Agenda

- Highlights from the analysis
- Why they are important for producers and lenders alike
- Other news and factoids
- How you can access this and future editions
- Q&A
Highlight 1: Specialized Commodities During Income Plateaus

- The United States has seen specialized commodity trends in the past, with mixed outcomes.
- Production costs and consumer demand growth were key struggles for certain prior specialized commodities.
- Hemp production differs significantly from these commodities but may face some of the same challenges.

Source: Gillespie & Schupp (2002), American Ostrich Association
Highlight 2: Off-Farm Income and the Urban Rural Divide

- Off-farm income remains an important component of total household income for farms, even among the largest producers.

- Completely rural counties have seen the slowest recovery in employment and incomes following the Great Recession.

- Farms in urban areas have seen more growth in their off-farm incomes since 2010 than producers in completely rural counties have.

Source: Farmer Mac analysis of internal loan data
Highlight 3: Weather

- Weather in the Northern Plains is likely to remain cold and snowy for the remainder of winter
- Average precipitation is expected along the West Coast
Highlight 4: Renewable Energy Growth in Rural America

- Renewable energy generation will increase rapidly in the coming years
- Rural areas are a natural fit for renewable energy projects, given the space required for utility-scale power generation
- Solar and wind projects can provide substantial economic benefits

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)
Highlight 5: U.S.-China Trade Potential

- China has reportedly committed to buying $40 to $50 billion in annual agricultural goods for the next two calendar years.
- No two single trading partners have ever exceeded $31 billion in annual agricultural imports/exports.
- To make $40 billion a reality, China will likely have to adopt a three-pronged approach: more of existing commodities, new types of commodities, and technical trade rerouting.

Source: USDA FAS GATS Data, United Nations Comtrade Data
Other news

Innovation continues to push American production

U.S. farm income picture is mixed

African swine fever update

Current and future trade agreements
Details on The Feed

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