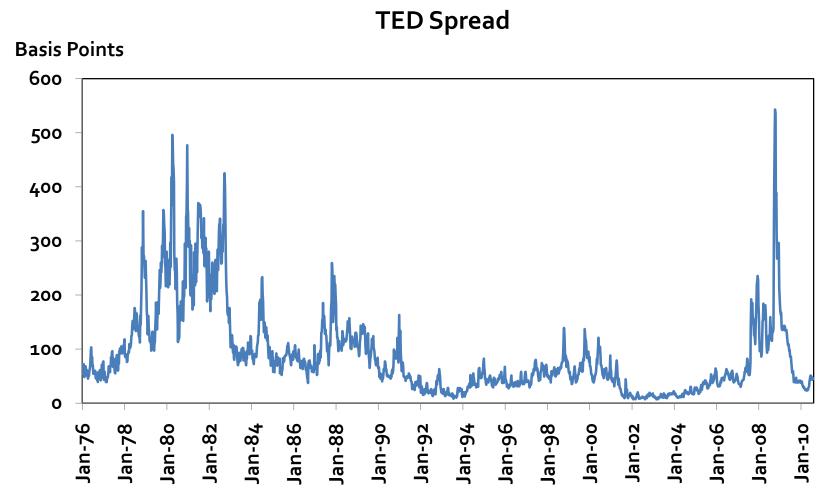




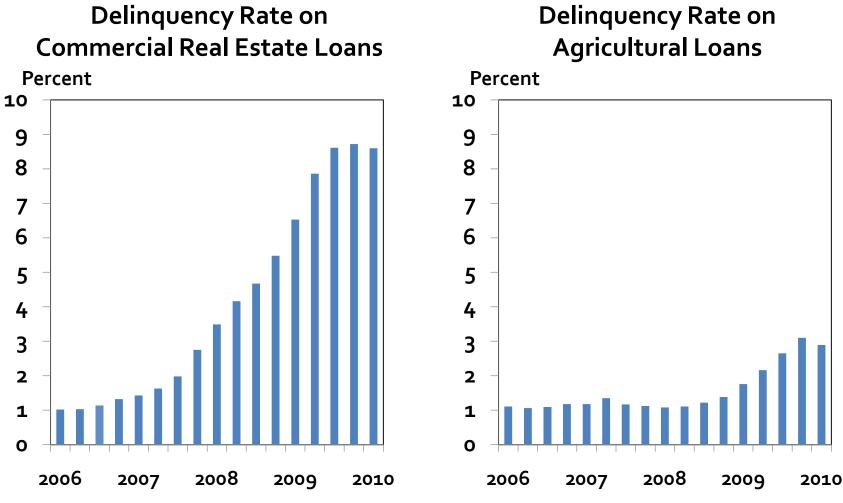
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis and Blue Chip Economic Indicators



The financial crisis has subsided.

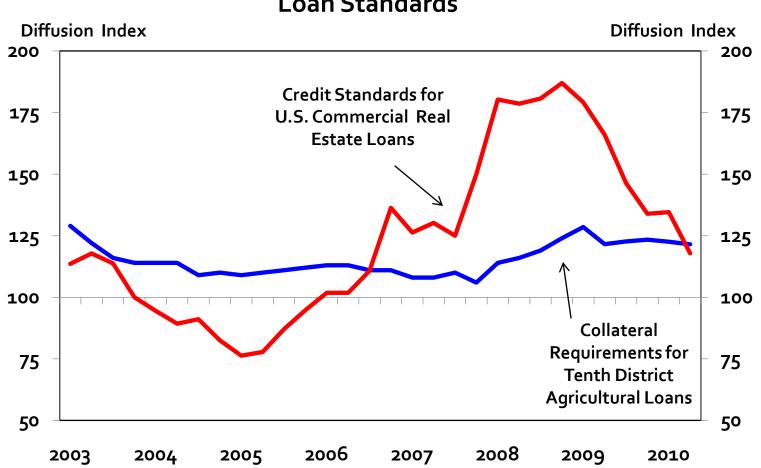


While CRE delinquency rates remain elevated, agriculture has held up better.





While credit remains tight, fewer lenders are raising standards.



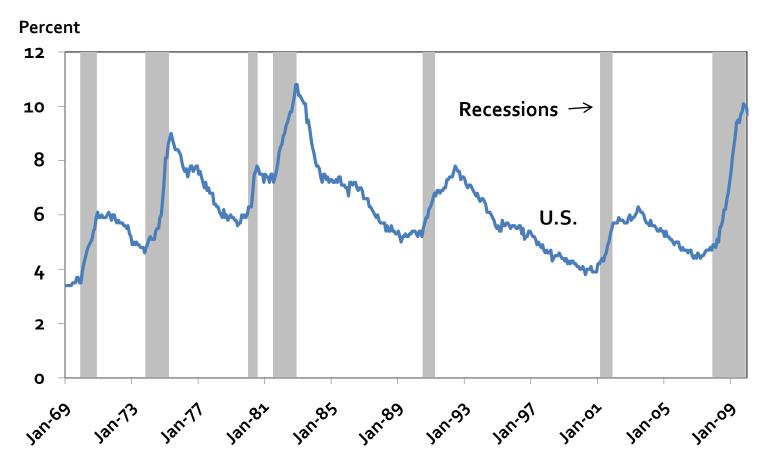
Loan Standards

Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors and Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City



Unemployment remains elevated.

U.S. Unemployment Rate (U3)





Traditionally, surging demand leads to spikes in net farm income.

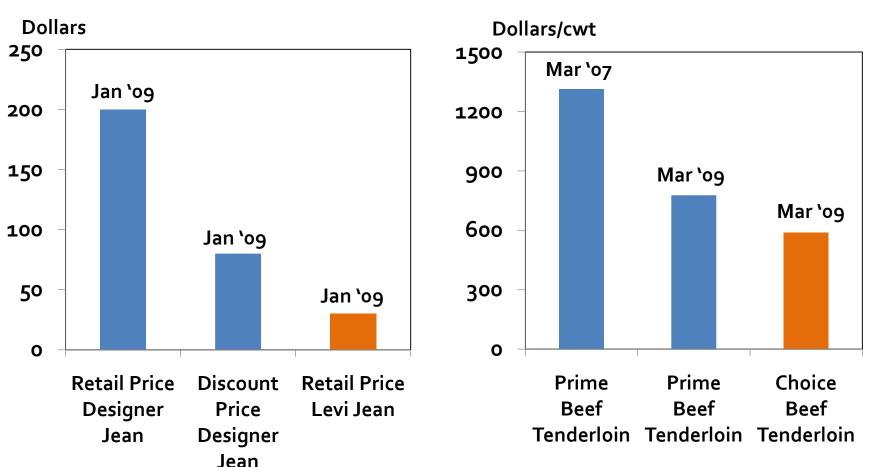
Billion dollars 140 Ethanol Russian 120 Grain & Deal **Exports** 100 **Atkins** Diet 80 60 40 20 0 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995 2000 2005 2010

Real U.S. Net Farm Income

Source: USDA



Given the severity of this recession, could the beef industry learn something from high fashion?



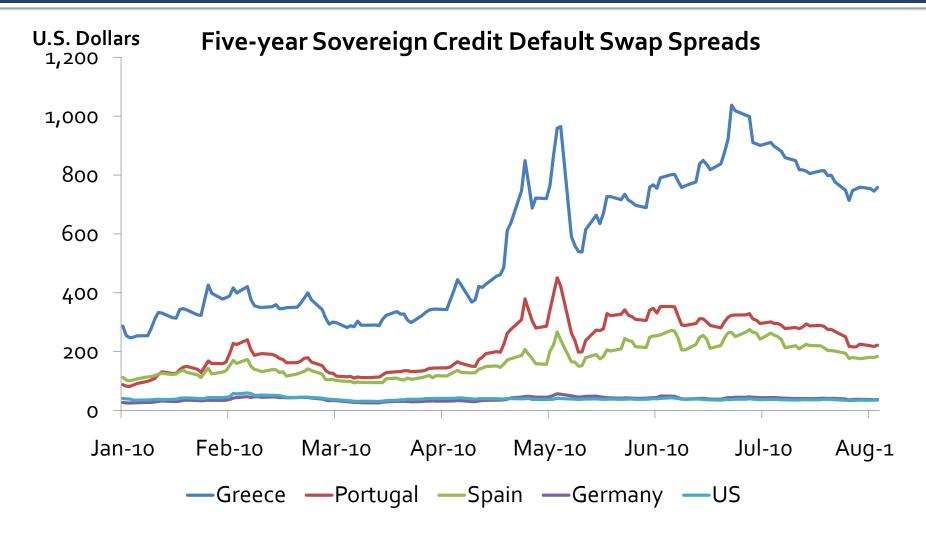
Price of Jeans

Source: Wall Street Journal, JCPenney, USDA Market News Service

Price of Beef Tenderloin



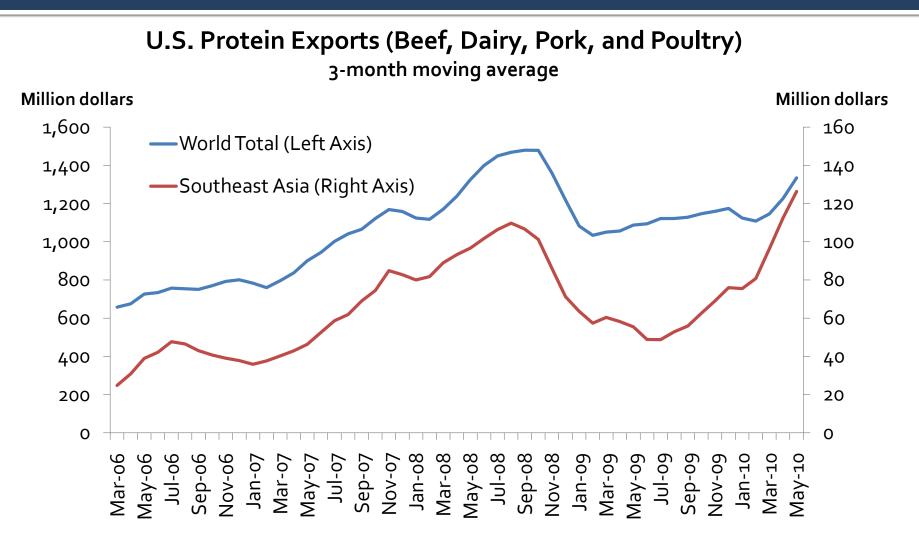
What does the European sovereign debt crisis mean for the U.S. economy and agriculture?



Source: Bloomberg data starting 1/4/10 and ending 5/12/10. U.S. is priced to Euros.



Protein exports are rising.

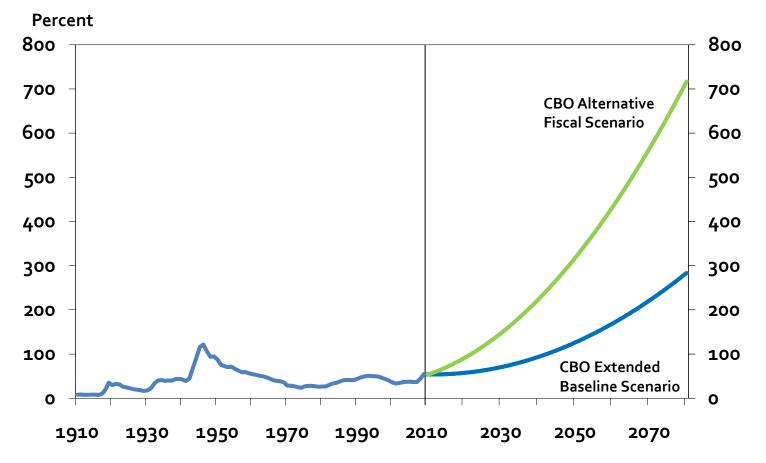


Source: USDA



Short-run Federal debt spending helps stimulate the economy, but can pose long-run challenges.

U.S. Federal Debt as a Percent of GDP



Source: Congressional Budget Office, November 2009



The Federal Reserve's exit strategy does matter for agriculture.

Federal Reserve Balance Sheet: Assets

Billion Dollars 2,400 Short-term Lending to Financial Firms 2,000 Rescue Operations Operations Focused on Broader Credit Conditions 1,600 Other Assets 1,200 Treasury Portfolio 800 400 0 Jul-08 Jul-07 Jan-o8 Jul-09 Jul-10 Jan-07 Jan-09 Jan-10

Excess reserves held at the Fed have surged.

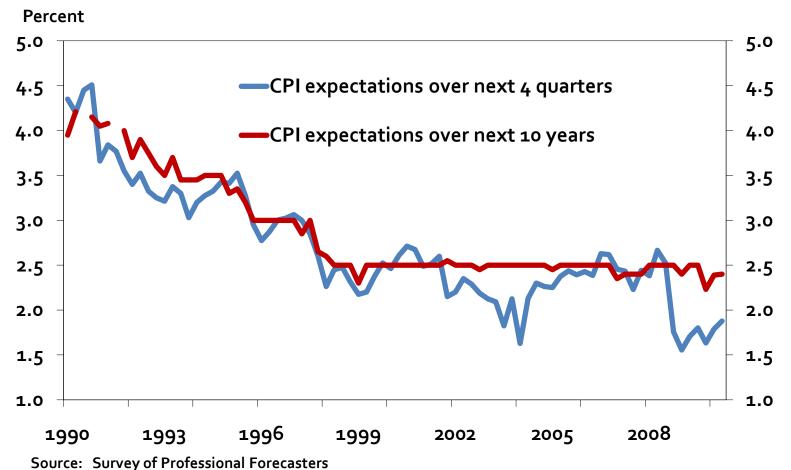
Billion dollars 1,400 1,200 1,000 800 600 400 ≈ 2 Billion Dollars 200 0 Jan-o8 So-luL Jul-09 Jan-10 Jul-10 Jan-09

Excess Reserves of Depository Institutions



Inflation expectations remain subdued.

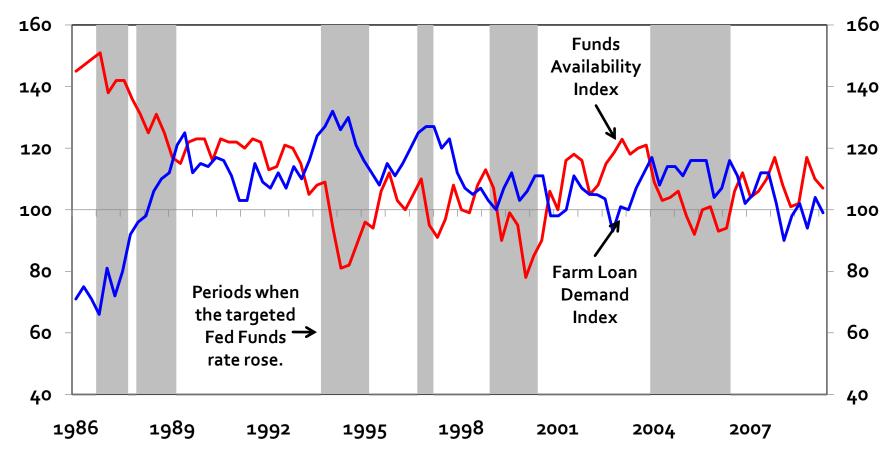
U.S. Inflation Expectations





Historically, when monetary policy tightens, funds available to meet farm loan demand falls.

Tenth District Farm Loan Demand and Funds Availability



Source: Federal Reserve Board of Governors and Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City



Questions?

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