

# Farmland Prices, Cash Rents, and Potential Credit Availability

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



## Farmland Prices, Cash Rents, and Potential Credit Availability

Today's Outline:

- The Drivers of Change
  - Non-farm demand
  - Farm demand surges
- Has the Farm Boom Peaked?
- Credit Availability



# On a national basis, real farmland values have topped their 1980s highs

#### **U.S. Farmland Values**





Photos courtesy of USDA



# The Heartland, however, has not topped their 1980s highs

Real Farmland Value Gains (Percent change from 1980s highs to 2008)

Below 1980s highs
Up 0 to 20%
Up 20 to 70%
Up 100% or more

Source: USDA

## Land value gains outpace cash rents

#### **U.S. Cropland Values and Cash Rents**



Photos courtesy of USDA

and See 11.



#### **Cash Rent to Cropland Value Ratios**



Photos courtesy of USDA

Regional, Public, and Community Affairs



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# **Recreational demand surged** over the past decade

#### **U.S. Wildlife Recreation Expenditures for** Land Ownership and Leasing

#### **Billion dollars**



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# Kansas Missouri Metropolitan Areas (1999)





# Kansas Missouri Metropolitan Areas (2003)





## Kansas Missouri Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas (2003)









# Recreation and residential demand has slowed

### **Reasons for Farmland Purchased by Non-farmers**





## **Government payments have declined** in a booming farm economy

### **U.S. Farm Subsidy Payments**



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#### Market returns to Crop Production (less variable or operating costs)



anal State 11.

Photos courtesy of USDA

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### Farmland Value Gains by State Third Quarter 2007 to Third Quarter 2008

	Nonirrigated	Irrigated	Ranchland
Kansas	21.8	25.1	19.0
Missouri	17.1	18.6	10.9
Nebraska	28.3	25.9	17.1
Oklahoma	16.3	24.0	16.5
Mountain	7.6	15.6	7.6
States			
		hand	~~~~~

Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City



Photos courtesy of USDA



# Farm input costs surged beyond expectations

#### 2008 Farm Input Costs





## **Production costs could rise further**

#### Crop Breakeven Prices (Variable and Fixed Costs)

**Dollars per bushel** 



## **Have Farmland Values Peaked?**

#### Historical and Projected Returns to Corn Production

	2007	2008	2009
Total Revenue per acre	\$657	\$837	\$816
Price (dollars per bush	el) \$4.35	\$5.40	\$5.25
Yield (bushel per acre)	151	155	<b>156</b>
Total Costs per acre (excluding	g land) \$358	\$462	\$488
Returns to Land (dollars per a	cre) \$299	\$375	<u>\$328</u>
Calculations based on USDA and FAPRI			
Capitalized value at 5.5% cap ra	ate \$5440	\$6811	\$5970

Photos courtesy of USDA



### **Have Farmland Values Peaked?**

What If?

**Projected Returns to Corn Production** 

		2009	09a	09b	<u>09c</u>
A	Total Revenue per acre	\$816	\$624	\$816	\$889
	Price (dollars per bushel)	\$5.25	\$4.00	\$5.25	\$5.70
	Yield (bushel per acre)	156	156	<b>156</b>	156
	Total Costs per acre (excluding land)	\$488	\$488	<b>\$562</b>	\$561
	Returns to Land (dollars per acre)	\$328	\$136	\$254	<u>\$328</u>

2009 calculations based on USDA and FAPRI but what if scenarios are arbitrary

Capitalized value at 5.5% cap rate \$5970 \$2473 \$4618 \$5970





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  - Based on banker responses to the Agricultural Credit Survey



## **Farm Income and Capital Spending**

**Diffusion Index\*** 





\*Bankers responded to each item by indicating whether conditions during the current quarter were higher than, lower than, or the same as in the year-earlier period. The index numbers are computed by subtracting the percent of bankers that responded "lower" from the percent that responded "higher" and adding 100.





## **Farm Credit Conditions**

**Diffusion Index\*** 



\*Bankers responded to each item by indicating whether conditions during the current quarter were higher than, lower than, or the same as in the year-earlier period. The index numbers are computed by subtracting the percent of bankers that responded "lower" from the percent that responded "higher" and adding 100.

Photos courtesy of USDA



### **District Farm Interest Rates**



Source: Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

## **Importance of Operating Credit**

- According to the USDA, most farm loans are a fixed rate loan for real estate
- However, operating credit is important given recent input cost increases
  - Over the last 5 years 27-30 percent of cash expenses were short-term financed
  - Total operating credit has increased from \$47 billion in 2003 to over \$58 billion in 2007
  - Source: USDA

Photos courtesy of USDA

- Positive correlation between credit use
   and farm size
  - Scope, scale, and collateral availability



percent of bankers that responded "lower" from the percent that responded "higher" and adding 100.

Photos courtesy of USDA

## Conclusions

- Land values boom with rising farm income.
- Have farmland values peaked?
  - Expected decrease in farm income.
  - Uncertainty of ethanol.
  - Global supply in the future.
- Higher seed costs and other input costs have created operating loan demand.
  - Agricultural credit supply

Photos courtesy of USDA

 The state of agriculture was volatile in 2008, what will 2009 hold?