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What's Around the

Corner &

Down the Road?

Today's Speaker



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Weekly Website Columns:

Ag Globe Trotter: www.farm-credit.com

Road Warrior of Agriculture: www.cornandsoybeandigest.com

Lender Economic Planning Environment

- economic change- rapid & abrupt
- quick historical view since WWII
- economic moderation
- volatility at extremes
- dead cat bounces /false recoveries
- reprioritization and focus



2009 Views from the Road

- livestock / protein industry
- dependent on real estate
- third party / counter party risk
- non-farm income
- lenders rationing credit
- forestry
- housing & export markets



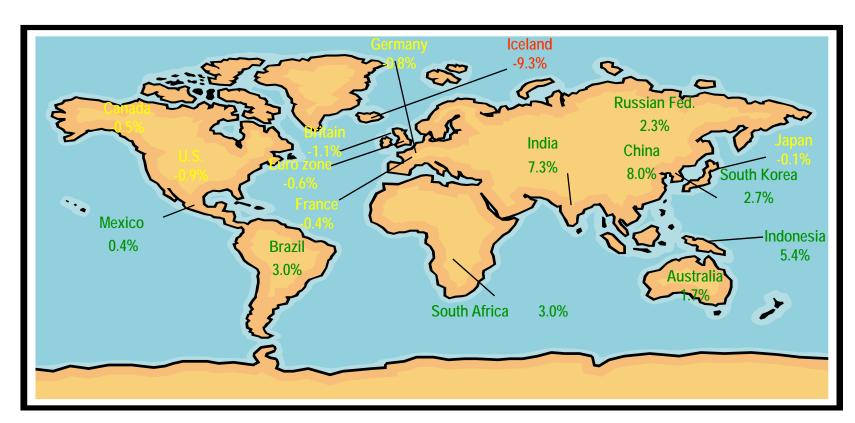
Century of Super Cycles

Common Characteristics:

Commodities Boom	1915-17	1950-57	1973-74	2003-08
Rapid Global Real Growth (average annual % change)	N/A	4.8%	4.0%	3.5%
Conflict & Geopolitical Uncertainty	First World war	Korean war	Yom Kippur & Vietnam wars	Iraq conflict
Inflation	Widespread	Limited	Widespread	Limited
Significant Infrastructure Investment	First World war	Postwar reconstruction	None	China
Centered on	Metals, agriculture	Metals, agriculture	Oil, agriculture	Oil, metals, agriculture
% Increase in Prices (previous trough to peak)	34%	47%	59%	131%
Years of Rising Prices Prior to Peak	4	3	2	5

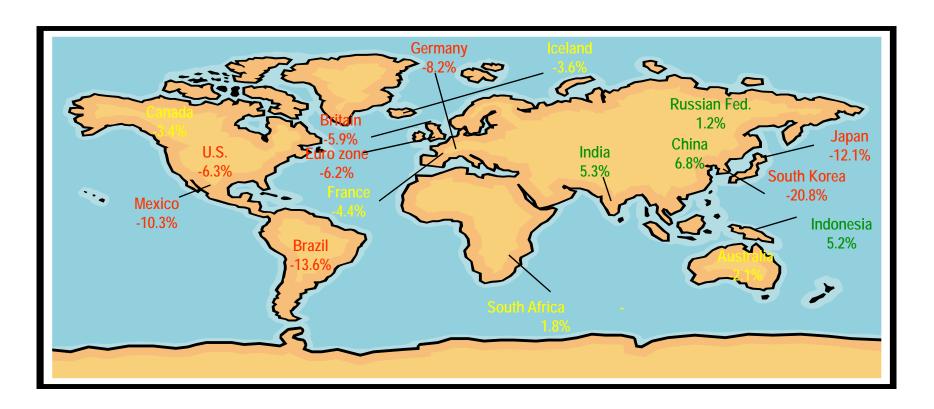
Source: World Bank

Projected World Growth



GDP Growth % 2009 Forecast

World Growth



GDP Growth % 2009 Quarter Figures April 9, 2009

Source: www.Economist.com

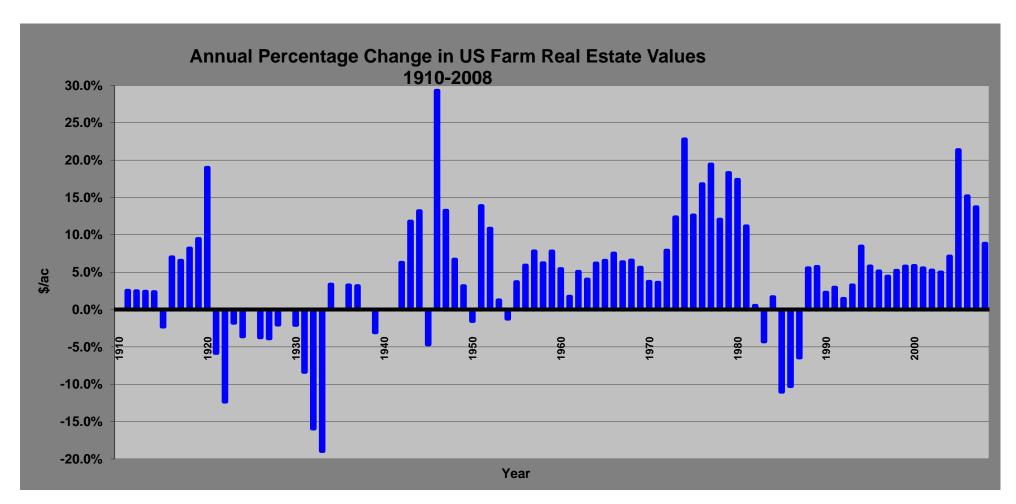
Alternative Energy

- \$60 to \$100 swings in oil prices
- \$3.50 to \$4.00 gasoline- consumer chicken point
- oil prices and direction
 - weather
 - ✓ geopolitical & military risk
 - currency exchange rate
 - developing & emerging countries economic status
- technology and supply side of equation
- demand side globally in agriculture





U.S. Farm Real Estate Values



Source: Dr. Steve Isaacs, University of Kentucky

Business Cycles by the Numbers

Months

11 economic recessions

58 business expansions

Great Moderation Theory expansions

7 Great Moderation Theory recessions

106 record expansion-- Paul Volcker

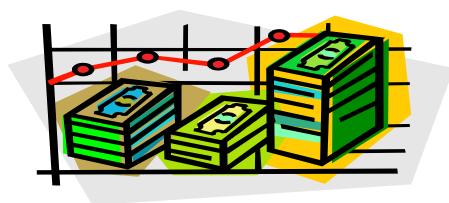
120 all time record expansion -- Alan Greenspan

- Kondratieff Wave Theory
- Rolling recessions of Post War



Signs & Issues of an Economic Turnaround

- housing
- copper prices
- government debt
- deflation / inflation
- interest rates
- other



Disconnect Between Borrower & Lender Views on Ag Economy

- I have equity. Why can't I get a loan?
- all banks received TARP funds
- more borrowed money will fix the problem
- borrowers often recognize the problem too late
- lenders delay taking action because they are "too busy"
- farmers & ranchers feel they are "different"
- producers use the economy as an excuse
- producers are too busy
- lenders think globally, but producers think "one track"
- borrowers say, "Why should I have to provide detailed information?"
- pricing- why can't I get the low rates?

How Lenders Contributed to the Crisis

- couldn't make a bad loan
- too growth-oriented
- deals became more leveraged and complex
- underwriting was thinner
 - ✓ covenant "lite"
- over-reliance on non-recurring income
- false sense of security built on real estate
- lending to new industries with no expertise
- over-reliance on statistical models
- got away from knowing the customers
- outside entities with contingent liabilities

Famous Quotes in Business & Lending From the Road



- "If it grows too fast, it's a weed."
- "If you got the dirt, you can't get hurt."
- "Land- they aren't making any more of it."
- "Money is cheap, borrow and expand."
- "Go with this lender, they have cheaper rates."
- "I left a lot of money on the table because of a marketing plan."
- "Prices and cost are too volatile to plan."
- "It's a new plateau or a new normal."
- "Millionaire on paper but never earned a dollar."
- "But, I have a lot of equity in land."
- "Got to minimize taxes."
- "Be careful of people in silk suits."

Counter Stress Cracks

- trend analysis
- earned net worth / appreciated net worth
- communications
- selective on new business
- business financial plans with variance analysis
- marketing risk management progress
- personal family living budget
- sensitivity on profits, liquidity, & collateral
- sell-sell-sell
- other



Educational Needs "Micro"

- working capital education
- cash flow budgeting & variance analysis
- profit rule (60-30-10)
- marketing & risk management (three levels)
- management succession / estate planning
- expansion planning in a volatile environment
- business plan development
- strategy & execution of business plans
- cash to accrual in business monitoring
- deferred tax consequences in sale situations
- personal finance & investing

Educational Needs "Macro"

- understanding government programs & environmental policy
- interest rates
 - deflation / inflation
 - currency valuation
- business cycles & the economy
- general mega trends
- impact of global economics on agricultural industry