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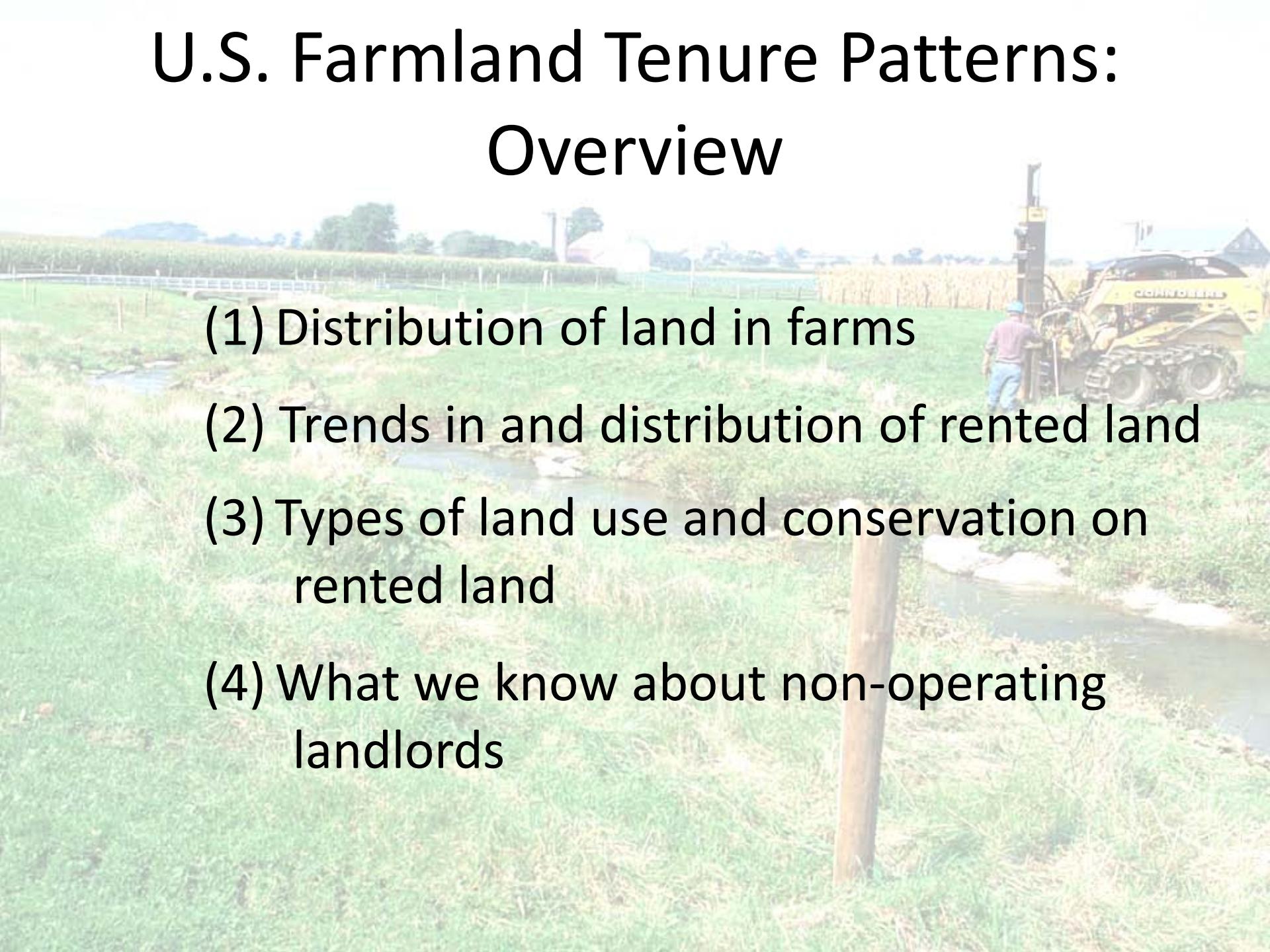
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U.S. Farmland Tenure Patterns: Overview

Cindy Nickerson and Allison Borchers
USDA – Economic Research Service

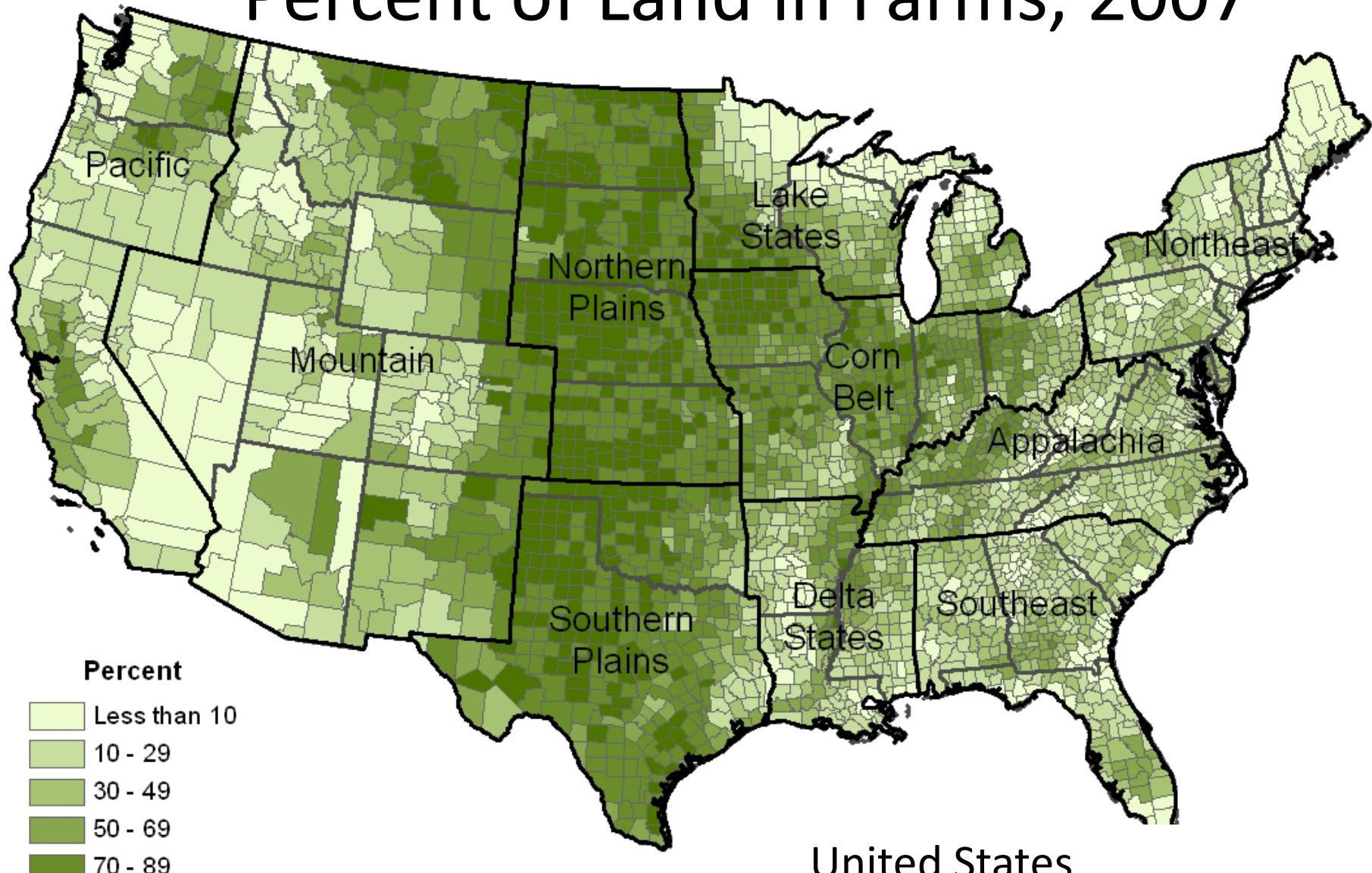
USDA Ag Outlook Forum
February 24, 2011

U.S. Farmland Tenure Patterns: Overview

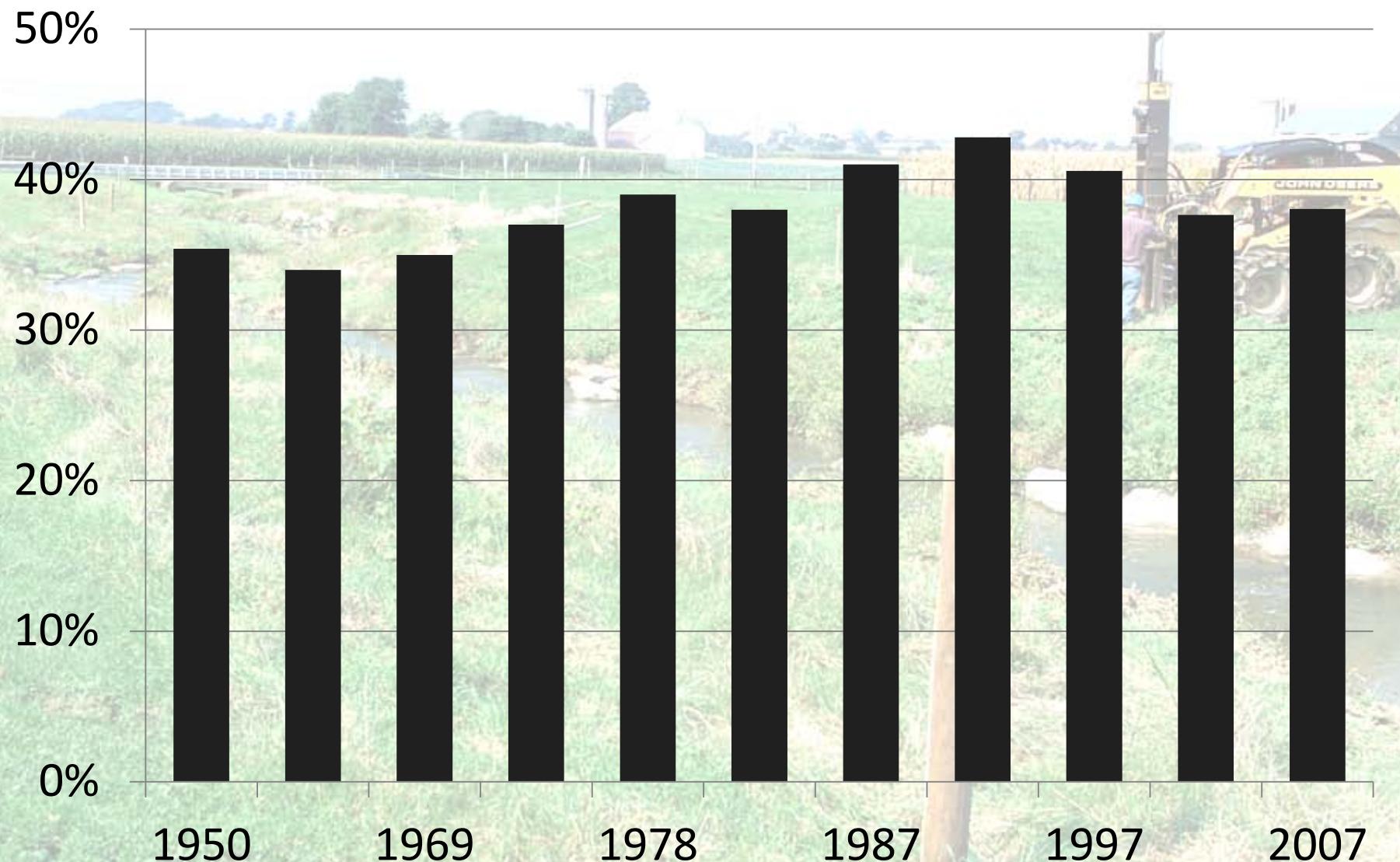


- (1) Distribution of land in farms
- (2) Trends in and distribution of rented land
- (3) Types of land use and conservation on rented land
- (4) What we know about non-operating landlords

Percent of Land in Farms, 2007



Share of Acres Rented



Counties with >50% leased land, 1950

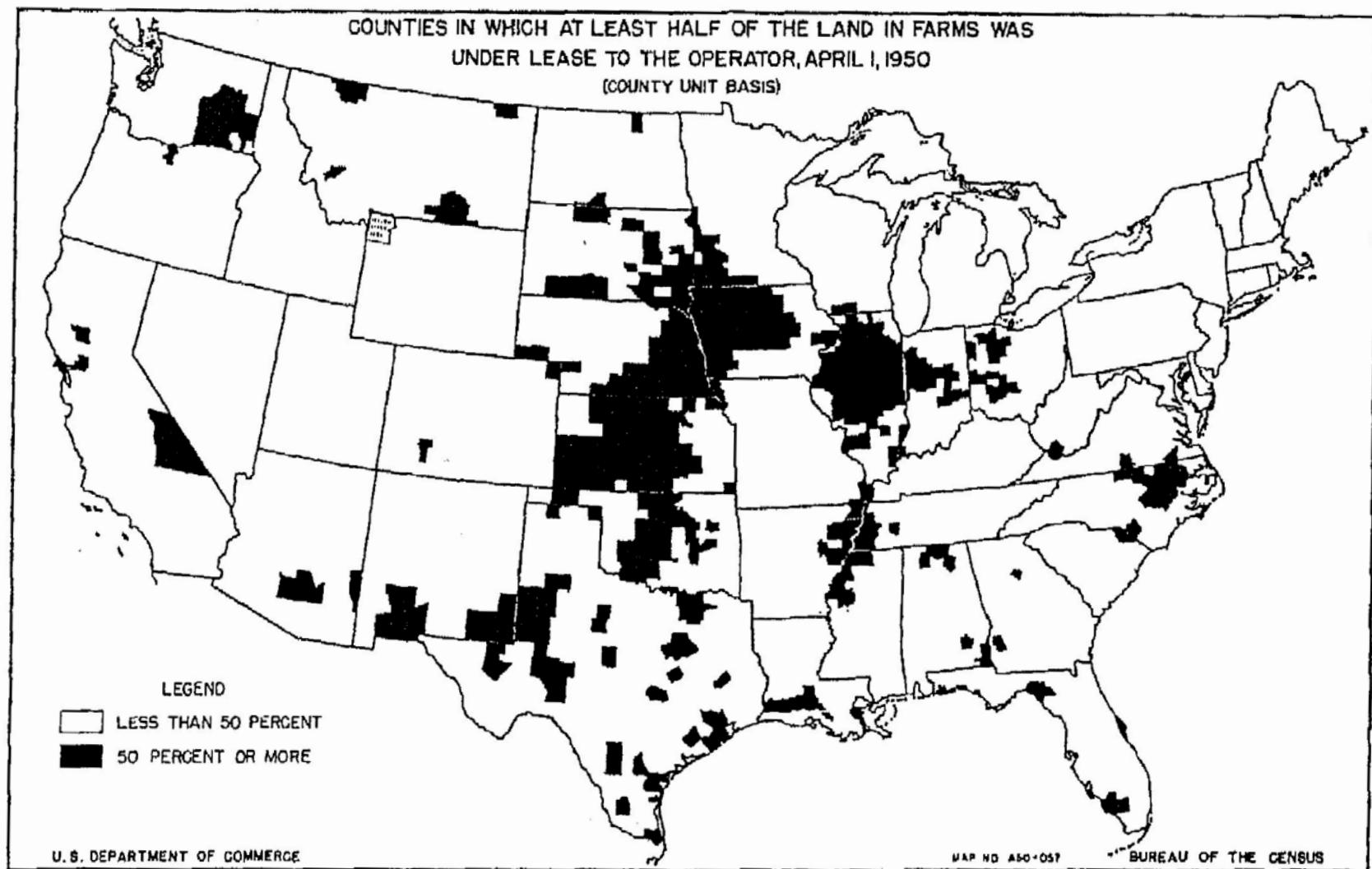
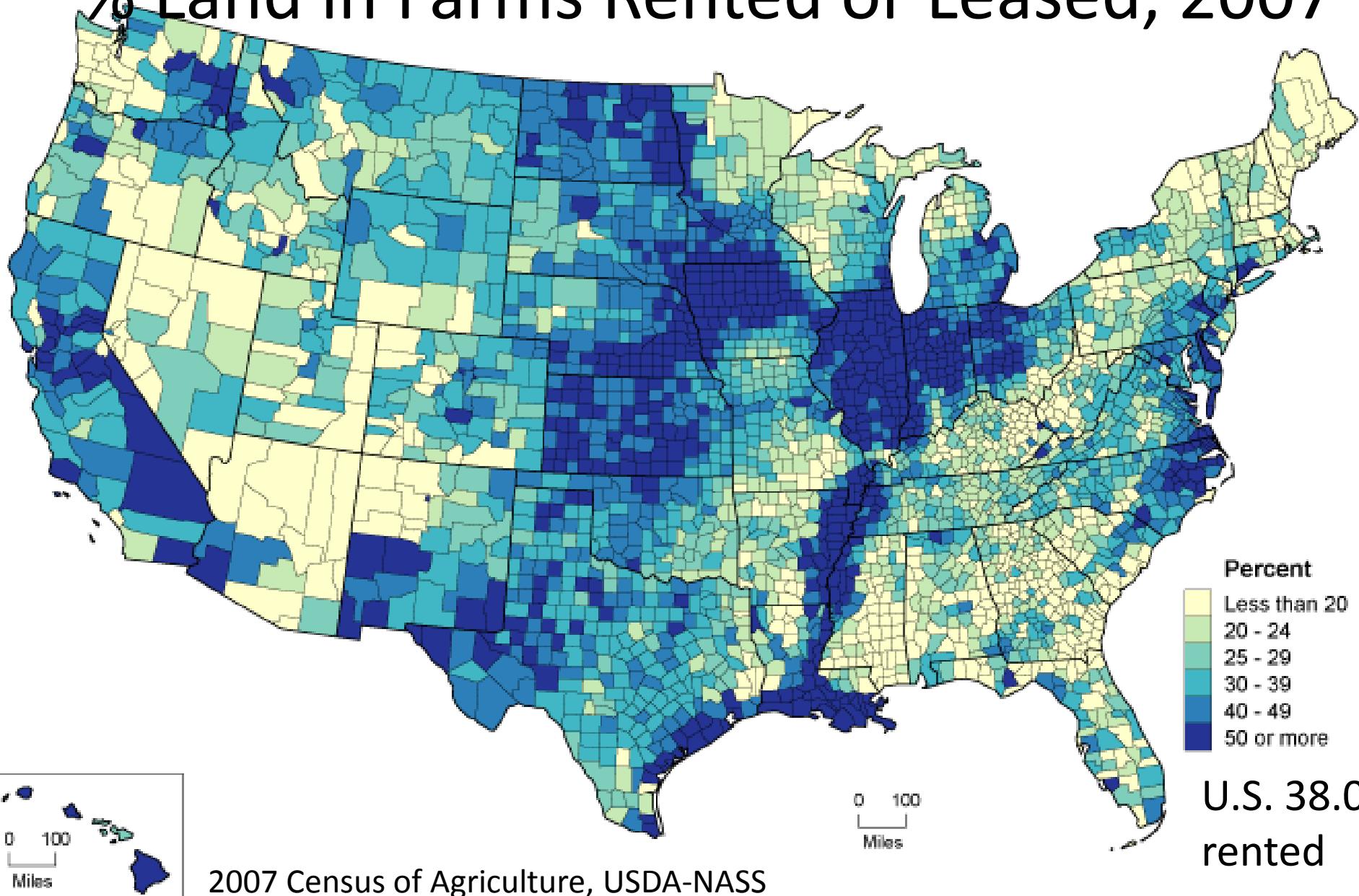
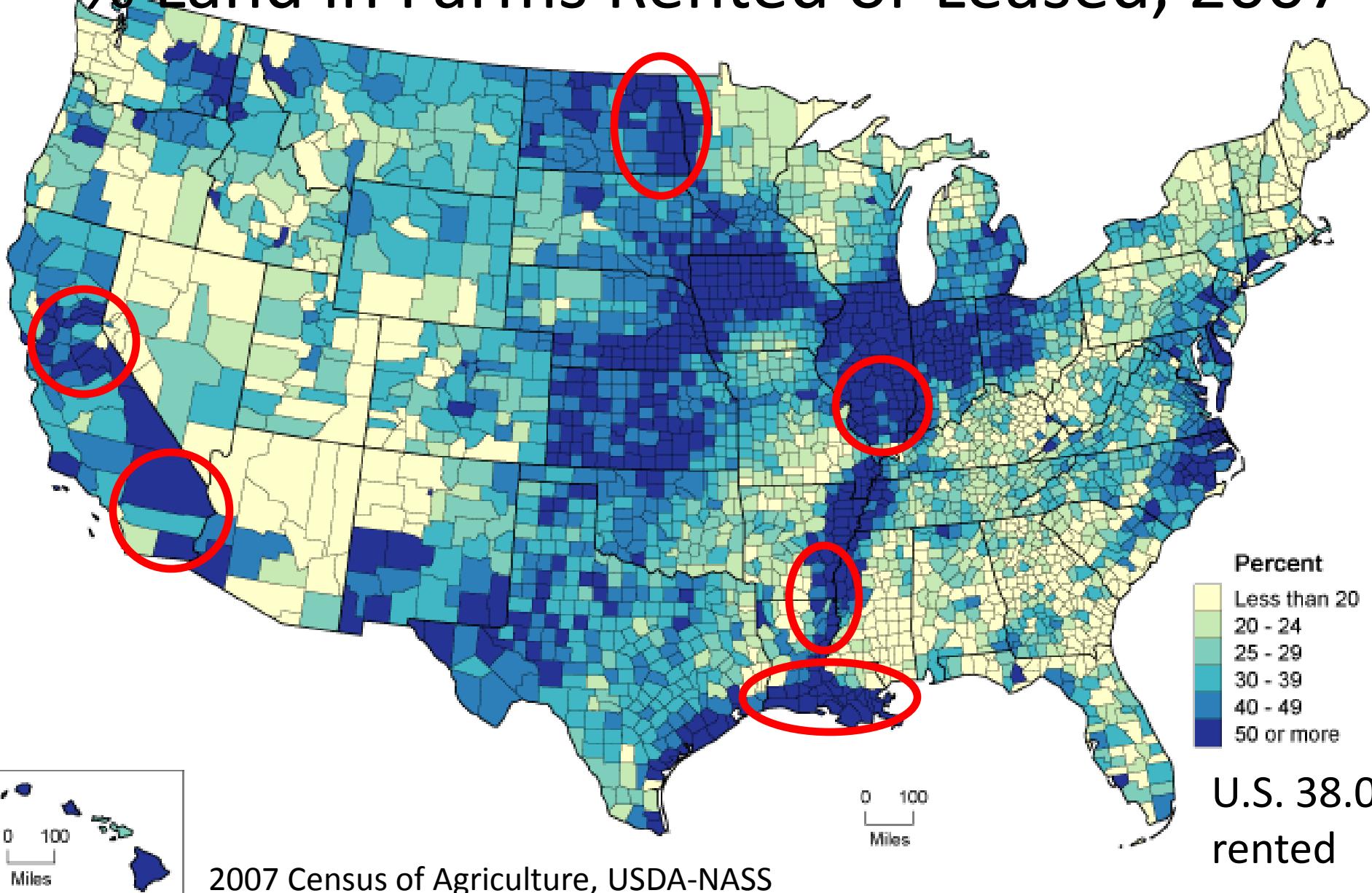


Figure 13

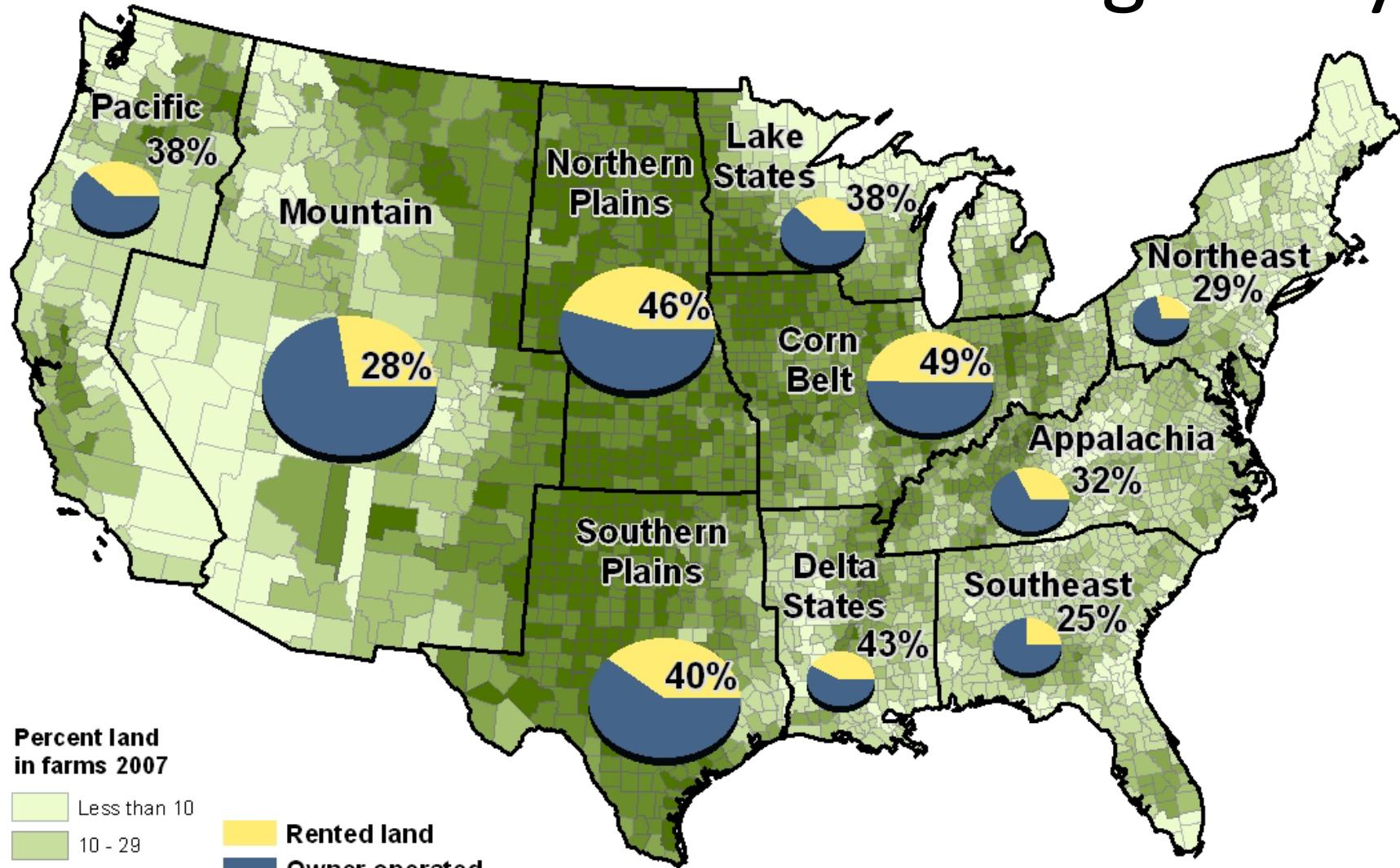
% Land in Farms Rented or Leased, 2007



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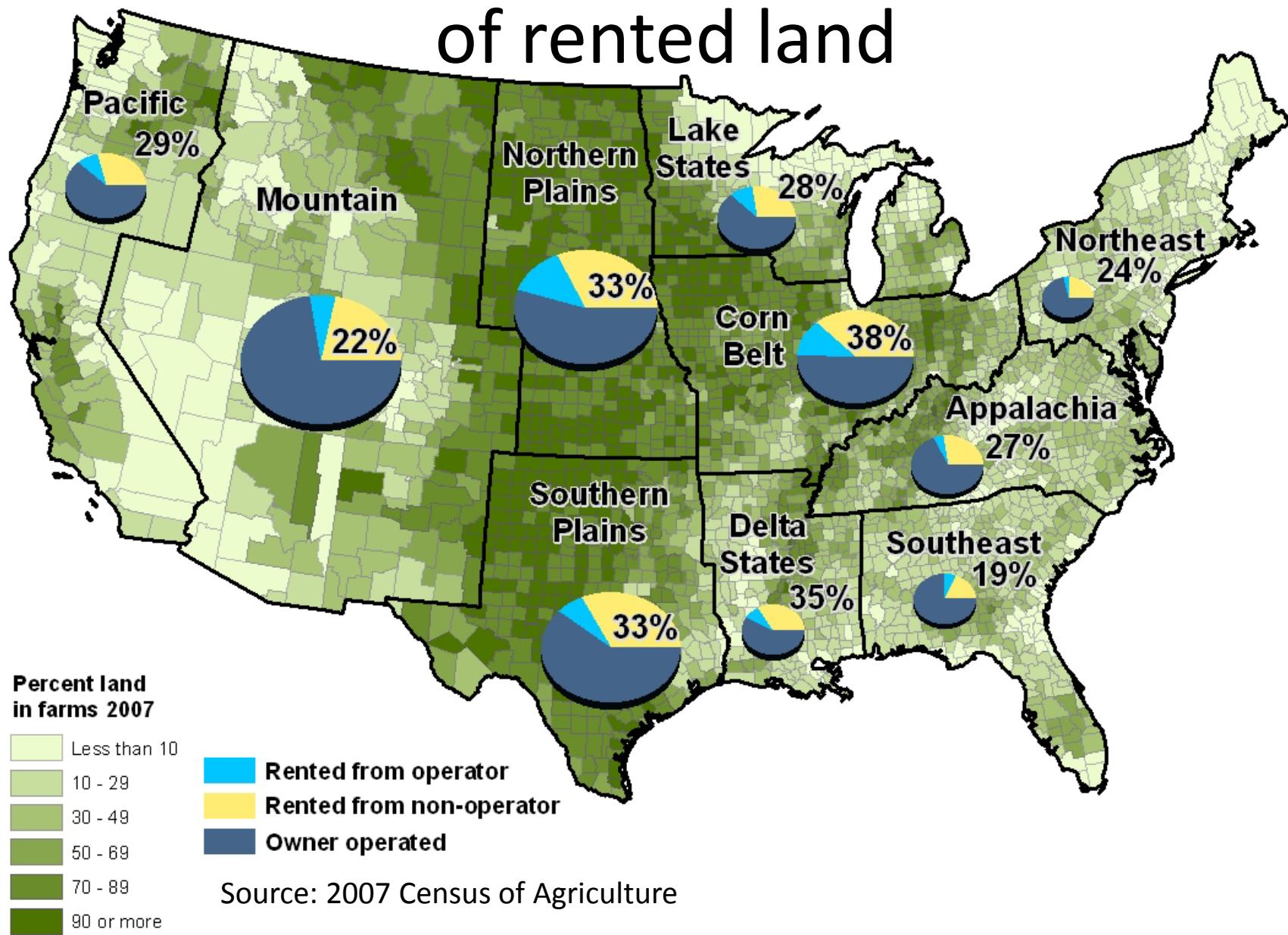
% of rented land varies regionally



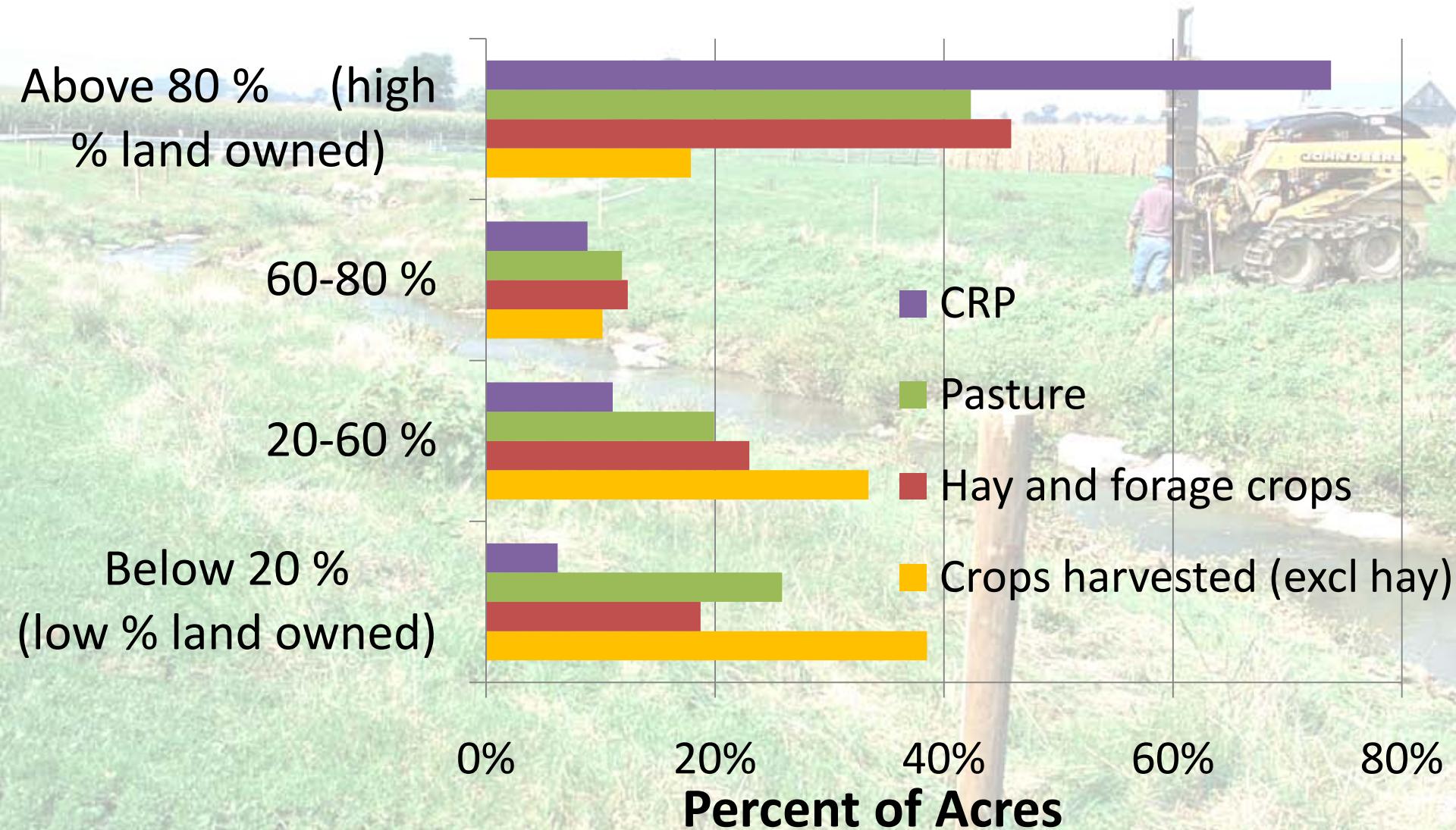
Source: 2007 Census of Agriculture

Non-Operators own significant % of rented land

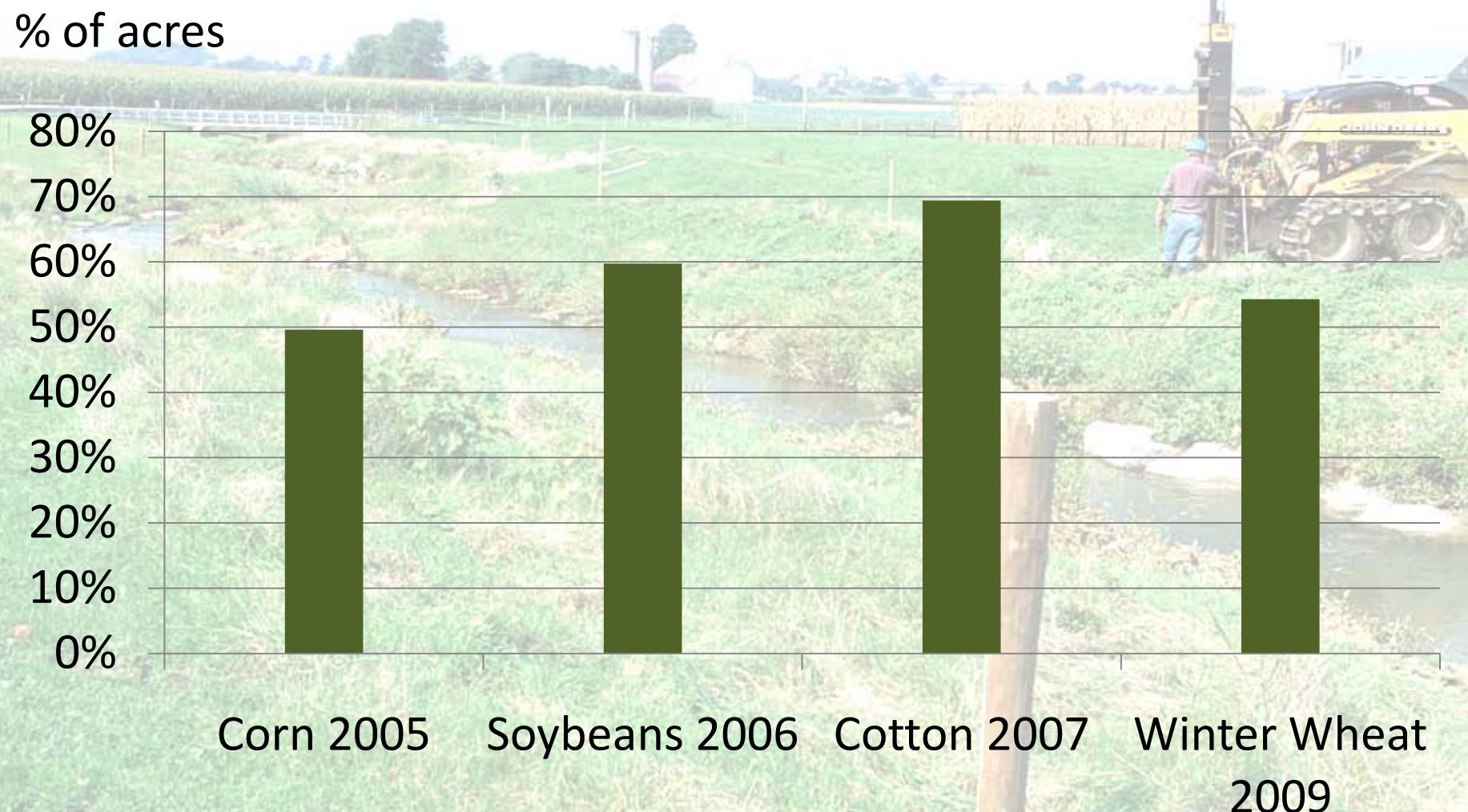
(2)



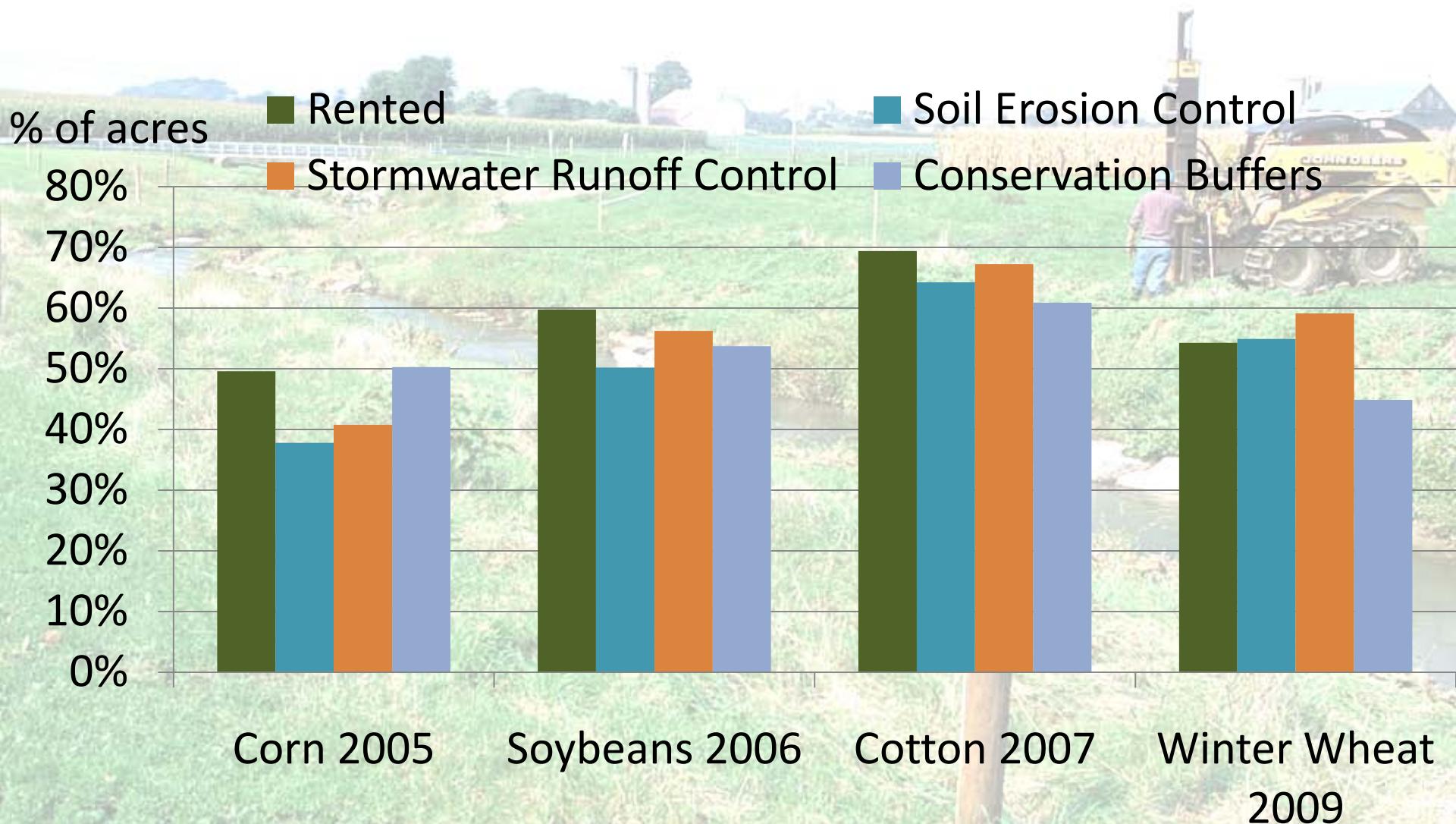
Land Use by Ownership Class, 2007



Share of Acres Rented by Crop

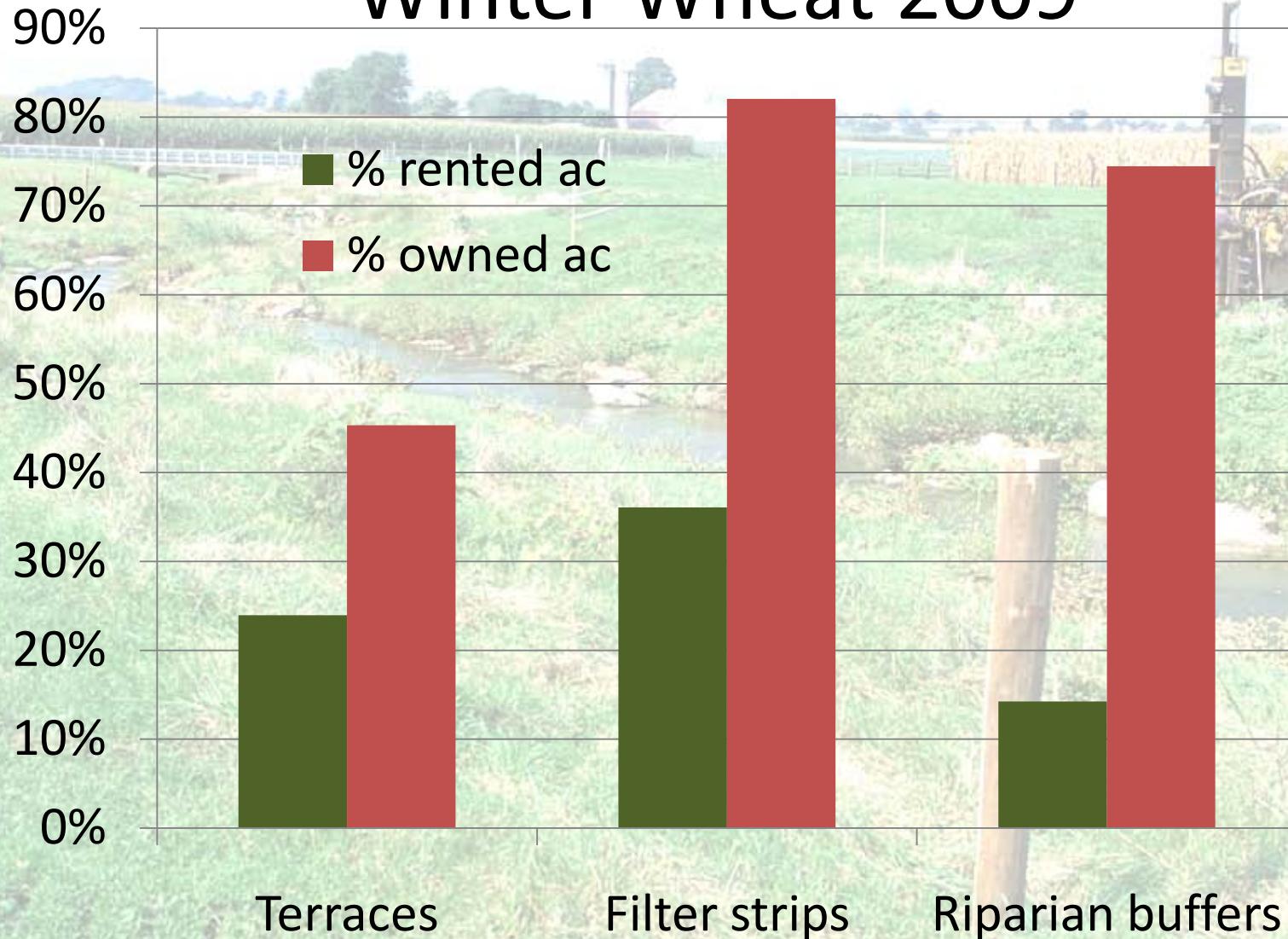


Conservation practices on rented land



Acres receiving cost share by tenure status

Winter Wheat 2009



Characteristics of Owner-operators and Non-operating Landlords (AELOS 1999)

Similarities:

- Most own 50-179 acres
- Farmland is predominantly individually/family owned

Characteristics of Owner-operators and Non-operating Landlords (AELOS 1999)

Differences:

- NOL tend to be older
- NOL owns less valuable real estate per acre (\$1,378/ac vs. \$1,488/ac)
- Fewer NOL live on a farm (29% vs. 76%)
- NOL somewhat less likely to enroll in CRP/WRP (8% vs 10%)

Observations on Non-Operating Landlords

- Non-operator landlords play significant role in ownership of agricultural land
- a lower proportion of conservation practices generally exist on rented land (selected crops)
- Characteristics of NOL differ → different incentives for conservation practice adoption

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Thank you for listening!

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USDA – Economic Research Service