### **Potash Outlook**

TFI/FIRT Fertilizer Outlook & Technology Conference

Jason Newton November 14, 2012



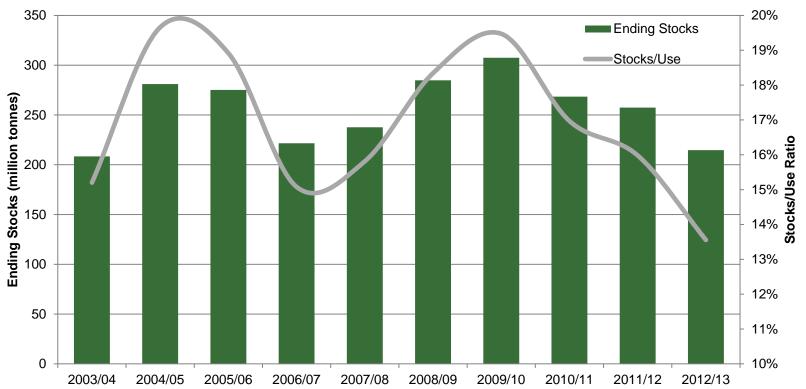
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# Historically Tight Global Grain Supply/Demand Balance

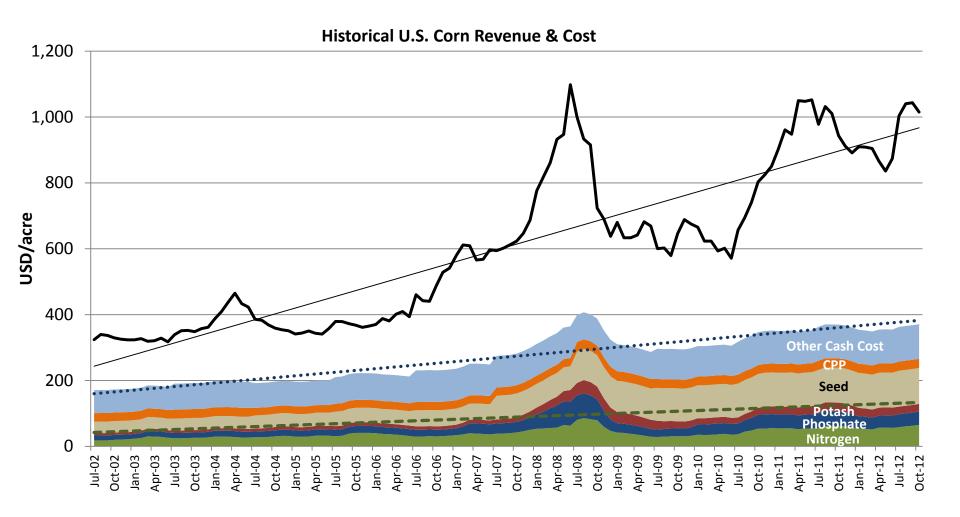
 Outside of China and India, the global grain stocks/use ratio is at its second lowest level ever

#### Global Grain Ending Stocks & Stocks/Use Ratio (Excl. China & India)



# U.S. Corn Cash Margin Prospects

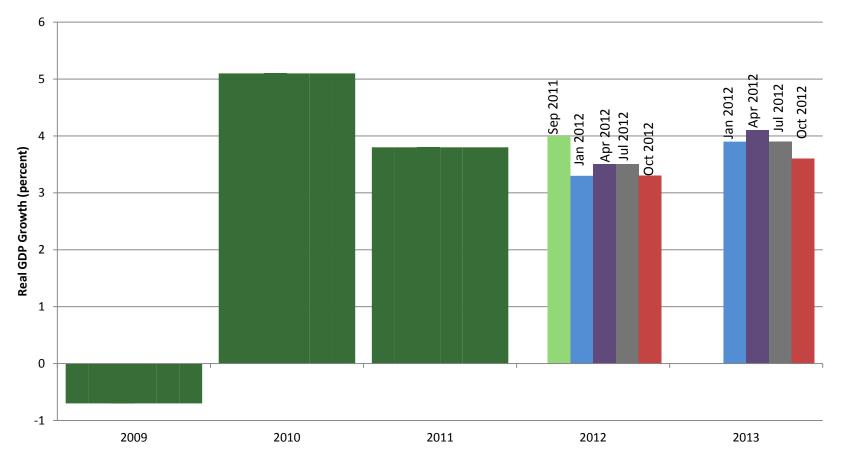
Crop input prices very attractive relative to Dec 2013 corn futures



### **Economic Growth Slower than Expected**

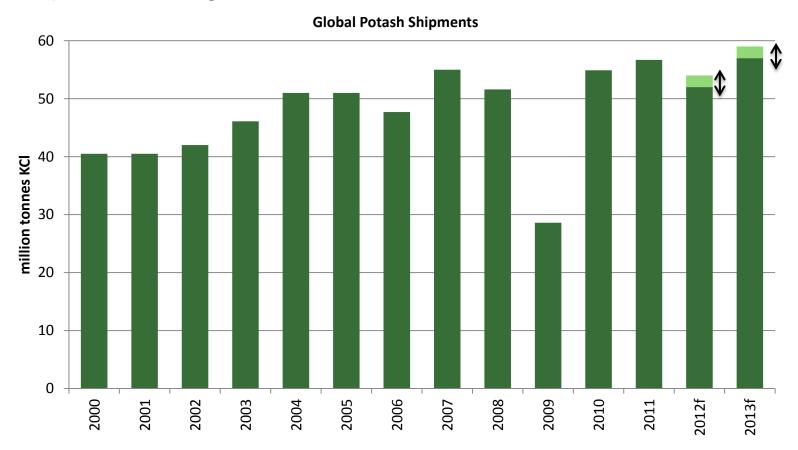
- Global economic growth forecasts have been cut over the past year
- Significant risks for economic growth in 2013

**Global Real GDP Growth** 



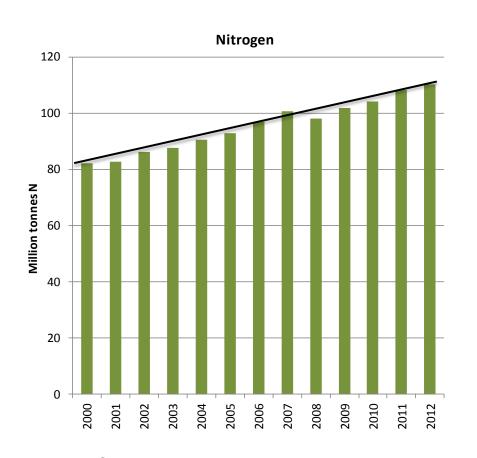
### **Global Potash Shipments**

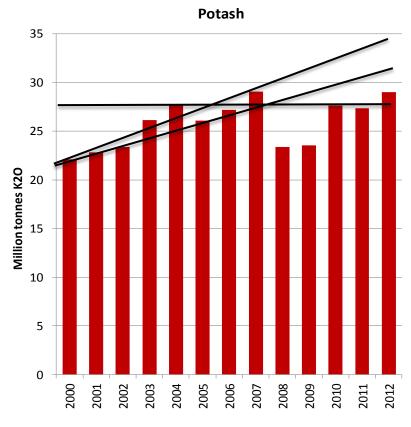
- Since 2007, global potash shipments have been relatively flat
- Expect a strong rebound in 2013



### Potash Consumption Growth Relative to Nitrogen

- Rapid rate of potash consumption growth from 2000 to 2007 was unsustainable
- Flat consumption growth rate since 2007 is unsustainable



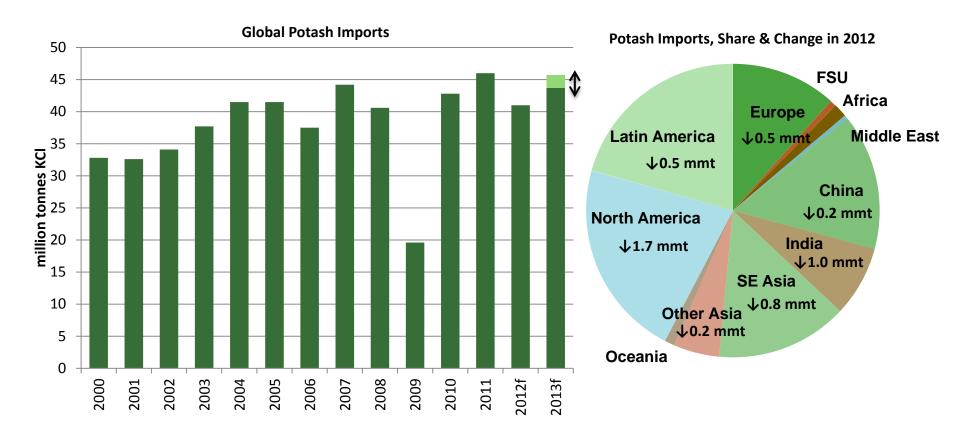


7 Source: IFA, Agrium
Represents Fertilizer Year Data



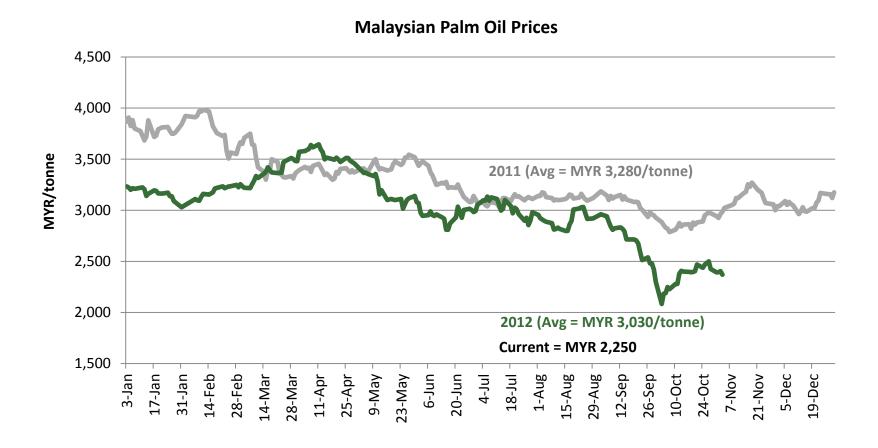
### Global Potash Trade

- Total global potash trade down ~5 mmt in 2012
- Expect rebound in trade in 2013



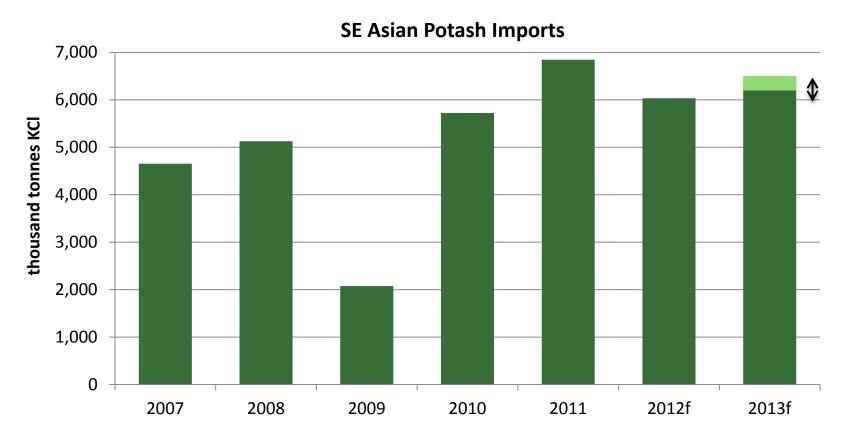
# Not all Crop Prices are at Historic Highs

Palm Oil prices have declined significantly over the past year



### Impact on SE Asian Potash Imports

Inventories increased due to high 2011 imports, but have been drawn down

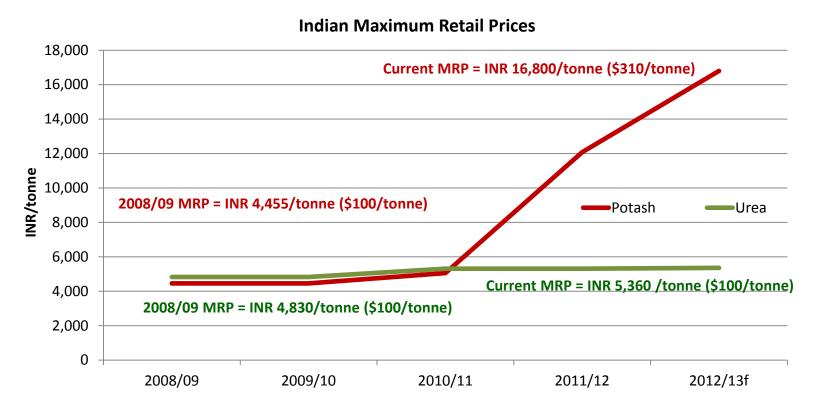


Source: Fertecon, Agrium

SE Asia includes Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand and Philippines

# Indian Potash MRP Increase Impacts Demand

 Indian Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of potash has increased by over 3 times since 2009/10

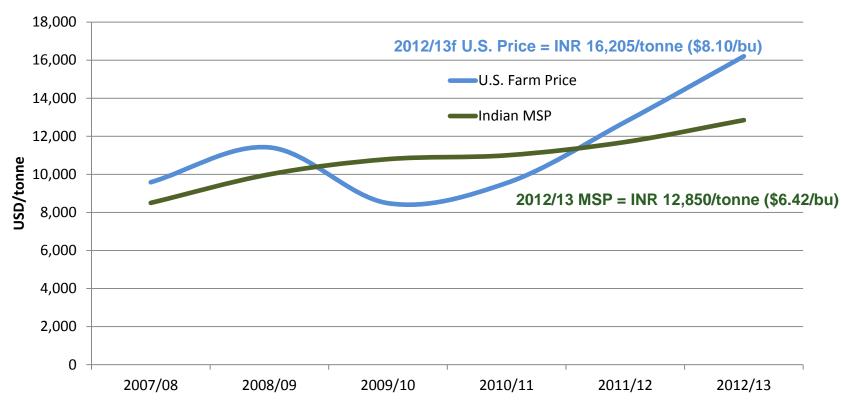


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### Indian Crop Prices Lower than the World Market

- Large domestic wheat crops in recent years have limited increase in the Minimum Support Price
- Unlike the rest of the world, fertilizer price increases are outpacing crop price increases

#### Indian Wheat MSP & U.S. Avg. Farm Wheat Price

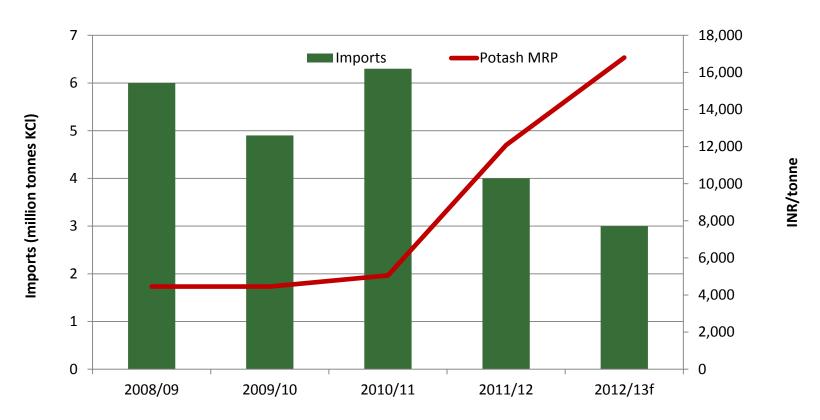


Source: USDA, Doane, Agrium

### **Potash Demand Impacted**

- Indian potash consumption and imports have declined significantly
- Modest increase expected in 2013

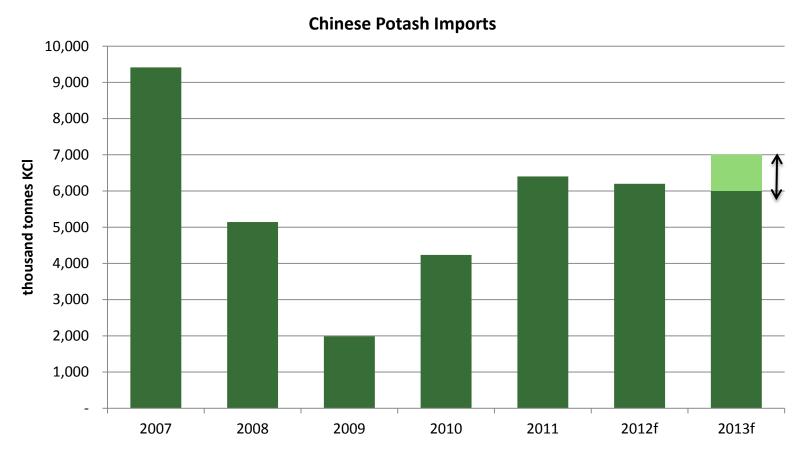
#### **Indian Max. Retail Prices & Potash Imports**



### Chinese Potash Imports

Source: CFMW, Fertecon, Agrium

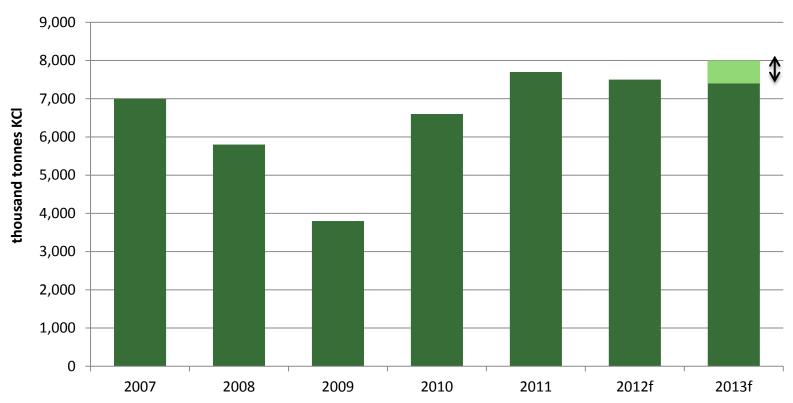
- Chinese potash imports were strong in early 2012
- Inventory build and cross border shipments have delayed new supply agreements



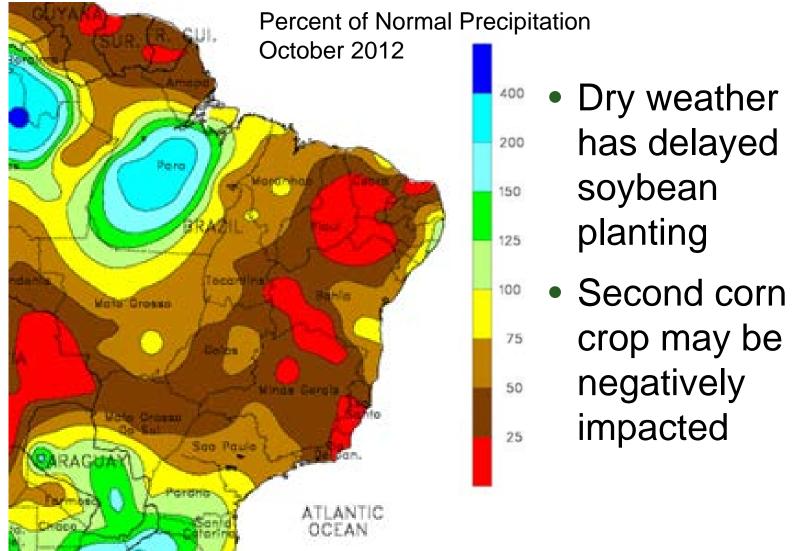
# **Strong Brazilian Potash Demand**

- 2012 imports have been close to 2011 record levels
- Domestic inventories likely to be drawn down by the end of 2012

#### **Brazilian Potash Imports**

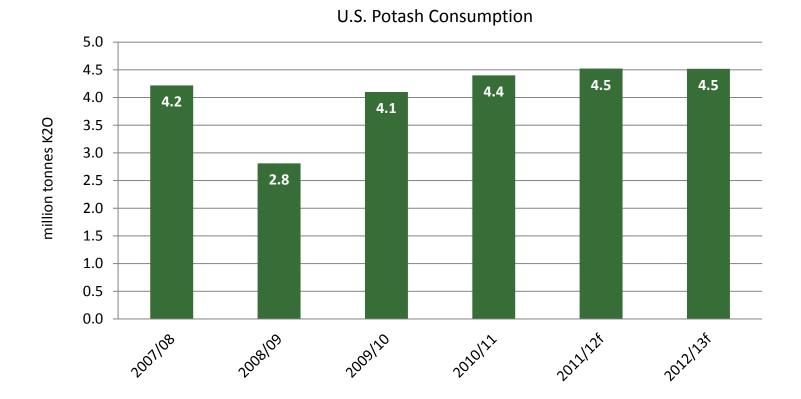


### Weather Could Impact Brazilian Demand



### North American Potash Consumption

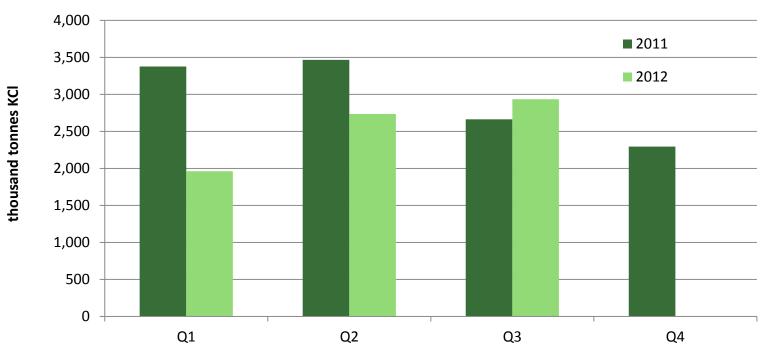
 Expect overall consumption to be flat, driven by crop area and application rates



### North American Potash Disappearance

- Strong potash shipments in Q1 to Q3 2011 built inventories downstream in the supply chain
- Inventories diminished by the end of the first half of 2012
- Record North American shipments in Q3 2012

#### North American Potash Disappearance by Quarter



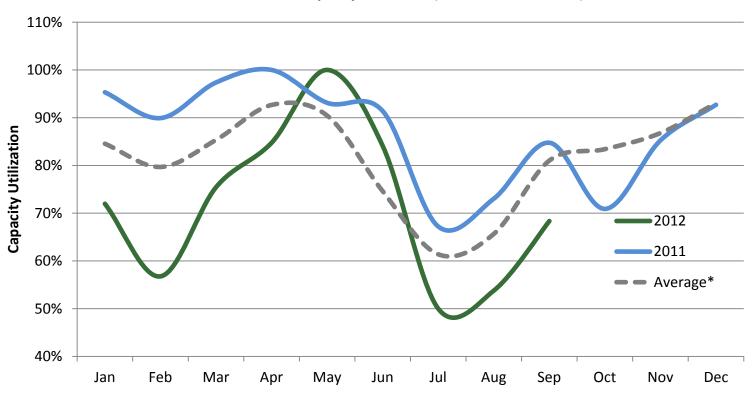
# Impact of the Drought on U.S. Potash Demand

- Most severely affected regions likely to reduce application rates
- Expect most regions to apply at or above average application rates
- Soil test results not significantly different than previous years
- Most corn is grown following soybeans, which ended up with okay yields
- Areas west of Central Illinois still require moisture
- Upside potential
  - Long term trend of declining potash levels in U.S. soils
  - Increased silage equates to increased K2O uptake
  - Improved moisture in the Eastern Corn Belt

### North American Capacity Utilization

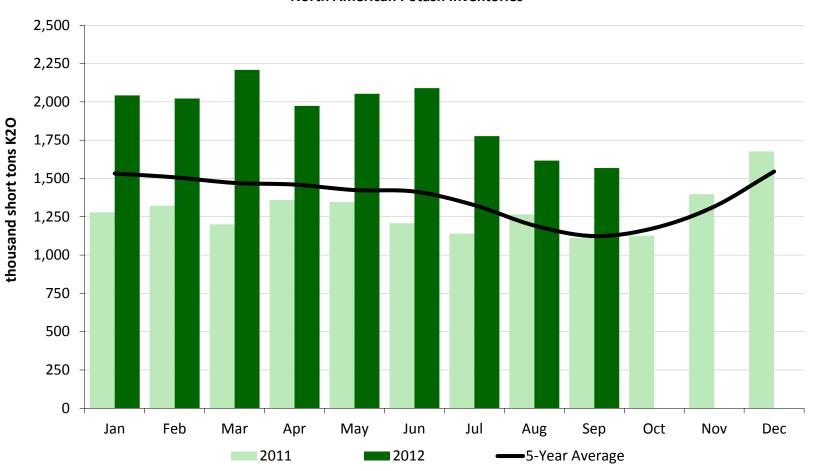
- Production spiked in Q2, corresponding to global demand and in anticipation of strong demand and turnarounds in Q3
- Production declined in Q3 due to turnarounds

#### North American Potash Capacity Utilization (% of Peak Production)



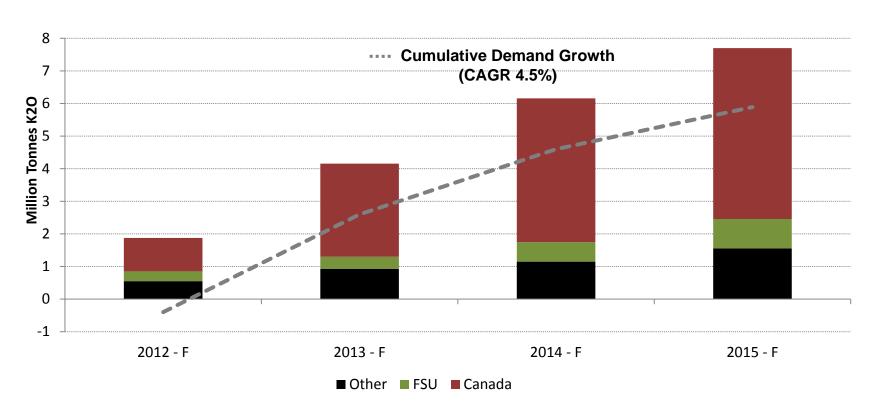
### North American Potash Inventories

#### **North American Potash Inventories**



# Global Potash Balanced Through 2015

- Global potash deliveries were supply constrained in 2011, surplus in early 2012, projected total deliveries of 52-54 million tonnes this year
- Potash deliveries projected to grow to 57-59 million tonnes in 2013
- All capacity expansions through to 2015 are brownfield projects by existing producers



### **Summary**

### **Bulls**

- Agricultural fundamentals have never been stronger
- Grower cash margins and income levels at record highs
- Pipeline inventories down year-over-year in key markets
- Strong rebound in shipments expected

### **Bears**

- Overall uncertainty about the global economy and affect on buyer confidence
- Indian domestic market situation
- Dry weather in Brazil and the impact on short term demand

# **Questions?**

