

# thrive



## National Foundation for Women Legislators

September 12, 2015

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**Cargill**<sup>®</sup>

# Cargill At a Glance



- Founded in 1865
- 143,000 employees
- 67 countries in more than 1,000 locations
- Key businesses: Ag, Food, Finance, Industrial
- \$134.9 billion in revenue (Fiscal 2014)
- *If public, Cargill would rank 29th in the Global Fortune 500*



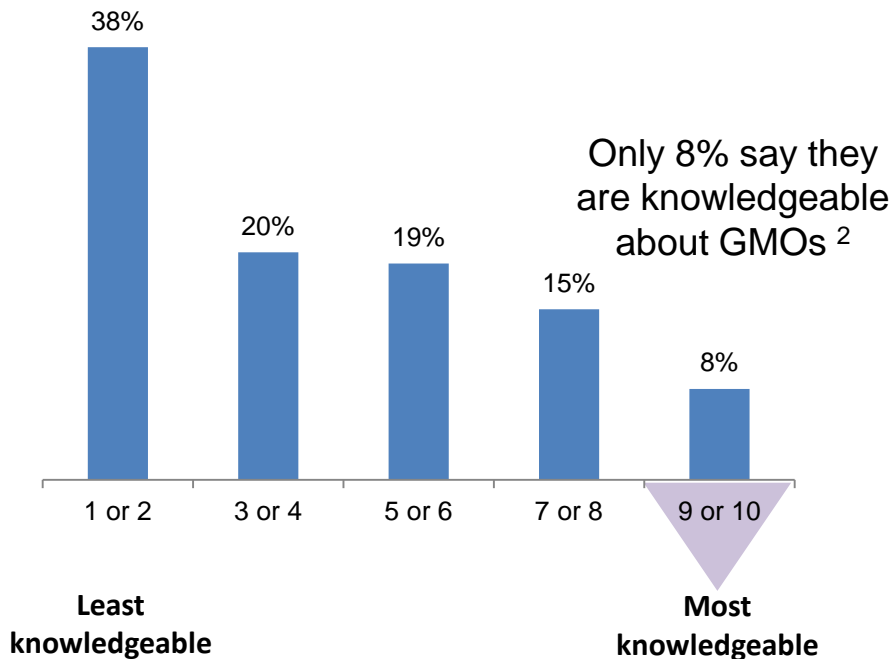
# This landscape is complex and uncertain



- 70-80% of processed foods sold in the U.S. contain at least one GM ingredient
- 60+ countries now have GM labeling laws
- FDA does not require the labeling of GM food -- unless there is a “material difference”
- No government standard for voluntary GM or non-GM label claims
- Mounting pressure to label in the U.S.

# While most consumers are aware of GMOs, understanding is low

55% of U.S. consumers are aware of genetically modified foods, up from 43% 10 years ago <sup>1</sup>



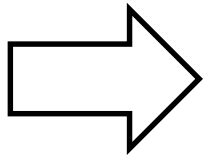
% general population level of knowledge regarding GMOs

- Just 25% of U.S. consumers believe they have ever eaten a GMO food <sup>3</sup>
- Only 43% of consumers are aware that GM foods are currently sold in supermarkets <sup>3</sup>
- Only 7% mention GMOs when asked: What information would you like to see on food labels that is not already there? <sup>3</sup>

Sources: 1. The NPD Group 2013, 2. Natural Marketing Institute U.S. Database 2013, 3. Rutgers University poll cited in Washington post article Jan 14, 2014  
[http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/food/gmo-labeling-is-the-fight-worth-it/2014/01/13/f7fa1352-7728-11e3-b1c5-739e63e9c9a7\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/food/gmo-labeling-is-the-fight-worth-it/2014/01/13/f7fa1352-7728-11e3-b1c5-739e63e9c9a7_story.html)

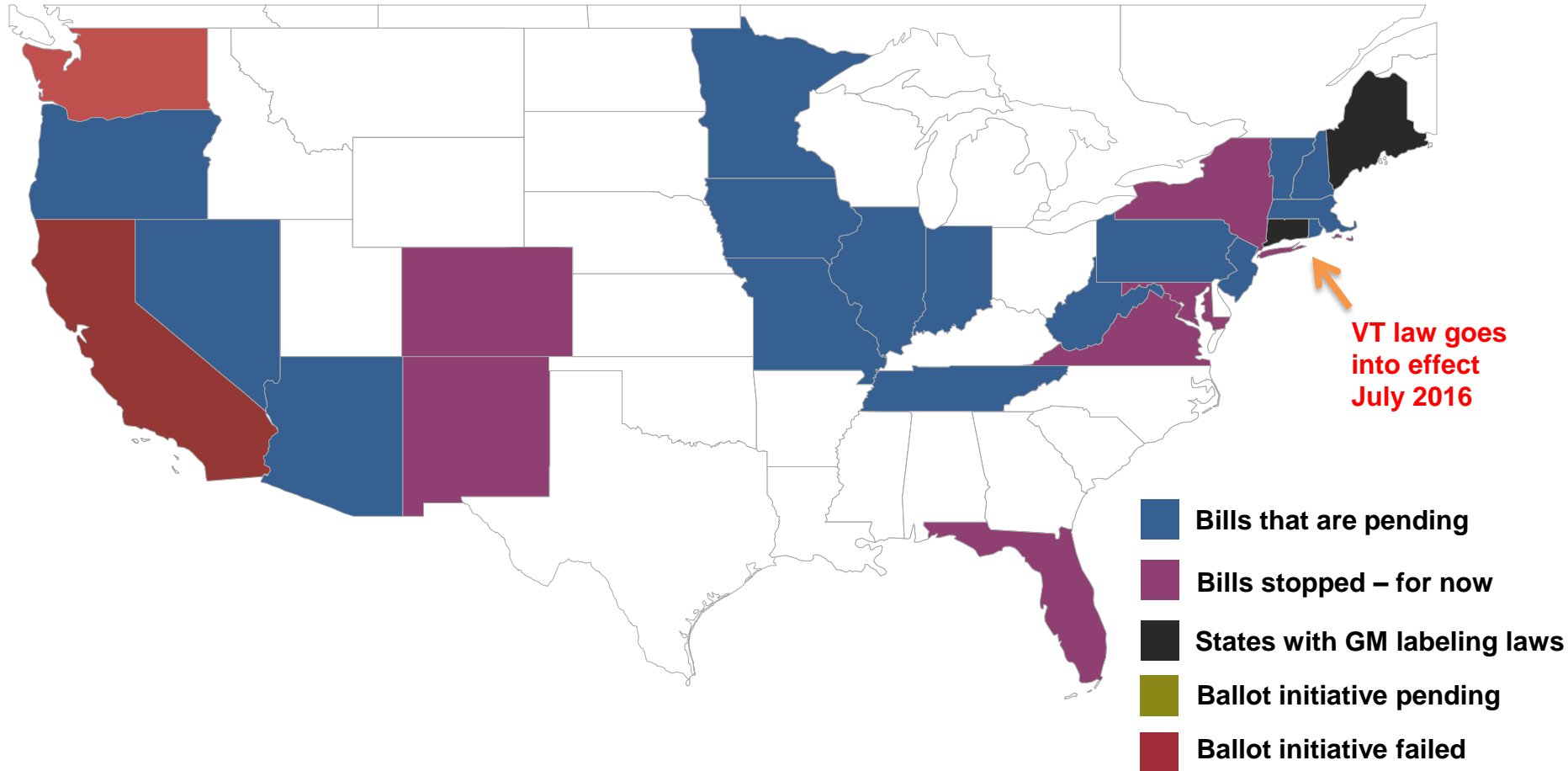
# Non-GMO in the US Market

- Non-GMO is a small yet growing niche within the food sector
- Cargill is partnering with customers to assess sourcing options and the value proposition of non-GMO for their products and brands
- Cargill's non-GMO portfolio will expand in 2015-2016



***Cargill partners with customers to define the demand picture and provide insight into the costs and availability of different sourcing options***

# The GM labeling debate is currently playing out at the local, state and national level



Labeling proponents remain focused on winning in the states -- food companies have spent millions to defeat GM labeling mandates

# 2014 Ballot Initiatives



## VOTERS REJECTED GMO LABELING INITIATIVES IN BOTH OREGON AND COLORADO

- Initiatives would have required mandatory labeling effective July 1, 2016
- Colorado voters rejected Prop 105 69% to 31%
- A bare majority of Oregon voters rejected Measure 92, which failed by only 812 out of 1,506,144 votes cast.

### **Proponents and opponents spent considerable amounts in both states**

- Oregon: OPPONENTS spent \$35 million; SUPPORTERS spent \$11 million
- Colorado: OPPONENTS spent \$7.5 million; SUPPORTERS spent \$712K



# Pre-emptive federal legislation faces stiff headwinds, but odds are improving



- A Federal food labeling law could prevent a state-by-state patchwork
- Republican majorities in the House and Senate increase odds for success this year
- Industry-backed legislation to pre-empt state GMO labeling laws (HR 1599) passed the House in July 2015
- Senate is urged to take action this Fall



***Vermont's mandatory labeling law will take effect July 2016 unless Congress or the courts intervene***



# Our Views

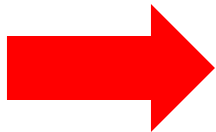
- Uniform food labeling requirements serve the interests of all stakeholders
- Government-mandated food labeling should be limited to information that helps protect consumer health and safety (eg nutrition, allergens, etc.).
- Right-to-Know ≠ Government labeling mandate
- Consumers who elect to avoid GMOs should have access to products and information that enable them to exercise that choice
- A clear regulatory standard for products with voluntary GMO/non-GMO marketing claims would create a level playing field for industry and reduce consumer confusion

# Mandatory GM Labeling Impact

- Food Costs
- Food Availability

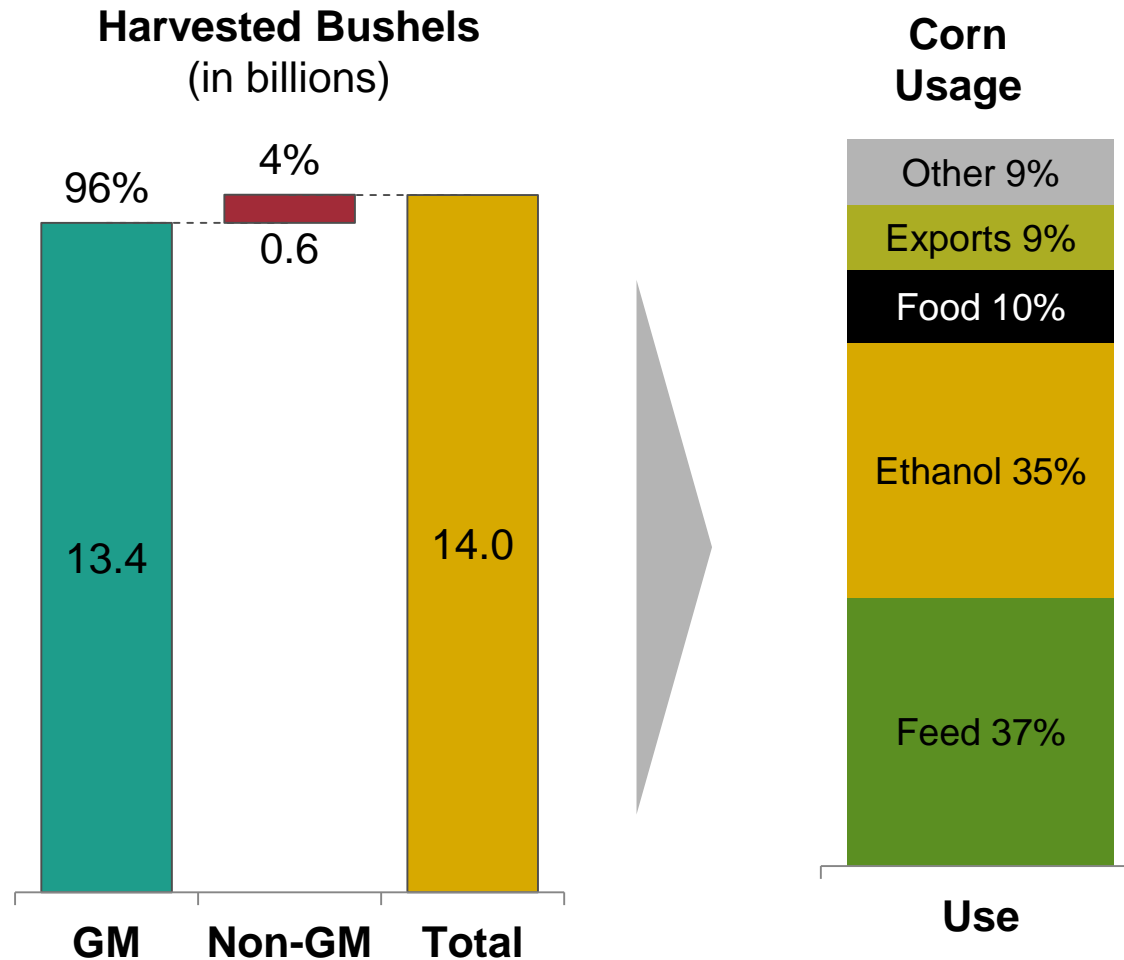
Additional impact if consumers reject food biotechnology:

- Sustainability of food production
- Food security (food cost and availability)
- Farmer incomes & livelihoods
- Consumer health (product safety and nutrition)



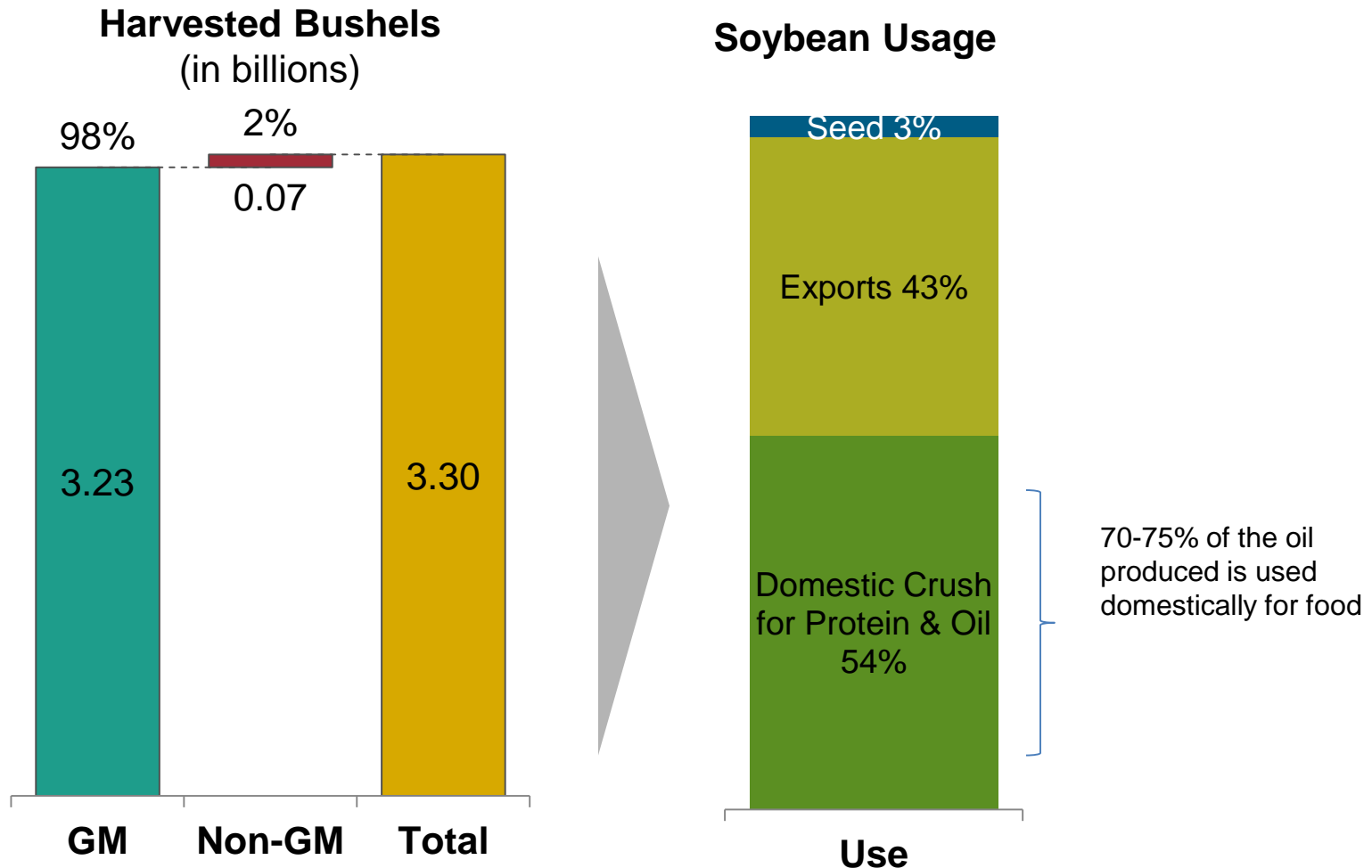
***Many variables make it difficult to predict impact of a GMO labeling mandate in the U.S.***

# Food companies face stiff competition when sourcing U.S. produced non-GMO corn



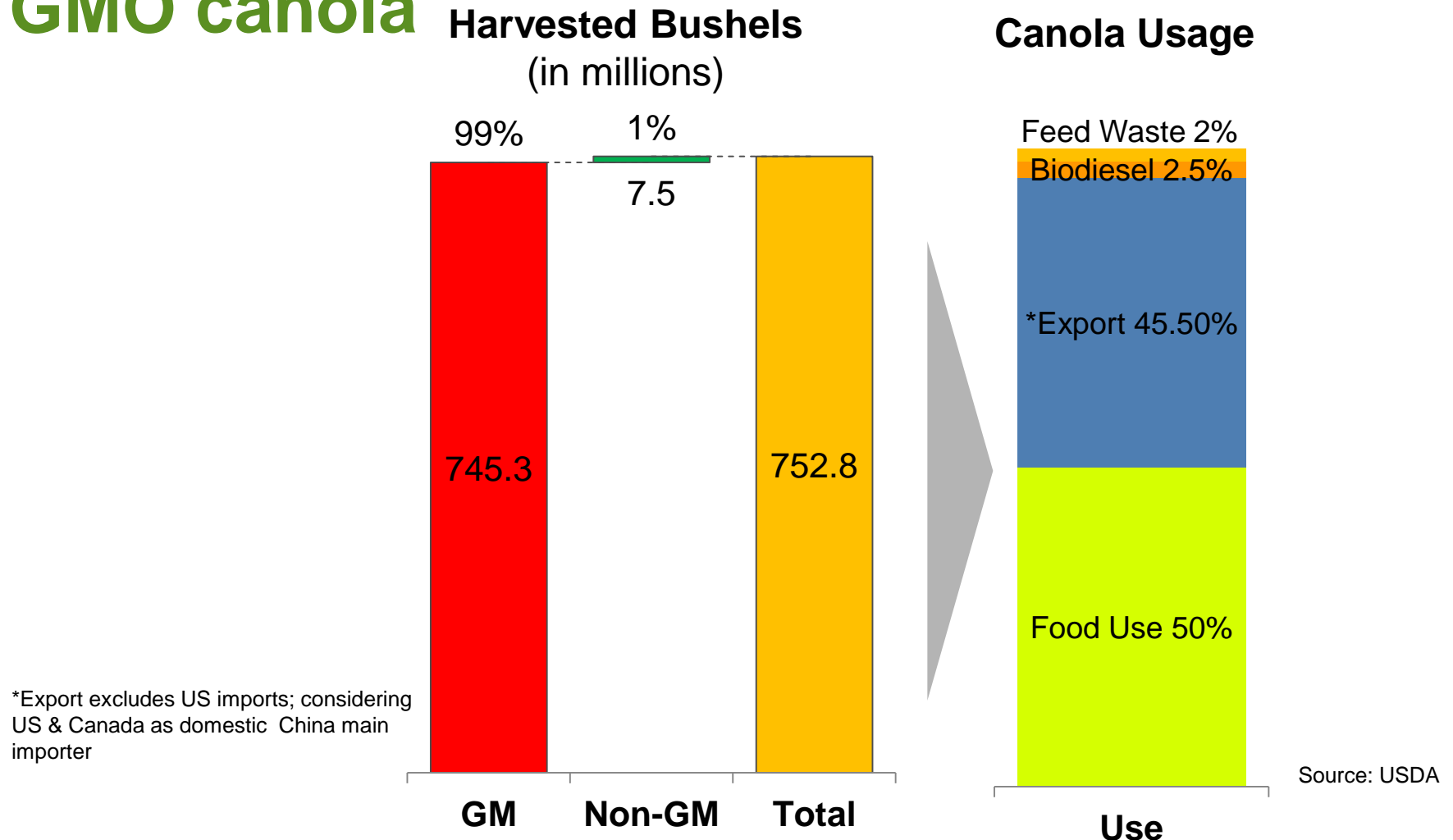
Source: Cargill

# Domestic crush consumes 50+% of U.S. soybeans and is driven by livestock producers who may not demand non-GMO



Source: Cargill

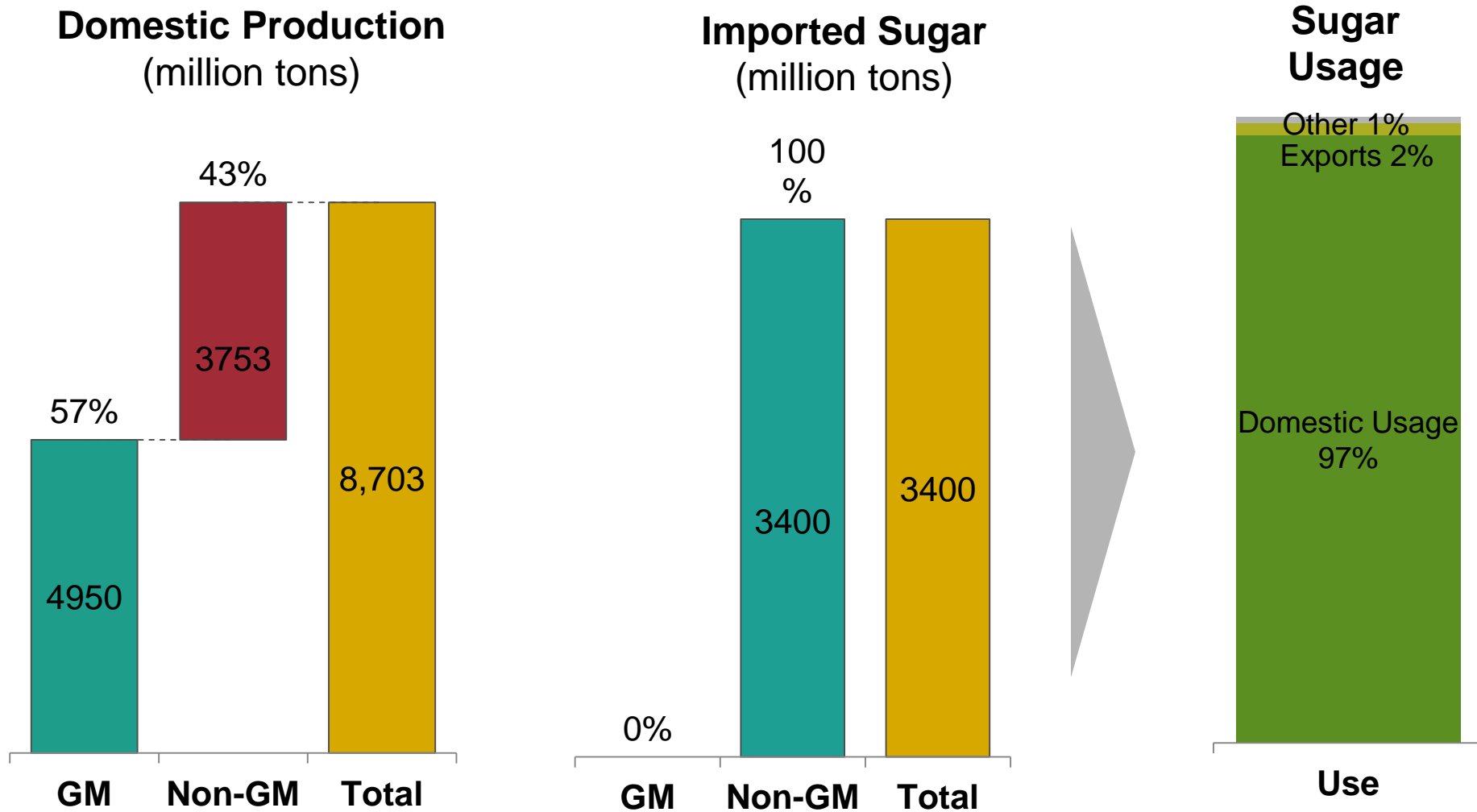
# High growing costs limit availability of non-GMO canola



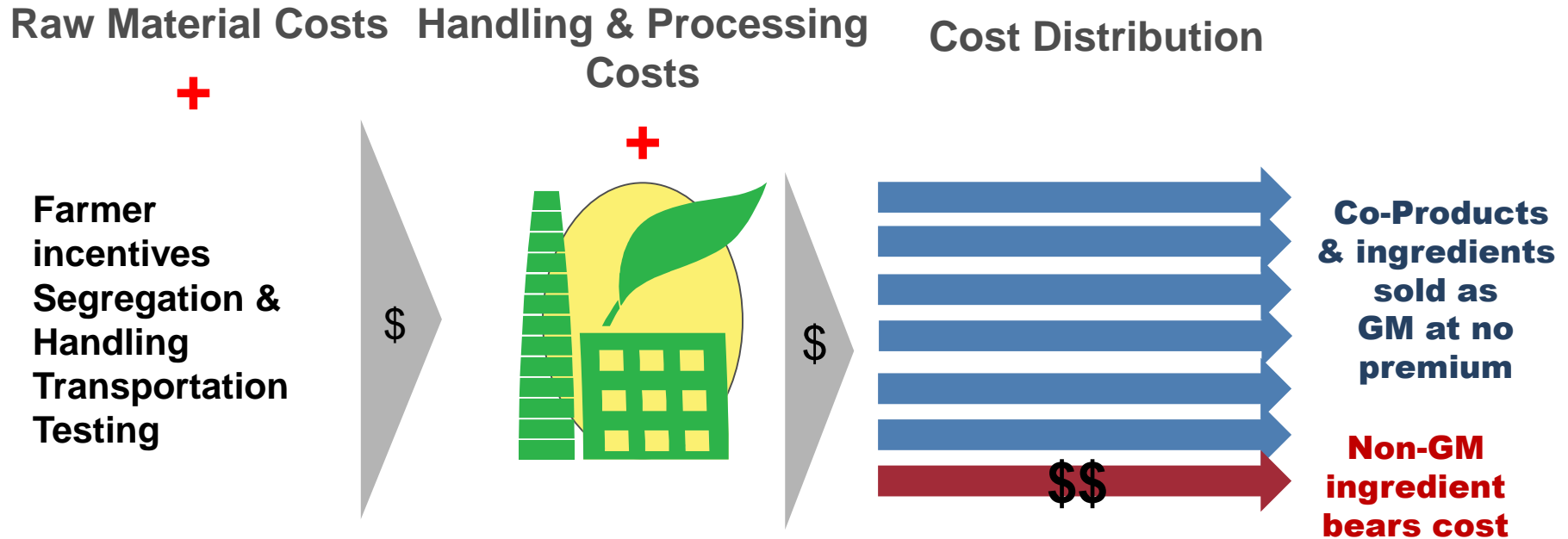
***It would take time (3-5 years to have a sizable non-GMO commercial canola offering) to meet domestic food and non-food demand***



# U.S. beet sugar industry fully converted to GMO seed, sugar cane not yet commercialized



# Non-GMO ingredients can bear the additional supply chain and processing costs



➡ *Market demand may not exist for all non-GMO co-products and ingredients produced, resulting in all or a disproportionate share of extra costs to produce non-GMO absorbed by the non-GMO ingredients*

# GMO crops provide farmers many more advantages

## Non-GM Advantages

- ✓ SEED COST
- ✓ FLAT PRICE

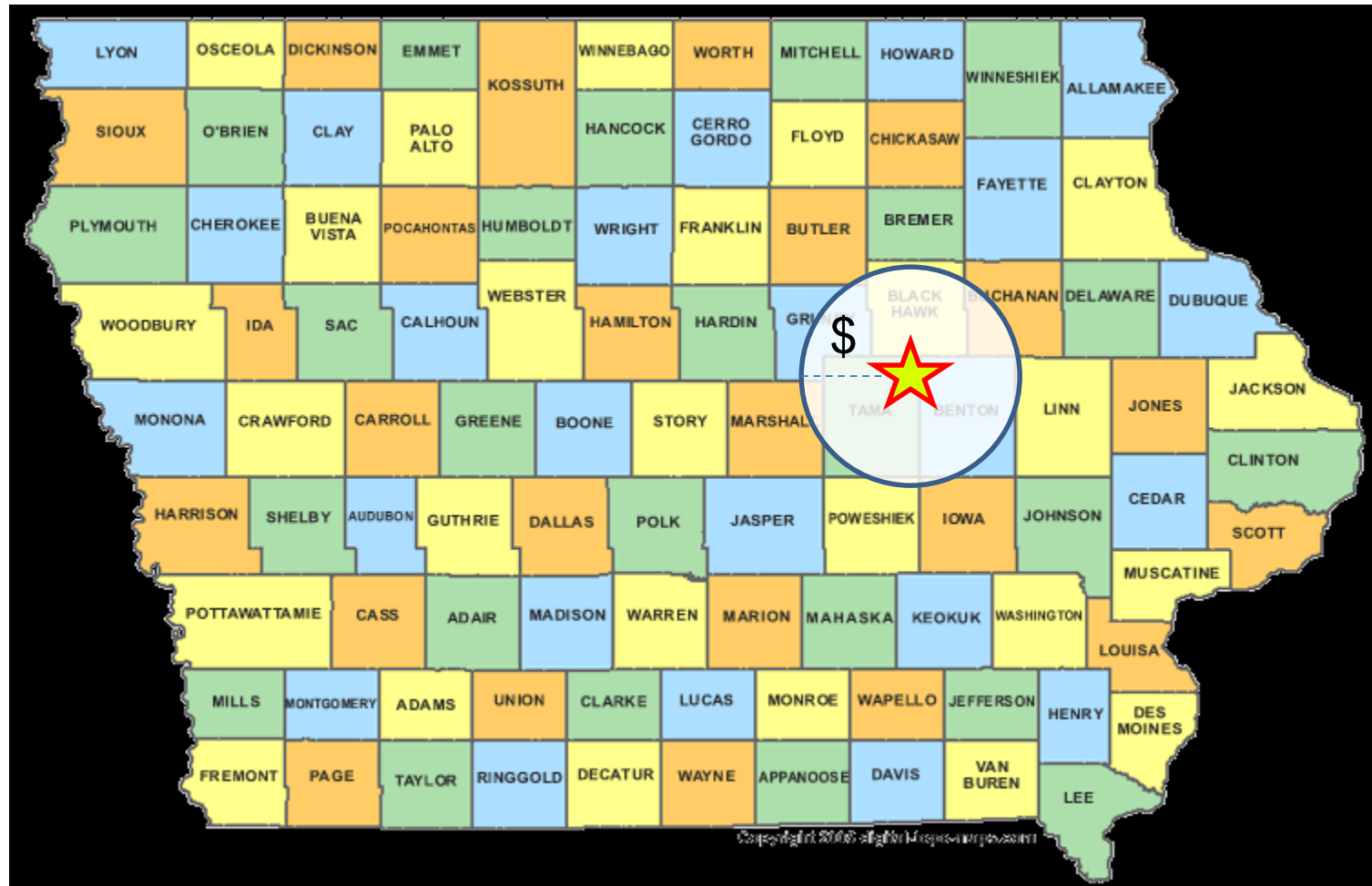
## GM Advantages

- ✓ WEED / INSECT CONTROL
- ✓ PLANT HEALTH
- ✓ YIELD
- ✓ CASH FLOW (FARMER NEEDS \$\$)
- ✓ MARKETING FLEXIBILITY (BEST DESTINATION)
- ✓ DELIVERY FLEXIBILITY



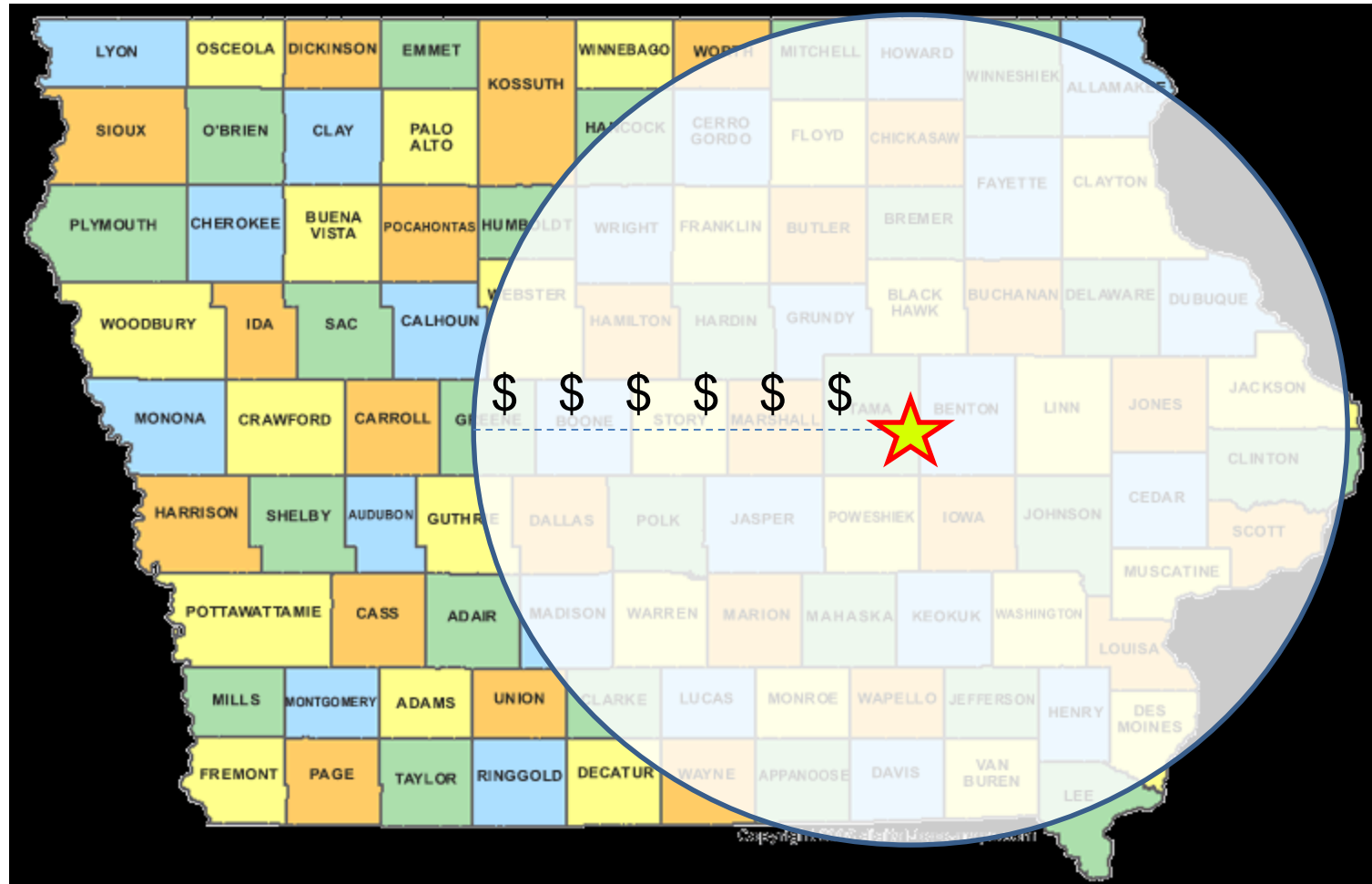
***The farmer premium needed to change this incentive structure would be significant***

# Concentrated origination of GMO crops minimizes storage and transportation costs



*What would this illustrative model look like for non-GM?*

# This footprint would grow exponentially if non-GMO crops were sourced



***The specific costs associated with this change to the current origination model are dependent on many variables***



# GMO crops have a positive impact on sustainability (example is a current Cargill customer)

- Biotech corn is good for small and large producers
- Gordy moves from applying 855 lbs. of pesticides to 260 lbs.
- He reduces his input costs on this field by \$2,320 and nets a “per bag” saving of \$112.50
- Gordy’s Environmental Impact Quotient goes from 100 to 42 as a result of his biotech decisions

*Source: Cargill AgHorizons analysis of farmer practices*

Gordy Johansens’ (real U.S.-based farmer) 80 acre field (circa 2010)



70% reduction  
in pesticides



60% improvement  
in costs



52% reduction in  
environmental  
impact

# Thoughts for Policymakers

- GMO can help meet global demand for safe and nutritious food over the long term
- GMO is the cornerstone of a more sustainable food system
- Biotechnology policy includes the approval of new traits, crop production/use and product labeling
- Public policies have the potential to either improve or disrupt the implementation of agricultural biotechnology
- Decisions about how to regulate biotechnology can a significant impact on food prices and availability and global competitiveness of agricultural sector

# Biotechnology Policy

Consider the impact of biotechnology policy on:

- Public health
- Environment
- Consumer confidence in food safety
- Food cost and availability
- Economic competitiveness and trade

# Final Thoughts for Policymakers

- Balance innovation and trade
- Allow for the coexistence of commodity and specialty supply chains
- Move towards regulatory harmonization—nationally and internationally

THANK YOU!

