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SECTOR: Specialty Pharmaceuticals

August 12, 2014

The USDA released its monthly WASDE (World Agriculture Supply and Demand Estimates) today. The report supports our belief that livestock expansion for poultry and swine will pick up in 2014 and cattle will pick up in 2015. We believe this would be good for ZTS (BUY, \$32.60) because 62% of its revenues in 2Q14 came from the livestock business. This is also positive for PAHC (BUY, \$18.99) where 100% of its revenues come from livestock animals.

# The key data points that support our positive investment thesis are highlighted below.

- The projected range for the 2014/15 season-average farm price for corn is lowered 10 cents on each end of the range to \$3.55 to \$4.25 per bushel.
- The projected U.S. corn yield increased 2.1% from last month to 167.4 bushels per acre. Corn supplies for 2014/15 are projected at a record 15,243 million bushels with the increase partly offset by a 65 million-bushel reduction in beginning stocks.
- The U.S. season-average soybean price for 2014/15 is forecast at \$9.35 to \$11.35 per bushel, down 15 cents on both ends.
- Soybean production for 2014/15 is forecast at 3,816 million bushels, up 16 million due to a higher yield. Harvested area is forecast at 84.1 million acres, unchanged from July. Soybean yield forecast is a record 45.4 bushels per acre, 0.2 bushels above last month and 2.1 bushels above last year
- The forecast for total meat production in 2014 is raised from last month. Production is raised for beef, pork, and broilers as lower feed prices encourage producers to raise animals to heavier weights.
- For 2015, lower feed costs are expected to lead to higher cattle, hog, and broiler weights, but in the case of beef, reduced feedlot numbers are expected to lead to lower slaughter (points to herd recovery), more than offsetting any gains from carcass weights. Broiler producers are also expected to increase bird numbers more rapidly than previously forecast during 2015 as returns are expected to be more favorable.
- Cattle price forecasts for 2014 and 2015 are raised from last month on the strength of demand and continued tight supplies of fed cattle. The annual price forecast for hogs is unchanged for 2014, but is lowered for 2015 from last month on slightly weaker expected demand. The annual broiler price forecast for 2014 is lowered, but the price for 2015 is unchanged. The turkey price forecast for 2014 is raised based on July price data. The egg price forecasts for both 2014 and 2015 are raised as demand remains strong.

LOUISE CHEN	ANALYST
louise.chen@guggenheimpartners.com	212 381 4195
SWATI KUMAR	ASSOCIATE
swati.kumar@guggenheimpartners.com	212 918 8754
PRANCON FOLICE	10000UATE
BRANDON FOLKES	ASSOCIATE
brandon.folkes@guggenheimpartners.com	212 518 9976

SECTOR: SPECIALTY PHARMACEUTICALS August 12, 2014

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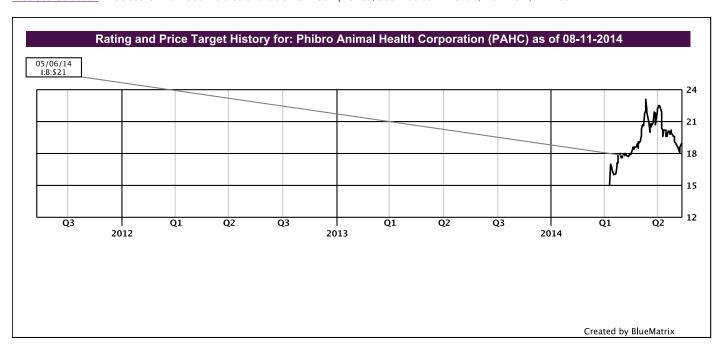
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# **Contact Information**

# NEW YORK SALES & TRADING DESK

212 292 4700

### **EQUITY TRADING DESK**

212 292 4701

#### **MEDIA INQUIRIES**

310 367 6567

#### **EMAIL**

general@guggenheimcm.com

### Locations

#### **NEW YORK**

330 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10017

### WASHINGTON, DC

1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW Suite 450

Washington, DC 20007

#### **BOSTON**

500 Boylston Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02116

#### LOS ANGELES

601 South Figueroa Street Suite 4005

Los Angeles, CA 90017

#### **DALLAS**

1717 McKinney Avenue Suite 870 Dallas, TX 75202

### SAN FRANCISCO

50 California Street Suite 1515

San Francisco, CA 94111

### NASHVILLE

104 Woodmont Blvd Suite 203 Nashville, TN 37205

### RICHMOND

919 East Main Street Suite 1605

Richmond, VA 23219

# Guggenheim Equity Research

# ENERGY: EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION Rob Cordray, Analyst

robert.cordray@guggenheimpartners.com 972 638 5509

# ENERGY: OIL SERVICES & EQUIPMENT Darren Gacicia, Analyst

darren.gacicia@guggenheimpartners.com 212 293 3054

# Michael LaMotte, Analyst

michael.lamotte@guggenheimpartners.com 972 638 5502

# Wilson Waggoner, Associate

wilson.waggoner@guggenheimpartners.com 972 638 5506

# FINANCIAL SERVICES: BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COMPANIES

# Rahul Agarwal, Analyst

rahul.agarwal@guggenheimpartners.com 615 208 1221

# FINANCIAL SERVICES: REGIONAL & COMMUNITY BANKS, CARD NETWORKS

### Taylor Brodarick, Analyst

taylor.brodarick@guggenheimpartners.com 615 208 1222

### **David Darst, Analyst**

david.darst@guggenheimpartners.com 615 208 1224

### Ryan Strain, Associate

ryan.strain@guggenheimpartners.com 615 208 1226

# FINANCIAL SERVICES: INSURANCE

## Bijan Moazami, Analyst

bijan.moazami@guggenheimpartners.com 202 747 9466

### Marshall Coltrain, Associate

marshall.coltrain@guggenheimpartners.com 202 747 9456

# HEALTHCARE: BIOTECH Bret Holley, Analyst

bret.holley@guggenheimpartners.com 212 293 2820

# HEALTHCARE: PHARMACEUTICALS Louise Chen, Analyst

louise.chen@guggenheimpartners.com 212 381 4195

### Swati Kumar, Associate

swati.kumar@guggenheimpartners.com 212 918 8754

#### Brandon Folkes, Associate

brandon.folkes@guggenheimpartners.com 212 518 9976

# RETAIL & CONSUMER John Heinbockel, Analyst

john.heinbockel@guggenheimpartners.com 212 381 4135

### Steven Forbes, Associate

steven.forbes@guggenheimpartners.com 212 381 4188

# TMT: MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT, CABLE & SATELLITE TV

### Michael Morris, Analyst

michael.morris@guggenheimpartners.com 804 253 8025

### **Curry Baker, Associate**

curry.baker@guggenheimpartners.com 804 253 8029