

AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENTS

# FARMLAND INVESTING

November 12, 2019



#### SUSTAINED LONG-TERM PERFORMANCE

Farmland has consistently performed well against stocks, bonds, and real estate over the last 20 years.

HISTORICAL ANNUALIZED RETURN <sup>1,2</sup>						
	FARMLAND	TIMBERLAND	REAL ESTATE	STOCKS	BONDS	
1-Year	6.7%	3.4%	6.7%	-4.4%	0.0%	
3-Year	6.7%	3.2%	7.2%	9.3%	2.1%	
5-Year	8.6%	5.0%	9.4%	8.5%	2.5%	
7-Year	11.7%	6.0%	9.8%	12.7%	2.1%	
10-Year	11.2%	3.8%	7.5%	13.1%	3.5%	
15-Year	14.4%	7.2%	8.9%	7.8%	3.9%	
20-Year	12.4%	6.4%	8.6%	5.6%	4.5%	

PERFORMANCE:

BEST

SECOND-BEST

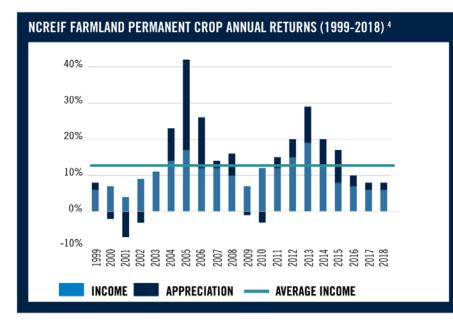
HISTORICAL RISK-ADJUSTED VOLATILITY METRICS (20-YEAR) <sup>1</sup>						
	FARMLAND	TIMBERLAND	<b>REAL ESTATE</b>	STOCKS	BONDS	
St. Deviation <sup>3</sup>	7.6%	6.6%	8.4%	17.5%	3.6%	
Sharpe Ratio	1.17	0.47	0.64	0.21	0.31	
Max 1-YR Return	33.9%	19.4%	20.2%	32.4%	11.6%	
Min 1-YR Return	2.0%	-5.2%	-17.0%	-37.0%	-2.0%	
Neg Returns (# yrs)	0	3	2	5	2	
PERFORMANCE: BEST SECOND-BEST						



FARMLAND HAS PRODUCED THE HIGHEST ANNUAL RETURNS AND SHARPE RATIO OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

#### HIGH INCOME AND TOTAL RETURN

Direct farming operations and leases have provided a steady source of income return. Productivity gains and commodity price increases drive appreciation gains. Strong crop prices and robust net farm income have boosted farmland values significantly over the last 20 years.



# **PERMANENT CROPS**

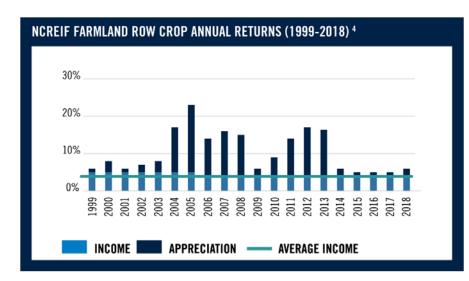
HAVE GENERATED TOTAL ANNUAL AVERAGE RETURNS OF

14.4% 10.3% 3.9% APPRECIATION

### OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

#### HIGH INCOME AND TOTAL RETURN

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#### HAVE GENERATED TOTAL ANNUAL AVERAGE RETURNS OF



### OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

#### ASSET CLASS DIVERSIFICATION

Low or negative correlations to other asset classes such as stocks and bonds make farmland a powerful diversifier in a mixed-asset portfolio.

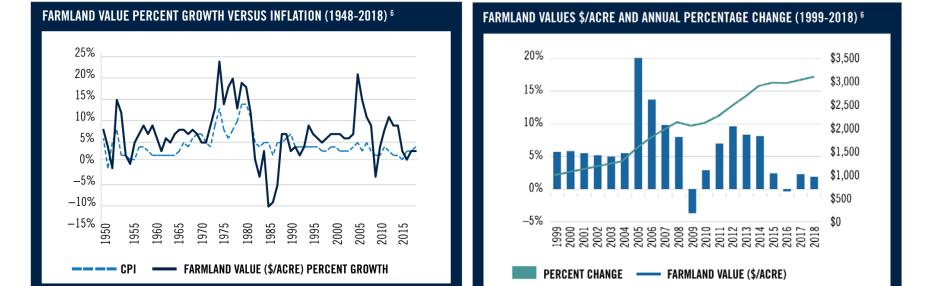
ANNUAL RETURN CORRELATIONS (20-YEAR) 1						
	FARMLAND	TIMBERLAND	REAL ESTATE	STOCKS	BONDS	
Farmland	1.00	0.77	0.48	0.11	-0.26	
Timberland		1.00	0.50	0.11	-0.31	
Real Estate			1.00	0.09	-0.01	
Stocks				1.00	-0.47	
Bonds					1.00	

#### **INFLATION HEDGE**

Farmland is a real asset that has proved to be a better store of wealth than stocks or government bonds in periods of higher inflation.

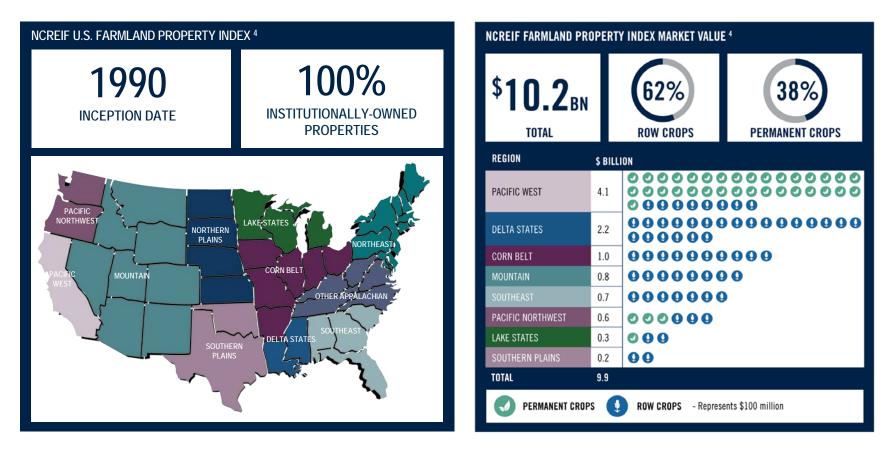
#### CAPITAL PRESERVATION

Farmland has posted positive returns over the past 20 years, proving effective in preserving capital under various market conditions.



#### ABILITY TO BENCHMARK PERFORMANCE

NCREIF Farmland Property Index provides transparency and allows investors to benchmark manager performance.



### COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES OF INVESTING IN THE U.S.

#### **PRODUCTION & EXPORT POWERHOUSE**

Leading producer and a top exporter of some of the worlds' major commodities further supported by robust domestic market

SELECT U.S. COMMODITY PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS RANKINGS (2017/2018) 7							
	PRODUCTION			RANKING			
	US	WORLD	U.S. (%)	PRODUCTION	EXPORTS		
ROW							
Corn	366.3	1,101.2	33.3%	1	1		
Soybeans	123.7	360.1	34.3%	1	2		
Wheat	51.3	733.0	7.0%	6	2		
Cotton	18.4	118.9	15.5%	3	1		
PERMANENT							
Apples	5.0	68.6	7.4%	3	3		
Fresh Oranges	5.0	51.8	9.7%	4	3		
Table Grapes	1.0	22.2	4.6%	6	3		
Walnuts	0.6	2.0	31.4%	2	1		
Orange Juice	0.3	2.0	16.5%	2	4		
Almonds	1.1	1.4	80.5%	1	1		
Pistachios	0.5	0.8	55.4%	1	1		

#### COMPLETE COMMERCIAL BASE

Large, well established agricultural suppliers as well as large and wellrecognized processors and marketing firms that can provide long-term contracts for commodity production

#### **OPTIMAL GEOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS**

Extensive, supply-constrained farm areas with favorable and diverse climatic and soil conditions for the productions of a wide variety of major crops



#### ADVANCED INFRASTRUCTURE

One of the most advanced networks of strategically-located highways, railroads and seaports



MISSISSIPPI RIVER IS THE PREMIER CONDUIT FOR TRANSPORTING COMMODITIES TO EXPORT MARKETS <sup>11</sup>

#### WELL-CAPITALIZED FARM ECONOMY

Home to major commodity exchanges and a deep set of private and government-sponsored financial institutions that provide consistent capital to farm sector

#### **TECHNOLOGY DRIVING PRODUCTIVITY**

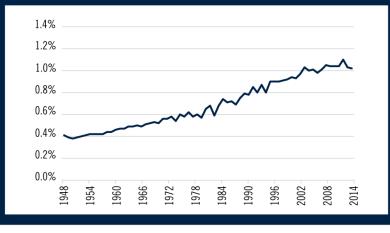
Farm productivity growth has been driven by government and private sector-supported research. The U.S. is also home to innovation start ups focused on farming information technology, robotics, and automation.

# FARM TECH INVESTMENT REACHED \$6.7 BILLION OVER THE LAST 5 YEARS <sup>12</sup>

FUNDING FOR FARM ROBOTICS, MECHANIZATION AND EQUIPMENT STARTUPS JUMPED 56% REACHING \$368 MILLION IN 2018 <sup>13</sup>

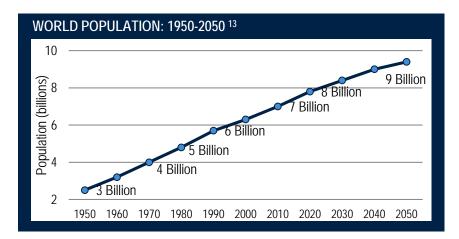


TOTAL FACTOR PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH OF U.S. AGRICULTURE (1948-2015) <sup>14</sup>



#### **TECHNOLOGY DRIVING PRODUCTIVITY**

Increasing global demand for higher value added crops that are healthy and nutritious coupled with improved incomes and expanding diets



OF FARMS ARE OPERATED

BY FAMILIES 5,15

#### **GROWING INSTITUTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

An aging farmer generation, fractional family ownership structure, and technological advances requiring sizable capital investment will natural transition farmland holdings from individuals to institutions

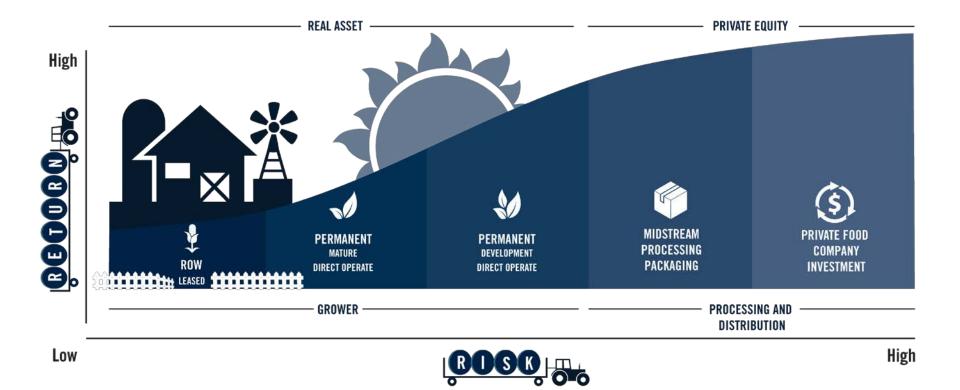


**97**%



#### PORTFOLIO STRATEGY

Client return objectives and risk tolerance form the starting point for agricultural portfolio construction and influence whether the strategy is real asset- or private equity-driven





- Farmland investments have proven beneficial in institutional portfolios over the past 20 years
- > Despite recent headwinds, multiple factors support increased institutional investment
- Investors should consider their investment objectives when analyzing investment strategies
- Food for thought: If NCREIF is providing support for investment, should the investments then be consistent with NCREIF?

All returns shown are gross of fees. Past results are not a guarantee or an accurate indicator of future results. Data as of December 2018 unless otherwise noted. <sup>1</sup> Supporting indices: (1) Farmland: NCREIF Farmland Index, (2) Timberland: NCREIF Timberland Index, (3) Real Estate: NCREIF Property Index, (4) Stocks: S&P 500 Index, (5) Bonds: Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index. Sources: NCREIF, S&P, Barclays Global Investors, PGIM Real Estate. <sup>2</sup> Benchmark returns over different time periods ending December 2018. <sup>3</sup> Standard deviation is based on annual returns. <sup>4</sup>The reported aggregate NCREIF Farmland Index, AUM does not tie to the summation of the detailed AUM by NCREIF regions due to rounding and constraints imposed by masking in the publicly available data. Sources: NCREIF Farmland Index, PGIM Real Estate. <sup>5</sup> Source: NASS USDA, 2017 Census of Agriculture. <sup>6</sup> Sources: USDA Economic Research Service, PGIM Real Estate. <sup>7</sup> Source: Foreign Agricultural Service USDA, PAI Research.<sup>8</sup> In million metric tons. <sup>9</sup> Source: California Department of Food and Agriculture. <sup>10</sup> Source: 2017 Almond Almanac, Almond Board of California. <sup>11</sup> Source: USDA / Federal Grain Inspection Service 2017 Annual Report. <sup>12</sup> Source: Pitchbook, Finistere Ventures, 2018 Agtech Investment Review. <sup>13</sup> Source: Agfunder AgriFood Tech Investing Report - Year in Review 2018 <sup>14</sup> USDA Economic Research Service as of December 2015. <sup>15</sup> U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base. <sup>16</sup> Includes families, family partnerships, and family corporations.

For more information on the role of U.S. farmland in institutional portfolios, visit: pgim.com/insights/pgim-expertise/Diversity-of-Real-Assets

# Jamie Shen



Jamie Shen, is the Chief Investment Officer of Prudential Agricultural Investments. She leads the equity team in managing the portfolio of agricultural properties. She is located in San Francisco, CA. Prior to joining Prudential, Jamie was an Executive Vice President and Practice Leader of Alternative Investments Consulting with Callan Associates where she had overall responsibility for Real Assets Consulting services. While Jamie's particular focus was on agriculture and real estate, she oversaw research and implementation of real estate, timber, infrastructure and agricultural asset classes. Prior to Callan, Jamie was a Principal with The McMahan Group, a San Francisco basedmanagement consulting firm specializing in real estate enterprises. Jamie has worked in the real estate consulting groups of both Arthur Andersen and Ernst & Young. Jamie received her BS in Business Administration from the Walter A. Haas School of Business at the University of California, Berkeley. Jamie served on the Editorial Board of The Institutional Real Estate Letter. She has been a long-time member of the Pension Real Estate Association (PREA) and served on the Executive Committee of the PREA Board of Directors.

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The financial indices referenced herein as benchmarks are provided for informational purposes only. The holdings and portfolio characteristics may differ from those of the benchmark(s), and such differences may be material. Factors affecting portfolio performance that do not affect benchmark performance may include portfolio rebalancing, the timing of cash flows, credit quality, diversification and differences in volatility. In addition, financial indices do not reflect the impact of fees, applicable taxes or trading costs which reduce returns. Unless otherwise noted, financial indices assume reinvestment of dividends. You cannot make a direct investment in an index. The statistical data regarding such indices has not been independently verified by PGIM REF.

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