

# **WNC's Biofuels Market & Supply Chain**

**Regional Biofuels Educational Workshop  
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# Why Biofuels?

- Few alternatives to petroleum
- Transportation accounts for over 1/4 of total emissions in US
- Vehicle miles traveled per capita remains constant and CAFÉ standards slowly rise
- National Security
- Develop bio-products economy
- Utilize wastes and side streams
- Carbon sink with forestry and non-food crops

# Biofuels at their best...

<b>Economic Impacts:</b>	Fuel Diversity, investment in manufacturing, job creation, Agricultural development, reduce dependency on petroleum
<b>Environmental Impacts:</b>	Green house gas reductions, reduce air pollution, biodegradability, higher combustion efficiency, carbon sequestration
<b>Energy Security:</b>	Domestic production, supply and ready reliability, domestic distribution , Reduce use of fossil fuels, renewability

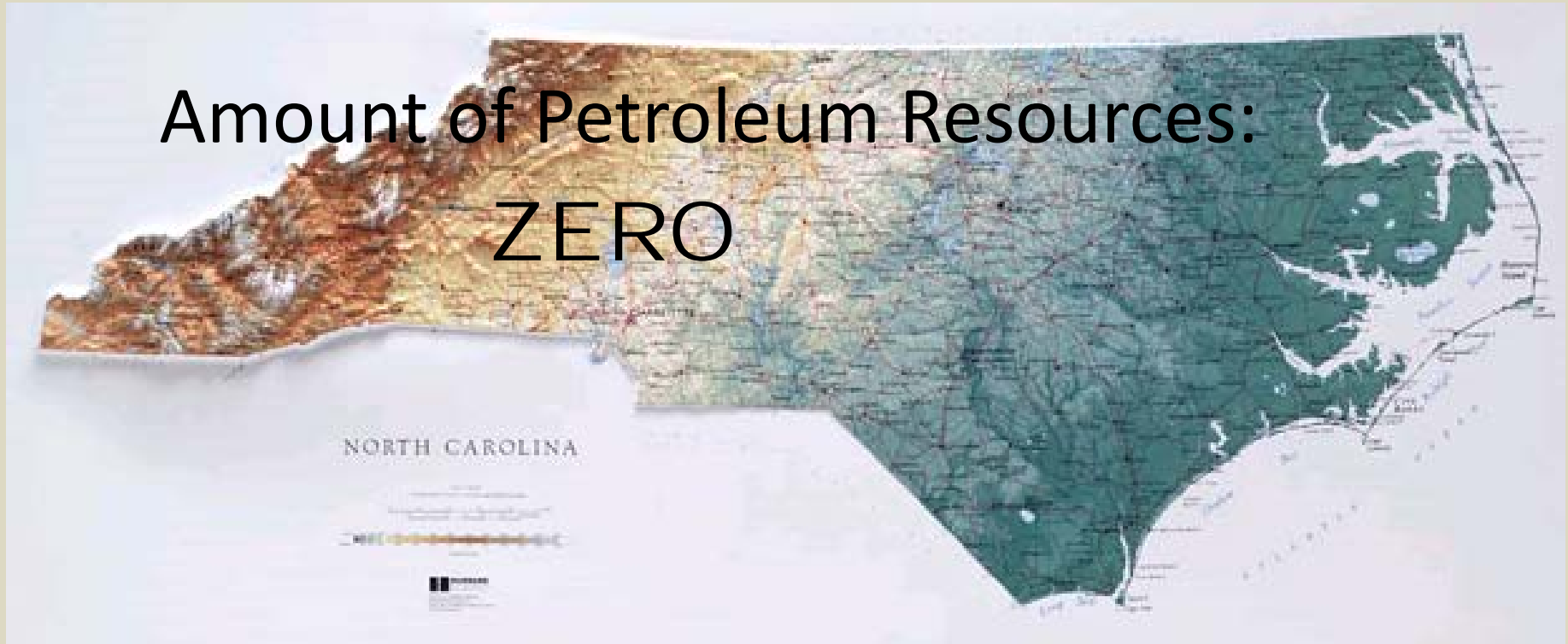


# Economics of Dependence - US

- **GASOLINE CONSUMPTION: 350 MILLION GAL/DAY**
- **DIESEL CONSUMPTION: 125 MILLION GAL/DAY**
- **TOTAL: 575 M GAL/DAY – 230 M GAL/DAY (US PRODUCTION) = 345 M GAL/DAY**
- **EQUALS ~ \$1.2 BILLION ECONOMIC LOSS/DAY**

# North Carolina

Amount of Petroleum Resources:  
**ZERO**



- **NC currently consumes approximately 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline and 1.2 billion gallons of petroleum diesel each year. WNC consumes 868MGPY combined.**
- **Our transportation fuel use represents over \$10 billion leaving the state economy annually, >\$3B in WNC.**

# Biodiesel

- Biodiesel made from used cooking oil reduces overall GHG Emissions on a life cycle basis by 80% compared to petroleum diesel.
- Biodiesel made from used cooking oil is a renewable fuel that has a Net Energy Ratio of 6 units returned for each unit invested.
- Biodiesel adds lubricity to increase engine equipment life at even low blend levels such as B2
- Particulates, total hydrocarbons, and carbon monoxide from biodiesel combustion have resulted in a reduction of 48%, 77%, and 48% respectively compared to conventional diesel
- Use of biofuels can help keep air quality high in sensitive areas such as historical nonattainment areas including high mountains, Unifor and Charlotte metro areas.

# Biodiesel Feedstocks

Feedstock accounts for nearly 80% of the overall production cost!

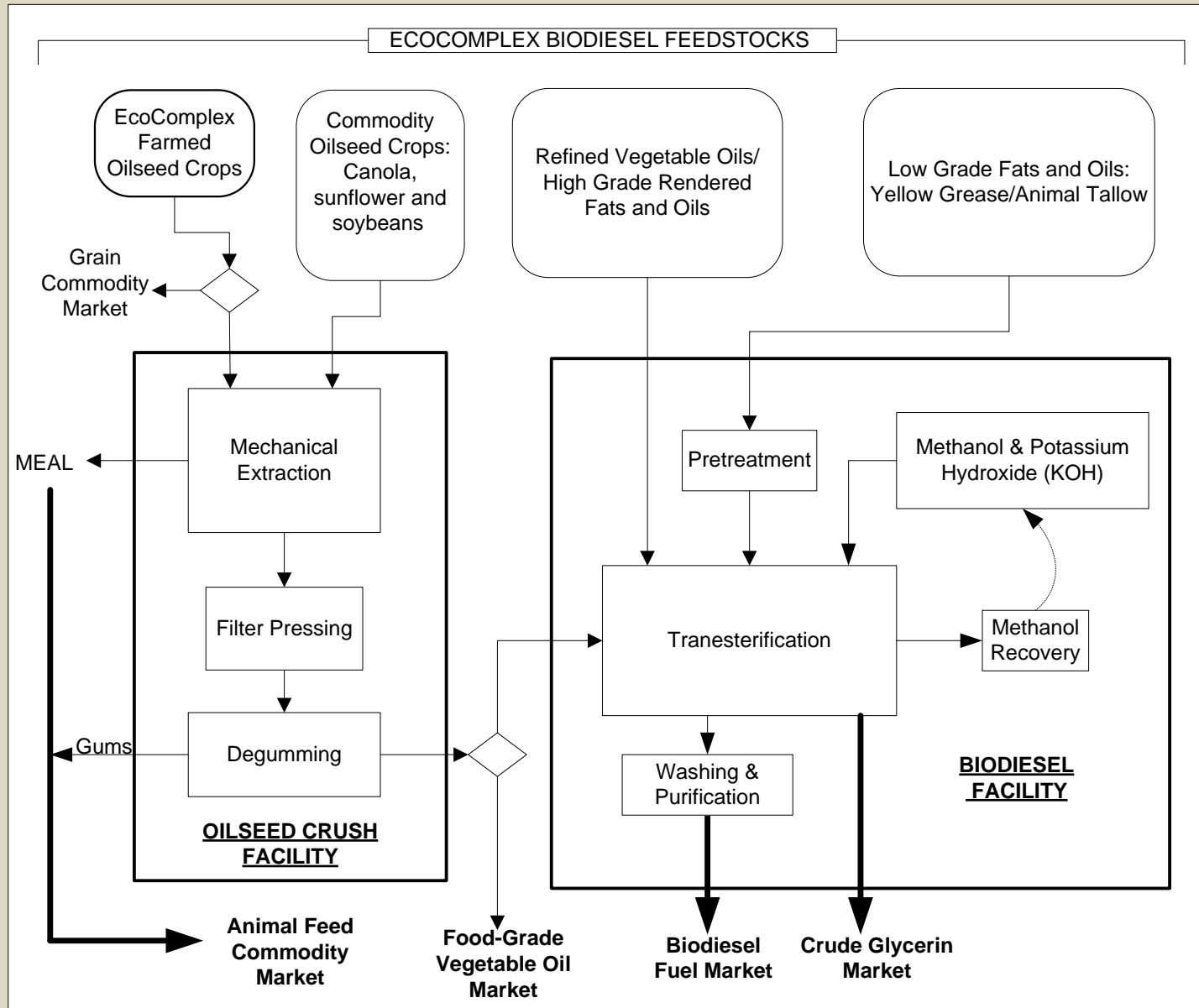
- Traditional

- **Yellow Grease (\$.29/lb)**
- **White Grease (\$.33/lb)**
- **Tallow (\$.40/lb)**
- **Soybean Oil (\$.33/lb)**
- Palm
- Other Vegetable Oils  
(Canola, sunflower)

- Next Generation

- Brown Grease
- Trap Grease
- Algae, yeast, bacteria
- Woody, Cellulosic,  
Energy grasses
- MSW

# Material flow for biodiesel production process.





# WNC Oilseed Feedstock Crops & Rotation:

1 Acre in a 3 year period = 210 gallons oil, 2 tons protein meal, and stover

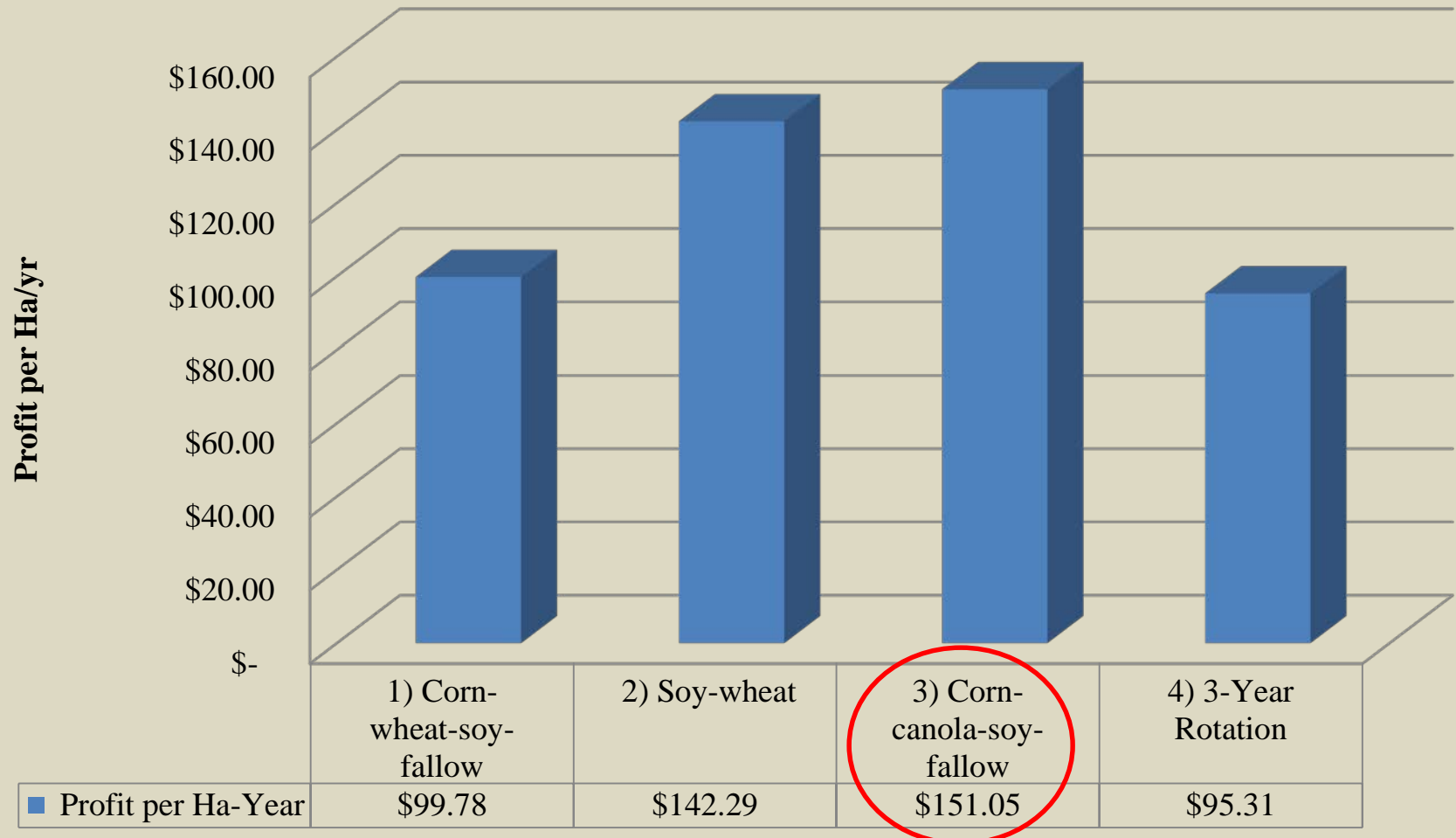


## *Vegetable Oil and Meal Yields by Rotation*

<b>Rotation</b>	<b>Average Vegetable Oil</b> <b>liters/hectare/year</b> <i>(gallons/acre/year)</i>	<b>Average Oilseed Meal</b> <b>kg/hectare/year</b> <i>(Lbs/acre/year)</i>
<b>1) Corn-Wheat-Soybeans-Fallow</b>	178 (19)	1067 (950)
<b>2) Soy-Wheat</b>	355 (38)	2133 (1900)
<b>3) Corn-Canola-Soy-Fallow</b>	617 (66)	1976 (1760)
<b>4) Soybeans-Winter Cover Crop-Sunflower-Wheat-Corn-Canola</b> <i>(3-Year Rotation)</i>	580 (62)	1671 (1488)

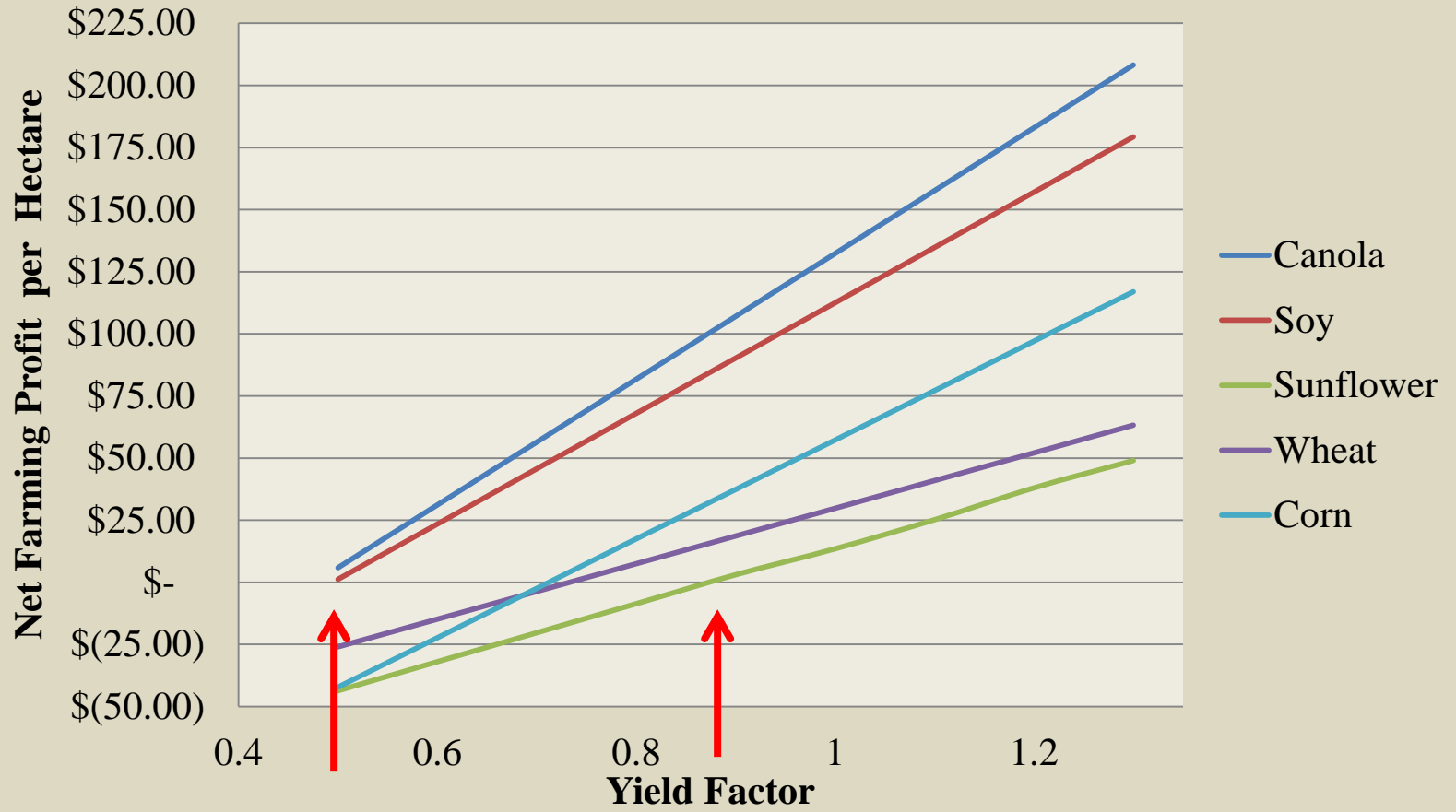
# Net Farming Profit vs. Crop Rotation.

## Net Farming Profit per Hectare-Year



# Net Farming Profit vs. Crop Yield.

## Net Farming Profit/Ha vs. Yield by Crop





# Small-scale Oilseed Crush and Biodiesel Facilities, Catawba EcoComplex





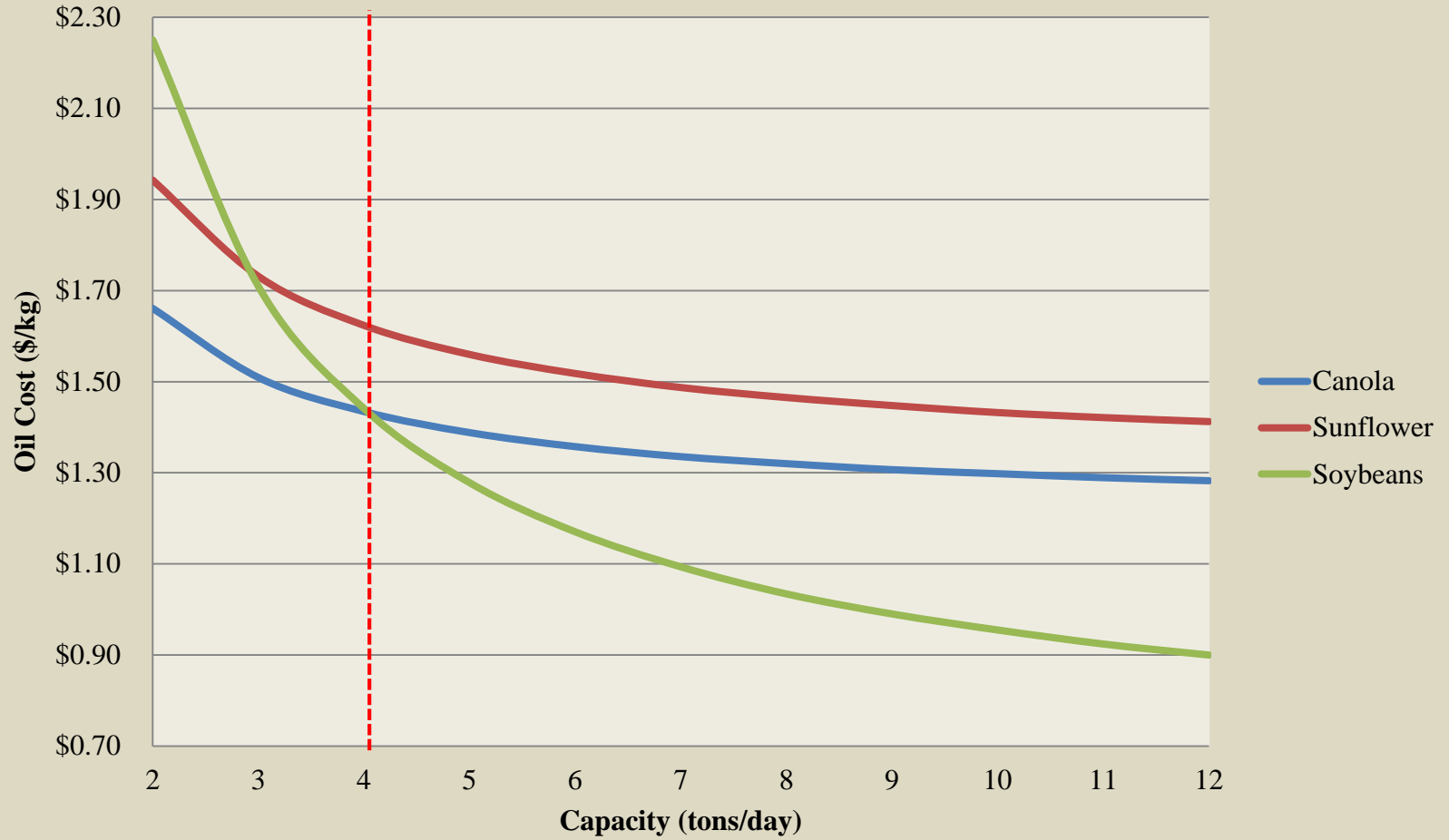
# Economic Analysis

## Crush Facility Oil Costs by Oilseed

Oilseed	Canola	Sunflower	Soybean
Land Area Ha (Ac)	455 (1124)	559 (1382)	298 (736)
Oil Production liters/year (gal/yr)	395,660 (104,533)	282,615 (74,667)	111,279 (29,400)
Costs	Cost per liter oil (\$/gallon)	Cost per liter oil (\$/gallon)	Cost per liter oil (\$/gallon)
Feedstock (oilseeds)	\$ 1.79 (6.79)	\$ 1.95 (7.41)	\$ 4.38 (16.59)
Variable	\$ 0.05 (0.20)	\$ 0.09 (0.37)	\$ 0.22 (0.85)
Fixed	\$ 0.21 (0.80)	\$ 0.29 (1.11)	\$ 0.75 (2.83)
Total	\$ 2.05 (7.78)	\$ 2.35 (8.89)	\$ 5.36 (20.27)
Revenue (meal)	\$ 0.75 (2.84)	\$ 0.86 (3.28)	\$ 4.04 (15.29)
Total Cost	\$ 1.31 (4.94)	\$ 1.48 (5.61)	\$ 1.31 (4.97)
Oil Cost per kg (\$/lb)	\$ 1.43 (0.65)	\$ 1.63 (0.74)	\$ 1.45 (0.66)

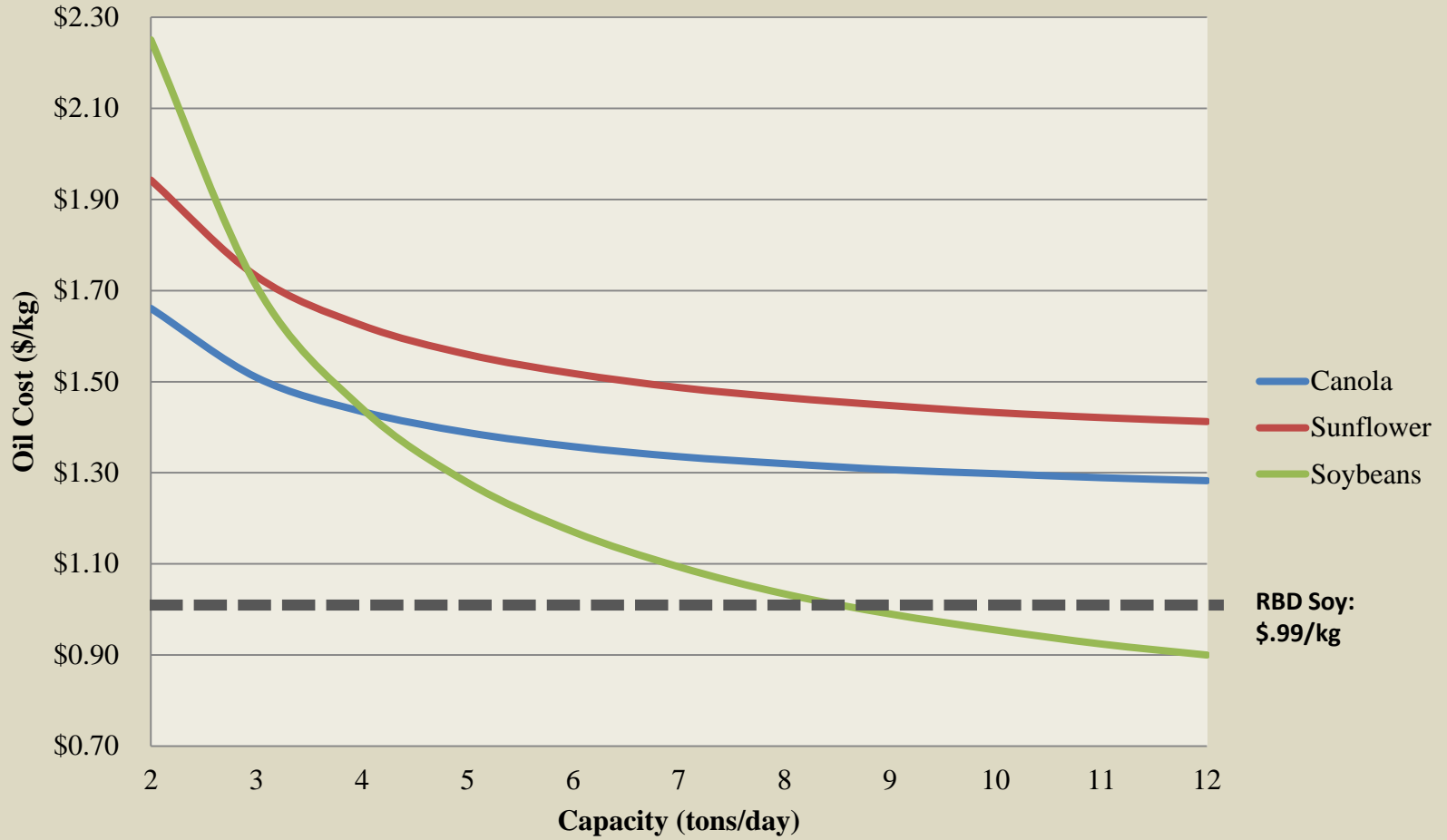
# Sensitivity of Oil Cost to Crush Capacity.

## Oil Cost vs. Crush Capacity



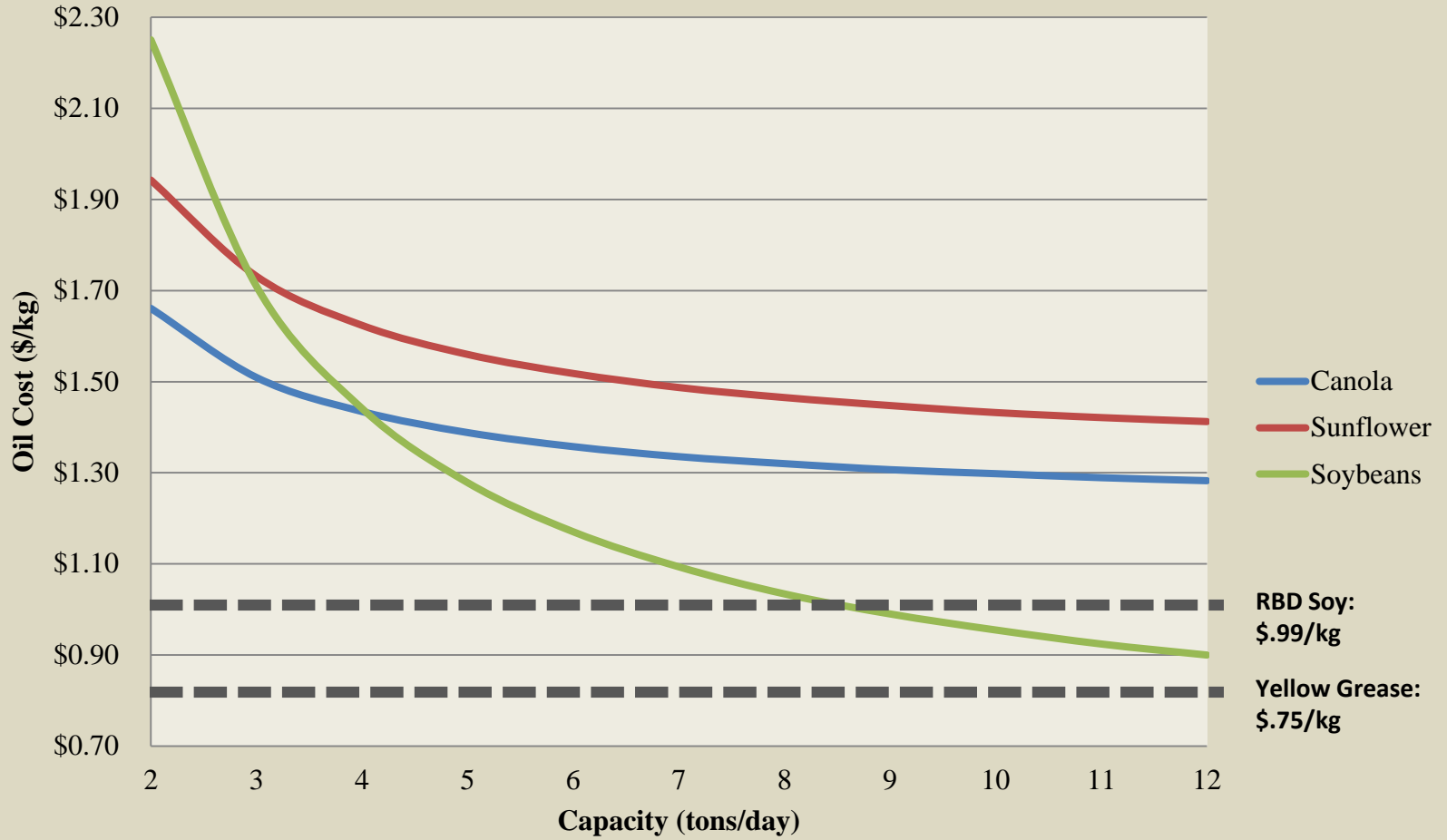
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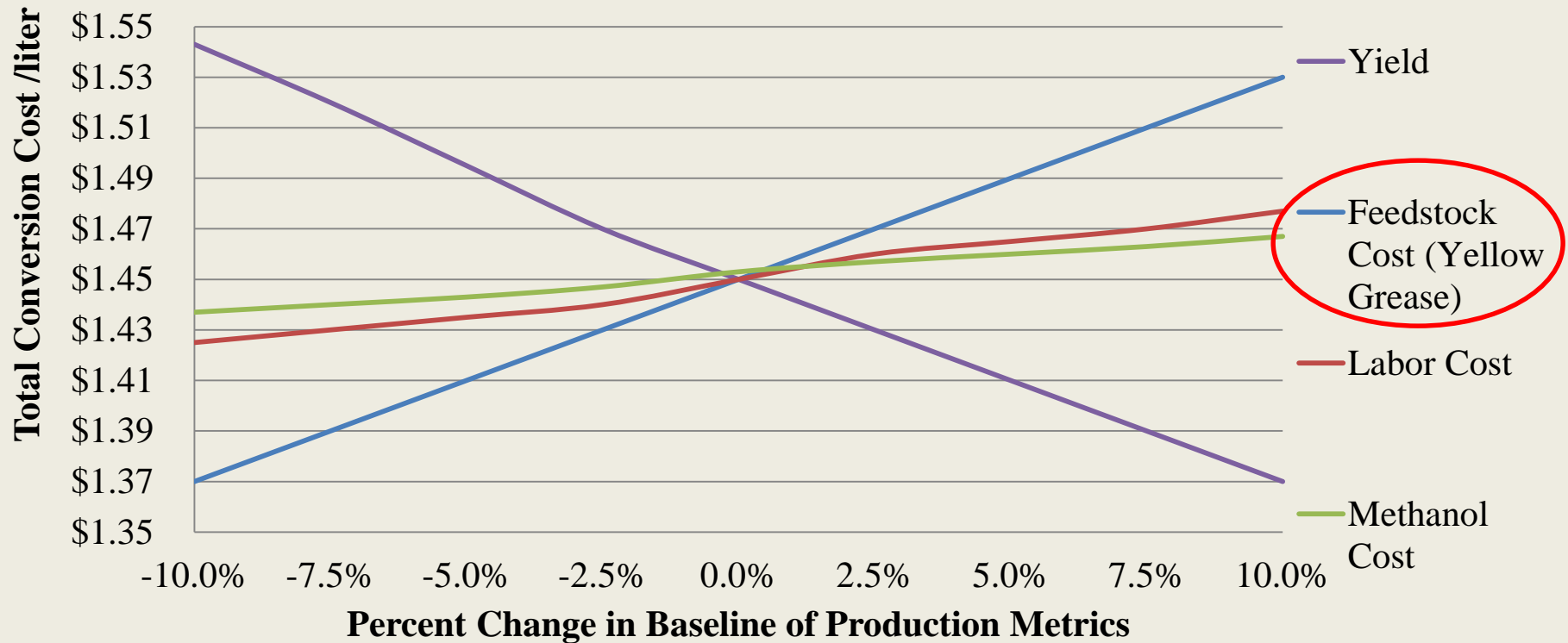
## Conversion costs by commodity feedstock, with Subsidies

Commodity Feedstock	Yellow Grease/UCO	White Grease	Soybean
<b>Oil Cost per kg<sup>[PFL, 2013]</sup> (\$/lb)</b>	\$ 0.75 (0.34)	\$ 0.86 (0.39)	\$ 0.99 (0.45)
<b>Conversion Yield</b>	80%	85%	90%
<b>Costs</b>	Cost per liter of biodiesel (\$/gal)		
<b>Feedstock</b>	\$ 0.83 (3.16)	\$ 0.91 (3.44)	\$ 0.96 (3.63)
<b>Variable</b>	\$ 0.28 (1.06)	\$ 0.27 (1.01)	\$ 0.26 (0.97)
<b>Fixed</b>	\$ 0.34 (1.29)	\$ 0.34 (1.29)	\$ 0.34 (1.29)
<b>Total</b>	\$ 1.46 (5.51)	\$ 1.52 (5.74)	\$ 1.56 (5.89)
<b>Revenue (Glycerin)</b>	\$ 0.02 (0.08)	\$ 0.02 (0.10)	\$ 0.03 (0.12)
<b>Total Conversion Cost</b>	\$ 1.43 (5.43)	\$ 1.49 (5.64)	\$ 1.52 (5.77)
<b>RIN</b> 	\$ 0.31 (1.20)	\$ 0.31 (1.20)	\$ 0.31 (1.20)
<b>Fuel Tax Credit</b> 	\$ 0.26 (1.00)	\$ 0.26 (1.00)	\$ 0.26 (1.00)
<b>Net Conversion Cost</b>	\$ 0.85 (3.23)	\$ 0.91 (3.44)	\$ 0.94 (3.57)
<b>Diesel Bulk Cost</b>	\$ 0.86 (3.25)	\$ 0.86 (3.25)	\$ 0.86 (3.25)
<b>Net Profit</b>	\$ 0.005 (0.02)	\$ -0.05 (-0.19)	\$ -0.08 (-0.32)

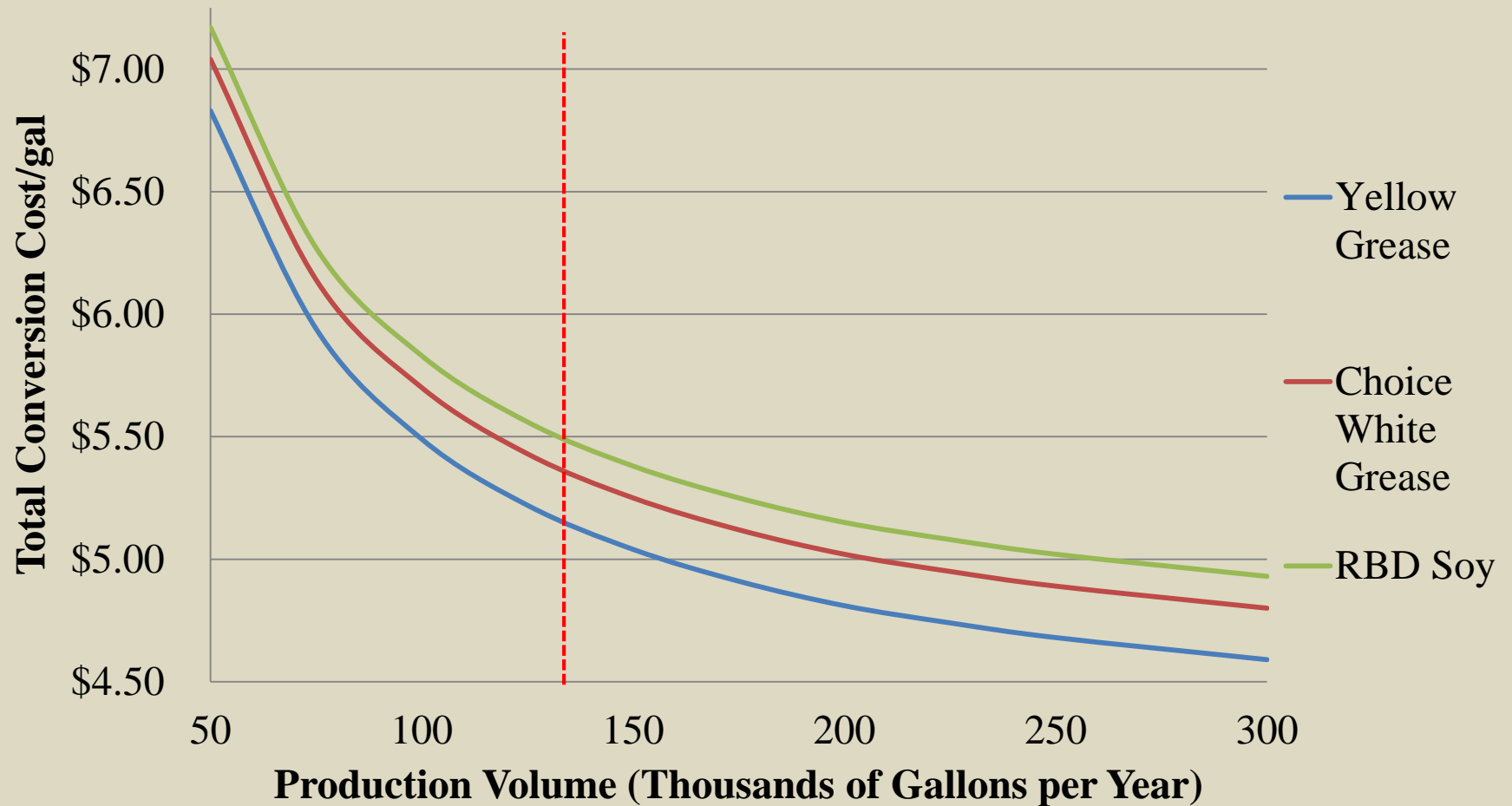


# Sensitivity of Biodiesel Conversion Costs to Production Metrics.

## Conversion Cost vs. Production Metrics for Yellow Grease Feedstock



## Total Conversion Cost vs. Production Volume



# 3 Opportunities related to Inputs & Outputs of Biodiesel Production

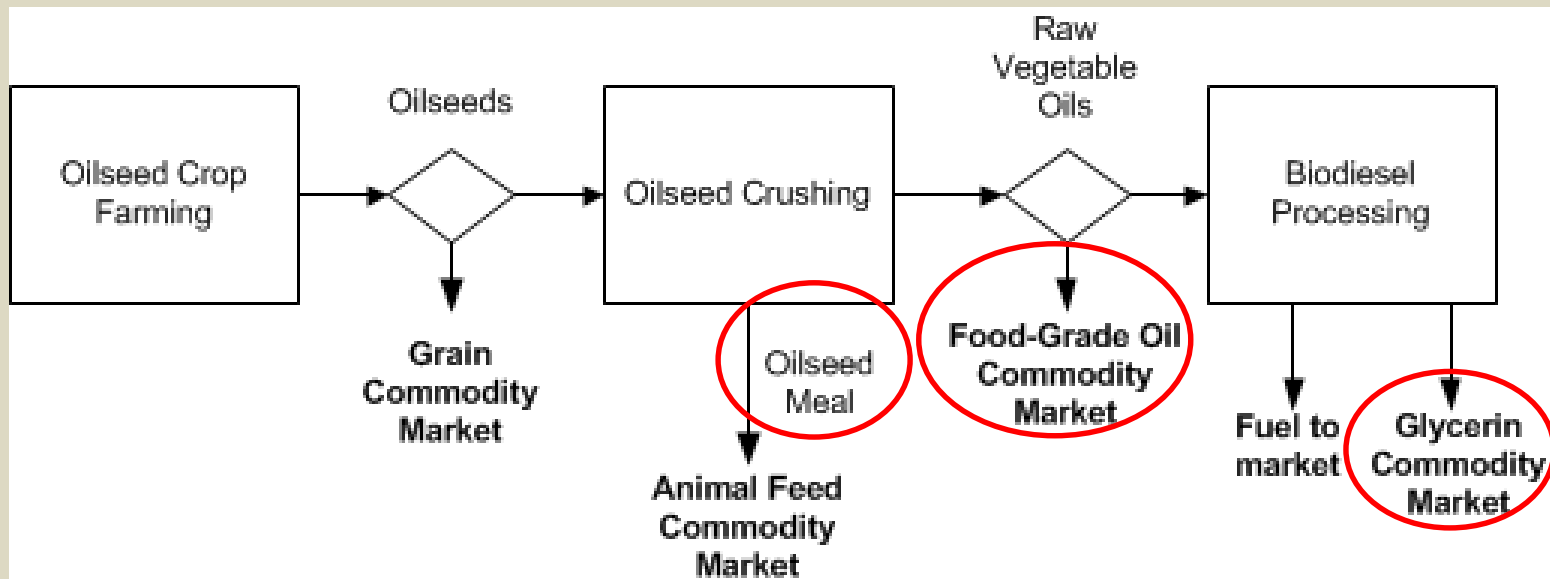
## Value-Adding:

1) Food-Grade Vegetable Oil

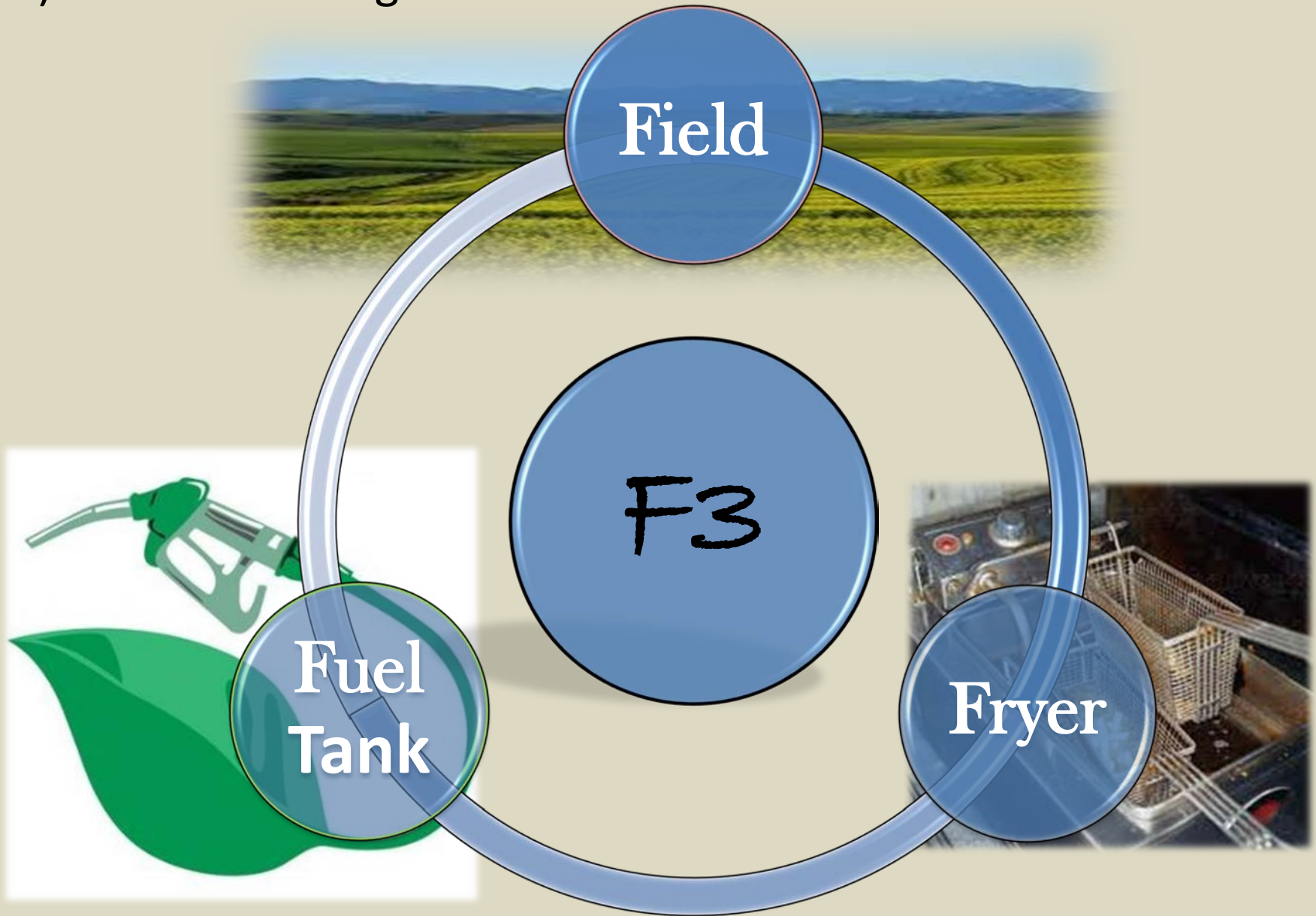
## Bioproducts Development:

2) Nutraceuticals: *HPMC for Bio-based gel capsule*

3) Glycerin Soap



# 1) Food Grade Vegetable Oil



# Food Grade Oil

**Technology:** Vegetable Oil Refining

**Status:** Pilot-Project

**Businesses:** Blue Ridge Biofuels, Agstrong, Virgin Oils

**Partner Organizations:** AdvantageWest, Appstate, Catawba County, Biltmore Estate, Blue Ridge Food Ventures

**Raw Materials:** Oilseed crops (canola, soybean, sunflower)

**Supply Chain:** Regional Farmers, Crush and Oil Refining Facilities.



## 2) Nutraceutical co-products *application:* *Biobased Gel Capsules*

**Technology:** Biomass fractionation, HPMC development (hydroxypropyl methycellulose,)

**Status:** R&D

**Organizations:** Bent Creek Institute, Virginia Tech,

**Raw Materials:** glycerol, oilseeds, oilseed meal, brewer spent grains, clean sawdust

**Supply Chain Business:** Biodiesel producers, farmers, crush facilities, breweries, sawmills



## 3) Glycerin Soap



**Technology:** Saponification of Fats/Oils

**Primary Business:** War Horse Solutions

**Status:** Start-up

**Raw materials:** biodiesel derived glycerin, free fatty acids, essential oils, potassium hydroxide

**Supply Chain Business:** Biodiesel producers, Certified Manufacturing Facility, Packing/Distribution

# Biofuels Summary

- Use waste first then dedicated biomass energy crops for biofuel feedstock
- Improve technologies to diversify feedstocks, process low-quality low-cost materials, and produce higher value co-product streams.
- Spin-off businesses are emerging
- Need for Increased Ag Production
  - Oilseed crops (canola, soybean, sunflower) non-gmo, organic
  - Niche oilseed crops

# Thank you!

## Questions?

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