



# **AGRICULTURAL LAND ASSESSMENT UNDER THE PRODUCTIVITY SYSTEM**

**PRESENTED BY MICHAEL HOUDYSHELL  
DIRECTOR, PROPERTY AND SPECIAL TAXES DIVISION**

# Overview

- Basics of Property Taxes in SD
- Agricultural land assessment under the Productivity System
- Current status of productivity implementation
- Property tax limitation system

# What is the Property Tax?

- The property tax is an *ad valorem* tax on all property that has been deemed taxable by the South Dakota Legislature. *Ad valorem* refers to a tax imposed on the value of something (as opposed to quantity or some other measure). The property tax is the primary source of revenue for local governments. The State does not collect or spend any property tax revenue.
- SDCL 10-4-1. All **real property** in this state and the **property of corporations** existing or hereafter created, and the **property of all banks or banking companies** existing or hereafter created, except such as is hereinafter expressly excepted, **is subject to taxation**; and such property, or the value thereof, shall be entered in the list of taxable property for that purpose, in the manner prescribed in chapter 10-6.
- SD Constitution, Art. 11, § 2. To the end that the burden of **taxation may be equitable upon all property**, and in order that no property which is made subject to taxation shall escape, the Legislature is empowered to divide all property including moneys and credits as well as physical property into classes and to determine what class or classes of property shall be subject to taxation and what property, if any, shall not be subject to taxation. **Taxes shall be uniform on all property of the same class, and shall be levied and collected for public purposes only.** Taxes may be imposed upon any and all property including privileges, franchises and licenses to do business in the state. Gross earnings and net incomes may be considered in taxing any and all property, and **the valuation of property for taxation purposes shall never exceed the actual value thereof.** The Legislature is empowered to impose taxes upon incomes and occupations, and taxes upon incomes may be graduated and progressive and reasonable exemptions may be provided.

# Ag Land Assessment - Overview

- Beginning with the 2010 assessments (for taxes payable in 2011) agricultural land in South Dakota is assessed based upon its productivity (agricultural income) value. The Department of Revenue contracts with South Dakota State University (SDSU) to produce the agricultural income value for the productivity valuation system. This value is the starting point for valuing all agricultural land in the state and is adjusted by the county Director of Equalization to ensure uniform and fair valuations.
- The data used to establish the agricultural income value is from official estimates published by the United States Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Services (USDA/NASS). These official estimates are based upon surveys of farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses.
- The Department of Revenue sends each county its average assessed value per acre for cropland and non-cropland, along with the background information provided by SDSU. The counties then spread these values according to the soil survey. As with the old market valuation system, the values spread by the soil survey create the base valuation system, upon which the county makes adjustments.

# How is Ag Land Assessed in South Dakota?

SDCL 10-6-33.28. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 10-6-33, beginning on July 1, 2009, **agricultural land shall be assessed based on its agricultural income value on a per acre basis.** The agricultural income value of agricultural land shall be determined on the basis of productivity and the annual earnings capacity of the agricultural land. The productivity of agricultural land and its annual earning capacity shall be based on data collected and analyzed pursuant to this section and §§ 10-6-33.29 to 10-6-33.33, inclusive.

**Agricultural income value is defined as the capitalized annual earning capacity on a per acre basis which has been adjusted by an amount that reflects the landowner's share of the gross return.** The capacity of cropland to produce agricultural products shall be based on the income from crops or plants produced on the land. The capacity of noncropland to produce agricultural products shall be based on cash rents or the animal unit carrying capacity of the land, or a combination of both. For the purpose of this section, **annual earning capacity** for:

- (1) **Cropland is thirty-five percent** of the annual gross return to the land; and
- (2) **Noncropland is one hundred percent** of the annual gross return to the land based on cash rent for noncropland.

The **annual earning capacity shall be capitalized at a rate of six and six-tenths percent** to determine the agricultural income value.

**Source:** SL 2008, ch 44, § 5; SL 2009, ch 40, § 1.

# How is the Agricultural Income Value Determined?

Cropland Agricultural  
Income Value =

Gross Revenue per acre x landlord share (35%)  
Capitalization rate (6.6%)

Noncropland Agricultural  
Income Value =

Average Cash Rent x landlord share (100%)  
Capitalization rate (6.6%)

# How is the Gross Revenue per Acre and Average Cash Rent Determined?

SDCL 10-6-33.29. **The secretary of revenue shall enter into contracts with South Dakota State University and, if necessary, the South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service for the purpose of creating a database to determine the agricultural income value of agricultural land by county.** The cropland data may include: acres planted, acres harvested, yield per acre, and statewide crop prices. The noncropland data may include: cash rents, rangeland acres, pastureland acres, rangeland AUM's per acre, pastureland AUM's per acre, grazing season data, and statewide cow and calf prices. The Agricultural Land Assessment Implementation and Oversight Advisory Task Force may recommend other cropland and noncropland data to the Legislature for subsequent use in the database. The secretary shall have such data collected for 2001, which will serve as the first year of the database, and each year thereafter. **The database shall consist of the most recent eight years of data that have been collected and the two years, one year representing the highest agricultural income value and one year representing the lowest agricultural income value, shall be discarded from the database.** The database for the 2010 assessment for taxes payable in 2011 shall consist of data from 2001 to 2008, inclusive, and the database for each assessment year thereafter shall be adjusted accordingly. South Dakota State University shall provide the data for each county to the secretary of revenue by June first of each year.

**Source:** SL 2008, ch 44, § 6; SL 2009, ch 40, § 2; SL 2011, ch 1 (Ex. Ord. 11-1), § 161, eff. Apr. 12, 2011; SL 2011, ch 49, § 1.

FALL RIVER COUNTY  
2015 ASSESSMENT YEAR PRODUCTIVITY INFORMATION

Commodity	Year	Planted All Purposes		Revenue	Revenue Per Acre	Commodity	Year	Planted All Purposes		Revenue	Revenue Per Acre
Corn For Grain	2000	3,700	acres	\$ 540,960		Hay All (Dry)	2005	25,000	acres	\$ 2,943,750	\$ 117.75
Hay All (Dry)	2000	54,000	acres	\$ 4,083,050							
Oats	2000	3,000	acres	\$ 46,620							
Sorghum For Grain	2000	2,200	acres	\$ 89,964							
Sunflower All	2000	900	acres	\$ 58,014							
Wheat All	2000	13,000	acres	\$ 1,173,840							
		76,800		\$ 5,992,448	\$ 78.03						
Corn For Grain	2001	3,500	acres	\$ 561,750		Corn For Grain	2006	2,000	acres	\$ 325,440	
Hay All (Dry)	2001	52,000	acres	\$ 4,264,050		Hay All (Dry)	2006	9,000	acres	\$ 1,168,650	
Oats	2001	3,000	acres	\$ 61,790		Oats	2006	3,000	acres	\$ 47,840	
Sorghum For Grain	2001	2,400	acres	\$ 47,981		Wheat All	2006	10,500	acres	\$ 612,720	
Wheat All	2001	12,500	acres	\$ 658,860				24,500		\$ 2,154,650	\$ 87.94
		73,400		\$ 5,594,431	\$ 76.22						
Corn For Grain	2002	2,500	acres	\$ 197,470		Hay All (Dry)	2007	10,000	acres	\$ 737,200	
Hay All (Dry)	2002	35,000	acres	\$ 2,691,000		Oats	2007	1,600	acres	\$ 143,500	
Oats	2002	1,000	acres	\$ 31,840		Wheat All	2007	9,800	acres	\$ 1,354,620	
Sorghum For Grain	2002	1,900	acres	\$ 93,912				21,400		\$ 2,235,320	\$ 104.45
Wheat All	2002	12,100	acres	\$ 742,950							
		52,500		\$ 3,757,172	\$ 71.57						
Corn For Grain	2003	2,500	acres	\$ 305,520		Hay All (Dry)	2008	55,000	acres	\$ 6,400,000	
Hay All (Dry)	2003	53,000	acres	\$ 3,515,050		Sorghum For Grain	2008	2,900	acres	\$ 515,323	
Oats	2003	2,400	acres	\$ 32,890		Sunflower All	2008	800	acres	\$ 167,200	
Sorghum For Grain	2003	1,900	acres	\$ 215,040		Wheat All	2008	11,000	acres	\$ 2,101,200	
Wheat All	2003	10,100	acres	\$ 1,370,160				69,700		\$ 9,183,723	\$ 131.76
		69,900		\$ 5,438,660	\$ 77.81						
Corn For Grain	2004	3,000	acres	\$ 280,280		Hay Alfalfa (Dry)	2009	35,000	acres	\$ 3,823,750	
Hay All (Dry)	2004	10,000	acres	\$ 1,193,750		Hay Other (Dry)	2009	5,000	acres	\$ 303,600	
Oats	2004	2,800	acres	\$ 41,720				40,000		\$ 4,127,350	\$ 103.18
Sorghum For Grain	2004	800	acres	\$ 22,176							
Wheat All	2004	12,000	acres	\$ 502,130							
		28,600		\$ 2,040,056	\$ 71.33						







# How is the Agricultural Income Per Acre applied to Individual Parcels?

- Example:
  - County has a value of \$125/acre for cropland with a rating of 1.000
  - County has a value of \$100/acre for noncropland with a rating of 1.000
  - The rating of each soil type in a parcel is multiplied by these values to determine the value of that particular soil

Map Unit	Rating	Acres	Unit Value	Total
<i>Crop Soils</i>				
HIB	.720	42	90.00	3,780.00
HeA	.820	41	102.50	4,202.50
ReA	.770	8	96.25	770.00
HkA	.810	9	101.25	911.25
<i>Noncrop Soils</i>				
GhC	.630	44	63.00	2,772.00
JbD	.250	14	25.00	350.00
BeE	.260	2	26.00	52.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>160</b>		<b>12,837.75</b>

# Ag Land Values – Statutory Limitations on Increases/Decreases

SDCL 10-6-77. For the taxes payable in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, the total taxable value of cropland within any county may not increase or decrease more than:

- (1) Fifteen percent in any year, if the county is less than thirty percent from its full agricultural income value;
- (2) Twenty percent in any year, if the county is thirty percent or more but less than fifty percent from its full agricultural income value; and
- (3) Twenty-five percent in any year, if the county is fifty percent or more from its full agricultural income value.

For the taxes payable in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, the total taxable value of noncropland within any county may not increase or decrease more than:

- (1) Fifteen percent in any year, if the county is less than thirty percent from its full agricultural income value;
- (2) Twenty percent in any year, if the county is thirty percent or more but less than fifty percent from its full agricultural income value; and
- (3) Twenty-five percent in any year, if the county is fifty percent or more from its full agricultural income value.

**Source:** SL 2008, ch 44, § 2; SL 2009, ch 40, § 3; SL 2012, ch 62, § 1.

CHANGE IN VALUATION  
2015 ASSESSMENT YEAR PRODUCTIVITY INFORMATION

County	2014 Equalized Crop	2015 Productivity Crop \$/A - Equalized	Total change in crop dollar value going to productivity w/o limit	Crop limited to increase / decrease - Equalized	2014 Equalized Non-Crop	2015 Productivity Non-Crop \$/A - Equalized	Total change in non-crop dollar value going to productivity w/o limit	Non-Crop limited to increase / decrease - equalized
AURORA	1,285.46	1,720.73	33.86%	1,542.55	455.91	472.65	3.67%	472.65
BEADLE	1,386.81	1,884.36	35.88%	1,664.17	436.81	443.24	1.47%	443.24
BENNETT	613.54	806.10	31.39%	736.25	120.85	117.63	-2.66%	117.63
BON HOMME	1,468.69	1,789.73	21.86%	1,688.99	474.15	487.03	2.72%	487.03
BROOKINGS	1,844.61	2,264.61	22.77%	2,121.30	494.49	554.86	12.21%	554.86
BROWN	1,365.81	2,106.47	54.23%	1,707.26	395.38	409.12	3.47%	409.12
BRULE	1,141.42	1,670.04	46.31%	1,369.70	315.53	318.96	1.09%	318.96
BUFFALO	788.05	982.62	24.69%	906.25	259.94	272.17	4.71%	272.17
BUTTE	358.48	668.89	86.59%	448.10	103.24	106.25	2.91%	106.25
CAMPBELL	712.97	1,386.54	94.47%	891.22	240.19	251.99	4.92%	251.99
CHARLES MIX	1,360.30	1,752.40	28.82%	1,564.35	407.83	408.26	0.11%	408.26
CLARK	1,366.60	1,885.19	37.95%	1,639.92	371.34	380.57	2.49%	380.57
CLAY	1,993.64	2,234.36	12.07%	2,234.36	540.48	550.78	1.91%	550.78
CODINGTON	1,557.90	1,823.68	17.06%	1,791.58	445.82	459.99	3.18%	459.99
CORSON	313.03	879.74	181.04%	391.29	106.67	117.20	9.87%	117.20
CUSTER	491.46	597.01	21.48%	565.18	110.11	111.62	1.36%	111.62
DAVISON	1,520.79	1,854.13	21.92%	1,748.91	471.36	485.96	3.10%	485.96
DAY	1,144.85	1,776.77	55.20%	1,431.06	406.54	416.20	2.38%	416.20
DEUEL	1,668.70	1,993.48	19.46%	1,919.00	479.95	495.19	3.18%	495.19
DEWEY	553.52	835.93	51.02%	691.90	105.18	103.67	-1.43%	103.67
DOUGLAS	1,467.19	1,915.87	30.58%	1,760.62	453.33	461.28	1.75%	461.28
EDMUNDS	1,087.09	1,734.26	59.53%	1,358.86	360.39	367.90	2.08%	367.90
FALL RIVER	405.74	575.49	41.84%	486.89	101.53	106.89	5.29%	106.89
FAULK	1,105.32	1,730.06	56.52%	1,381.65	349.66	359.10	2.70%	359.10
GRANT	1,518.15	1,881.87	23.96%	1,745.88	445.18	459.99	3.33%	459.99
GREGORY	1,024.25	1,307.12	27.62%	1,177.88	286.55	284.84	-0.60%	284.84
HAAKON	596.75	804.19	34.76%	716.10	126.64	126.43	-0.17%	126.43
HAMLIN	1,674.95	2,286.15	36.49%	2,009.94	507.85	521.38	2.66%	521.38
HAND	1,182.65	1,610.11	36.14%	1,419.18	361.46	367.90	1.78%	367.90
HANSON	1,585.51	1,987.23	25.34%	1,823.33	520.73	535.11	2.76%	535.11
HARDING	358.75	546.01	52.20%	448.44	84.36	89.94	6.62%	89.94
HUGHES	888.32	1,262.77	42.15%	1,065.98	279.04	286.55	2.69%	286.55
HUTCHINSON	1,585.42	1,873.13	18.15%	1,823.23	499.91	513.43	2.71%	513.43



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 Green - limited to 25% increase / decrease in value

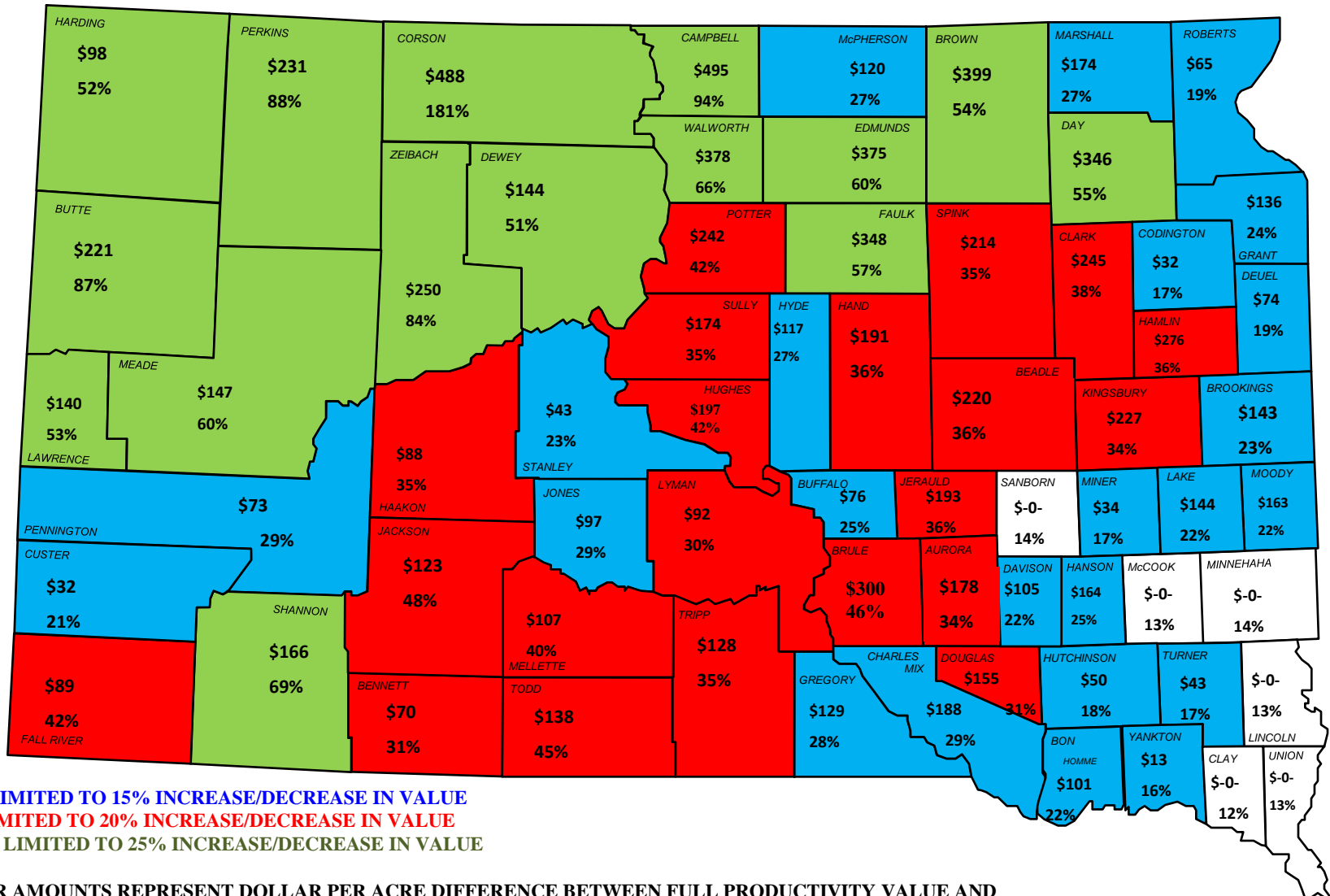
CHANGE IN VALUATION  
2015 ASSESSMENT YEAR PRODUCTIVITY INFORMATION

County	2014 Equalized Crop	2015 Productivity Crop \$/A - Equalized	Total change in crop dollar value going to productivity w/o limit	Crop limited to increase / decrease - Equalized		2014 Equalized Non-Crop	2015 Productivity Non-Crop \$/A - Equalized	Total change in non-crop dollar value going to productivity w/o limit	Non-Crop limited to increase / decrease - equalized
HYDE	952.07	1,211.62	27.26%	1,094.88		290.20	295.14	1.70%	295.14
JACKSON	444.60	656.30	47.62%	533.52		121.70	119.56	-1.76%	119.56
JERAULD	1,213.49	1,649.34	35.92%	1,456.19		377.56	388.30	2.84%	388.30
JONES	682.69	882.47	29.26%	785.10		162.70	164.85	1.32%	164.85
KINGSBURY	1,586.16	2,130.69	34.33%	1,903.40		514.94	524.60	1.88%	524.60
LAKE	1,976.44	2,417.28	22.30%	2,272.91		260.05	602.73	131.77%	325.06
LAWRENCE	507.42	774.23	52.58%	634.28		156.69	152.40	-2.74%	152.40
LINCOLN	1,963.88	2,210.30	12.55%	2,210.30		613.89	629.99	2.62%	629.99
LYMAN	914.15	1,188.70	30.03%	1,096.98		167.21	167.64	0.26%	167.64
MARSHALL	1,458.50	1,851.63	26.95%	1,677.27		387.87	401.60	3.54%	401.60
MC COOK	1,886.36	2,130.89	12.96%	2,130.89		549.49	558.08	1.56%	558.08
MC PHERSON	987.89	1,256.53	27.19%	1,136.07		342.79	355.03	3.57%	355.03
MEADE	420.08	672.14	60.00%	525.10		113.33	118.27	4.36%	118.27
MELLETTTE	524.60	736.78	40.45%	629.52		172.36	173.43	0.62%	173.43
MINER	1,513.76	1,774.66	17.23%	1,740.83		535.97	551.00	2.80%	551.00
MINNEHAHA	2,171.45	2,486.63	14.51%	2,486.63		563.02	570.74	1.37%	570.74
MOODY	2,191.38	2,683.40	22.45%	2,520.09		560.66	562.37	0.31%	562.37
PENNINGTON	518.82	669.72	29.09%	596.64		122.99	126.00	2.44%	126.00
PERKINS	364.78	687.14	88.37%	455.97		139.52	138.88	-0.46%	138.88
POTTER	1,104.94	1,568.35	41.94%	1,325.93		279.90	288.70	3.14%	288.70
ROBERTS	1,563.80	1,862.94	19.13%	1,798.37		358.03	362.54	1.26%	362.54
SANBORN	1,364.83	1,563.15	14.53%	1,563.15		483.38	490.47	1.47%	490.47
SHANNON	375.25	635.12	69.25%	469.06		82.64	81.57	-1.30%	81.57
SPINK	1,458.37	1,963.58	34.64%	1,750.05		446.04	462.13	3.61%	462.13
STANLEY	554.63	681.23	22.83%	637.82		141.88	143.60	1.21%	143.60
SULLY	1,184.07	1,594.89	34.70%	1,420.88		260.58	277.54	6.51%	277.54
TODD	545.59	792.25	45.21%	654.71		155.62	154.97	-0.41%	154.97
TRIPP	827.00	1,120.19	35.45%	992.40		281.62	286.12	1.60%	286.12
TURNER	1,851.40	2,172.21	17.33%	2,129.11		517.73	523.95	1.20%	523.95
UNION	2,205.75	2,485.92	12.70%	2,485.92		665.62	687.08	3.22%	687.08
WALWORTH	925.06	1,534.63	65.90%	1,156.32		245.77	253.93	3.32%	253.93
YANKTON	1,821.72	2,108.10	15.72%	2,094.98		457.20	466.43	2.02%	466.43
ZIEBACH	421.76	777.21	84.28%	527.20		89.29	89.08	-0.24%	89.08

Blue - limited to 15% increase / decrease in value  
Yellow - limited to 20% increase / decrease in value  
Green - limited to 25% increase / decrease in value

# 2015 Cropland Productivity Valuations

(all figures equalized to 85%)



**BLUE – LIMITED TO 15% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**  
**RED – LIMITED TO 20% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**  
**GREEN – LIMITED TO 25% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**

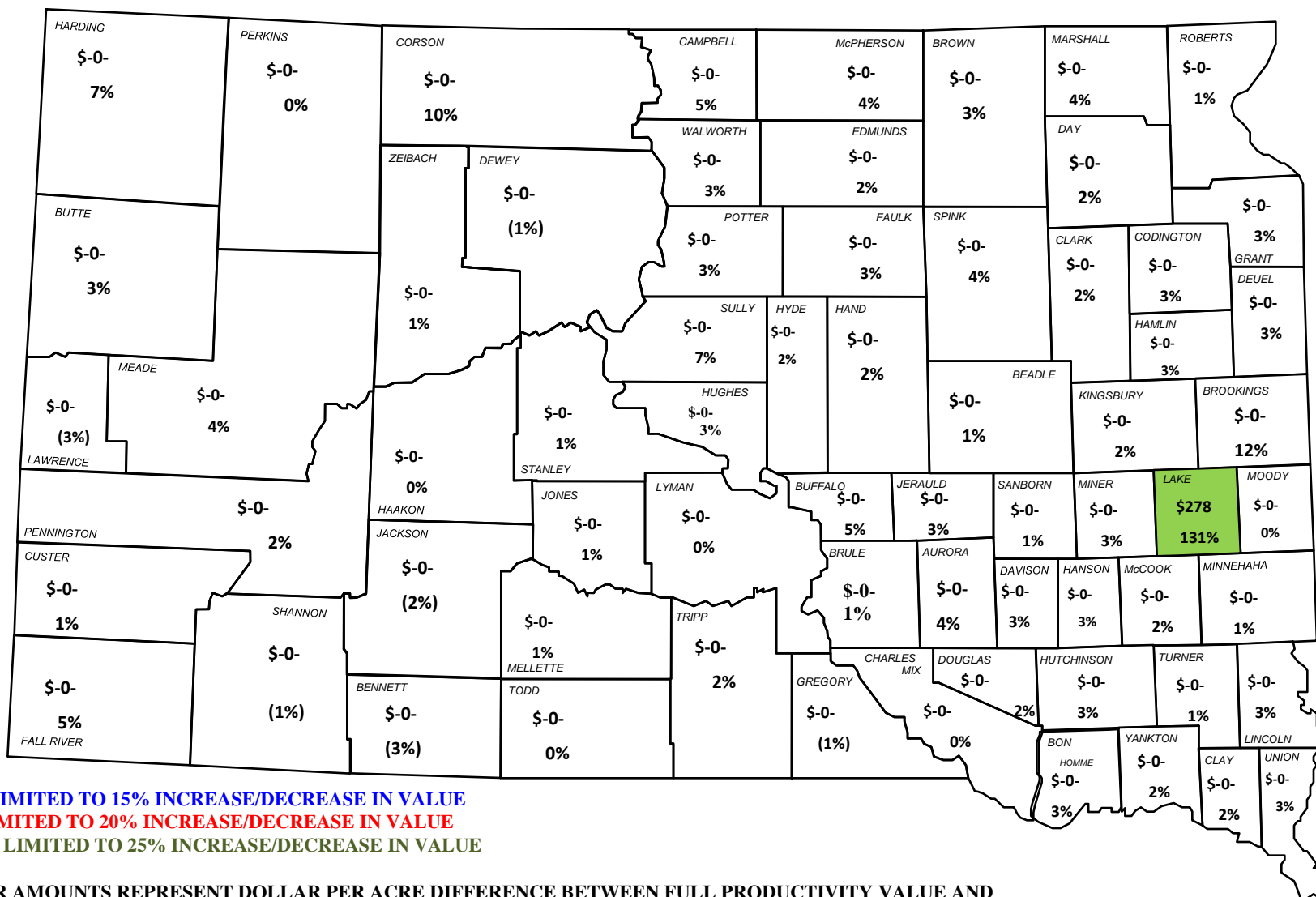
**\*DOLLAR AMOUNTS REPRESENT DOLLAR PER ACRE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FULL PRODUCTIVITY VALUE AND 2015 LIMITED PRODUCTIVITY VALUE.**

**\*\*PERCENTAGES REPRESENT PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2014 LIMITED PRODUCTIVITY VALUE TO 2015 FULL PRODUCTIVITY VALUE.**



# 2015 Noncropland Productivity Valuations

(all figures equalized to 85%)



**BLUE – LIMITED TO 15% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**

**RED – LIMITED TO 20% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**

**GREEN – LIMITED TO 25% INCREASE/DECREASE IN VALUE**

**\*DOLLAR AMOUNTS REPRESENT DOLLAR PER ACRE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FULL PRODUCTIVITY VALUE AND 2015 LIMITED PRODUCTIVITY VALUE.**

**\*\*PERCENTAGES REPRESENT PERCENT CHANGE FROM 2014 LIMITED PRODUCTIVITY VALUE TO 2015 FULL PRODUCTIVITY VALUE.**

# 2013 Ag Land Median Sales Ratios

COUNTY	Median Ratio	# of Sales	COUNTY	Median Ratio	# of Sales
AURORA	28.60	6	HYDE	40.80	9
BEADLE	33.60	18	JACKSON	64.60	3
BENNETT	39.80	12	JERAULD	33.90	5
BON HOMME	27.70	13	JONES	38.90	12
BROOKINGS	27.20	11	KINGSBURY	24.70	15
BROWN	20.90	11	LAKE	22.10	11
BRULE	27.20	25	LAWRENCE	5.80	7
BUFFALO	34.10	3	LINCOLN	25.40	32
BUTTE	17.60	15	LYMAN	37.50	9
CAMPBELL	27.60	7	MARSHALL	25.20	16
CHARLES MIX	45.50	15	MC COOK	35.30	5
CLARK	24.70	13	MC PHERSON	39.20	9
CLAY	27.50	46	MEADE	25.10	34
CODINGTON	33.00	18	MELLETTE	35.20	4
CORSON	32.80	17	MINER	37.40	18
CUSTER	10.80	11	MINNEHAHA	25.40	24
DAVISON	35.30	6	MOODY	21.90	21
DAY	33.20	8	PENNINGTON	24.50	16
DEUEL	30.60	17	PERKINS	40.20	14
DEWEY	20.40	2	POTTER	21.90	3
DOUGLAS	28.40	6	ROBERTS	17.90	15
EDMUNDS	25.10	13	SANBORN	42.20	11
FALL RIVER	28.00	11	SHANNON	27.00	3
FAULK	53.70	6	SPINK	31.40	35
GRANT	25.00	21	STANLEY	33.60	20
GREGORY	37.10	22	SULLY	27.30	14
HAAKON	42.40	3	TODD	12.60	1
HAMLIN	29.30	9	TRIPP	39.30	17
HAND	38.10	9	TURNER	28.50	27
HANSON	25.10	8	UNION	31.30	13
HARDING	48.10	2	WALWORTH	32.80	8
HUGHES	34.50	4	YANKTON	31.10	29
HUTCHINSON	33.60	21	ZIEBACH	34.30	4



# 2013 Non-Ag Median Sales Ratios

COUNTY	Median Ratio	# of Sales	COUNTY	Median Ratio	# of Sales
AURORA	110.60	7	HYDE	100.00	7
BEADLE	85.90	202	JACKSON	83.50	9
BENNETT	101.20	9	JERAULD	120.50	17
BON HOMME	100.50	61	JONES	102.20	7
BROOKINGS	90.70	428	KINGSBURY	98.60	38
BROWN	85.50	447	LAKE	84.60	172
BRULE	81.00	40	LAWRENCE	87.20	535
BUFFALO	0.00	0	LINCOLN	91.30	1072
BUTTE	88.20	150	LYMAN	97.50	25
CAMPBELL	93.70	11	MARSHALL	101.80	50
CHARLES MIX	98.80	76	MC COOK	97.80	71
CLARK	101.60	31	MC PHERSON	103.30	35
CLAY	86.10	171	MEADE	89.00	438
CODINGTON	88.10	411	MELLETTTE	101.10	4
CORSON	95.00	13	MINER	143.00	19
CUSTER	92.20	163	MINNEHAHA	91.10	3222
DAVISON	91.50	269	MOODY	95.30	51
DAY	93.20	46	PENNINGTON	94.80	2036
DEUEL	88.80	45	PERKINS	95.80	17
DEWEY	100.00	6	POTTER	88.30	20
DOUGLAS	86.00	16	ROBERTS	86.70	55
EDMUNDS	105.60	70	SANBORN	99.20	13
FALL RIVER	99.20	110	SHANNON	0.00	0
FAULK	96.90	14	SPINK	100.00	65
GRANT	93.00	67	STANLEY	86.60	31
GREGORY	95.70	28	SULLY	96.20	18
HAAKON	83.00	13	TODD	71.20	4
HAMLIN	95.90	89	TRIPP	95.80	59
HAND	91.30	35	TURNER	95.30	104
HANSON	97.40	29	UNION	94.80	241
HARDING	96.00	2	WALWORTH	92.60	73
HUGHES	90.00	271	YANKTON	87.40	333
HUTCHINSON	93.70	84	ZIEBACH	142.90	1



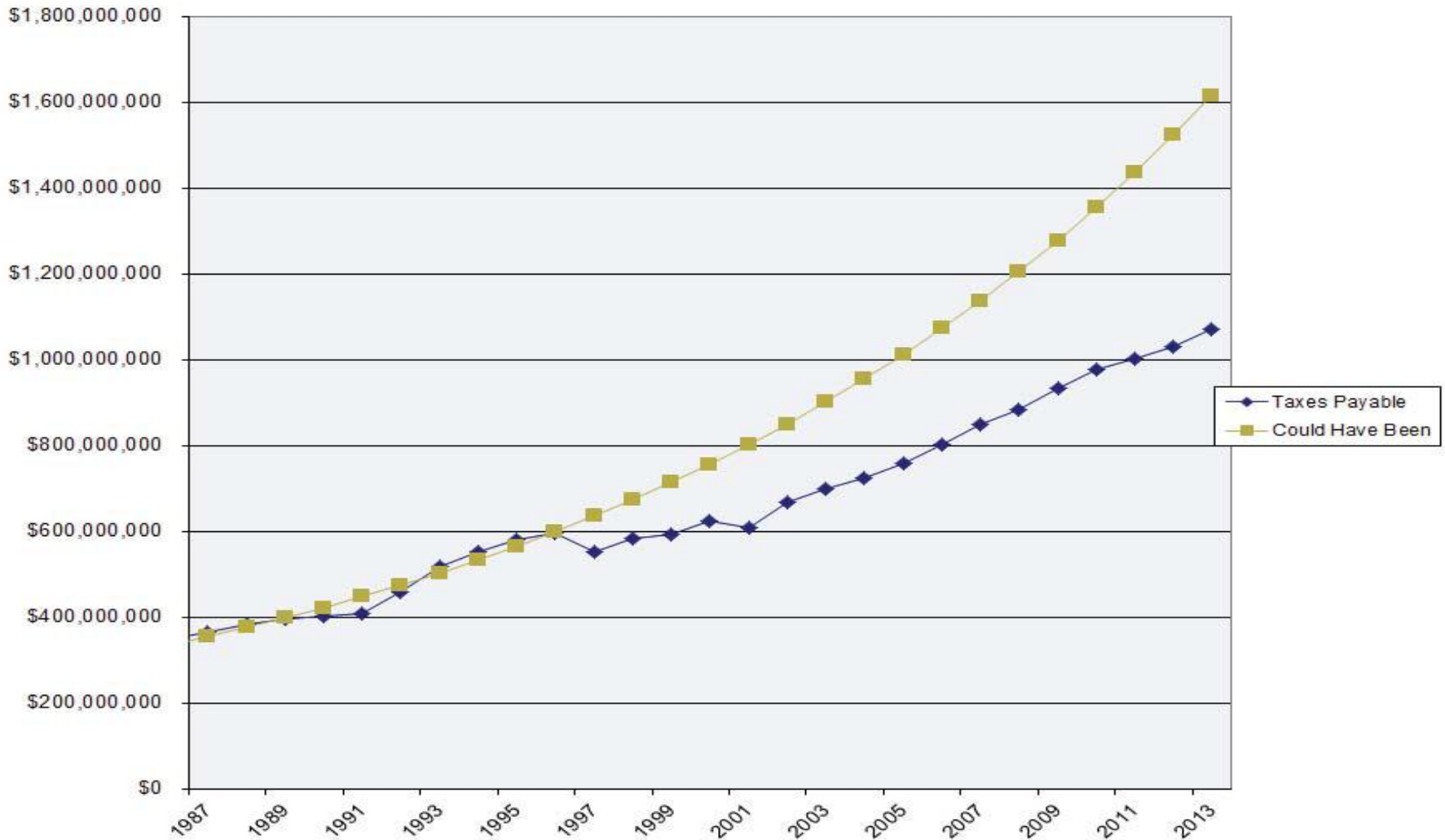
# Property Tax Limitation System

- South Dakota has two independent systems that limit the growth of property taxes.
  - **State aid to education payments** replace property taxes for schools that would otherwise be paid by owners of agricultural property and owner-occupied houses.
  - **Property tax caps** limit the amount of property taxes that local governments can collect from property owners.

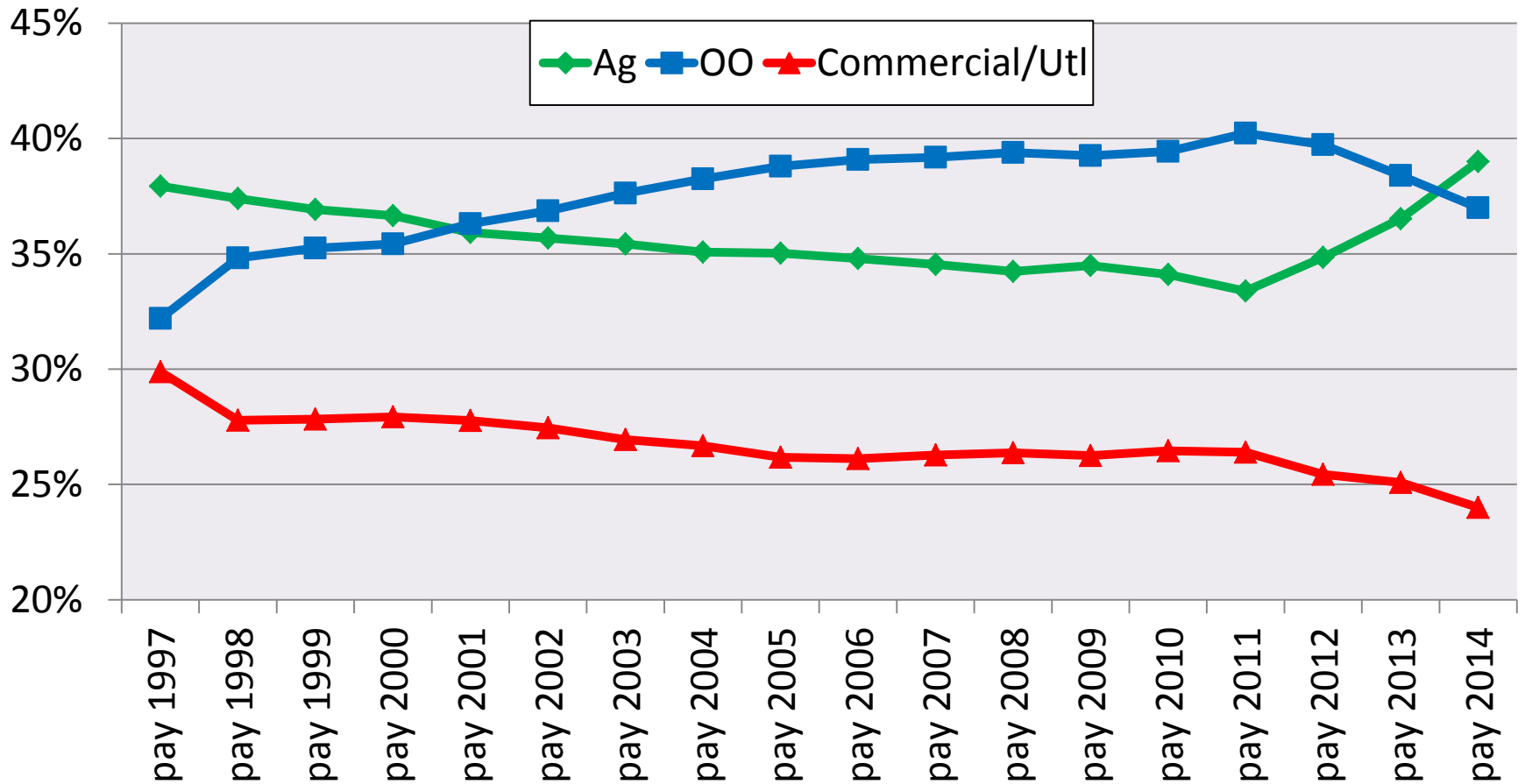
# Property Tax Limitation System

- Property tax caps (continued)
  - Local governments are limited to the amount of property taxes they collected the prior year, PLUS an increase for inflation based upon the consumer price index or 3%, whichever is less, and growth (new construction within the taxing jurisdiction).
    - Example:
      - Municipality has a total property valuation of \$100 million and collected \$300,000 in property taxes by imposing a 3 mill tax levy last year. Current year CPI is 2% and residential development added \$1 million of new value (growth). Values of existing properties increased to \$109 million.
      - Municipality can increase its prior year tax request by 3% (2% for CPI + 1% for growth), or \$9,000, for a total current year request of \$309,000.
      - To prevent going over the cap, the tax rate applied to the \$110 million of property in the municipality (\$109 million of existing value + \$1 million of new growth) would be automatically lowered from 3 mills to 2.81 mills ( $\$309,000 / 110,000,000 \times 1,000 = 2.81$  per thousand)

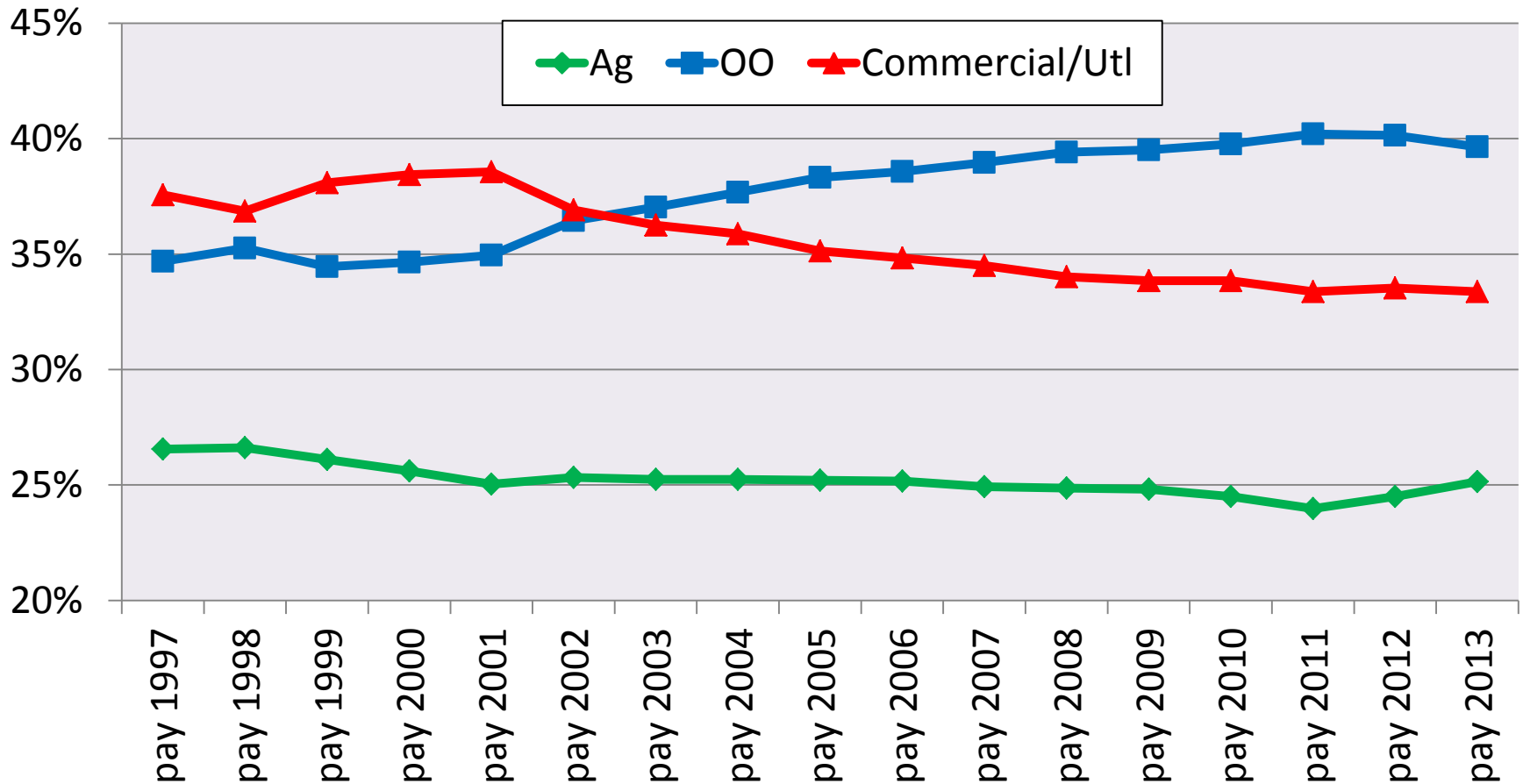
# Projected Historical Growth v. Actual Growth of Property Taxes since the Implementation of the SD Property Tax Limitation System



# Valuation by Class as % of Total



# Who Pays: Property Taxes Paid by Class as % of Total





## Highest and Best Use vs. Actual Use

- The productivity system is based on the capacity of the soil to produce agricultural products. How a specific parcel of agricultural land is used is irrelevant to the determination of the productivity value of the parcel.
- Current law requires agricultural land to be assessed based on its “highest and best” use. In other words, crop soils are assessed as crop soils and noncrop soils are assessed as noncrop soils, regardless of use.
- Adjustments can be made to account for factors that affect agricultural use (topography, access, climate, etc...)

## Highest and Best Use vs. Actual Use

- Actual use assessment would look to how a specific parcel is currently being used (crop vs. noncrop) and value accordingly, regardless of soil type or capacity to produce ag products.
- Issues:
  - Loss of agricultural land valuation (tax shifts)
  - Conservation easements
  - Equity (tax fairness) amongst similarly situated property owners
  - Implementation (DOE workload; staffing levels; appeals)

## Highest and Best Use vs. Actual Use

- Loss of valuation
  - In 2012, DOR estimated the statewide loss of valuation from a switch to actual use to be \$3.6 billion (11 percent decrease in total valuation; approximately \$36 million in lost/shifted taxes).
  - Caveat: Does not account for noncrop land currently being cropped (data is unavailable).
- Conservation easements
  - FWS easement program: 592,551 crop acres encumbered statewide.
  - Edmunds Co.: loss of \$83 million in valuation
  - Faulk Co.: loss of \$104 million in valuation (1/5<sup>th</sup> of total county ag land valuation)
- Tax Fairness
  - Two identical parcels scenario

## Questions?

Michael Houdyshell

SD Dept. of Revenue

[michael.houdyshell@state.sd.us](mailto:michael.houdyshell@state.sd.us)

605.773.3311