

Integrating Agriculture and Other Land Use Statistics: the U.S. Experience

Dr. Cynthia Nickerson
Economic Research Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture

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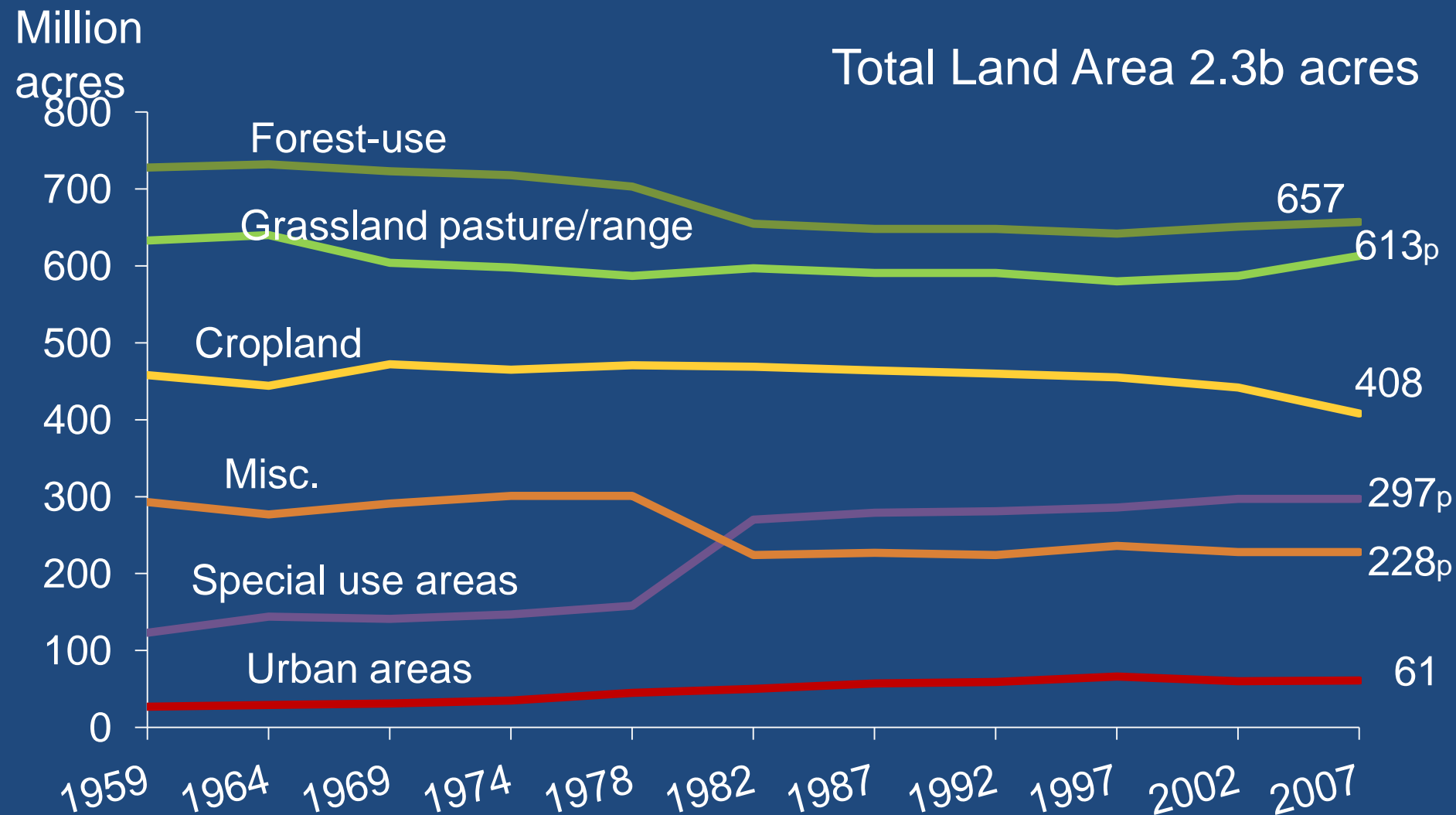
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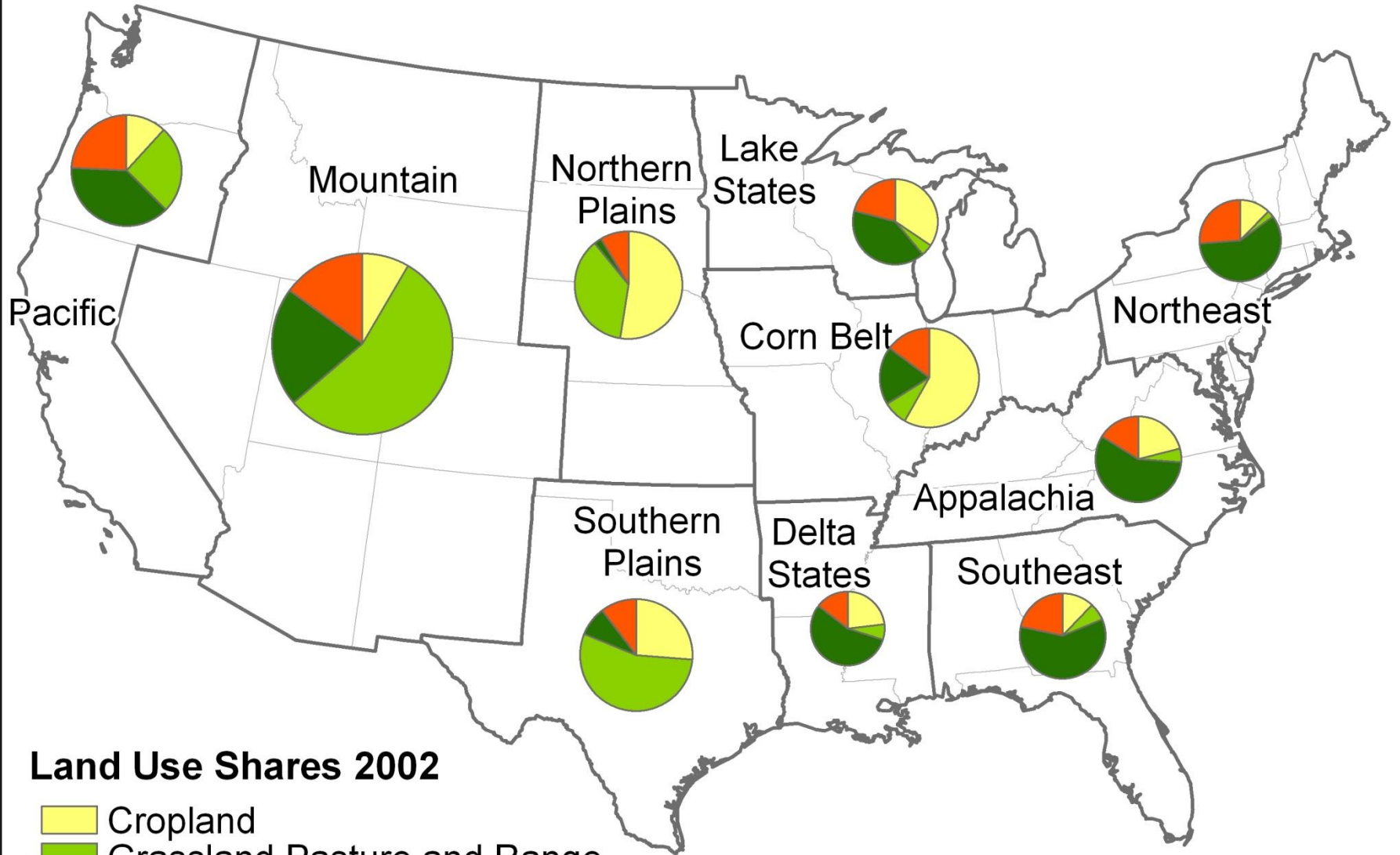
Presentation Outline

- Background: U.S. land use trends
- MLU estimates: sources and methods
- Challenges and strategies

Trends in all U.S. Land (MLU Estimates)



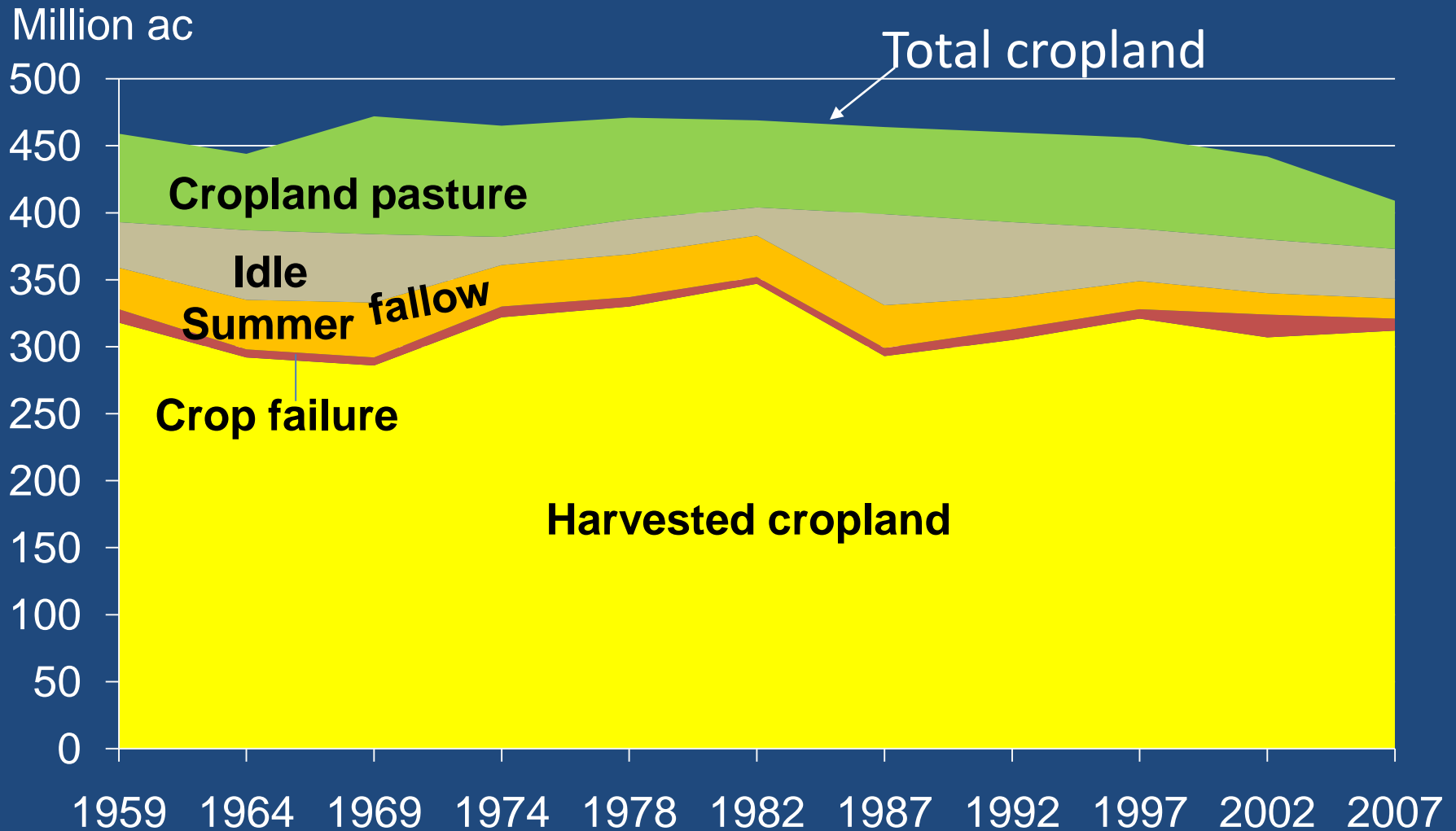
U.S. Land Use Shares by Region



Land Use Shares 2002

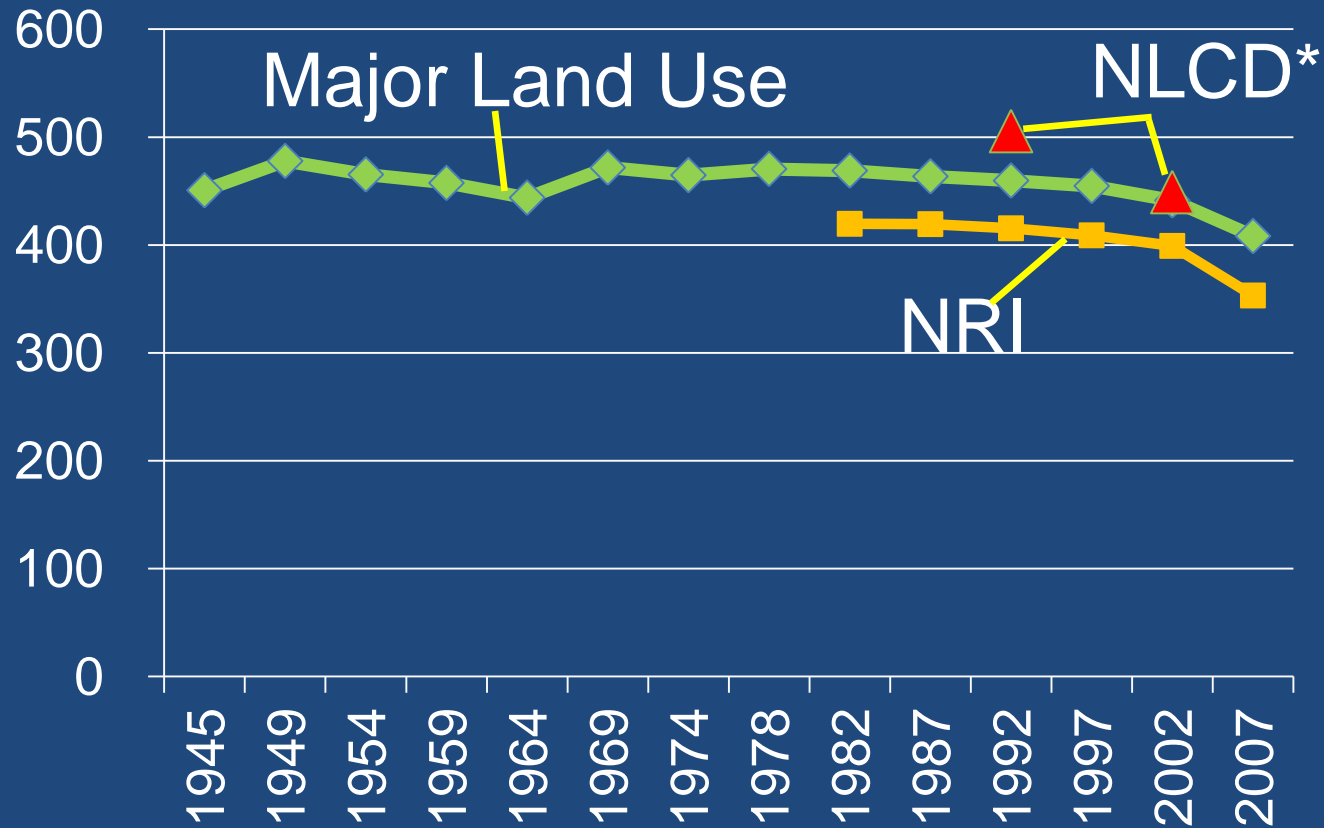
-  Cropland
-  Grassland Pasture and Range
-  Forest - Use Land
-  Special Uses/ Urban/ Other Land

Trends in U.S. Cropland



U.S. Land in Cropland Uses lower 48 States

Million acres



*NLCD estimates are as of 1992 and 2001

Sources: MLU (Lubowski 2006, Census of Agriculture 2007, NASS 2009);

NRI from USDA-NRCS 2009; NLCD from USGS

MLU estimates: Sources (1)

MLU Category	Data Sources (* = USDA)
Cropland	NASS*, FSA (idled land)*
Grassland pasture/range	NASS*, NRCS*, BLM, USFS*
Forest-use land	USFS*, BLM, Census Bureau
Special uses	NASS*, ERS, DOD, USFS*, BLM, NPS, FAA, States
Urban areas	Census Bureau
Miscellaneous	NRCS*, NASS*

MLU estimates: Sources (2)

MLU Category	Data Collection Mode
Cropland	Census, survey, admin data for idled cropland
Grassland pasture/range	Census, satellite, admin data
Forest-use land	Satellite, admin data
Special uses	Survey, satellite, admin data
Urban areas	Census of Population
Miscellaneous	Survey, satellite

MLU estimates: Sources (3)

Decision criteria:

Cropland > forestland > urban area

> special uses > pasture/range

> miscellaneous land

MLU estimates: Challenges

- Variability in definitions, precision across sources
- Accommodating revisions
- Treatment of rural residential land
- Timeliness of access to underlying data

MLU process: Room for Improvement?

- Advances in remote sensing, GIS (tradeoffs)
- Improve grassland pasture estimates by improving urban and residential land use estimates
- Other: depends on source agencies' advances

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cnickerson@ers.usda.gov

Major Uses of Land in the U.S.

www.ers.usda.gov/publications/EIB14