

# **Quarterly Report on FCS Conditions September 12, 2024**

Rebecca Kaiser – Economist Matt Alizadeh – Supervisory FCA Examiner





## **Topics for Open Session**

Economic Conditions Affecting the Farm Credit System

- Macroeconomic conditions
- Crop and livestock prices
- ▶ Farm sector income

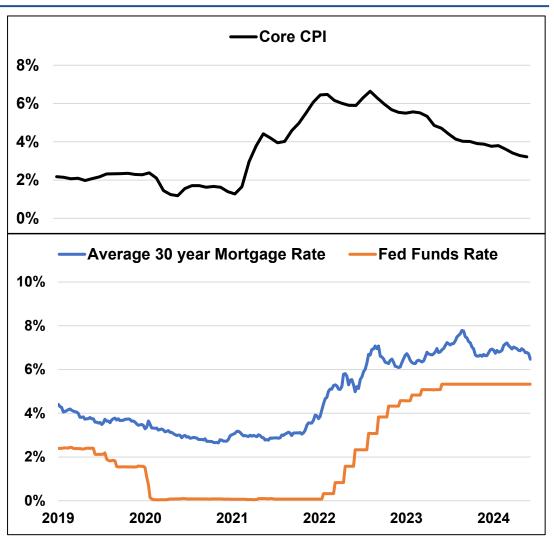
Farm Credit System Condition and Performance

- System growth and portfolio credit quality
- Earnings and capital
- ► Financial Institution Rating System (FIRS)



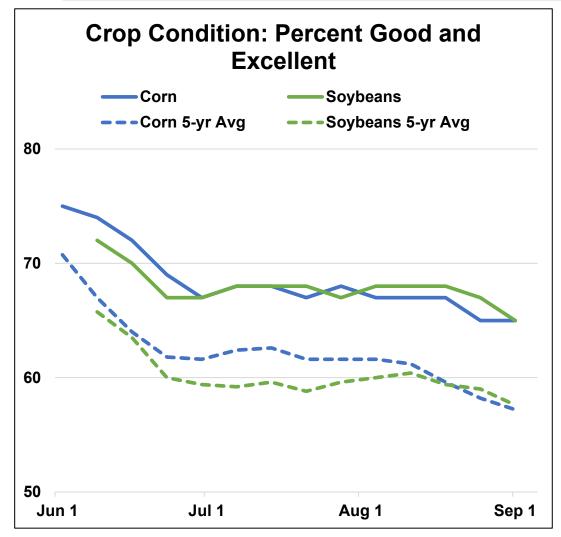
### **Economic conditions favor interest rate cuts**

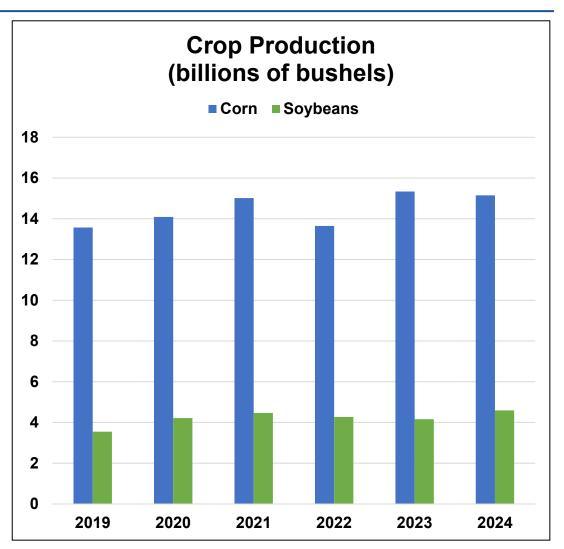
- ➤ CPI dropped under 3% in July for the first time since 2021.
- Interest rate cuts are expected to start in September.
- Long-term rates are moving lower.
- ▶ Job market remains relatively strong but shows signs of softening.





# Corn and soybeans conditions looking good

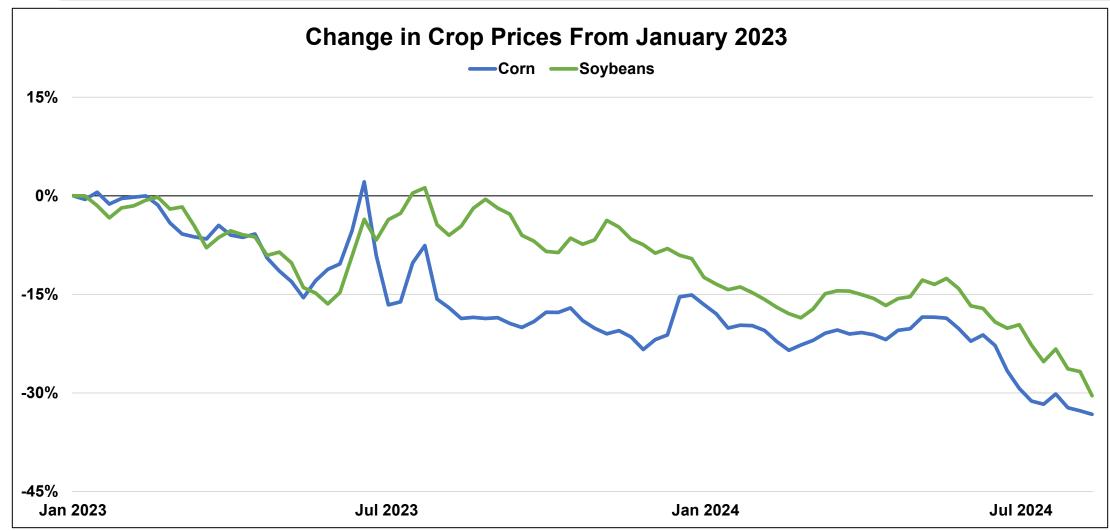




Source: USDA NASS



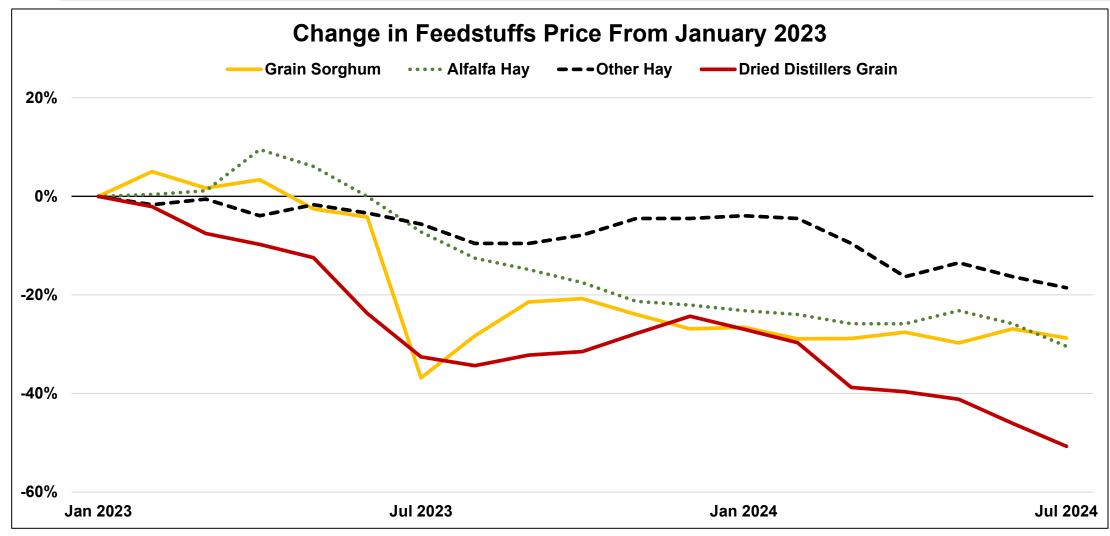
# Crop prices have declined sharply



Source: CME, nearby futures



## Feedstuff prices track lower

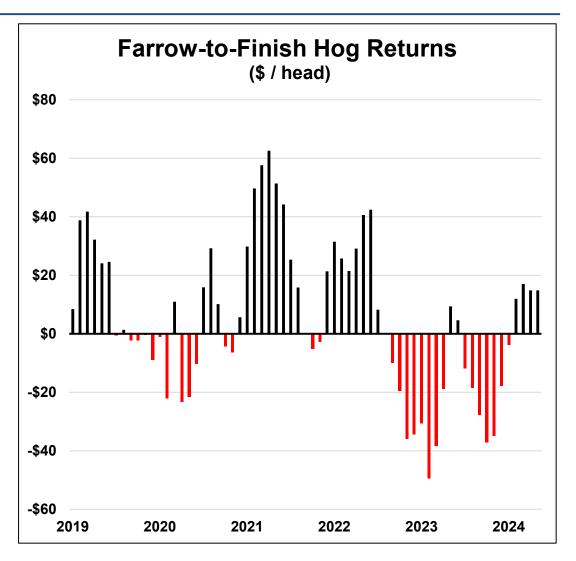


Source: USDA NASS



# Hog profits are back in black

- ► Hog margins were negative in late 2022 and 2023; producers reduced the breeding herd.
- Feeder pig prices are now above 5-year averages.
- Farrow-to-finish returns are back to positive, driven primarily by lower feed costs.



Source: Iowa State University



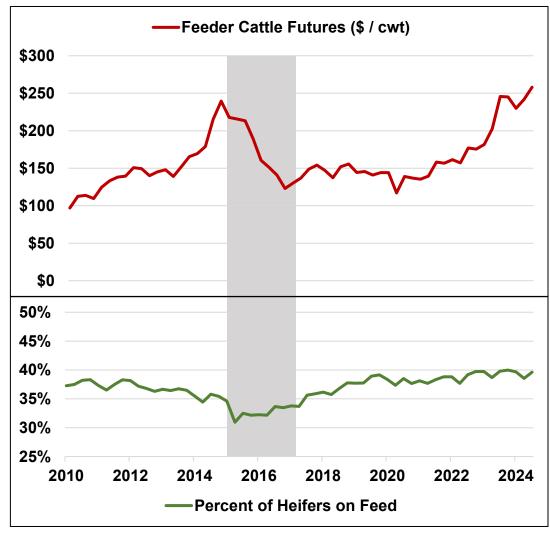
## Chicken and turkey markets diverge

- ► Lower feed costs help poultry producers' profitability after flocks hampered by Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).
- Chicken prices remain high while turkey is well below the 5-year average and below highs of 2023.
- Turkey poult placements are down from a year ago, driven by lower demand and higher-than-average frozen whole birds in storage.
- Chicken and turkey margins are expected to continue moving in opposite directions.



# Cow-calf producer margins remain high

- Record high prices continued through the summer.
- ► The high level of heifers on feed indicate herd rebuilding is not happening despite improvements in range conditions.
- ▶ In 2015, a declining share of heifers on feed led to rapid herd rebuilding and a subsequent decline in prices.
- Producers may be hesitant to rebuild their herds until interest costs decline or concerns of a recession dissipate.

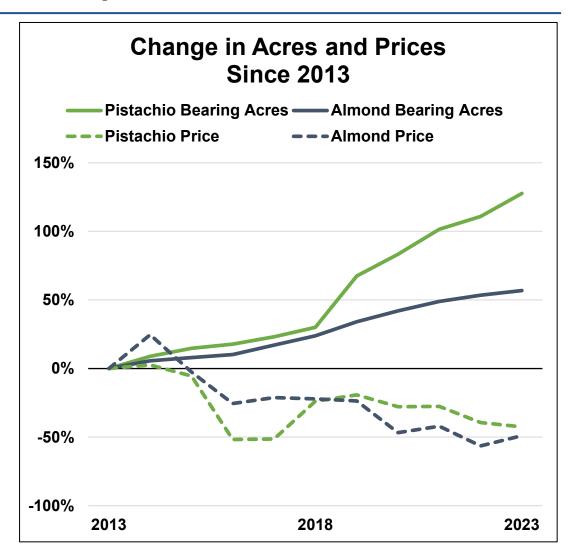


<sup>\*</sup>Shaded gray area represents last cattle cycle expansion



## Tree nut prices remain under pressure

- ► Plantings of tree nuts increased considerably following high prices in 2013 and 2014.
- Since then, bearing acreage has increased and prices have declined sharply.
- ► For almonds, weather and tough growing conditions have limited production in recent years despite higher bearing acres.



Sources: USDA NASS; The Almond Board of California



# Questions



# Farm Credit System Condition and Performance as of June 30, 2024

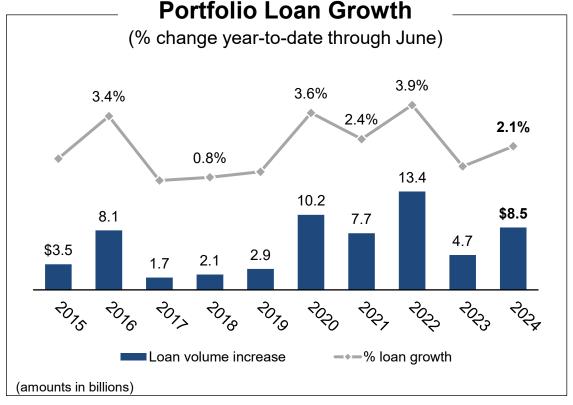
Matt Alizadeh
Supervisory FCA Examiner
Office of Examination

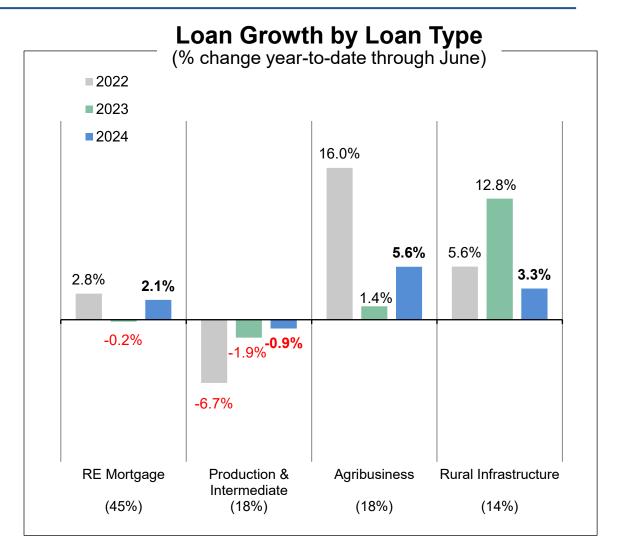




# System reports modest portfolio growth in the first half of 2024

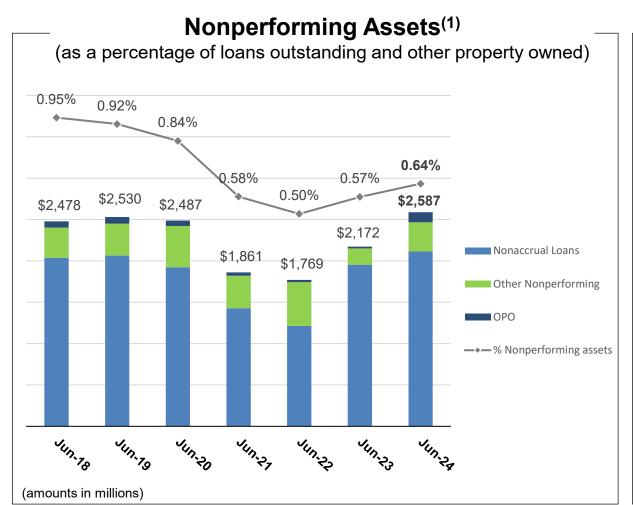


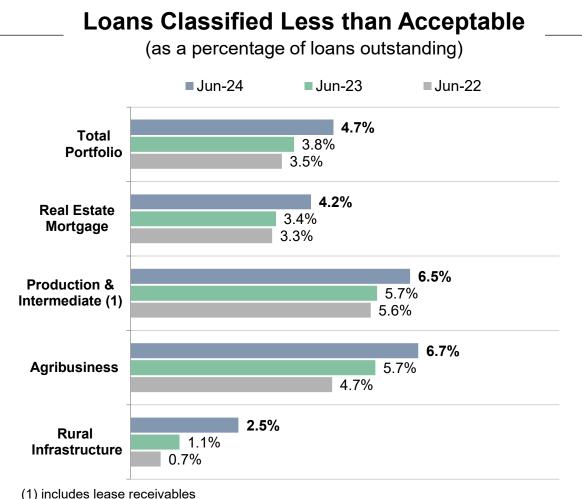






# Credit risk measures trend higher; overall portfolio loan quality remains favorable



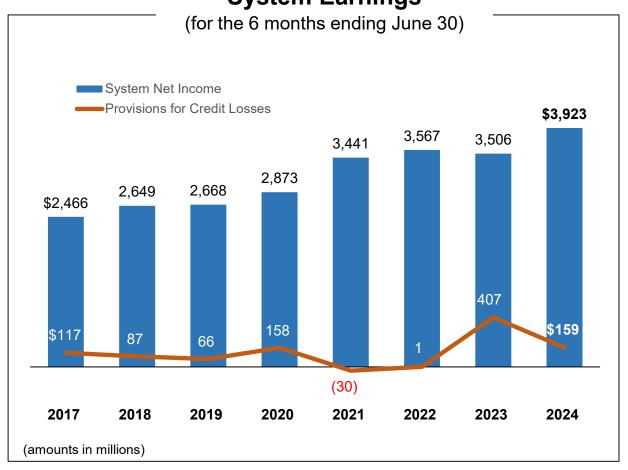


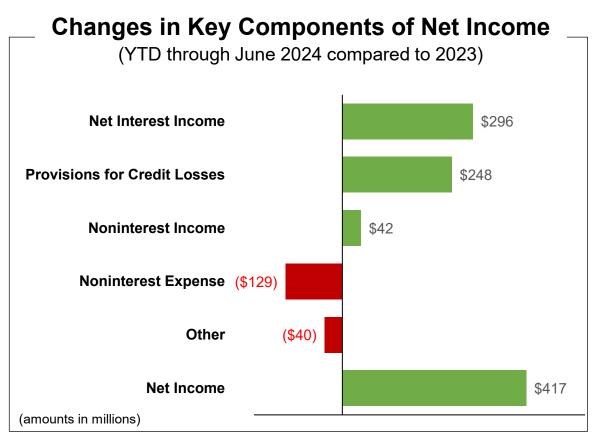
(1) Prior to the adoption of CECL on 1/1/23, nonperforming assets included accruing restructured loans Source: Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation Information Statements



# Higher net interest income and lower allowance provisions drive year-to-date earnings growth

### **System Earnings**

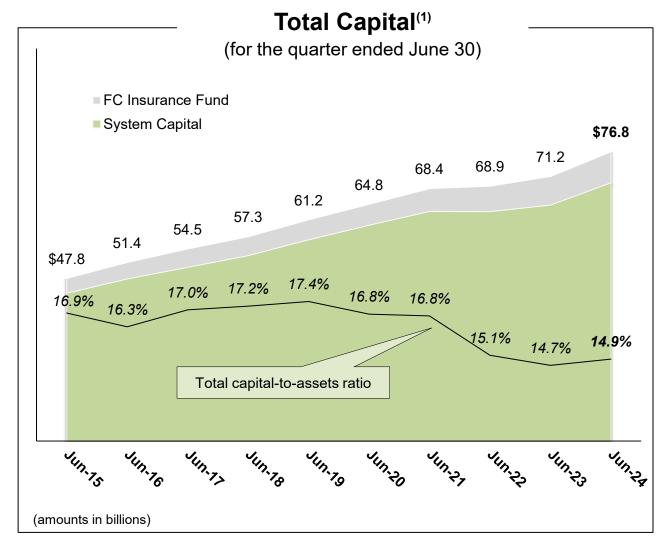






# Strong earnings support continued capital growth; banks maintain robust liquidity positions

- Total capital increased \$5.7 billion or 8.0% year-over-year.
- ► The System's capital-to-assets ratio increased to 14.9% compared with 14.7% a year ago.
- Total regulatory capital ratios:
  - Banks: 14.2% to 16.0%
  - Associations: 12.1% to 35.7%
- Days of liquidity for the 4 funding banks ranged from 157 to 213 days.
- Capital and the allowance for loan credit losses equaled 19.3% of loans outstanding as of June 30, unchanged from a year ago.





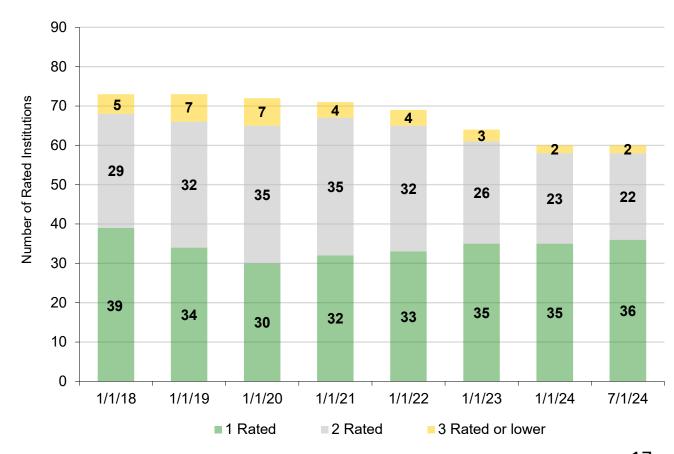
## **Composite FIRS ratings remain steady**

### **Current FIRS Ratings**

(based financial reporting through 6/30/24)

- Composite FIRS ratings reflect the System's sound financial condition.
- Over 96% of System banks and associations have a composite FIRS rating of 1 or 2.
- Institutions rated 3 or lower hold less than 1% of System assets.

# Composite FIRS Ratings Farm Credit System Banks and Associations





# Risks we are monitoring

- Anticipate a more difficult operating environment for both borrowers and System institutions
- ► Effects of a sharp decline in 2024 net farm income combined with existing stress in certain agricultural segments (tree nuts, dairy, swine)
- Stress on grain producers with sharply lower prices and elevated production costs pushing margins to breakeven or below
- Declining liquidity resulting in greater reliance on operating lines
- Impact of elevated interest rates and lower farm income on farmland values
- Uncertain outlook for economic growth in 2025 along with global tensions, avian influenza, and potential farm program changes