**Iowa Corn Production**

Let’s learn more about corn!

Go to the listed websites and answer the subsequent questions. Completing necessary calculations.

**IOWA FARM FACTS**

**1) Go to** [**https://iowaagliteracy.wordpress.com/2014/11/25/ag101-what-does-iowa-do-with-all-that-corn/**](https://iowaagliteracy.wordpress.com/2014/11/25/ag101-what-does-iowa-do-with-all-that-corn/)

a) What state grows the most corn? What are three reasons it is able to grow so much corn?

Iowa

Long, warm growing season; adequate rainfall and rich, deep soils;, livestock waste to provide nutrients

b) Is this corn the kind you eat off the cob or you pop for popcorn? Explain.

Neither. Field corn is dried in the field and turned into animal feed, human food products, industrial products, or ethanol.

c) Crop yields are measured in bushels. About how many pounds is a bushel of corn? 56

d) A bushel of corn can fit into what common household basket? Small laundry basket

e) How many different products is corn found in? ~4,000

**2) Go to** [**https://www.lhf.org/learning-fields/crops/iowa-farm-facts/**](https://www.lhf.org/learning-fields/crops/iowa-farm-facts/)

a) An acre is about the size of what well-known field? football

2) What is the average size of an Iowa farm? 345

3) If the average Iowa farm plants half its acres in corn and half its acres in beans, how many acres of each does it plant? 26,256,347 acres in cropland / 2 = **13,128,173.5**

**CORN**

**3) Go to** [**https://www.lhf.org/learning-fields/crops/corn/**](https://www.lhf.org/learning-fields/crops/corn/)

**Corn Today**

1. How many bushels of corn per acre does the average **Iowa** farm produce today? 183
2. How many total bushels of corn does he produce on all his planted corn ground? 345 acres \* 183 = 63,135 bushels

b) How many bushels of corn per acre does the average **American** farm produce per acre today? 173

c) What is the difference in yield between the average Iowa farm and the average American farm? 183-173= 10

d) How many acres is your yard? (Round to the nearest tenth). Answers may vary. Common response should be less than .25 acres.

e) How many bushels would a field the size of your yard produce if you’re an average **Iowa** farmer? Answers may vary. Common response 183\*.25= 45.75 bushels

f) How many bushels would a field the size of your yard produce if you’re an average **American** farmer? Answers may vary. Common response 173\*.25= 43.25 bushels

**Hydbrid**

g) How many years ago did virtually all Iowa corn planted became hybrid corn? 1942-1933 = 9 years

h) Why did hybrid corn become what is used by all farmers? Improved yield, stands up to machine harvest

**Interesting Facts**

i) How many cans of soda can a bushel of corn sweeten? 400

j) How many cans of soda could a farm the size of your yard sweeten (assume it is in Iowa)? Answers may vary. Common response 400\*.25= 100

k) How many bushels of corn does Iowa livestock consume? 292 million

m) How many kernels of corn are planted per acre? 28,000+

n) How many kernels of corn would is take to plant a field the size of your yard in corn? Answers may vary. Common response 28,000\*.25 = 7,000

**Uses of Corn**

p) List 5 edible and 5 non-edible uses of corn.

 1. cake 1. batteries

 2. cookies 2. blankets

 3. dessert mixes 3. cardboard

 4. baby food 4. chalk

 5. cereals 5. Cleaners/detergents

**MORE ON CORN USES**

**4)** [**https://www.iowacorn.org/corn-uses/**](https://www.iowacorn.org/corn-uses/)

a) What are the for major components of a kernel of corn that can be processed to make many different products? starch, fiber, protein and oil

b) What are the 5 major usages for U.S. Corn and what percent is used for each?

 1) ethanol and fuel – 27% 2) feed – 39% 3) exports – 16%

 4) food & industrial – 9% 5) residual – 9%

c) What does the largest amount of corn get used for? Animal feed

d) Suppose again that you’re an average Iowa farmer, how many bushels of corn get used to produce animal feed? 183 \* 345 \* .39 = 24,622

e) What percent of U.S. corn is used in our country? What percent is exported? 84%, 16%

f) List the animals in order of percent of animal feed produced from corn to feed them from largest to smallest. Beef, dairy, swine, poultry, other