

2026/2027 World Grain Market Outlook

2026 Risk & Profit Conference – Kansas State University

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KSU AGRICULTURAL ECONOMISTS

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Agricultural Economics



IGP Institute



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International Grain Markets

Potential Impacts on the U.S. Grain Trade



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Macro Issues

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Potential Impacts
on the U.S. Grain Trade

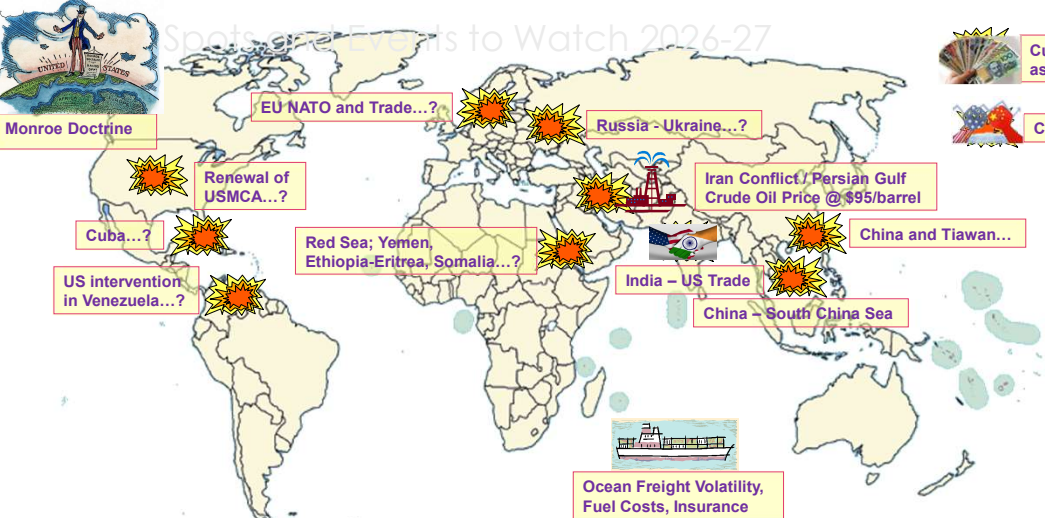


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Geo Political Hot Spots

Spots and Events to Watch 2026-27





Monroe Doctrine

EU NATO and Trade...?

Renewal of USMCA...?

Cuba...?

US intervention in Venezuela...?

Red Sea; Yemen, Ethiopia-Eritrea, Somalia...?

India - US Trade

China - South China Sea

Ocean Freight Volatility, Fuel Costs, Insurance

Russia - Ukraine...?

Iran Conflict, Persian Gulf Crude Oil Price @ \$95/barrel

China and Taiwan...

China - US Trade

Currency: US Dollar, as Reserve Currency

Source:

4

Current Market Outlook & Issues

Geo Political Risks – Western Hemisphere

- **Monroe Doctrine**
- **USMCA**
 - **Mexico** –
 - **Canada** – Schedule renegotiation of USMCA (NAFTA) has been complicated by Canada
- **Venezuela** – U.S. intervention and change in leadership
- **Cuba** – Country on the edge of collapse

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Current Market Outlook & Issues

Geo- Political Risks

- **Russia – Ukraine:** Would suggest open hostilities are likely to end by the end of the year. A significant increase in casualties and destruction of strategic infrastructure, both military and commercial assets (including grain storage, handling, transportation, and export shipping assets...) would suggest a desperate last ditch effort to gain long term future advantage.
 - **Sea of Azov** –
 - **Ukrainian Ports** –
- **Persian Gulf: Iran – Israel, U.S.**
 - **The Kurds in Iran, Iraq, Turkey, Syria** –
 - **Iraq** –
 - **Hezbollah in Lebanon** –
 - **Yemen and the Houthi** –
 - **Ethiopia and Eritrea / Conflict With Al-Shabaab in Somalia**

- **Red Sea / Suez Canal**
 - **Houthis in Yemen** –
 - **Ethiopia and Eritrea** –
 - **Somalia** –
 - **Sahel** – (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, The Gambia, Guinea Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal) – Growing strength of violent organizations threatens a humanitarian crisis and instability, posing security and financial risks to the United States and Europe.
- **China:**
 - **Belts & Roads Initiative**
 - **Regional**
 - **Taiwan**
 - **South China Sea and broader territory claims**
- **Afghanistan and Pakistan** –
- **North Korea** –

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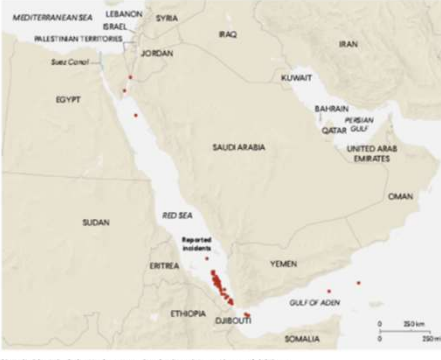
Current Market Overview, Outlook & Issues

Yemen – Houthi Attacks



Where Ships Are Being Targeted

Reported incidents of Houthi targeting of vessels between November 19, 2023 and January 2, 2024



Note: Incidents include attacks, approaches, business interruptions, and sightings.

40% of Asia – Europe Trade
A disruption in trade could send a ripple effect of higher costs across the world economy.

Container Traffic
1/3rd of all containers flows through the Suez Canal.

Energy
- 12% of seaborne crude oil
- 8% of LNG)

Shipping detours around the southern tip of Africa increase the distance from **8.5k nm** (26days) to **11.8k nm** (36 days) or by **39%**; (over **US\$1million**)

Avoiding the Red Sea Means Much Longer Shipping Routes



Note: Distances and days are approximate.

- Yemen Since mid-November 2023, the Yemen-based, Iran-backed Houthi rebel group has attacked dozens of commercial ships in the Red Sea, with no signs of slowing down. An exodus of shipping companies from the region now threatens to scuttle supply chains and increase consumer prices just as global inflation begins to ebb.
- The United States has announced an international security initiative to protect commercial vessels, but some experts say the effort falls short of the necessary deterrence, and others worry a forceful response could propel the region into wider conflict.

Source: Global Conflict Tracker - <https://www.cfr.org/global-conflict-tracker/conflict/war-yemen>

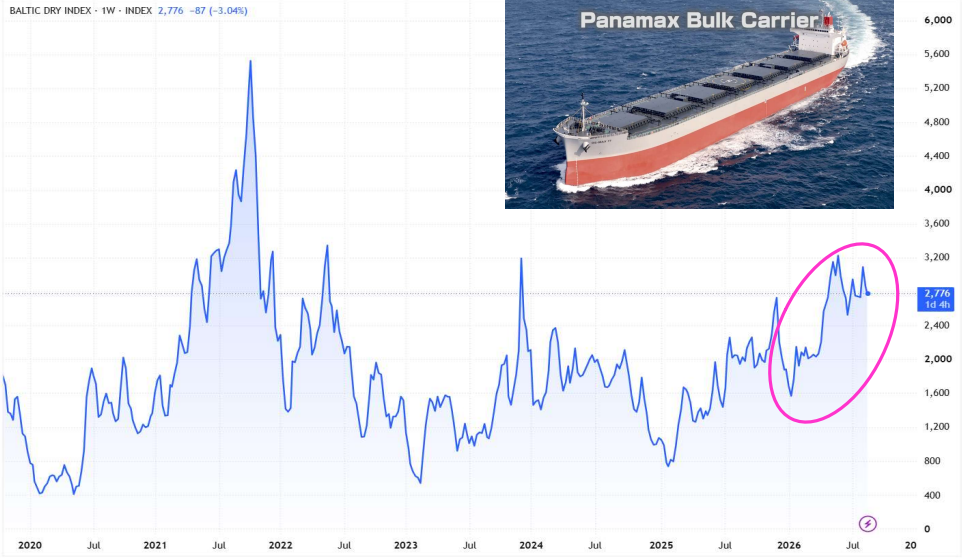
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Baltic Dry Bulk Index



Created with TradingView.com, Aug 20, 2026 20:54 UTC

BALTIC DRY INDEX - 1W - INDEX 2,776 -87 (-3.04%)



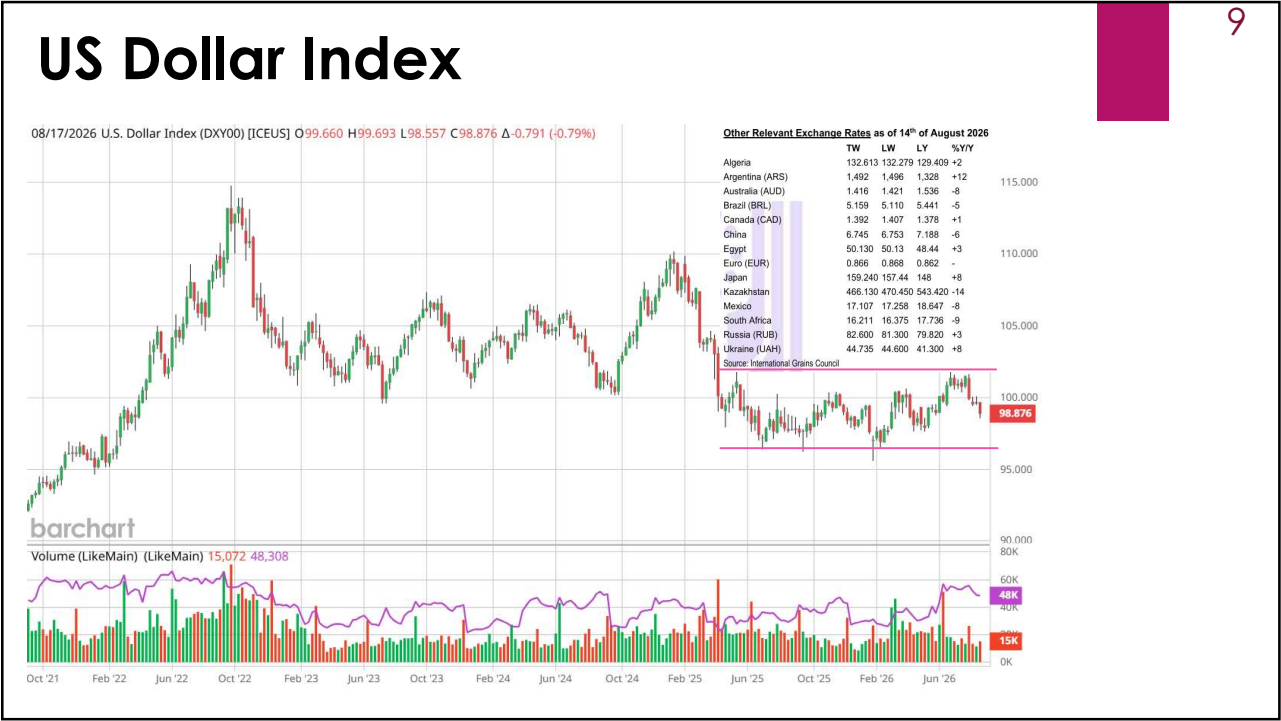
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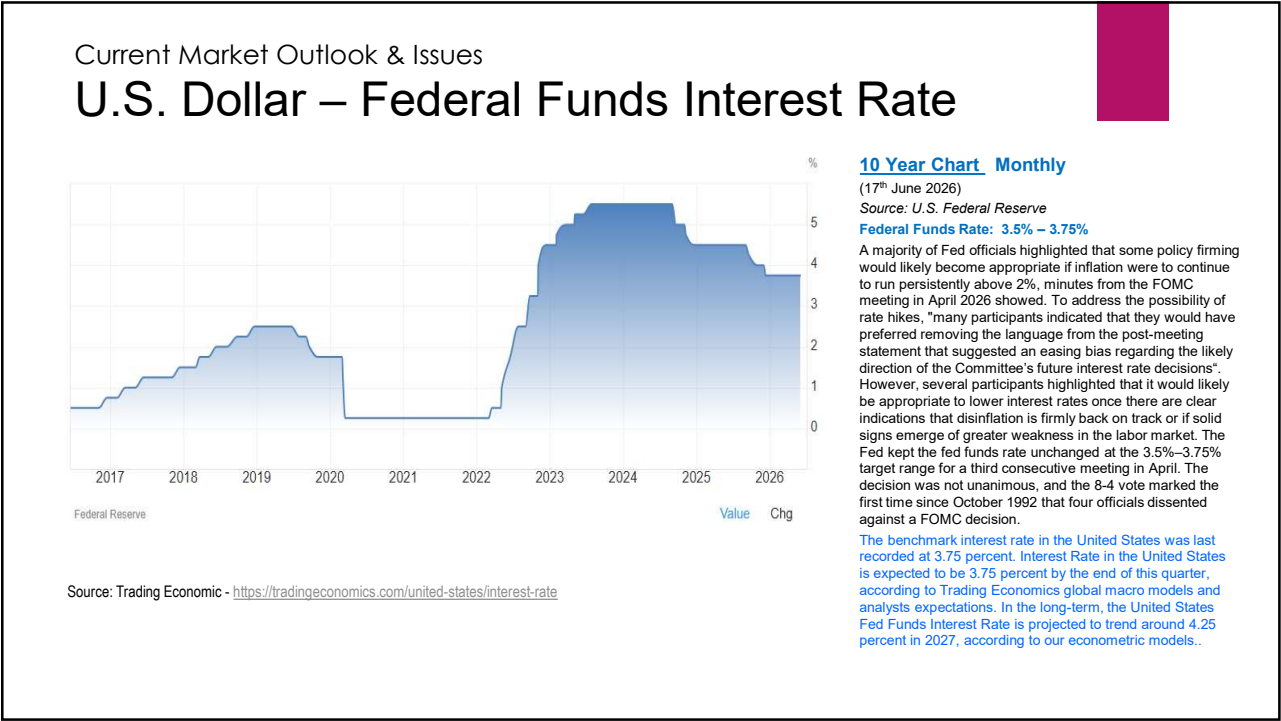
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Prepared by Guy Allen & Daniel O’Brien, Kansas State University

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Current Market Outlook & Issues

U.S. Dollar and the Petrodollar System

The diagram illustrates the flow of the petrodollar system. It starts with 'OIL SOLD' represented by an oil pumpjack and a ship. An arrow points to 'PAID IN U.S. DOLLARS' represented by stacks of US dollar bills and gold coins. Another arrow points to 'REINVESTED IN U.S. TREASURIES' represented by the US Capitol building and stacks of US dollar bills. Below the diagram, text states: 'Drives Demand for Dollars and Supports the System' and 'The U.S. Treasury lists Saudi and UAE funds among the top 20 national holders of Treasury securities, with almost \$250 billion between them; billions more sit in dollar deposits in London and offshore centers.'

The Reality Check: The threat to the US Dollar is **not** that the Chinese Yuan or a BRICS currency will totally replace it, but the threat of fragmentation.

As alternative networks process hundreds of billions in energy trades, the aggregate global demand for US Dollars and Treasuries will gradually diminish, permanently weakening America's economic leverage and sanctioning power.

While the US dollar remains the dominant reserve currency, these alternatives are securing a permanent, functional foothold in global trade.

Currently the “**petroyuan**” and BRICS payment systems are transitioning from theoretical concepts to live, operational infrastructure. Driven heavily by Western sanctions and recent geopolitical conflict in the Middle East, the global financial architecture is actively fracturing into a multipolar system.

Venezuela - United States military intervention in Venezuela and the seizure of control over state assets aim to force the revival of the country's oil industry and restore dollar-dominated energy trading. This aggressive move was designed to disrupt non-dollar settlements, bolster sagging petrodollar credibility, and thwart growing Chinese and Russian economic influence in the region.

Iran - Recent military actions have strained the petrodollar system by exposing vulnerabilities in US security guarantees for Gulf states and disrupting maritime trade chokepoints.

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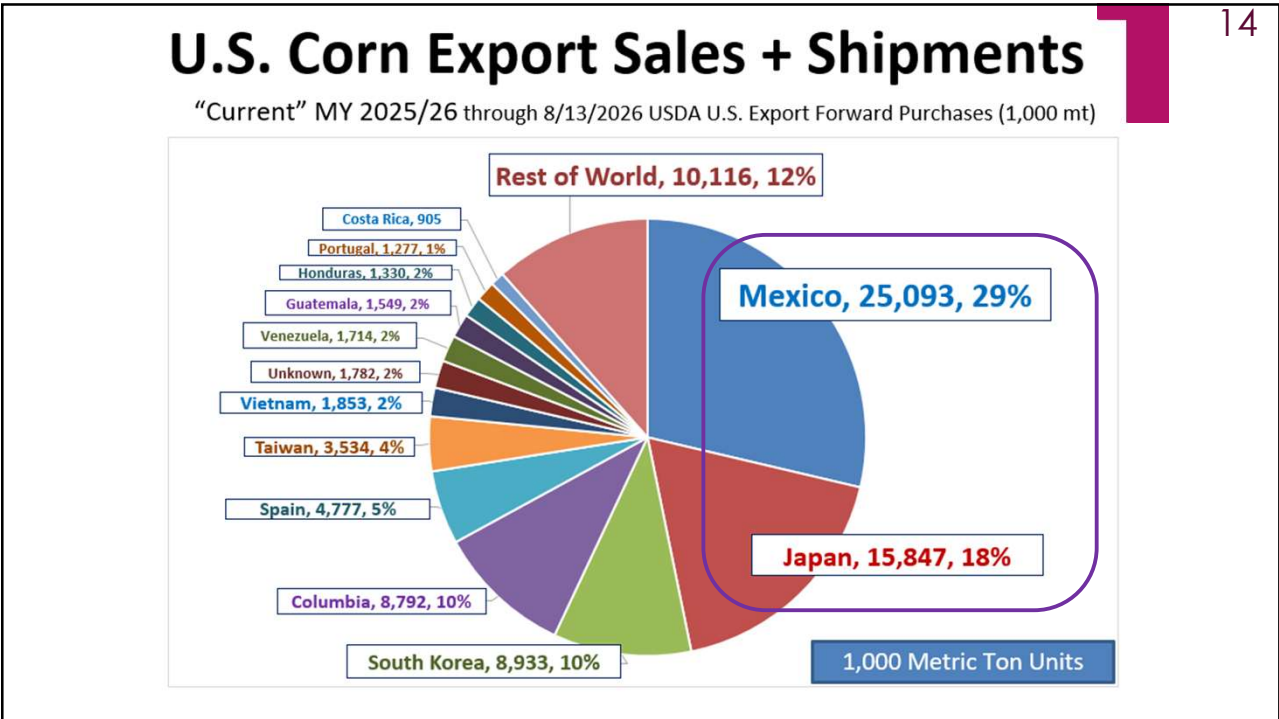
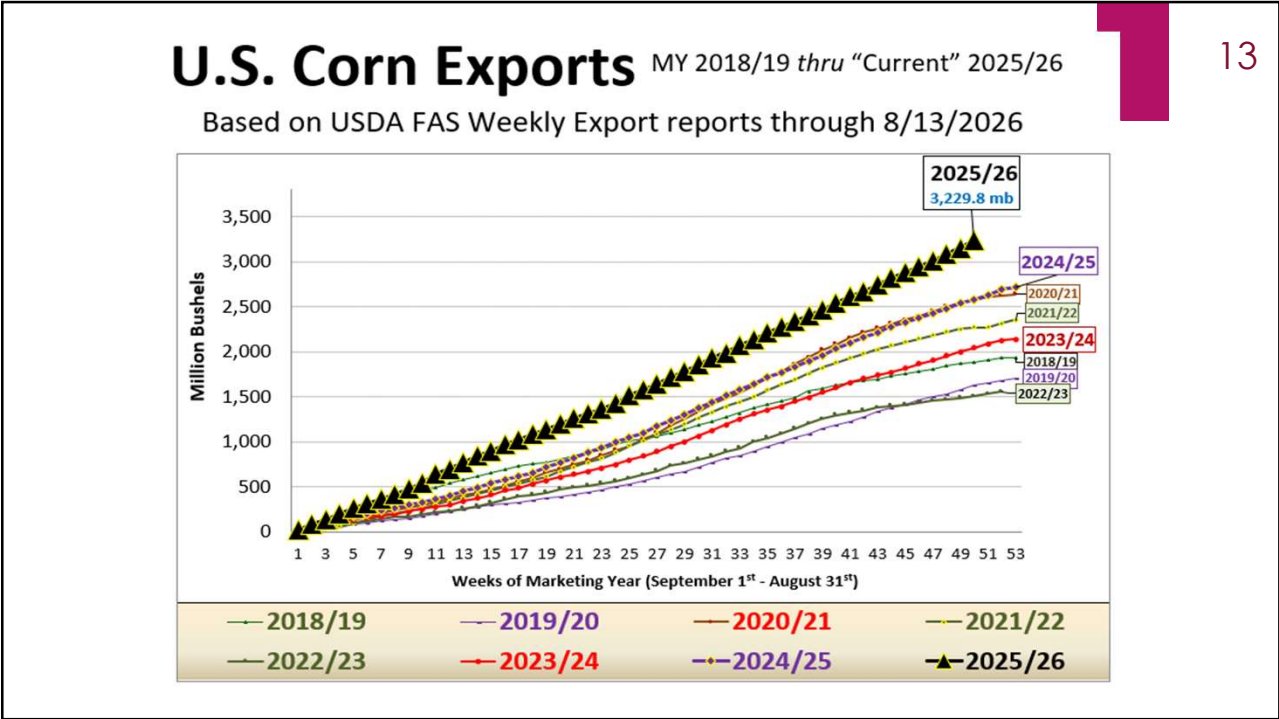
Corn Markets

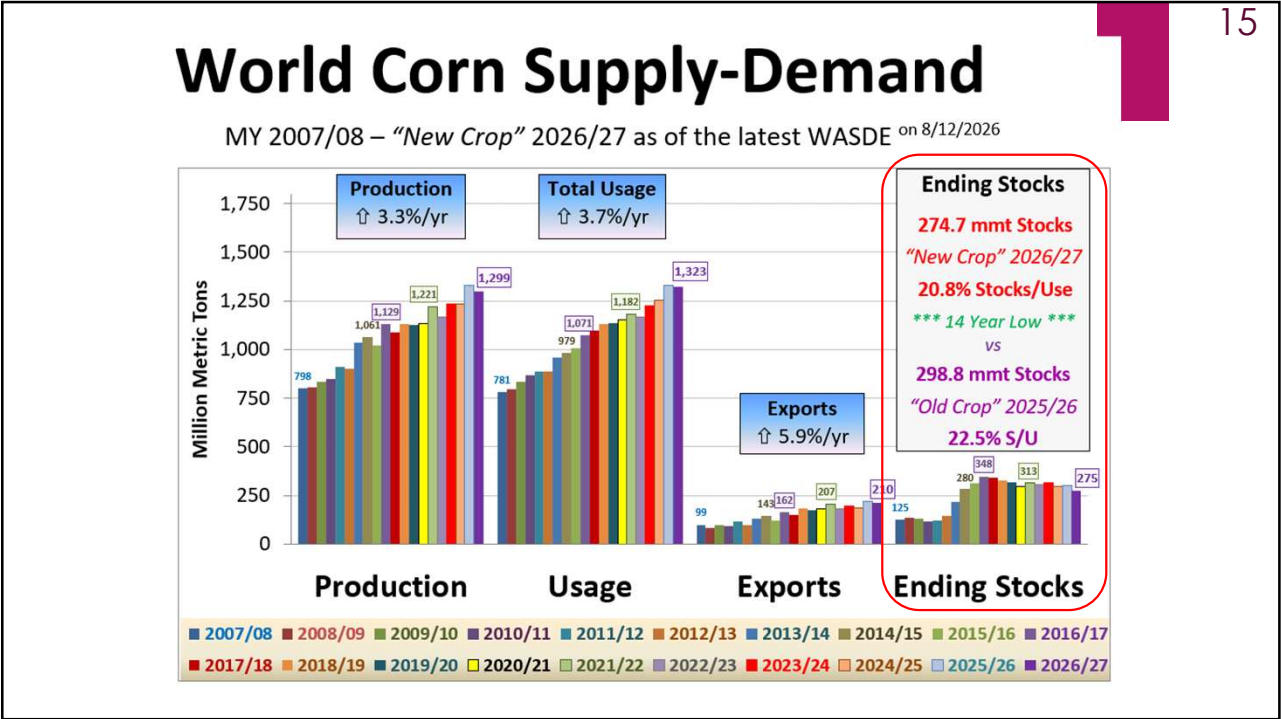
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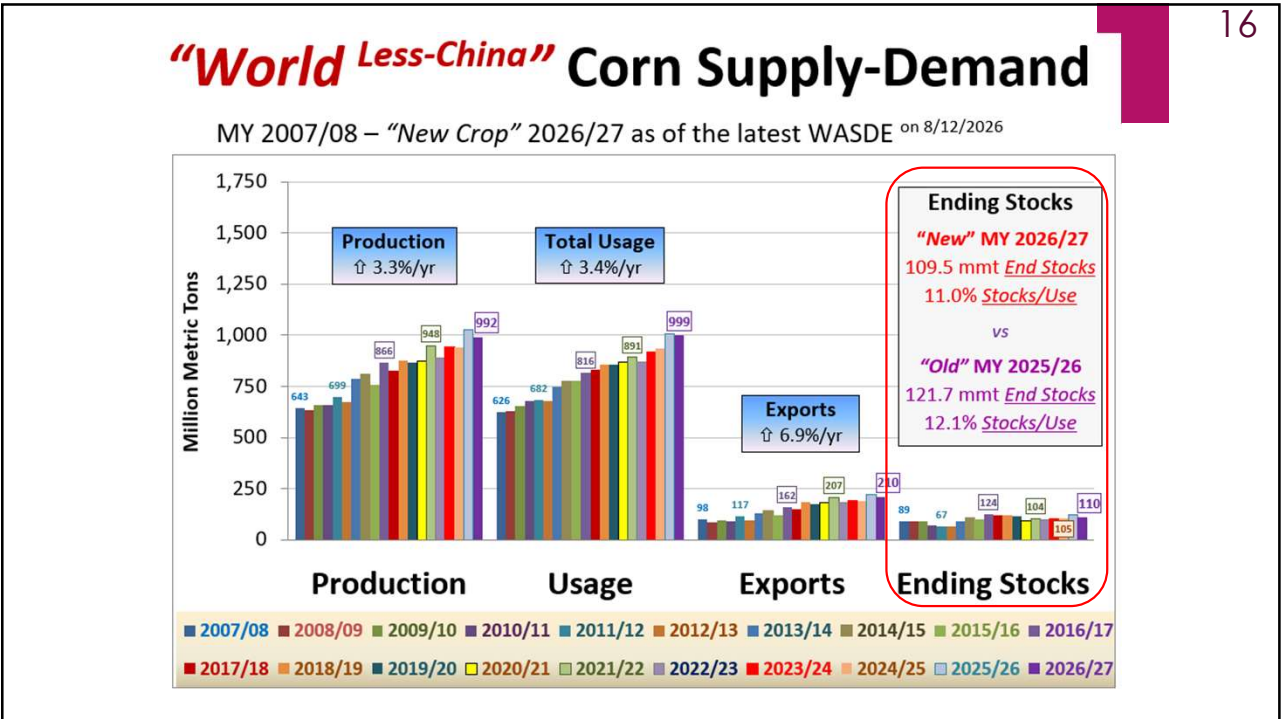
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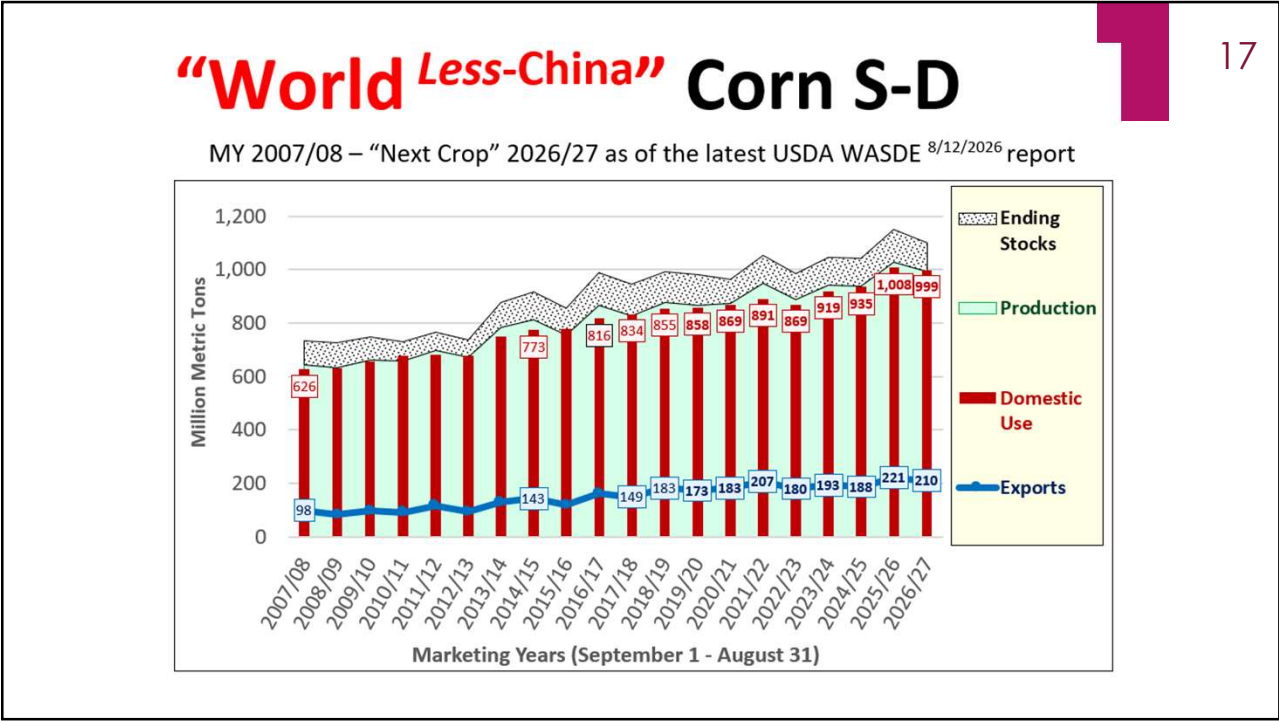




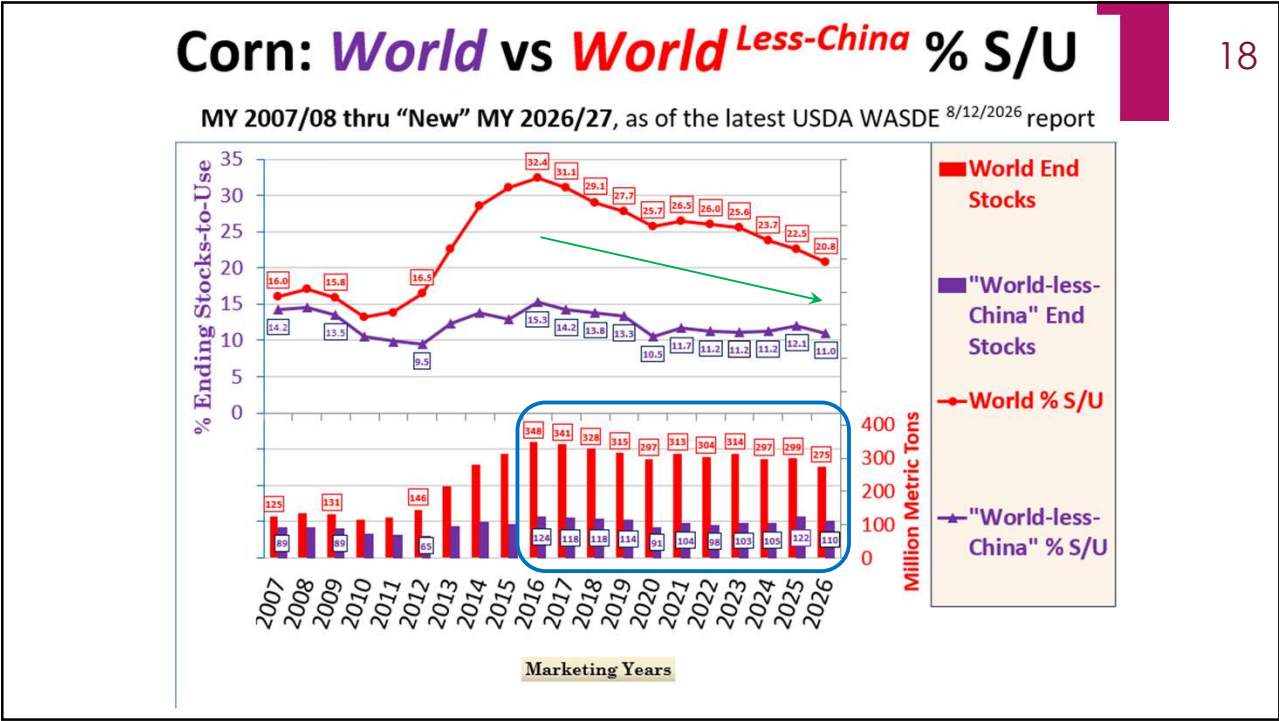
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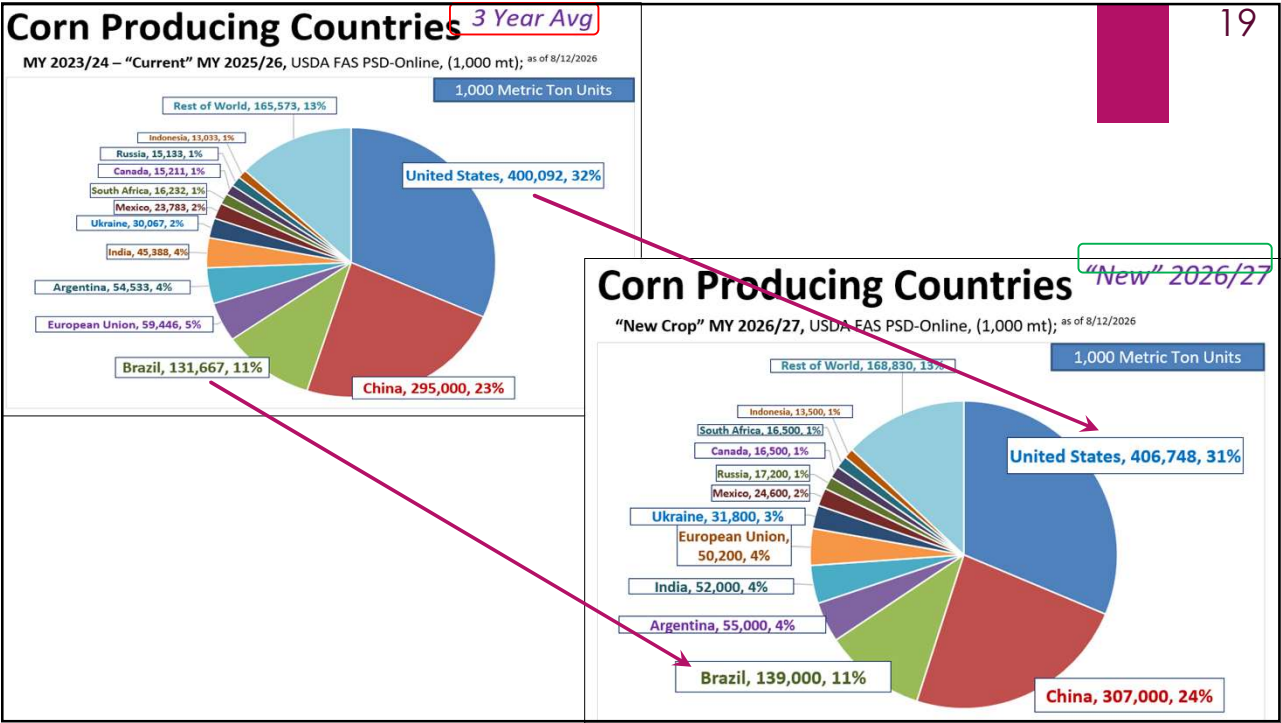
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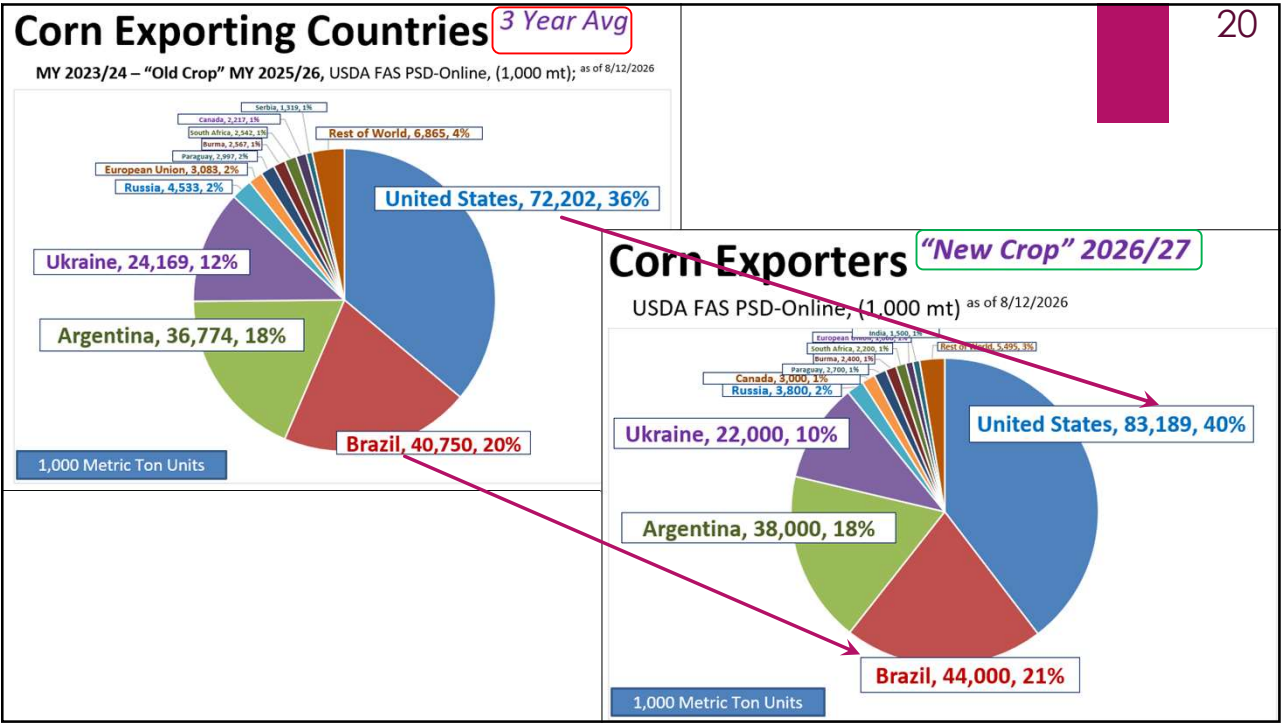
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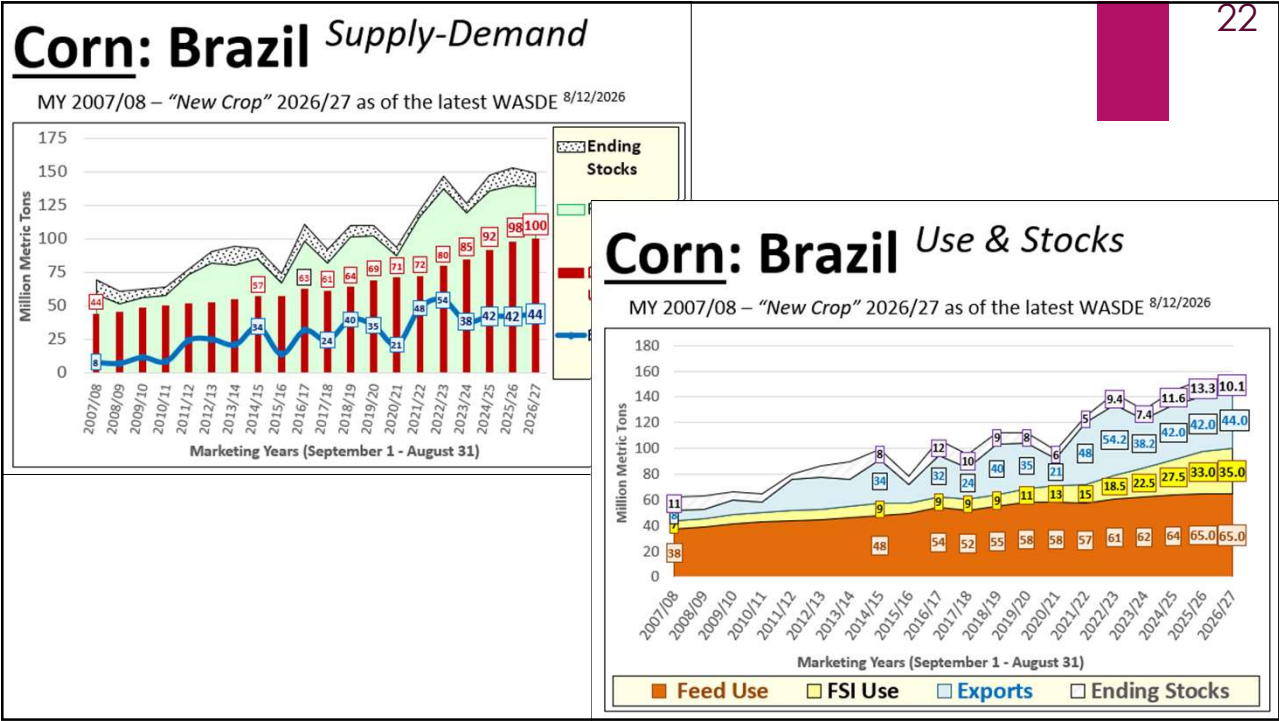
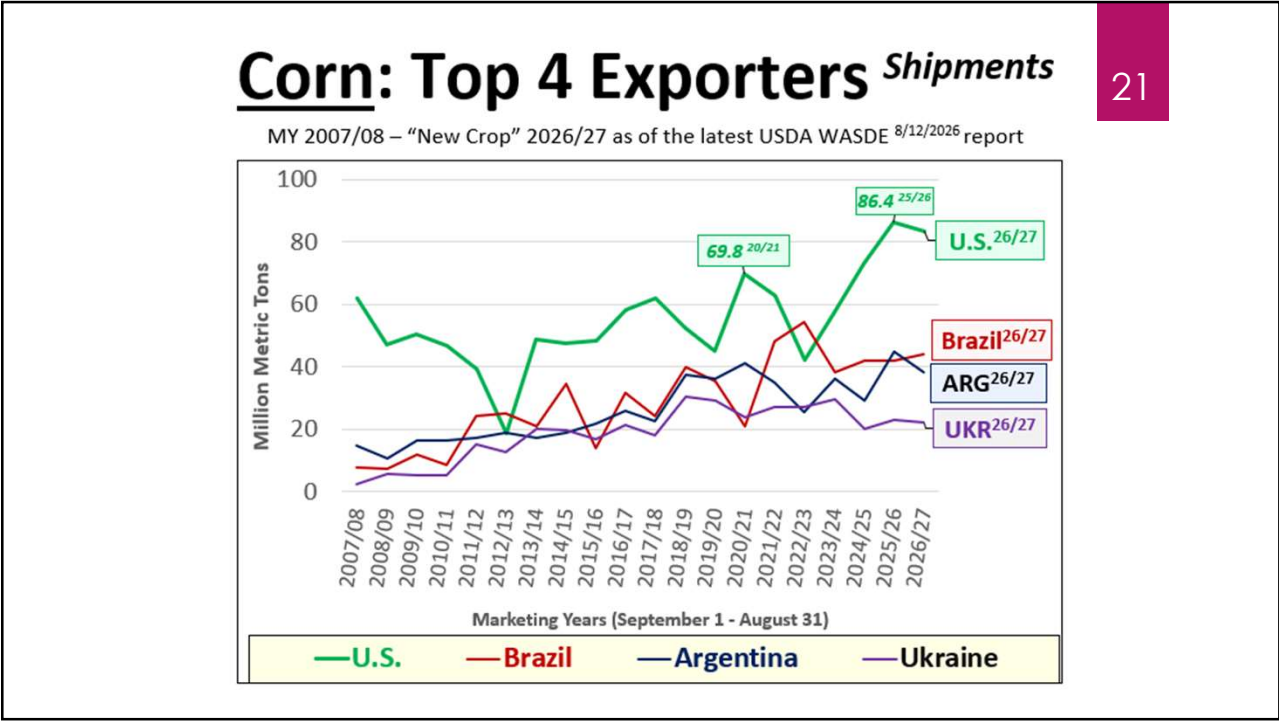
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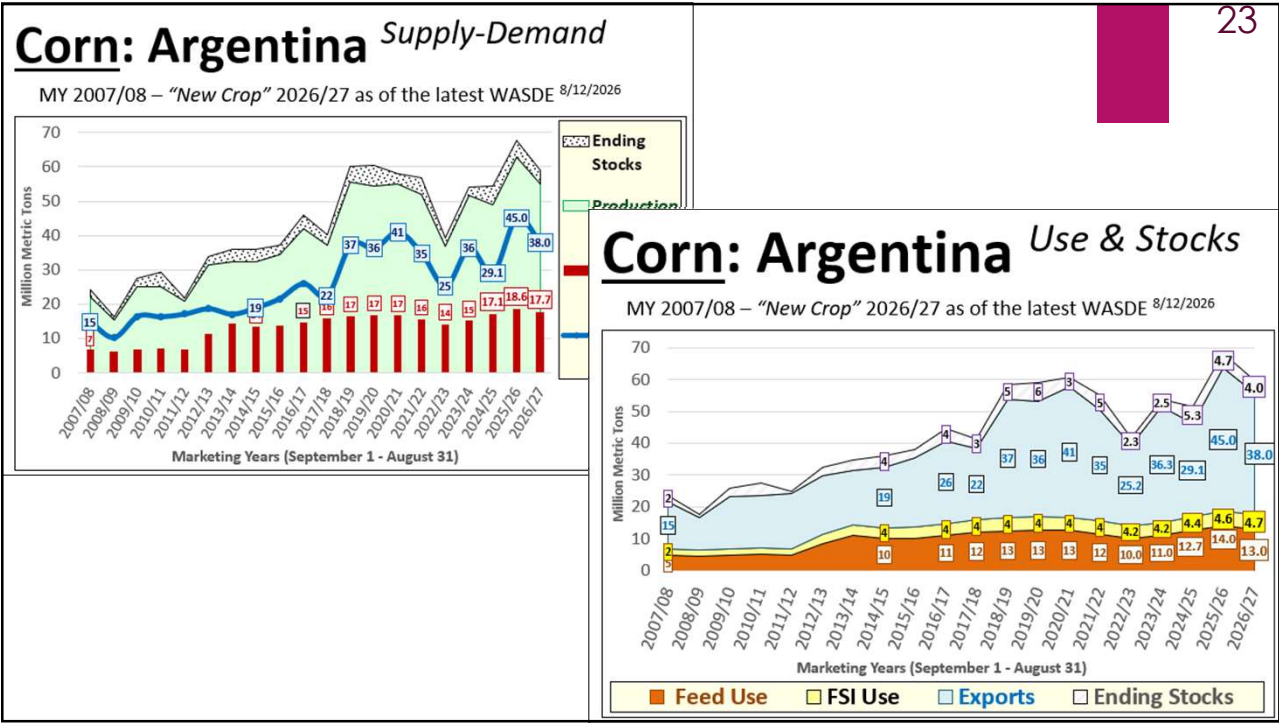


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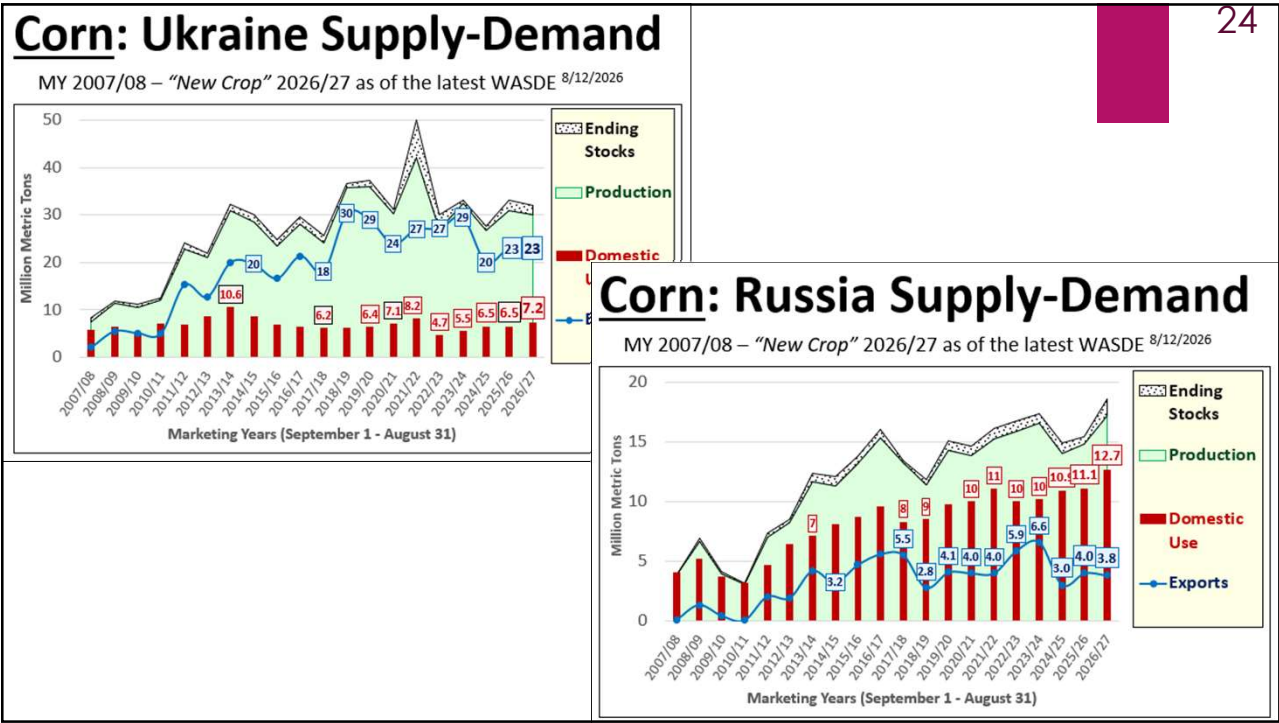


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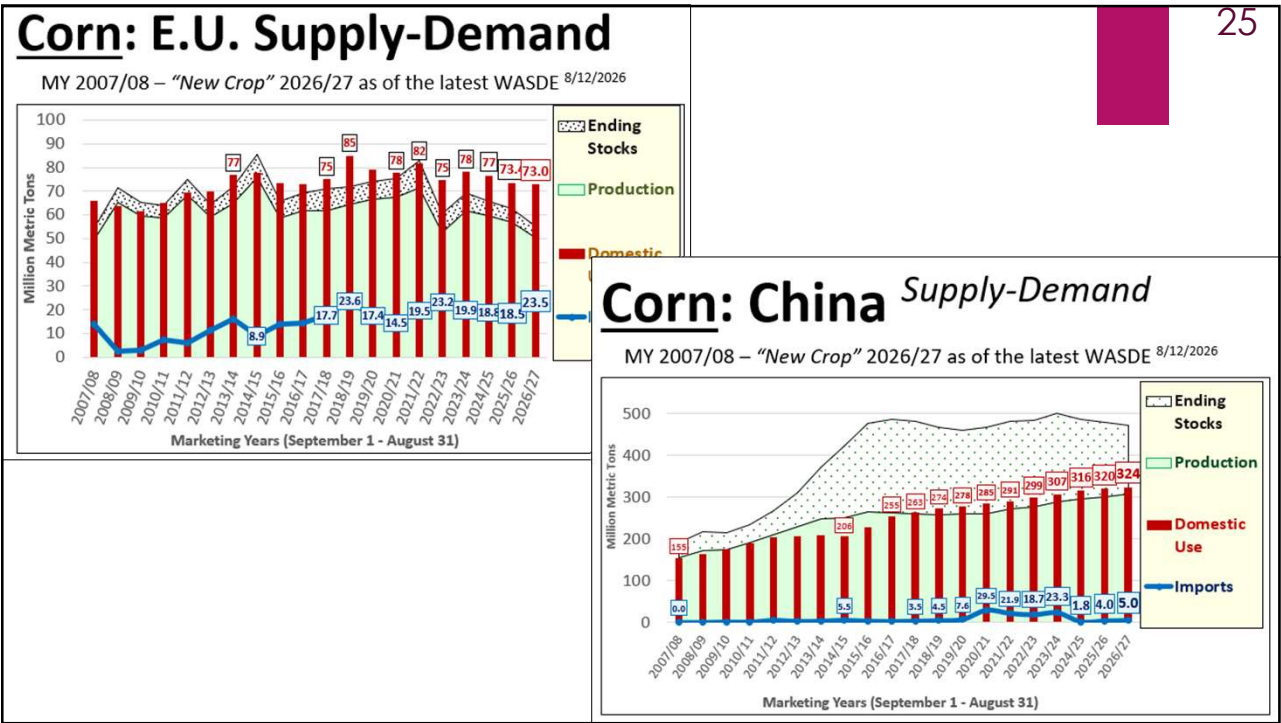




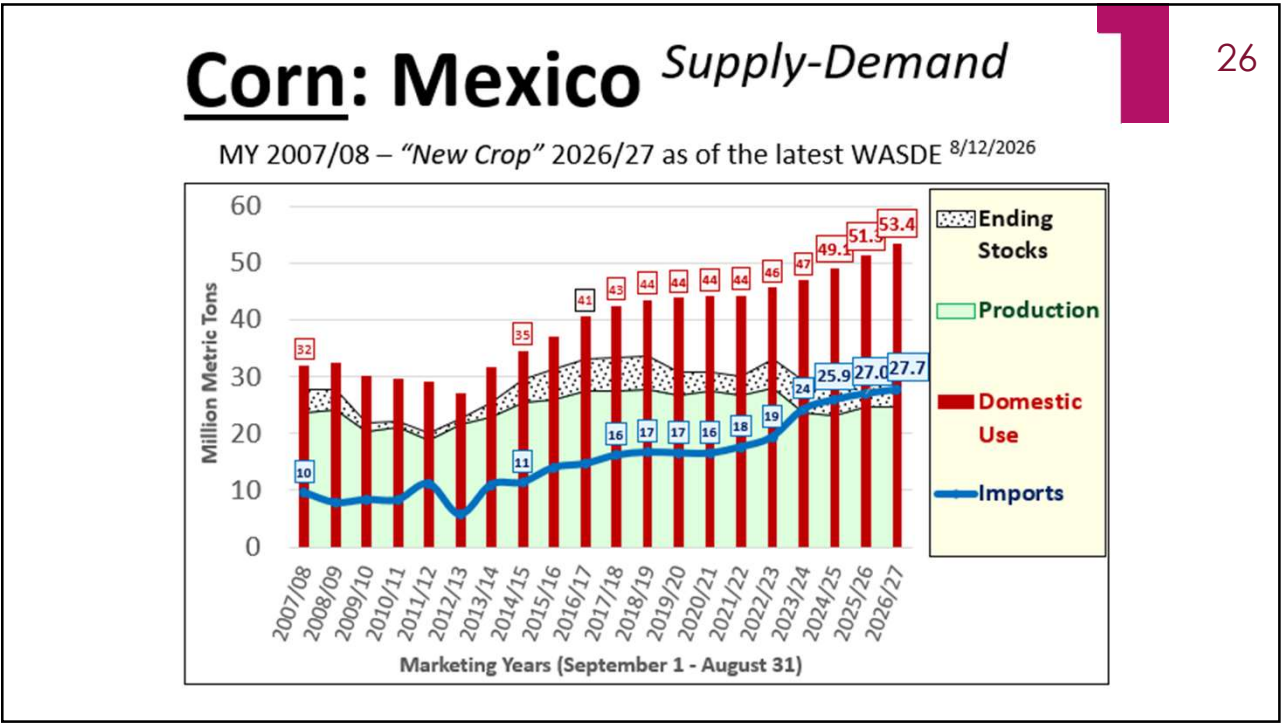
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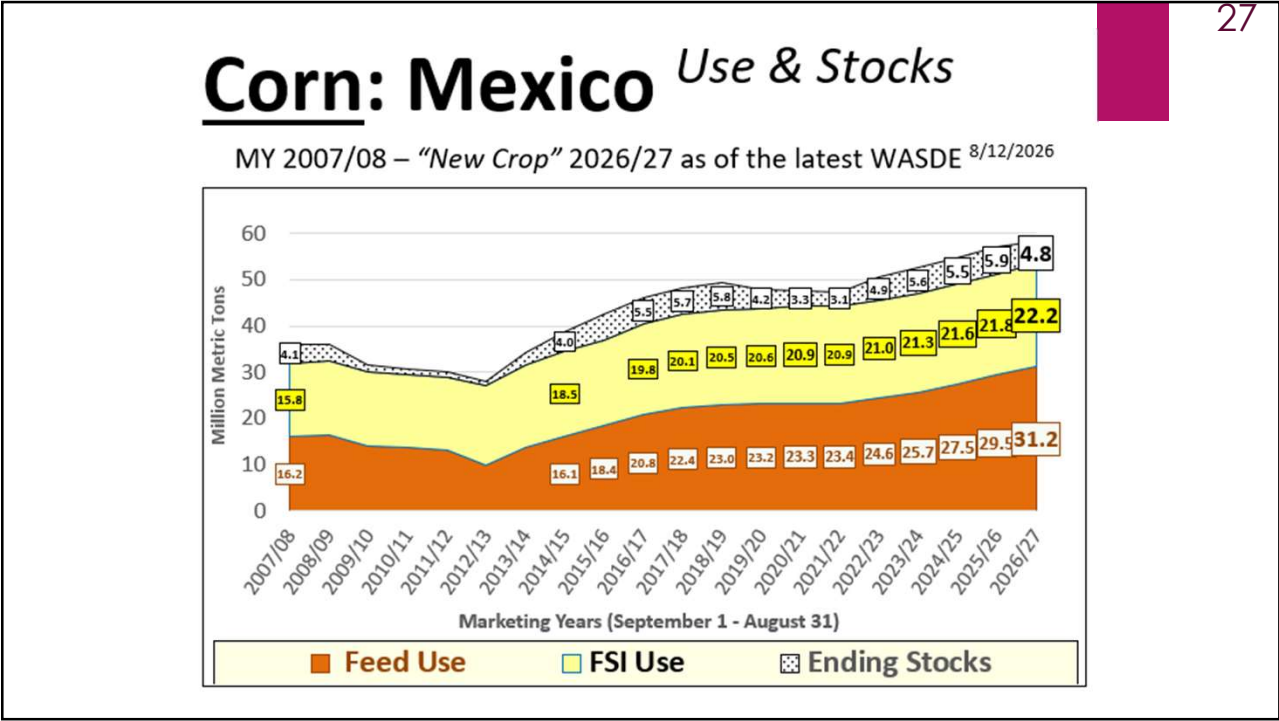
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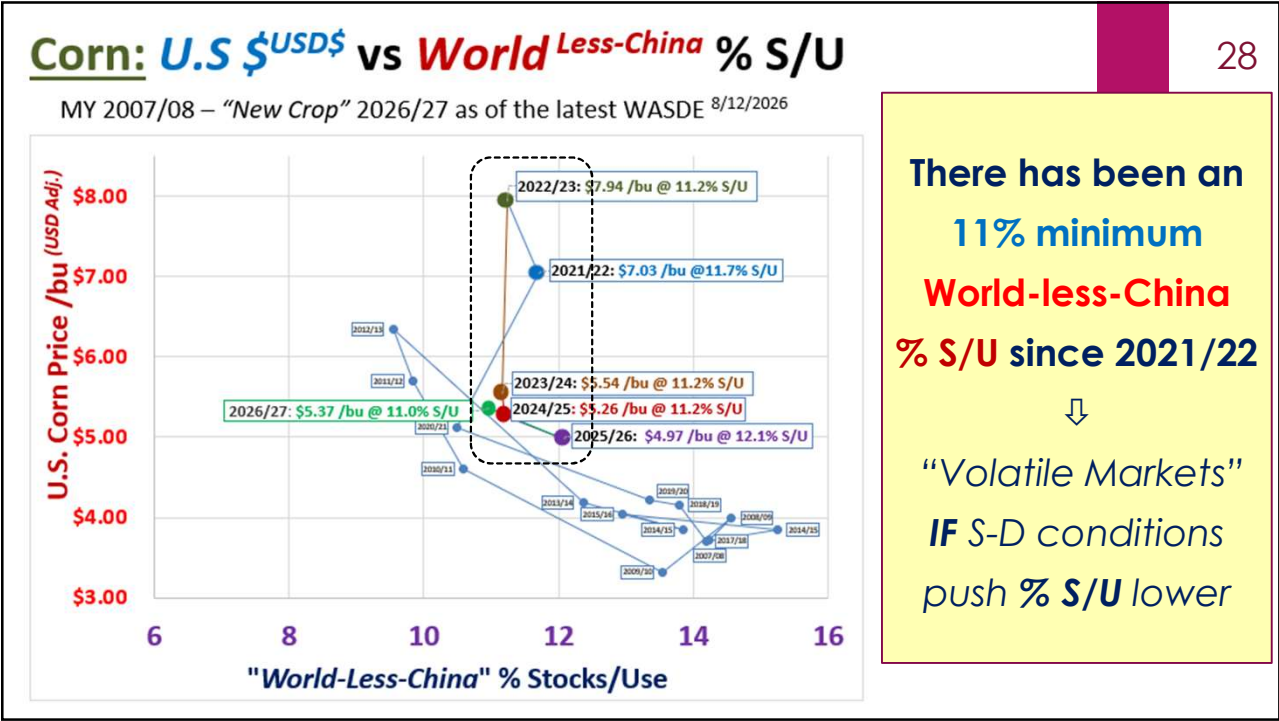
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Soybean Markets



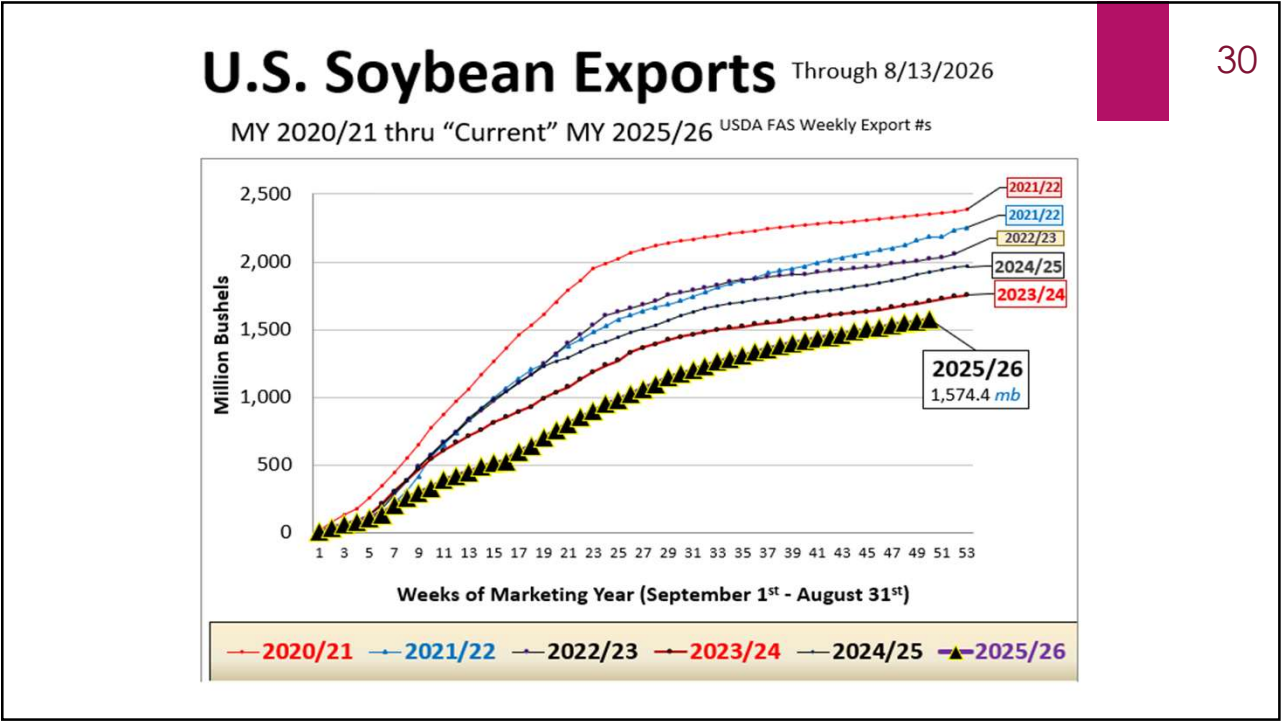
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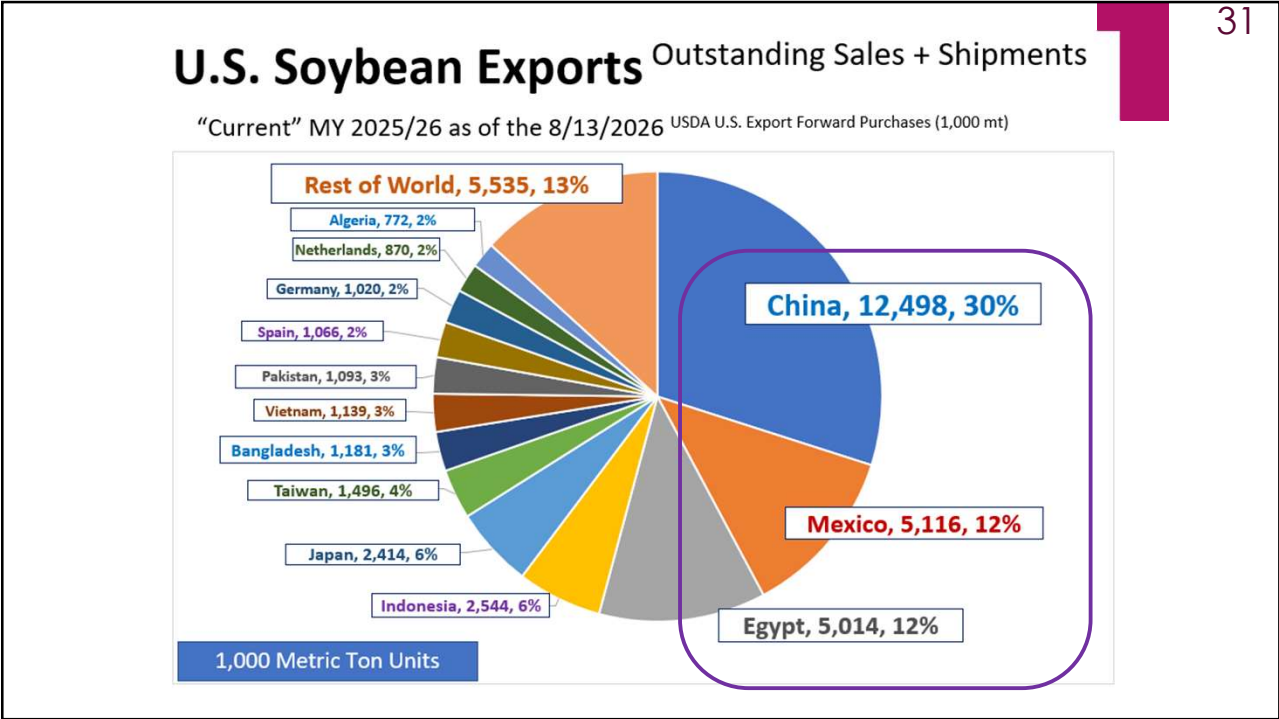
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SOYBEANS

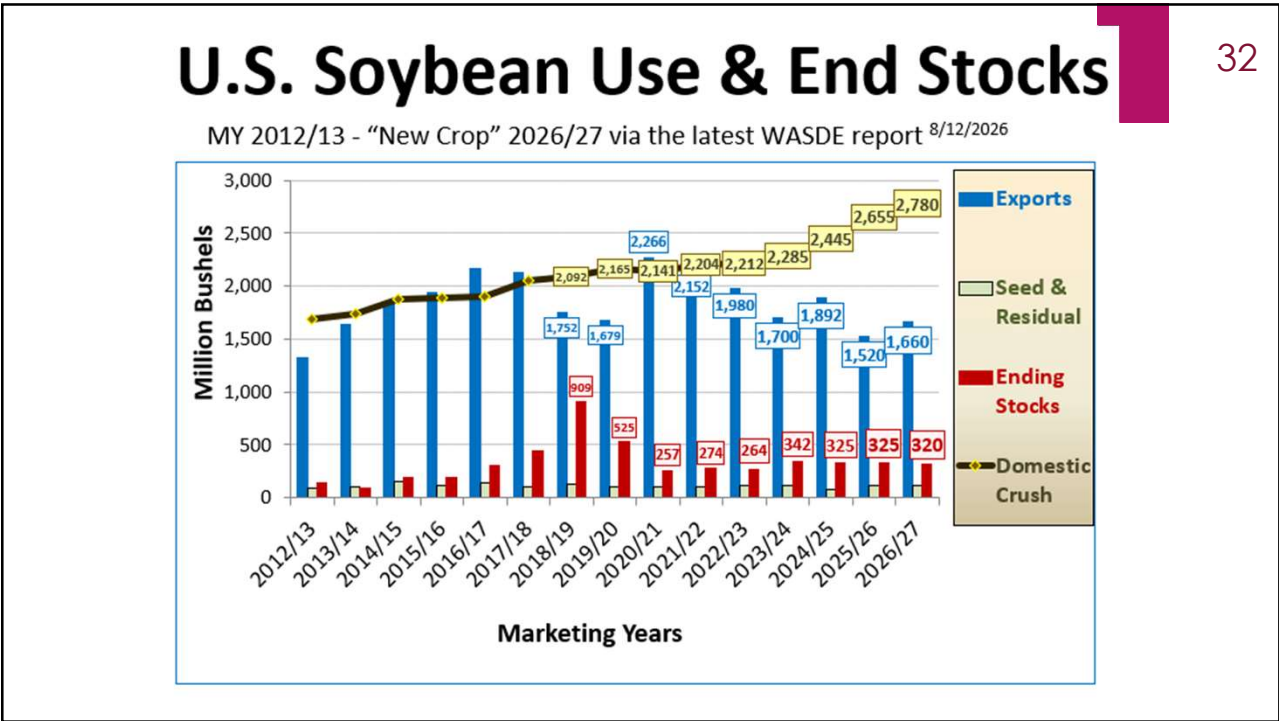
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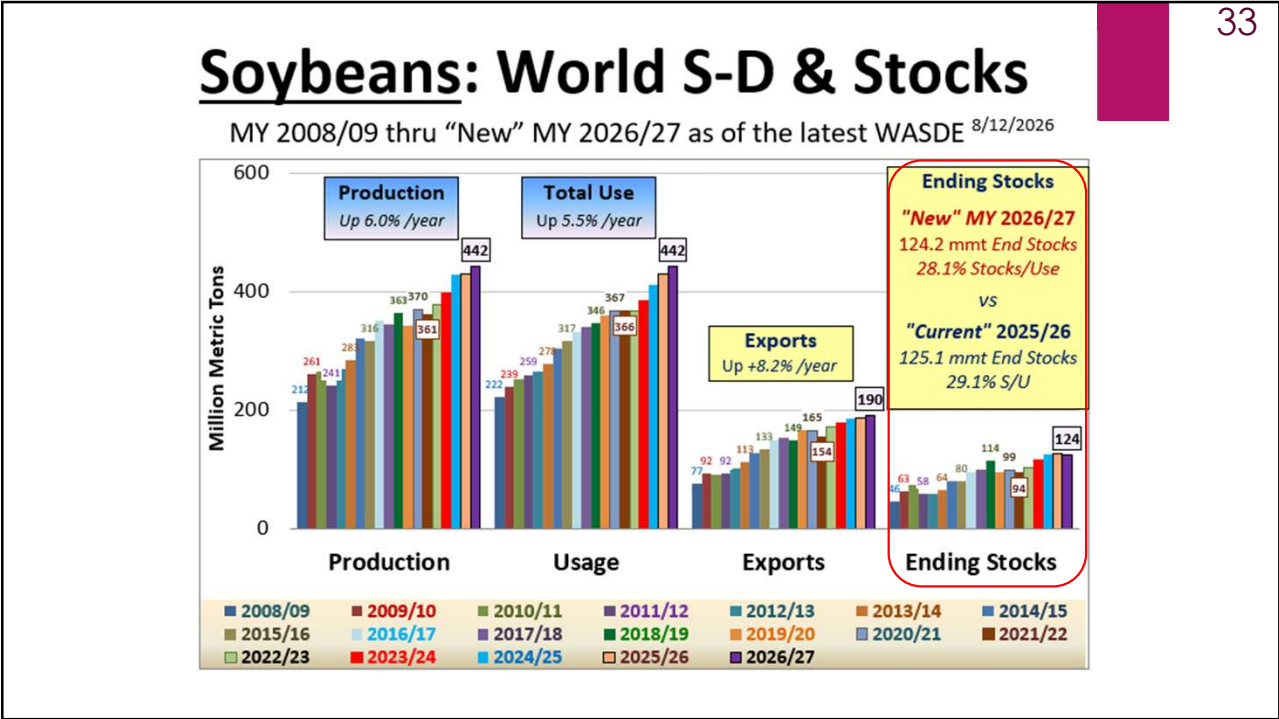
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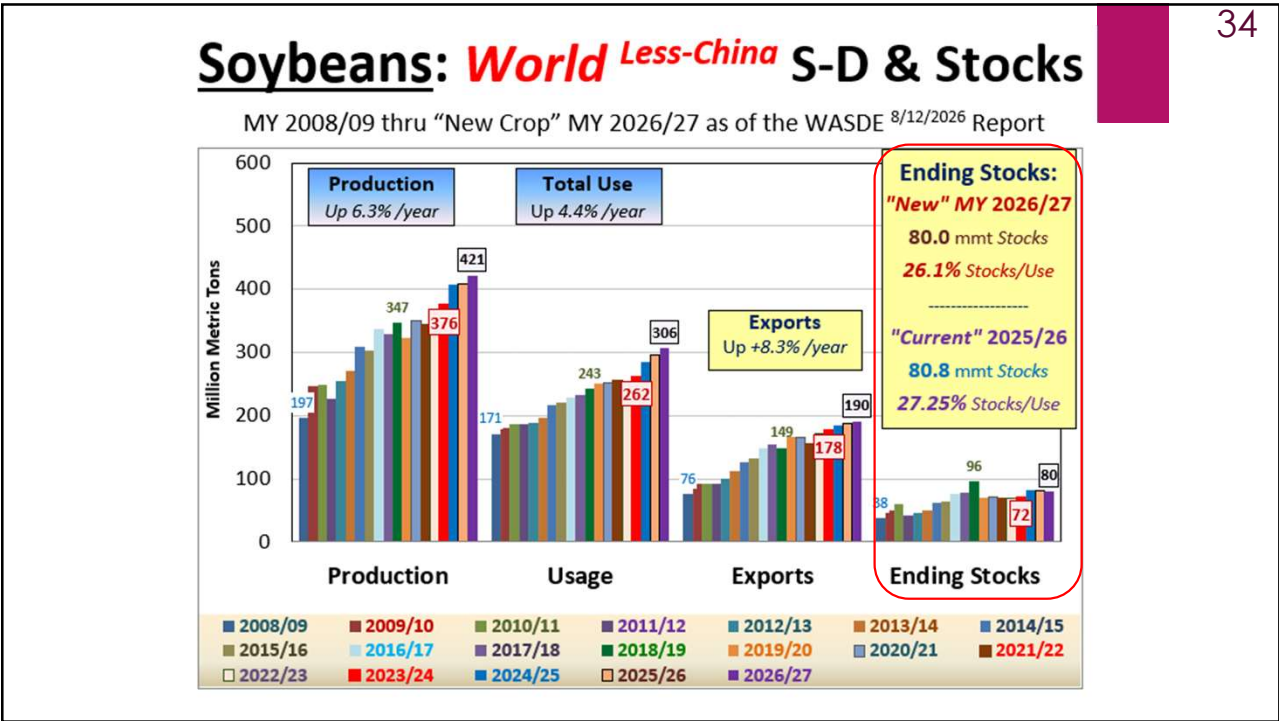
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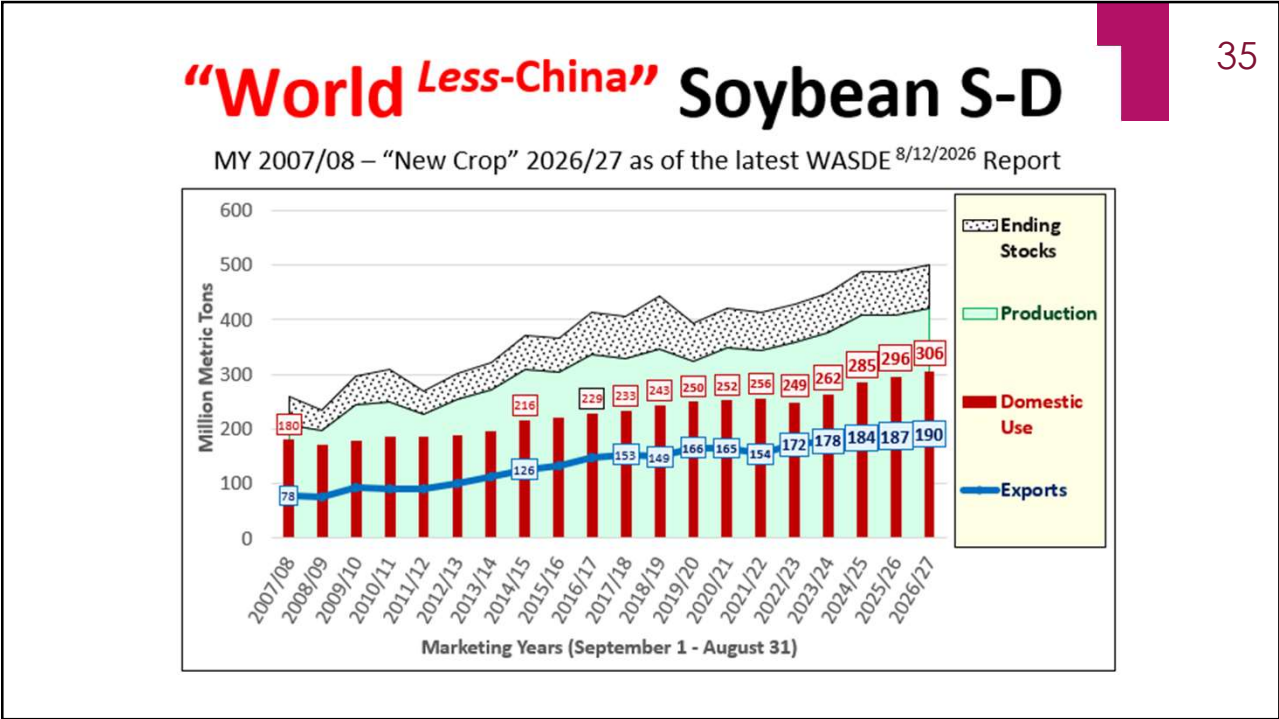
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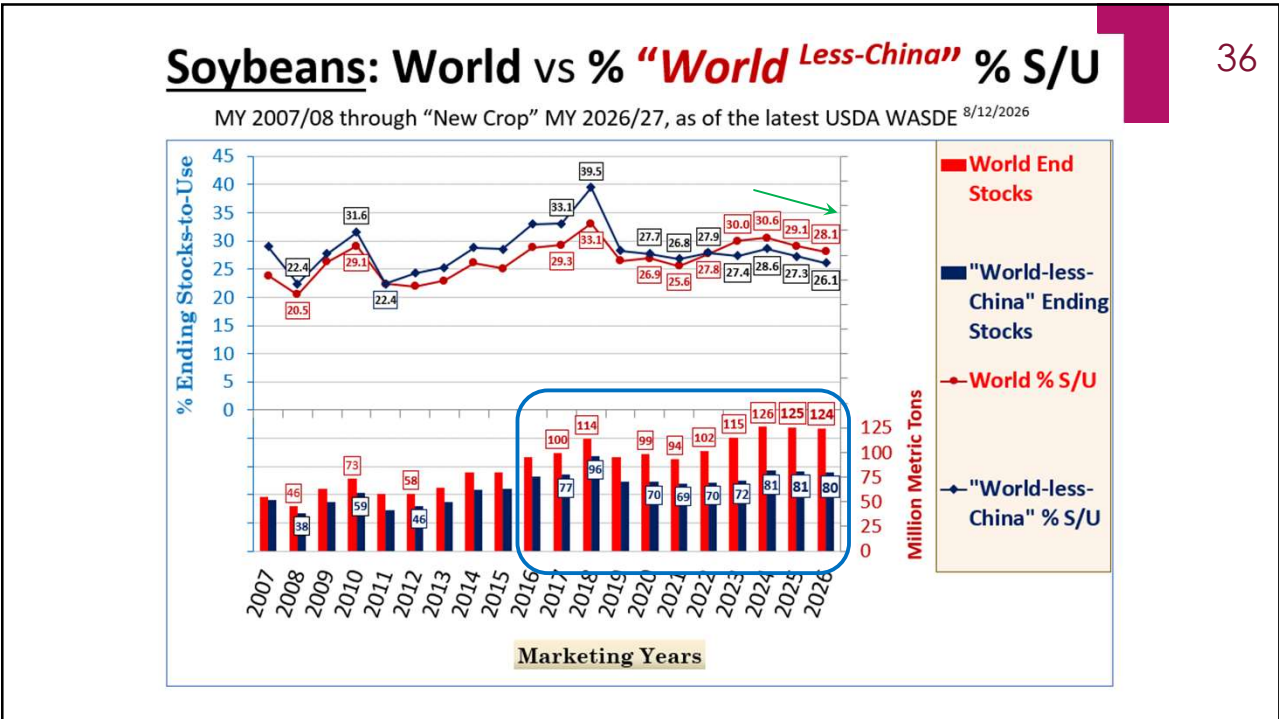
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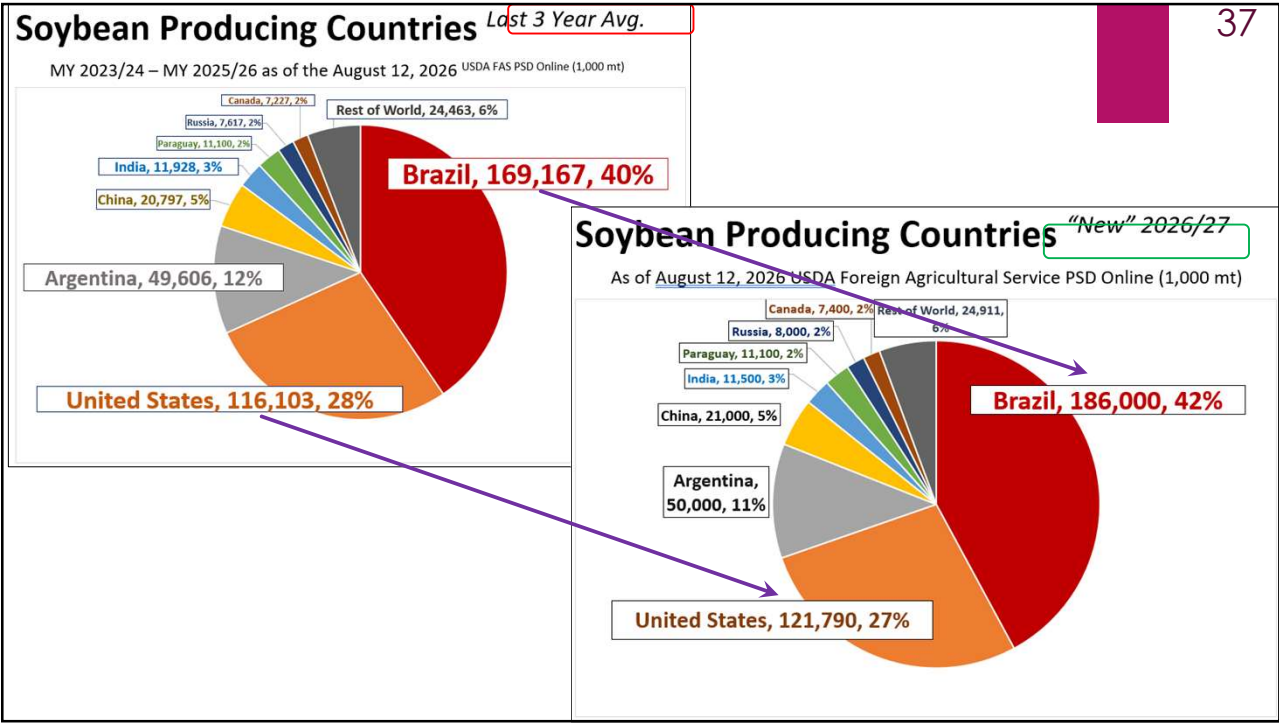
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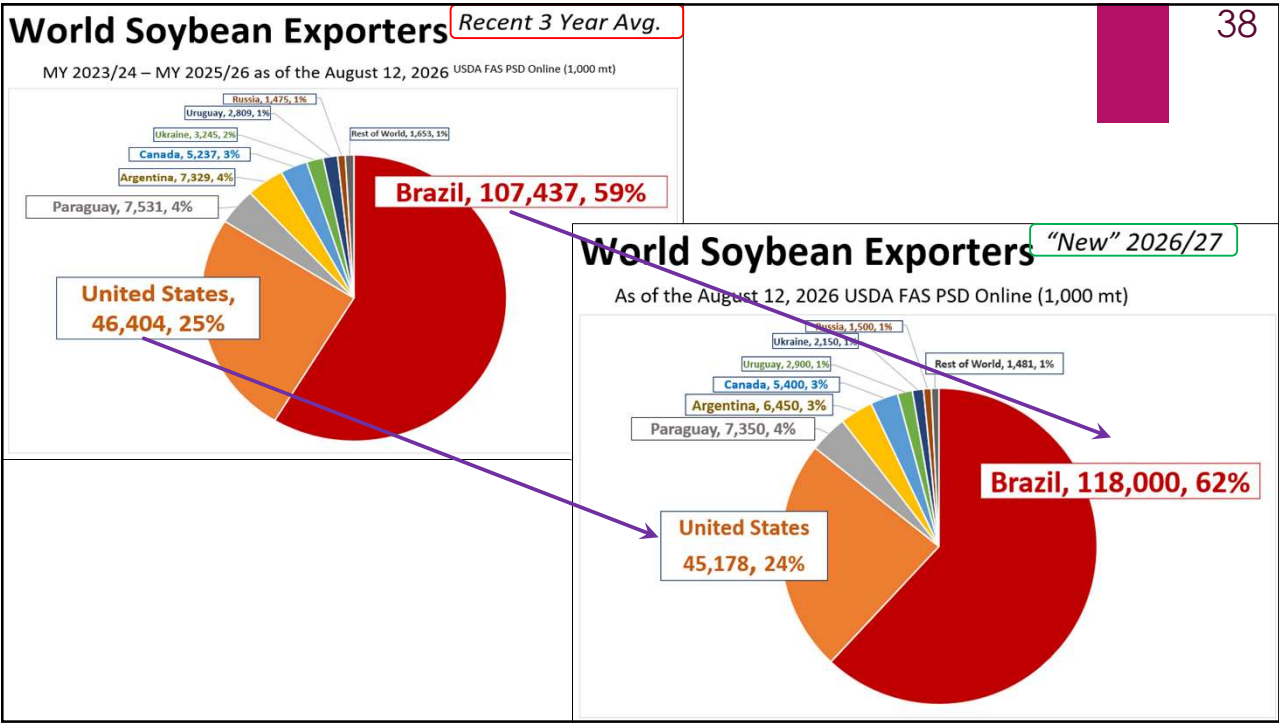
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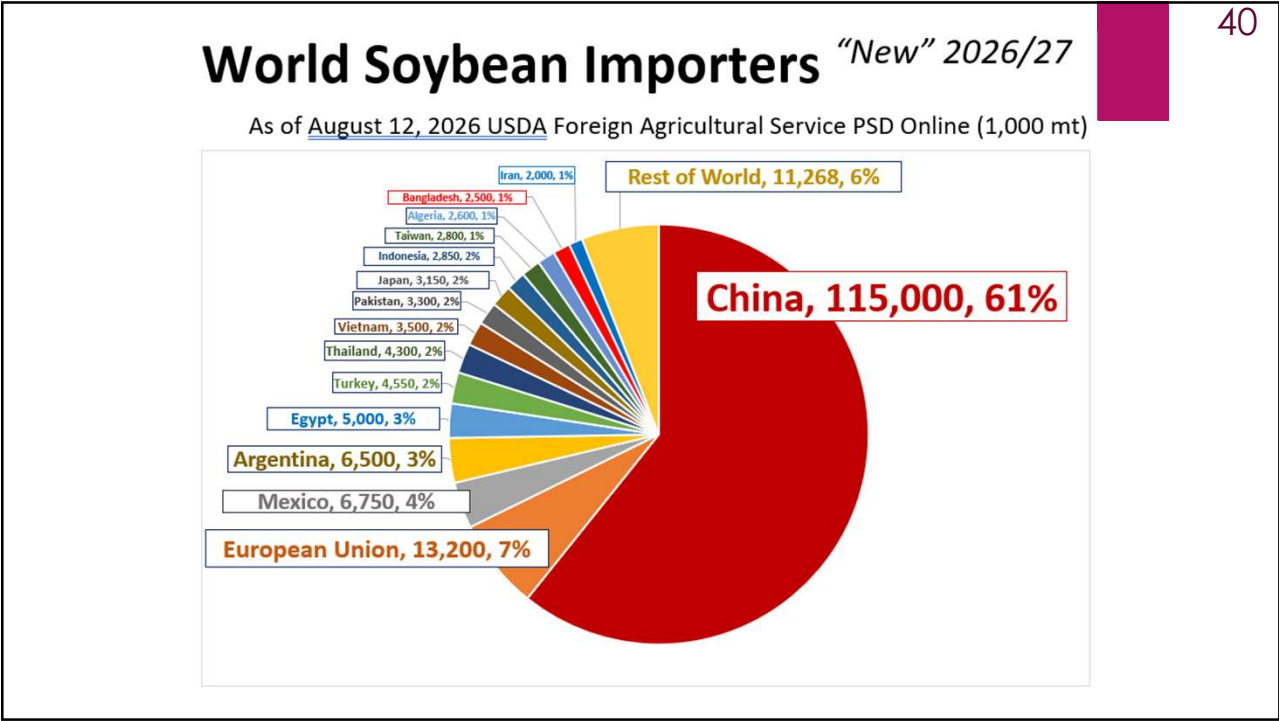
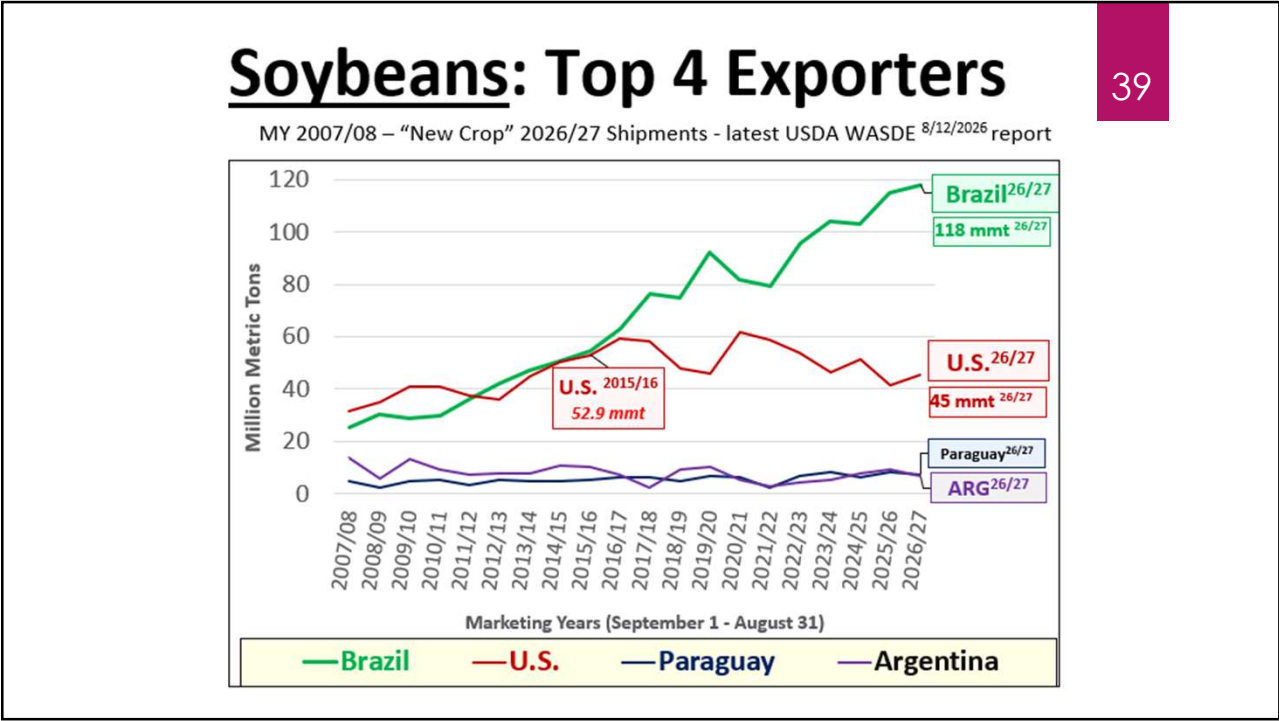
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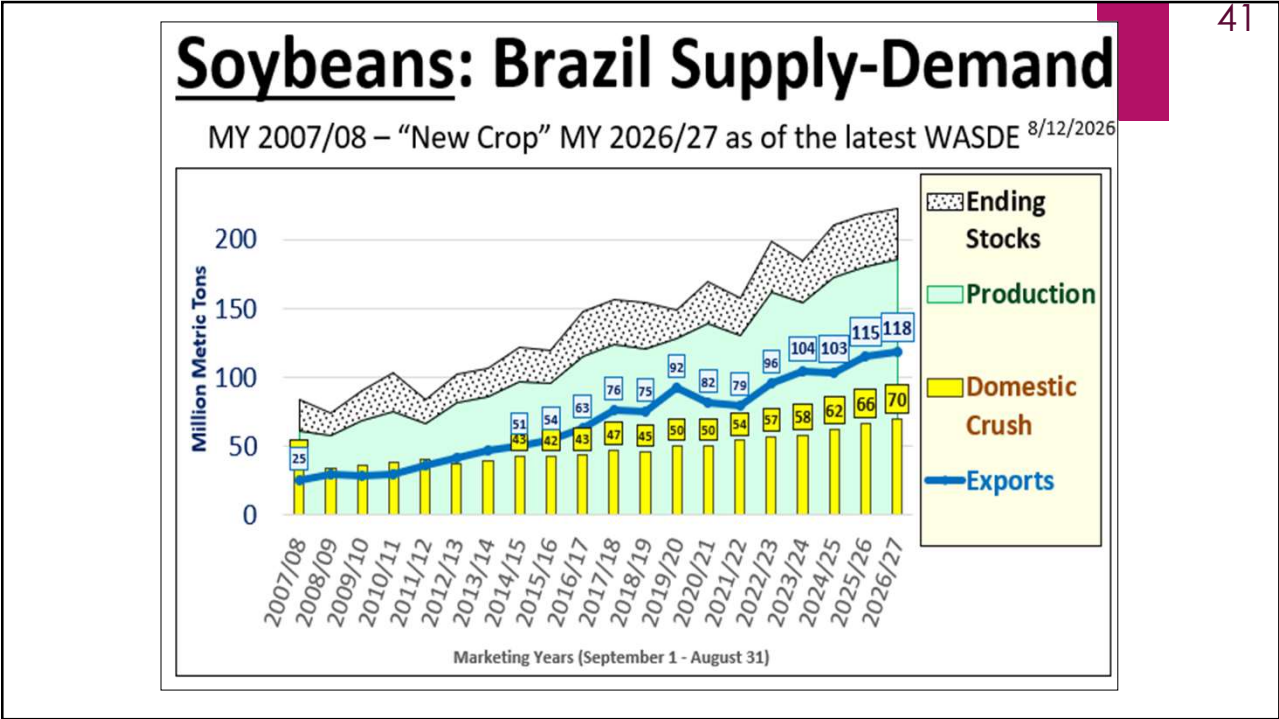


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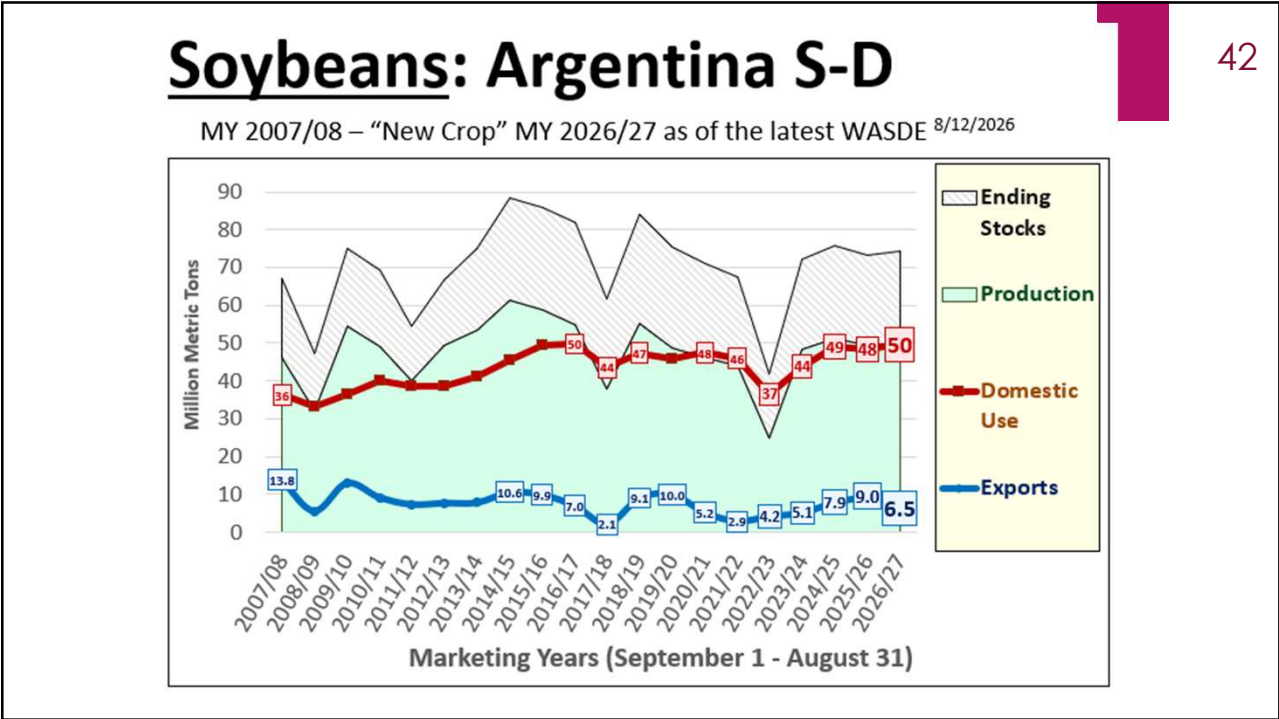


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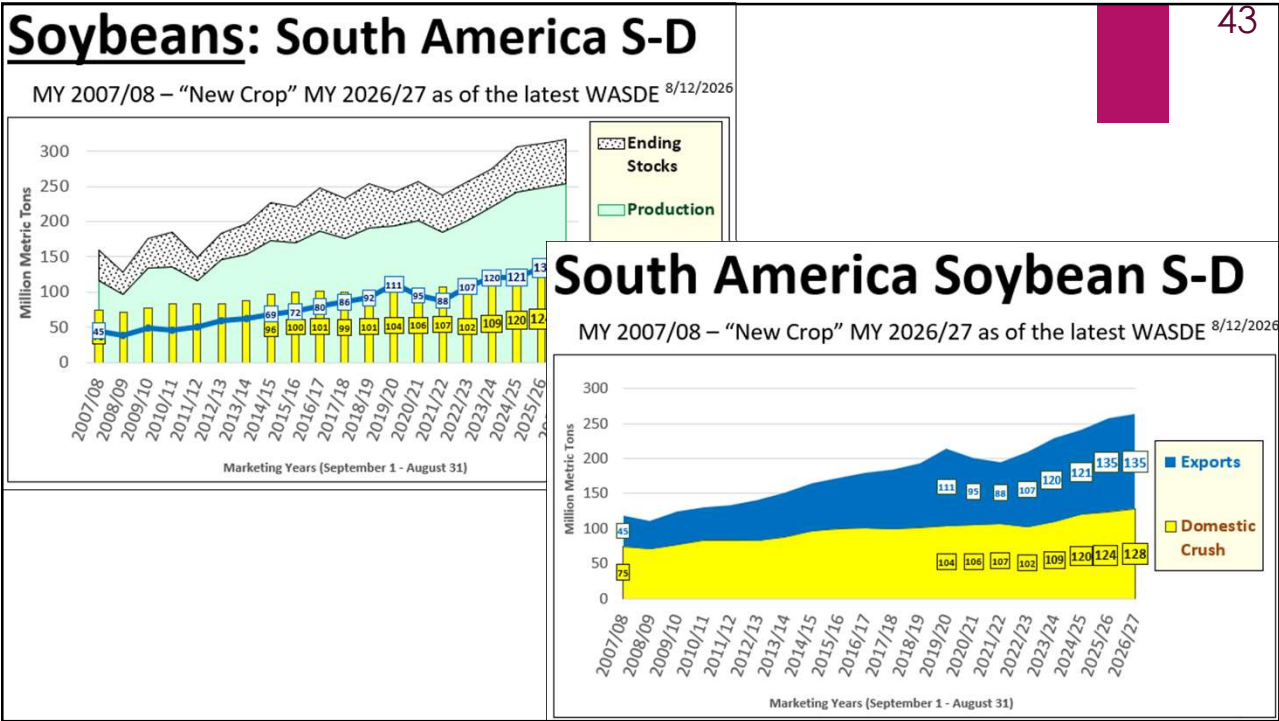




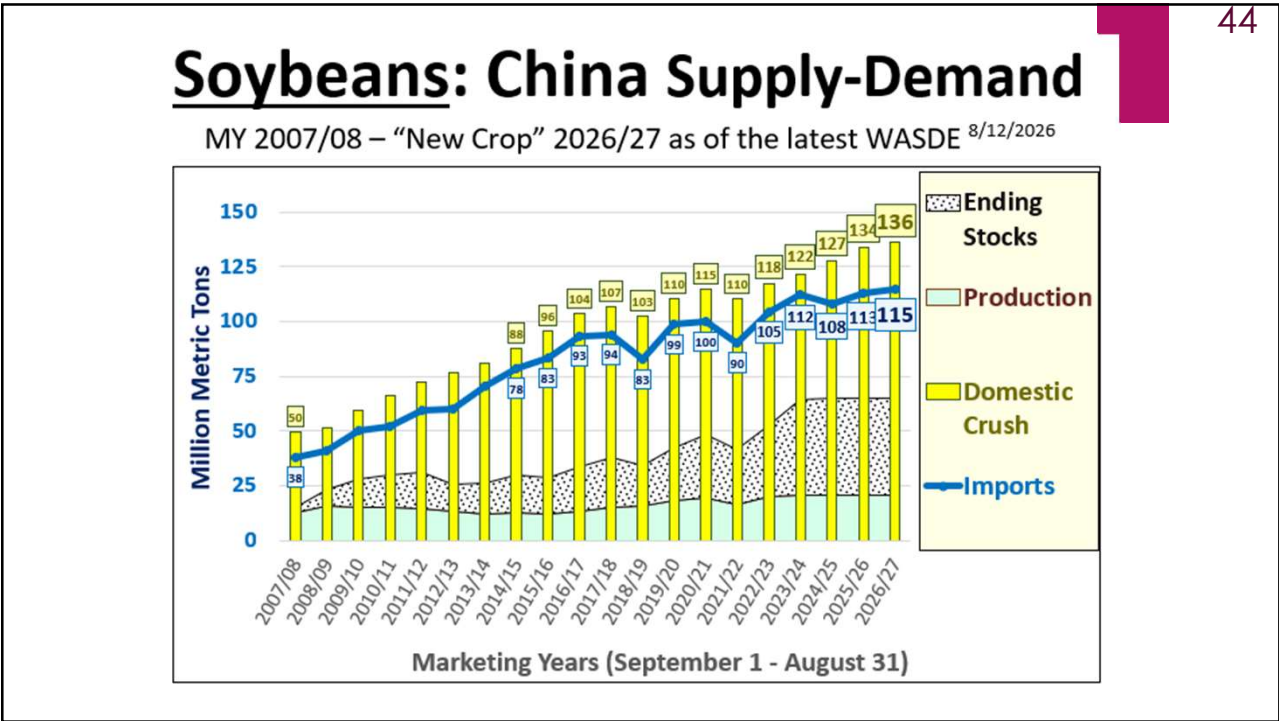
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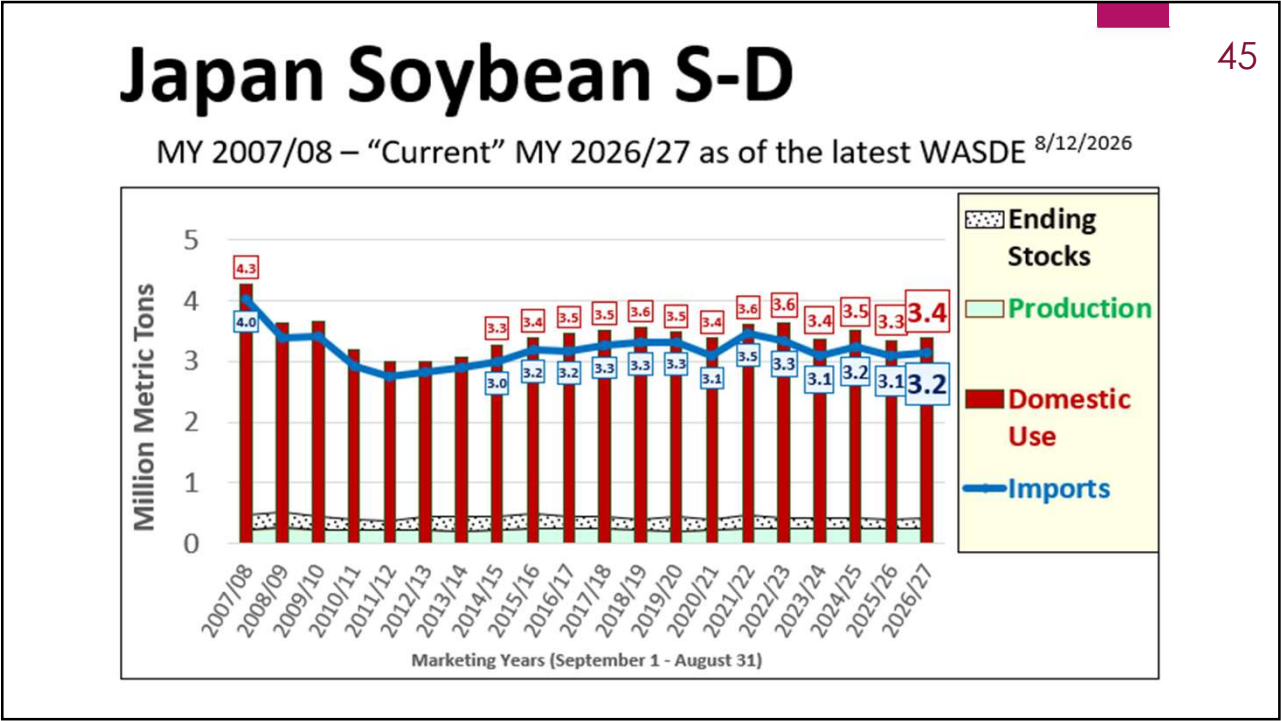
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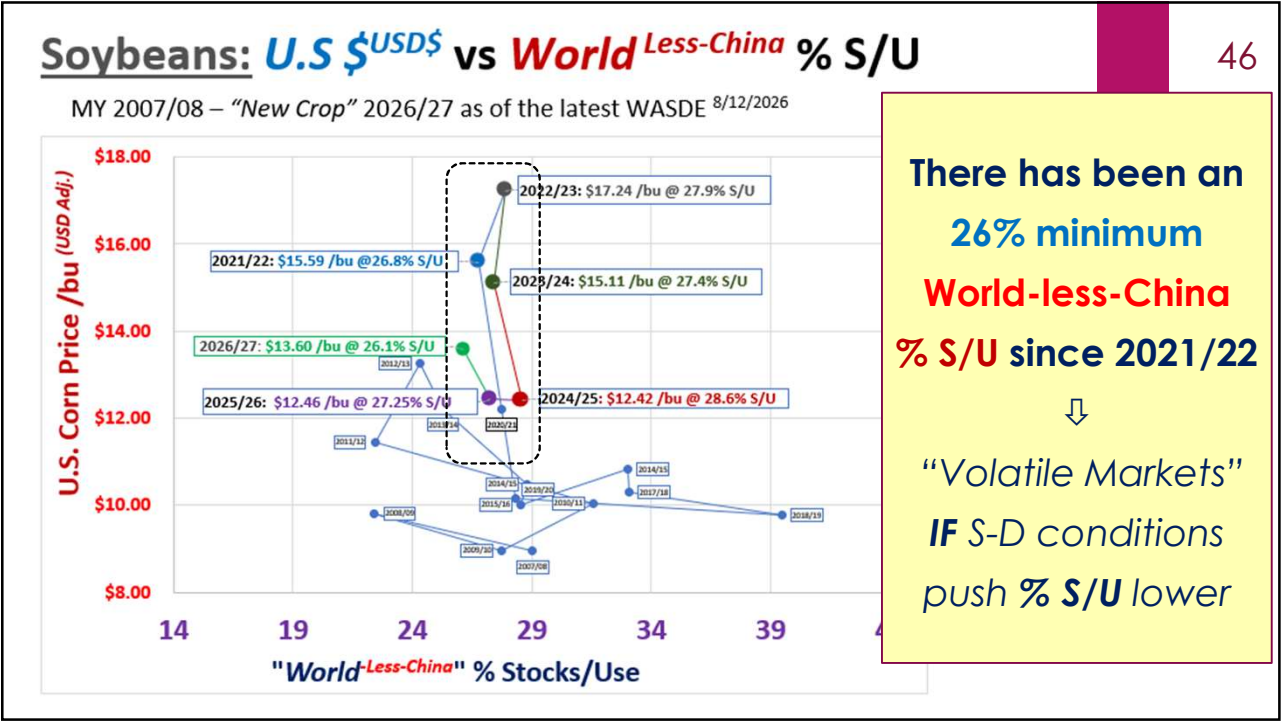
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Wheat Markets *International*

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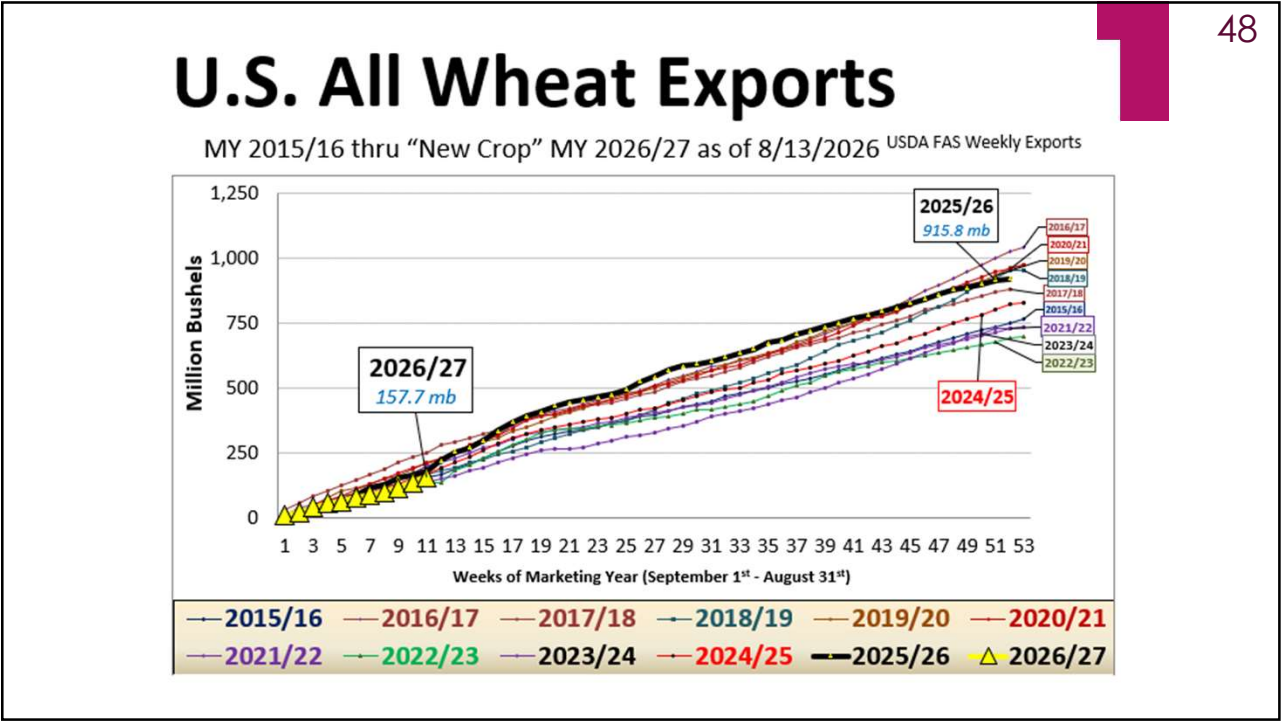




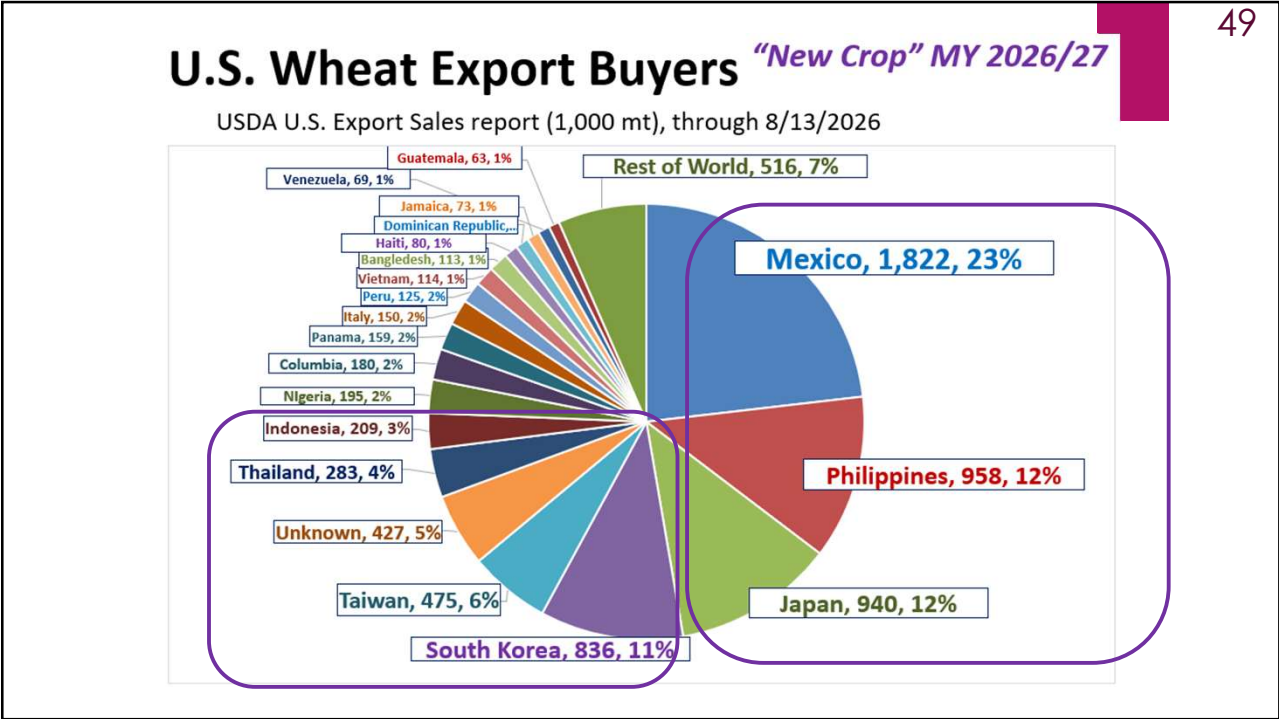
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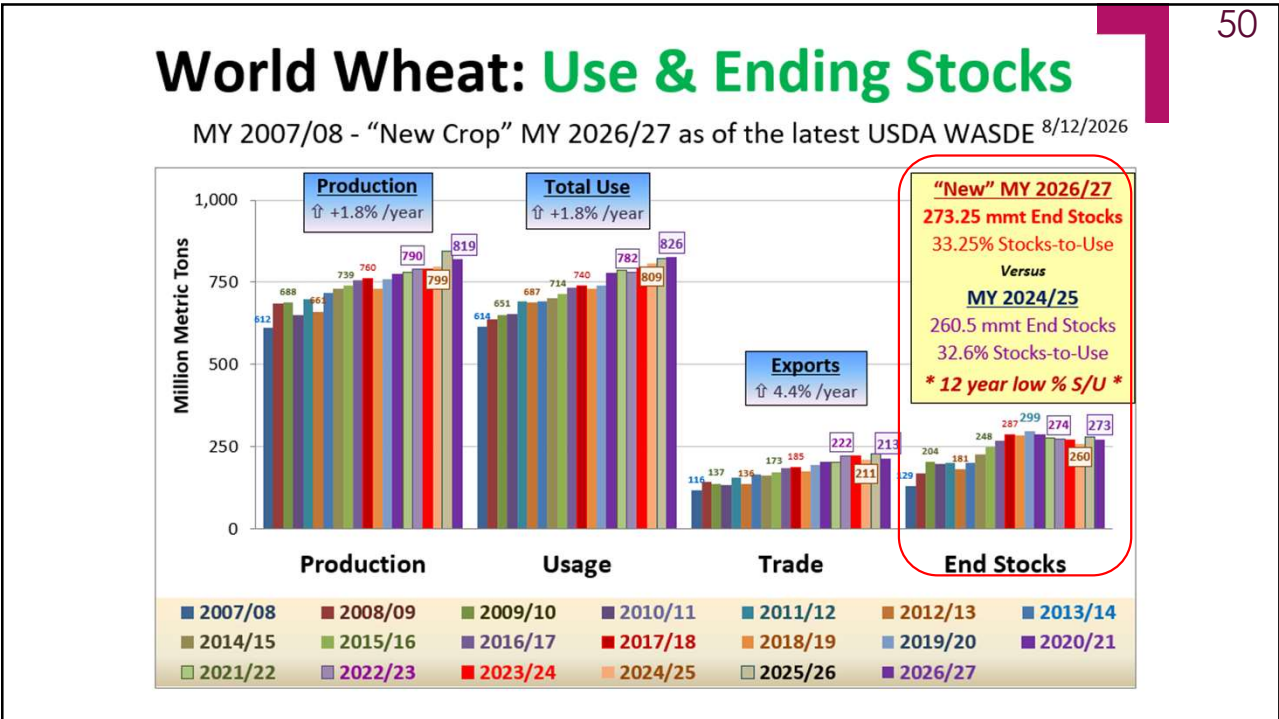
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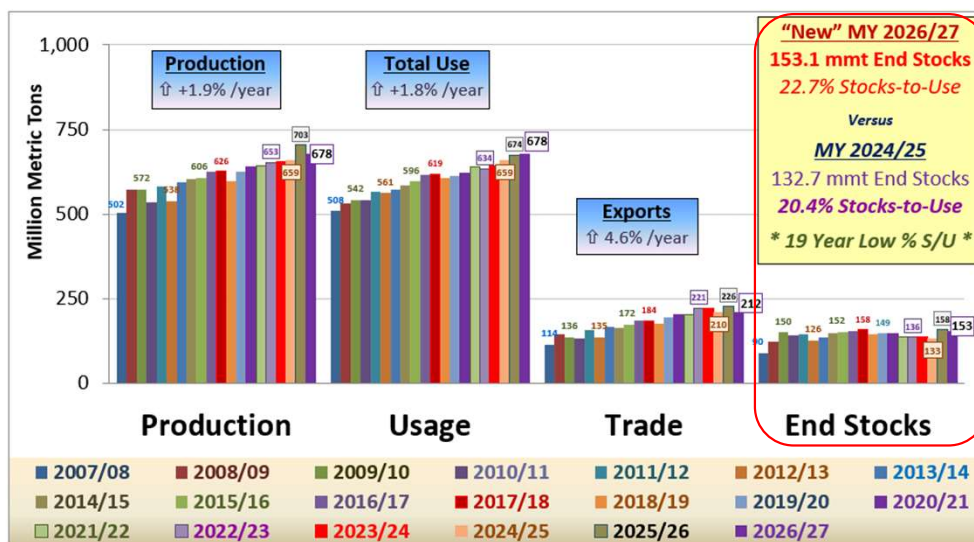


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“World ^{Less-China}” Wheat: Use & End Stocks

MY 2007/08 - "New" MY 2026/27 as of the latest USDA WASDE ^{8/12/2026}

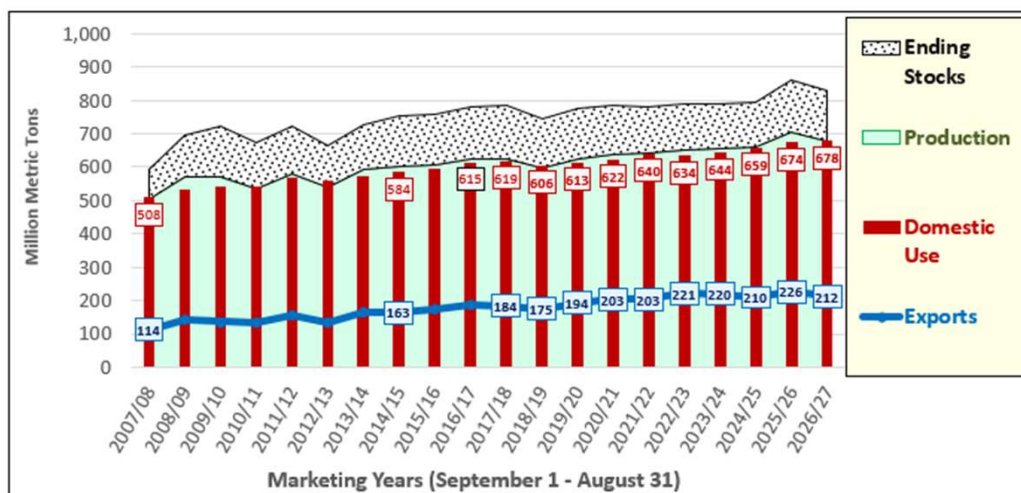


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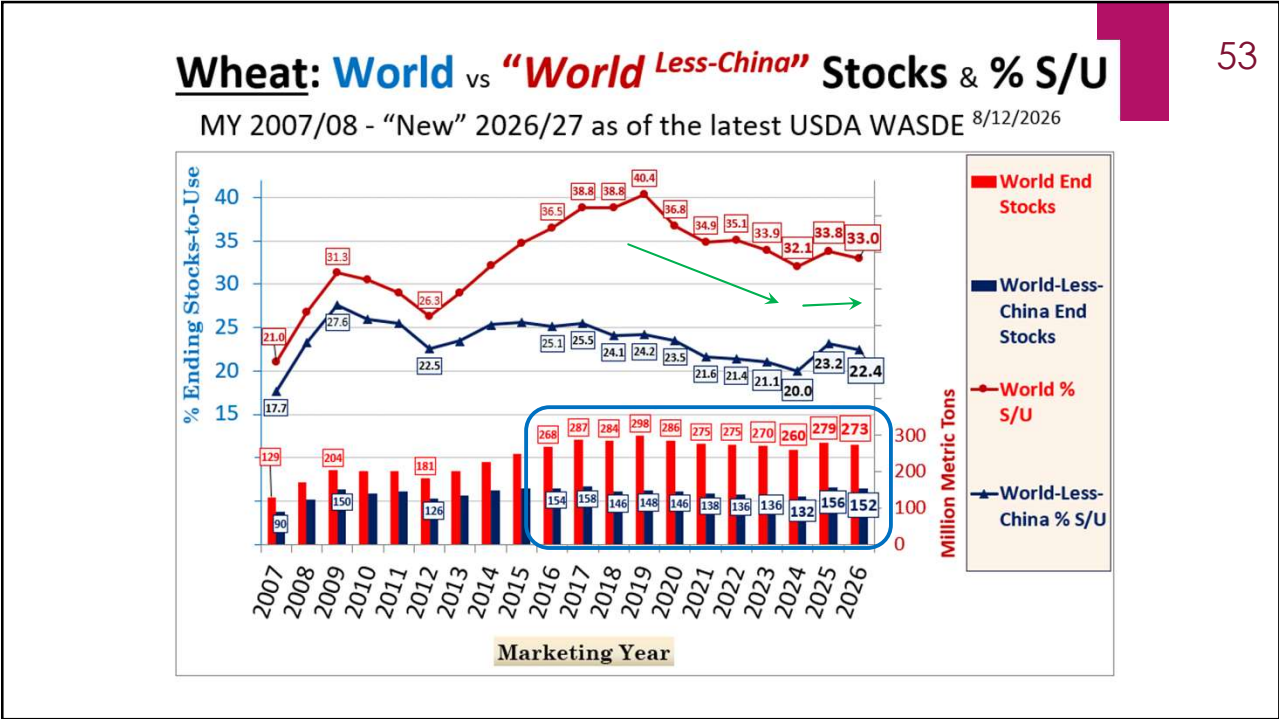
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World *Less-China* Wheat S-D

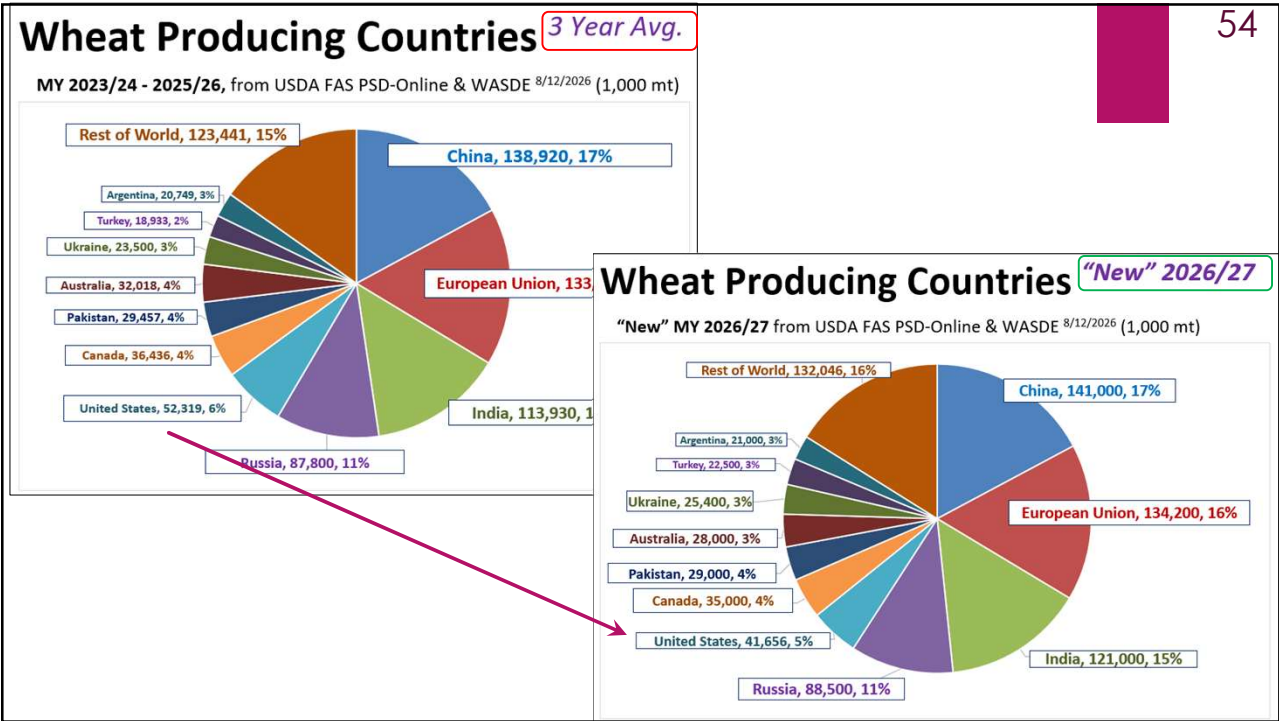
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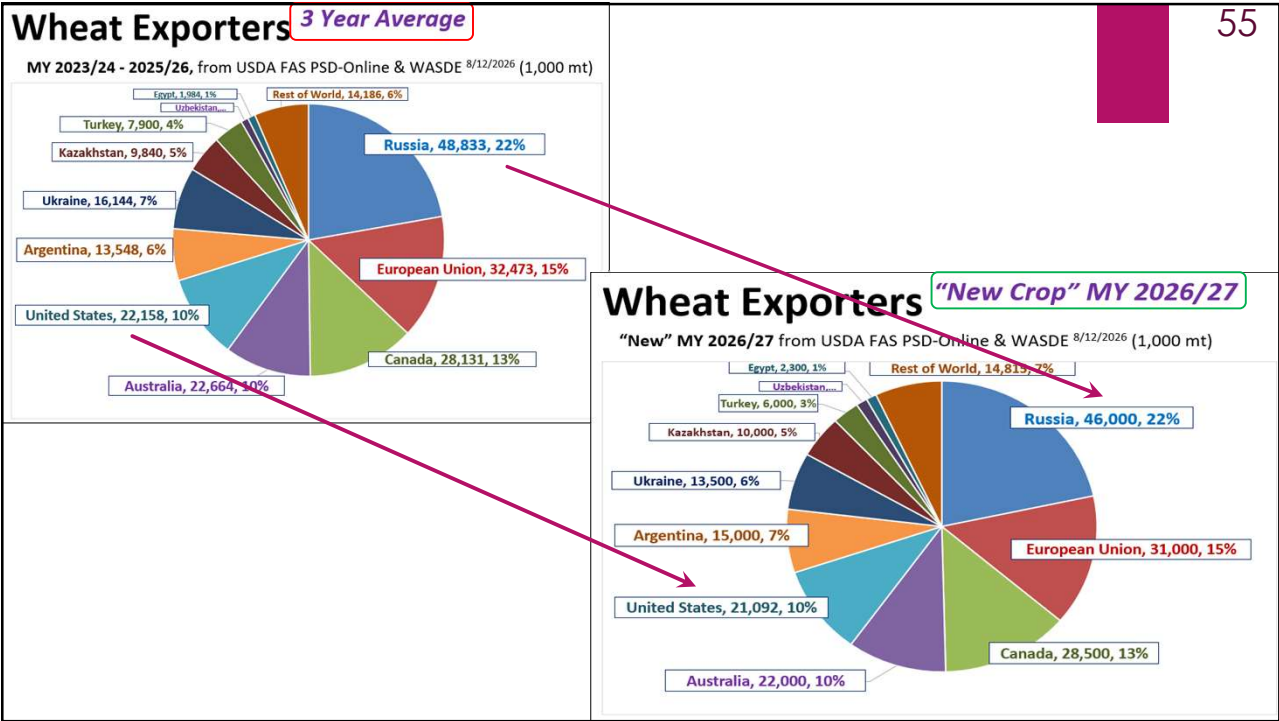
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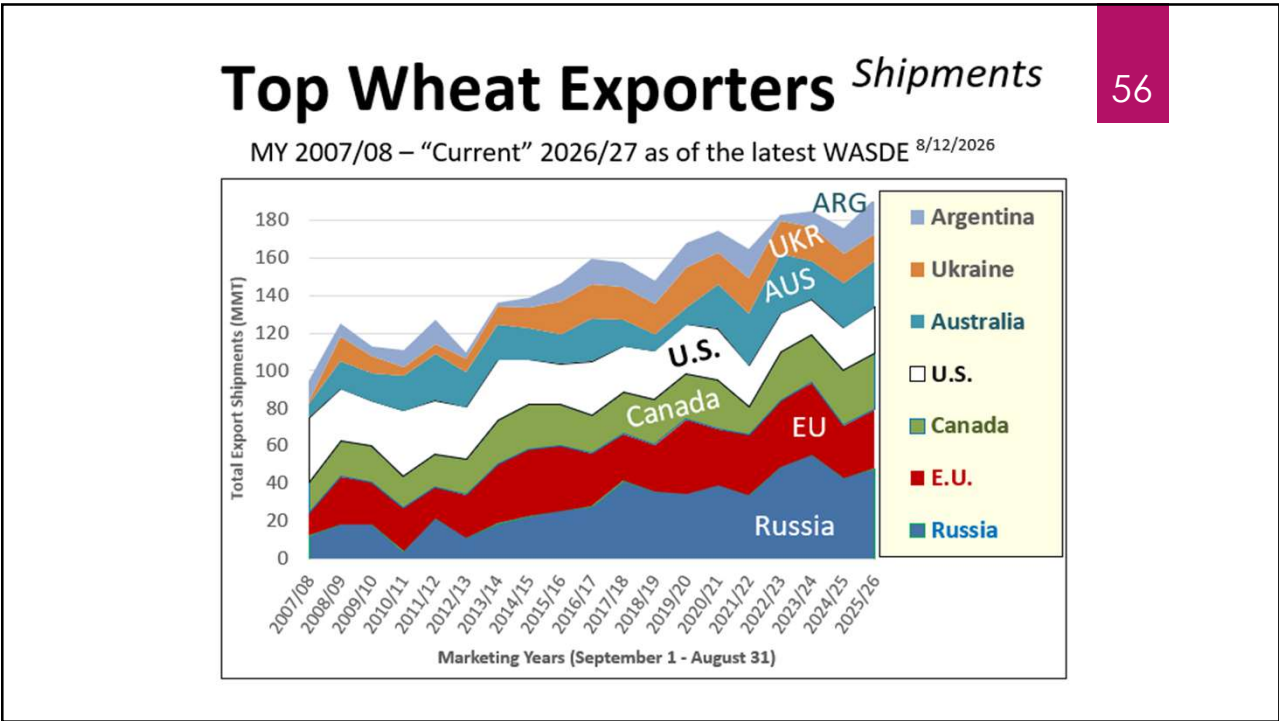
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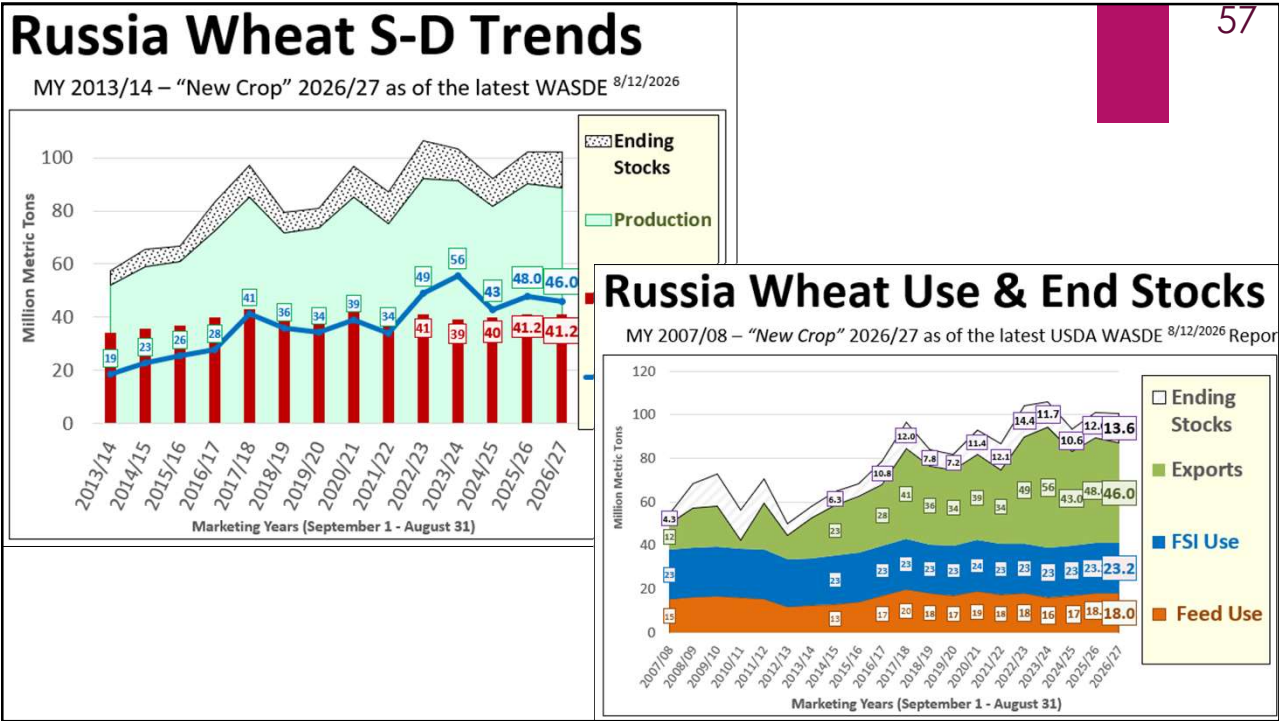
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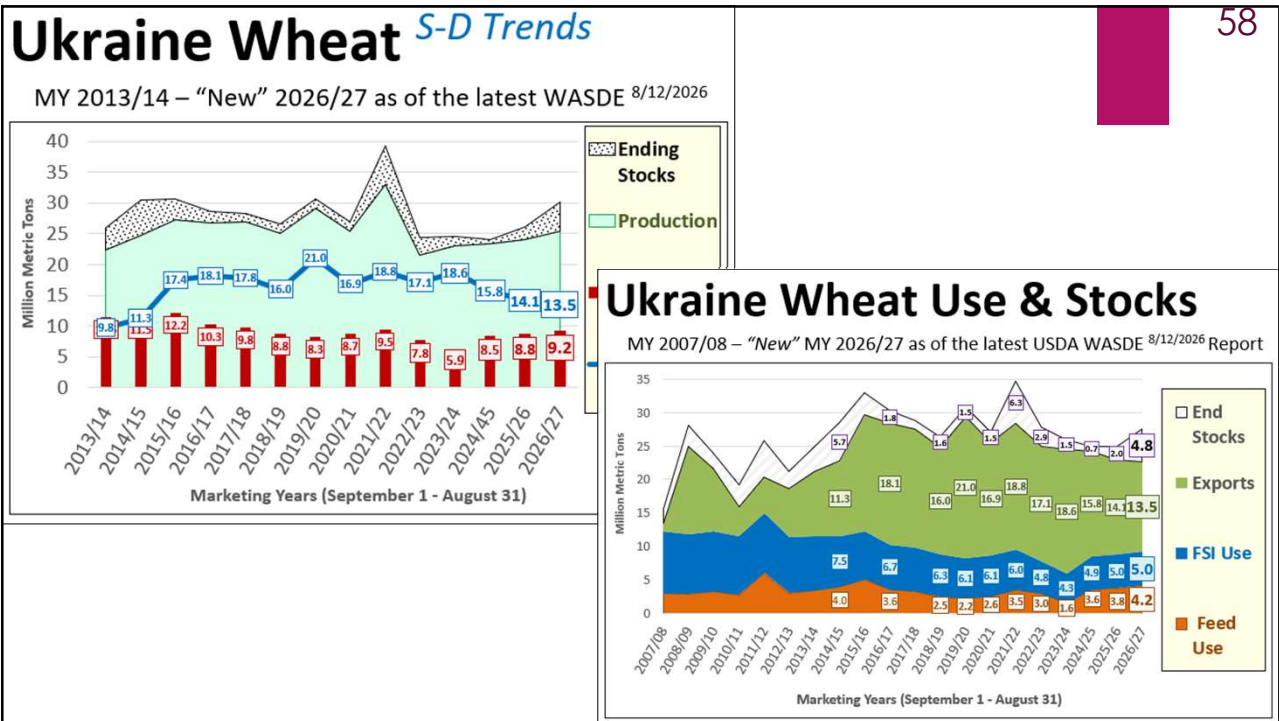
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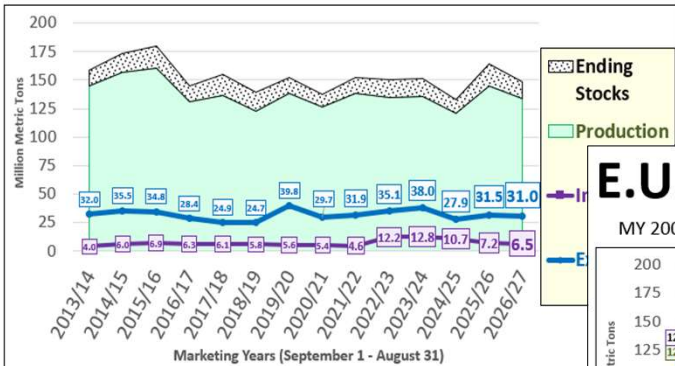
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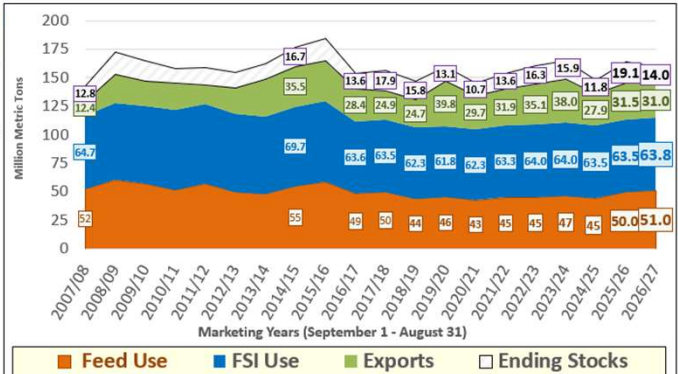
EU Wheat Export-Import Trends

MY 2013/14 - "Current" MY 2025/26 as of the latest USDA WASDE 8/12/2026 Report



E.U. Wheat Use & End Stocks

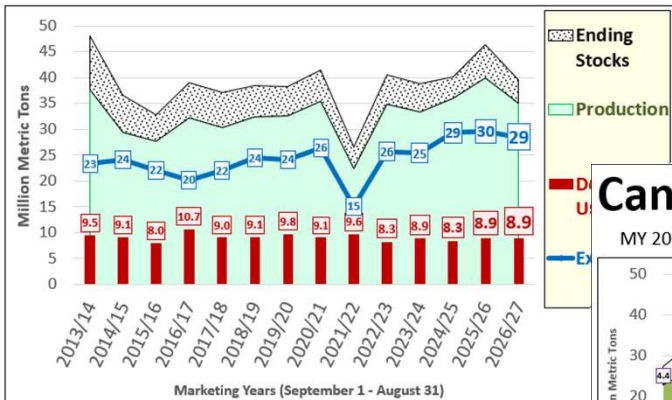
MY 2007/08 - "Next" MY 2025/26 as of the latest USDA WASDE 8/12/2026 Report



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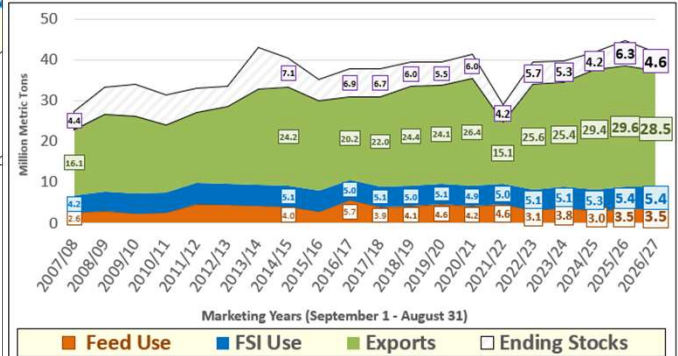
Canada Wheat S-D Trends

MY 2013/14 - "New Crop" 2026/27 as of the latest WASDE 8/12/2026



Canada Wheat Use & End Stocks

MY 2007/08 - "New Crop" 2025/26 as of the latest USDA WASDE 8/12/2026 Report



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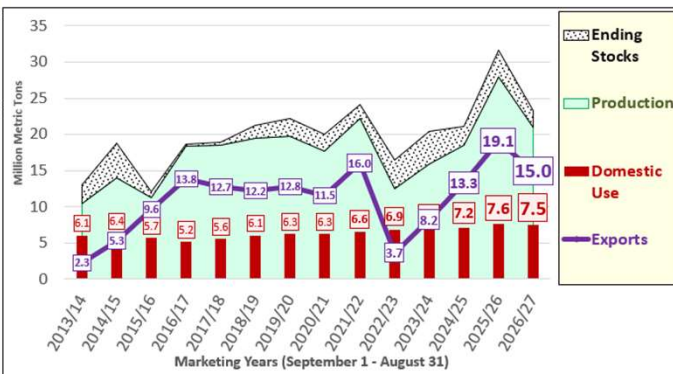
Australia Wheat S-D Trends

MY 2013/14 – “New Crop” 2026/27 as of the latest WASDE 8/12/2026



Argentina Wheat S-D Trends

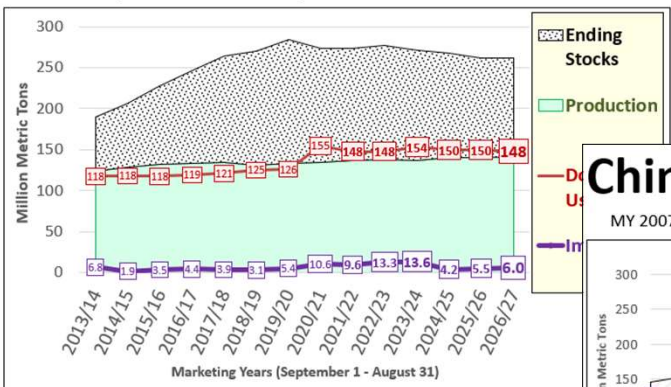
MY 2013/14 - “New” 2026/27 as of the latest USDA WASDE 8/12/2026



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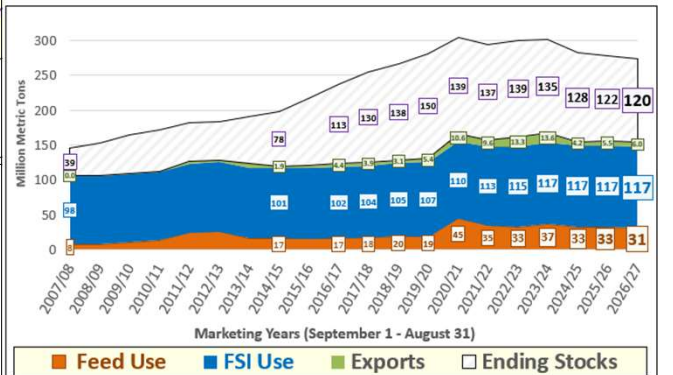
China Wheat S-D Trends

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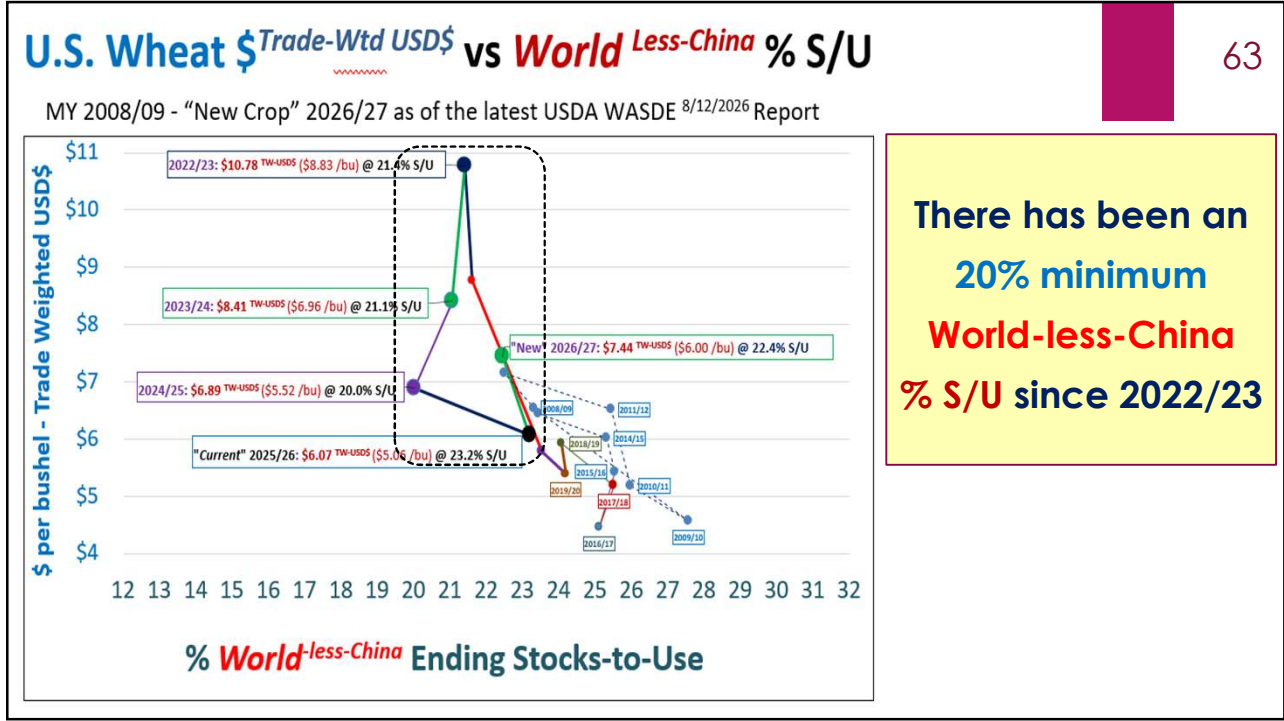


China Wheat Use & End Stocks

MY 2007/08 – “Current” MY 2025/26 as of the latest USDA WASDE 8/12/2026 Report



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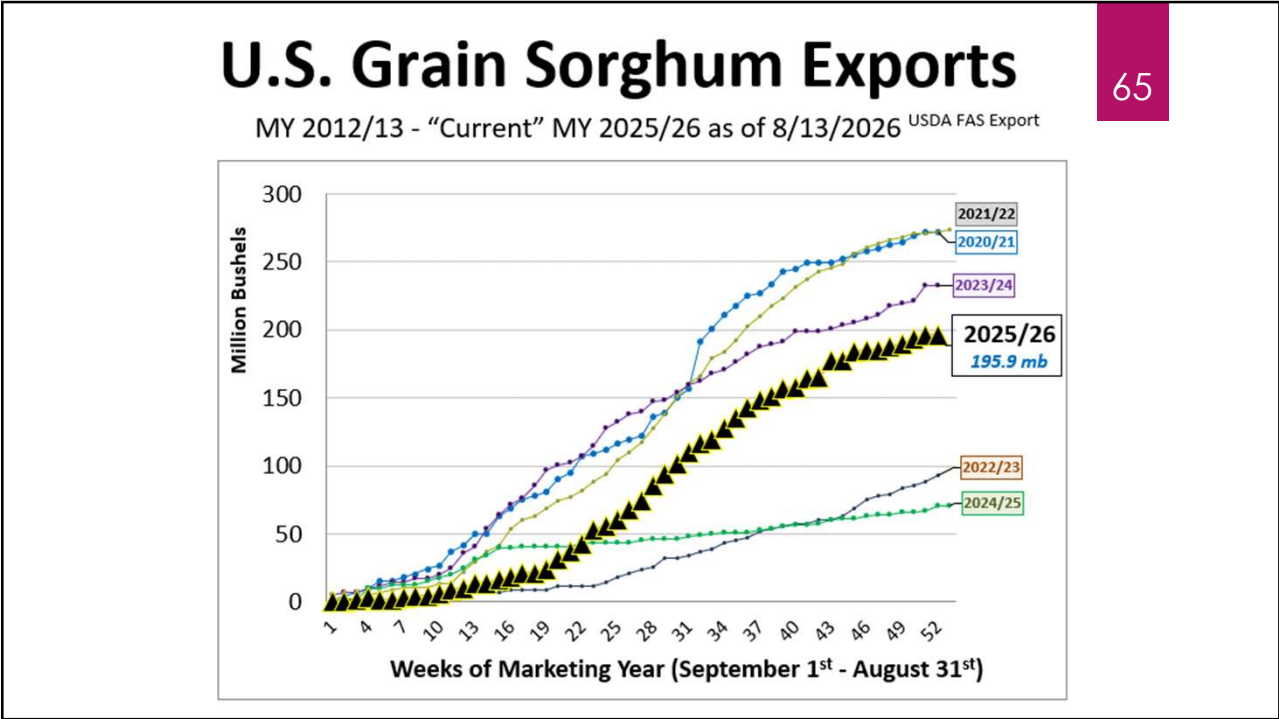


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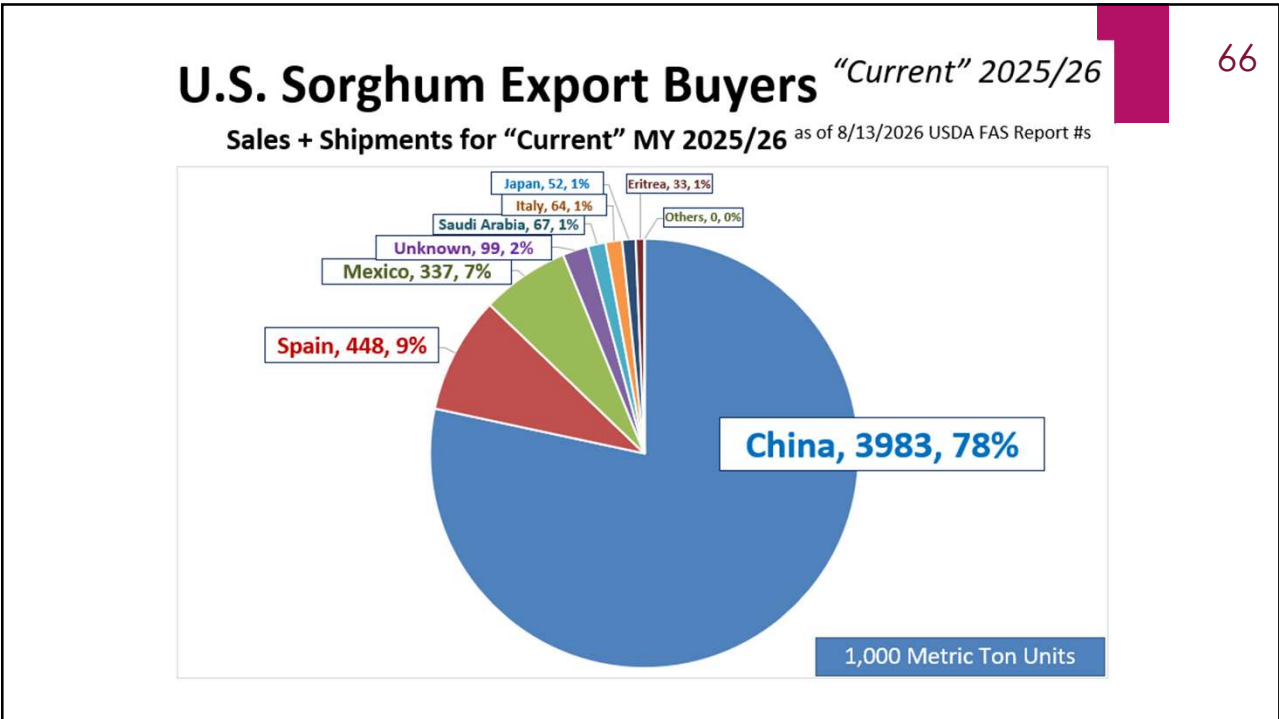
Grain Sorghum Markets

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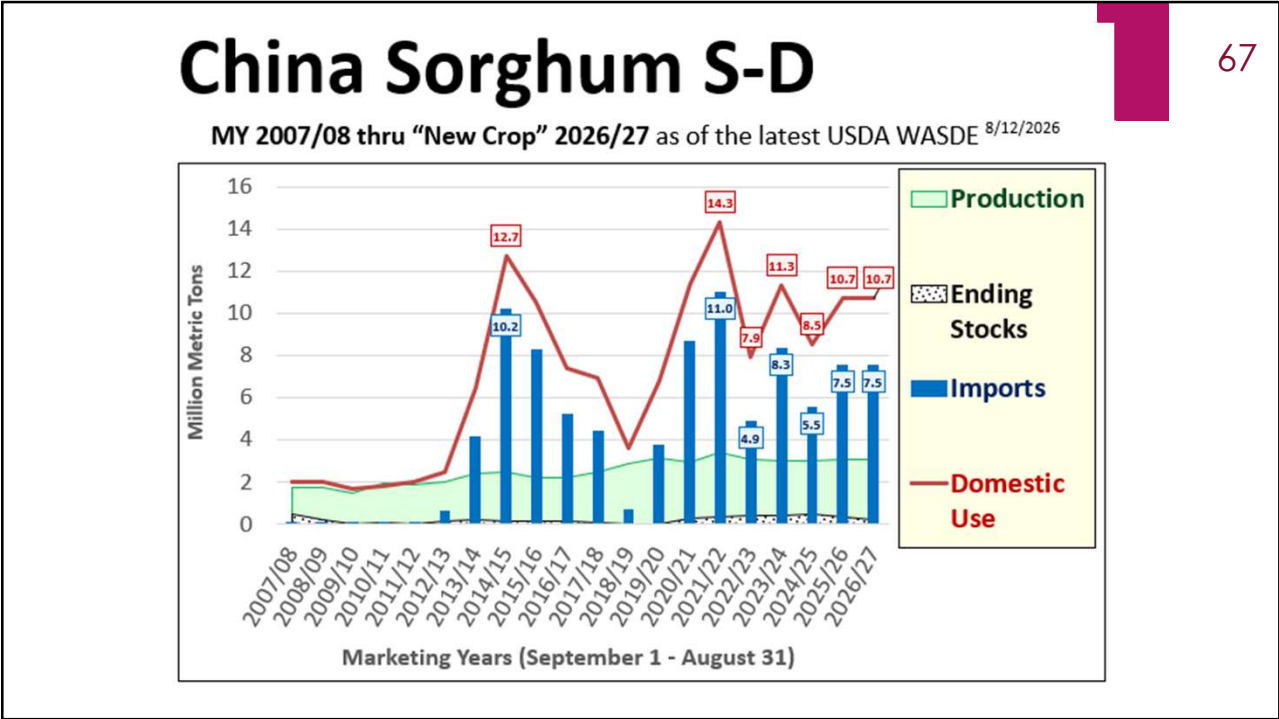
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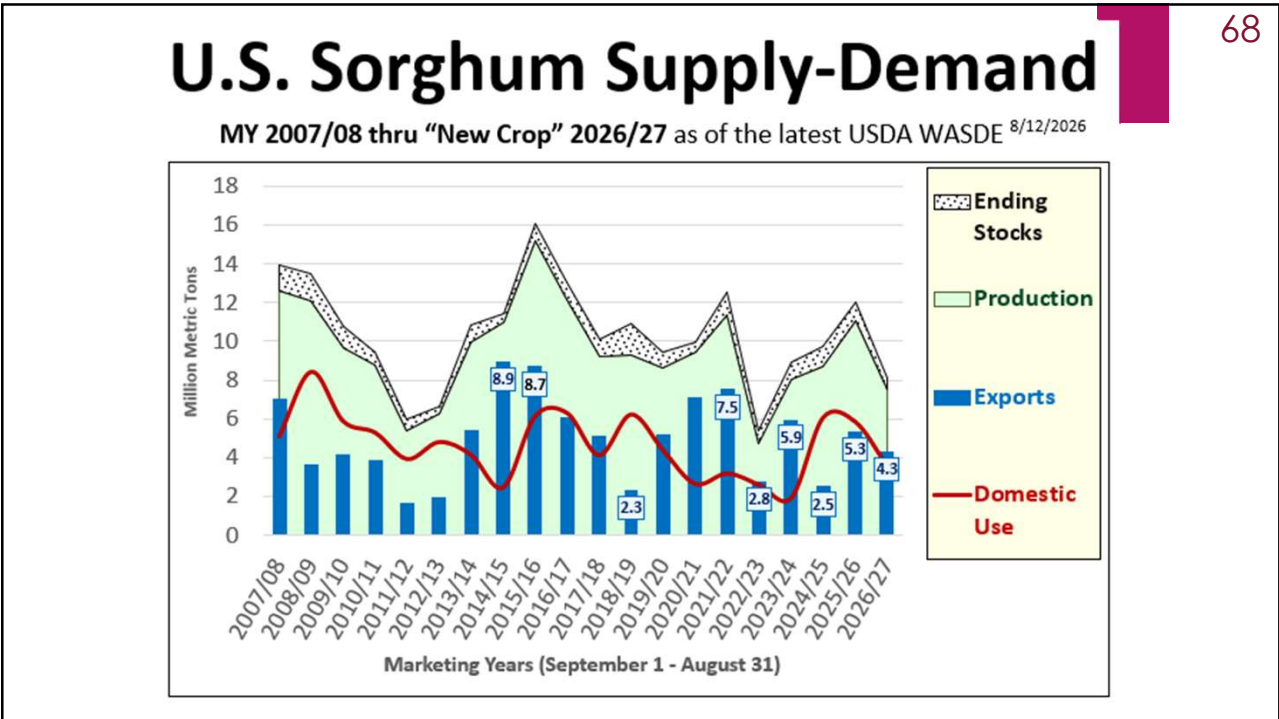
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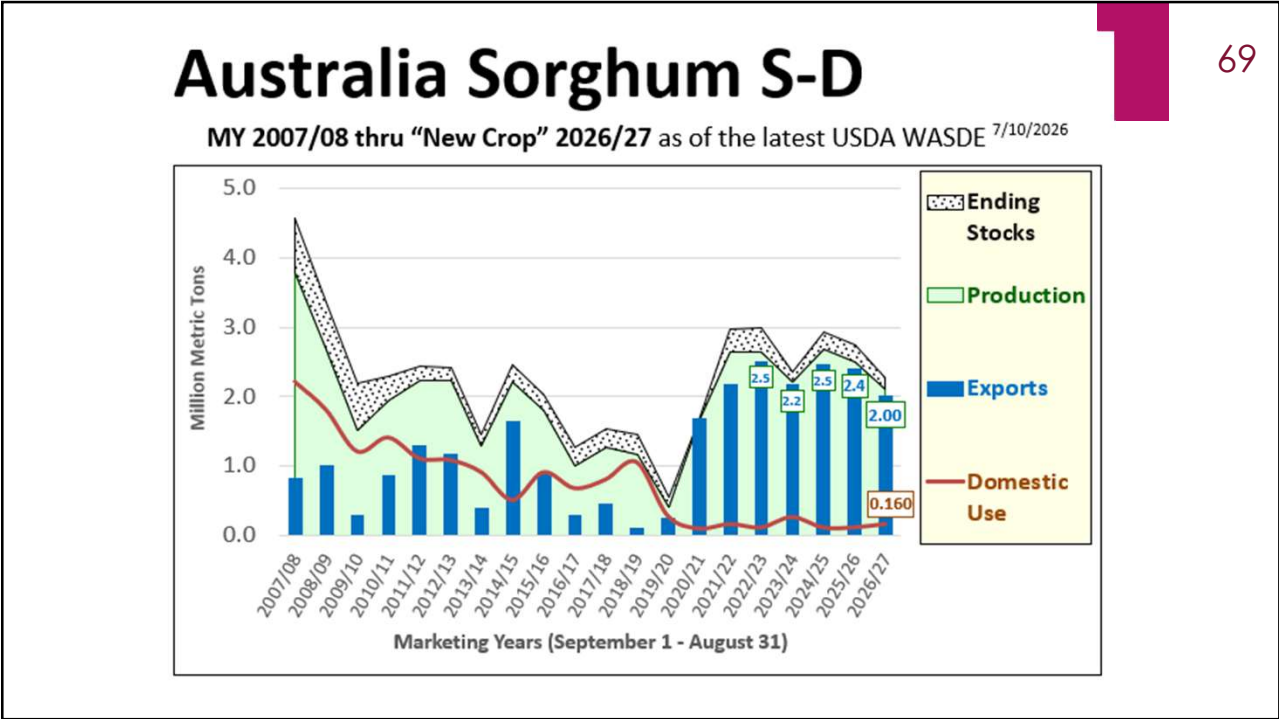
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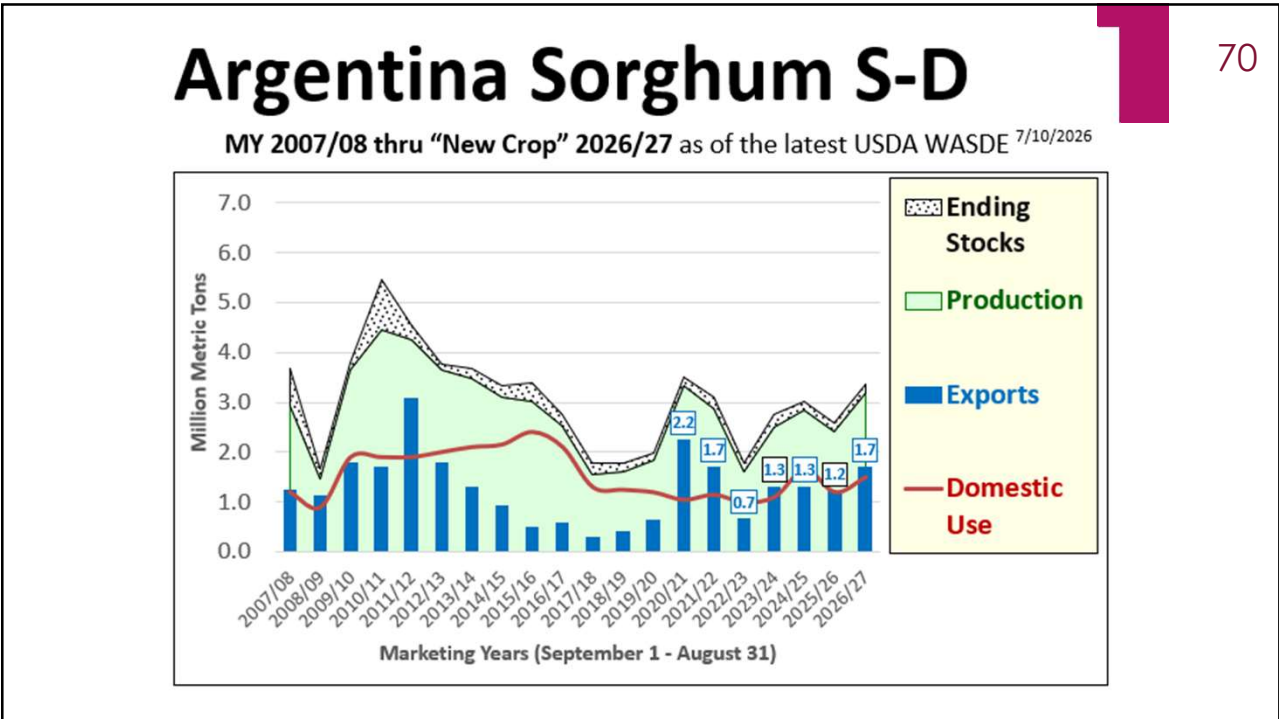
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Cotton Markets



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U.S. Cotton Supply and Demand

Item	2025/2026 estimate	2026/2027 forecast	Change from July 10	Change from 2025/2026
Planted area (million acres)	9.28	10.47	0.62	1.19
Harvested area (million acres)	7.83	8.19	0.65	0.36
Yield (pounds per acre)	852	798	-74	-54
----- Million bales -----				
Beginning stocks	4.00	4.20	--	0.20
Production	13.90	13.61	-0.09	-0.29
Imports	0.01	0.01	--	--
Total supply	17.90	17.81	-0.09	-0.09
Mill use	1.55	1.60	--	0.05
Exports	12.20	12.30	--	0.10
Total use	13.75	13.90	--	0.15
Unaccounted	-0.05	-0.09	0.01	-0.04
Ending stocks	4.20	4.00	-0.10	-0.20
----- Percent -----				
Stocks to use ratio	30.5	28.8	-0.7	-1.8
----- Cents per pound -----				
Average market price	61.50	75.00	2.00	13.50
-- No change.				

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World Cotton Production

Country or Region	2025/2026 estimate	2026/2027 forecast	Change from July 10	Change from 2025/2026
----- Million bales -----				
World	122.0	117.6	0.4	-4.3
United States	13.9	13.6	-0.1	-0.3
Foreign	108.1	104.0	0.5	-4.0
Argentina	1.0	1.4	--	0.4
Brazil	18.8	18.3	0.3	-0.5
Turkey	3.1	2.7	0.1	-0.4
Australia	4.5	3.0	--	-1.5
China	35.8	33.5	--	-2.3
India	23.8	24.0	--	0.2
Pakistan	5.3	5.1	--	-0.2
Uzbekistan	3.4	3.4	--	**
Turkmenistan	0.9	0.8	--	**
African Franc Zone	4.0	4.2	**	0.2

-- No change. ** Rounds to zero.

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World Cotton Supply and Demand

Item	2025/2026 estimate	2026/2027 forecast	Change from July 10	Change from 2025/2026
----- Million bales -----				
Beginning stocks	74.8	74.8	-0.9	**
Production	122.0	117.6	0.4	-4.3
Total Supply	196.8	192.4	-0.5	-4.3
Consumption	120.9	122.9	1.0	2.0
Trade	45.6	43.8	0.5	-1.7
Ending Stocks	74.8	69.7	-1.5	-5.1

Addendum

China ending stocks	36.3	34.7	-0.8	-1.6
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** Rounds to zero.

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Closing Perspectives

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Questions?

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