

CORN.
ROOTED IN
HUMAN
HISTORY.

2012 WORLD OF CORN



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2011

THE VALUE OF THE U.S. CORN CROP IS A RECORD \$76.62 BILLION.



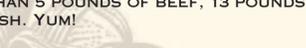
2009

SIX YEARS, SIX RECORD CORN CROPS. IN 2009, FARMERS HAUL AN IMPRESSIVE 13.2 BILLION BUSHELS TO THE ELEVATORS, DESPITE CHALLENGING HARVEST CONDITIONS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

2008

COMBINE HEADERS STRETCH UP TO 40 FEET ACROSS, AND CAN CHEW THROUGH CORNFIELDS WITH DIZZYING SPEED.

CORNY FACT



A BUSHEL OF CORN FED TO LIVESTOCK PRODUCES MORE THAN 5 POUNDS OF BEEF, 13 POUNDS OF PORK, 19 POUNDS OF CHICKEN OR 28 POUNDS OF CATFISH. YUM!

2007

ONE HUNDRED ETHANOL PLANTS OPERATE IN THE UNITED STATES WITH A COMBINED CAPACITY OF 5.4 BILLION GALLONS.

2006

ETHANOL PRODUCTION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR 4.9 BILLION GALLONS OF RENEWABLE FUEL, REDUCING OIL IMPORTS BY 170 MILLION BARRELS AND SAVING \$11 BILLION FROM LEAVING THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY. WALMART BEGINS TO SWITCH PACKAGING FROM PETROLEUM-BASED TO CORN-BASED PLASTIC.

2002

OF 281 MILLION ACRES FARMED, 103 MILLION ARE WORKED USING THE NEW CONSERVATION TILLAGE TECHNIQUES.

1995

AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY IS INTRODUCED, HELPING TO MEET THE GLOBAL NEED FOR FOOD, FUEL AND FEED, AS WELL AS ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.

1993

THE AMAZING MAIZE MAZE IS THE FIRST-EVER CORN MAZE DESIGNED FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT AT LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE IN ANNVILLE, PA.

CORNY FACT

THERE ARE ABOUT 800 KERNELS OF CORN AND 16 ROWS OF KERNELS ON EVERY HEALTHY EAR OF CORN.

1990

THE CLEAN AIR ACT IS AMENDED TO MANDATE USE OF CLEANER-BURNING ADDITIVES TO FUEL, WHICH INCLUDES ETHANOL. ENVIRONMENTALISTS BREATHE EASIER.

1989

THIRTY MILLION ACRES OF HIGHLY ERODIBLE LAND ARE RETIRED FROM PRODUCTION UNDER THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM.

1984

NCGA MOVES ITS HEADQUARTERS TO ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

1980s

IT NOW TAKES 2¼ LABOR HOURS TO PRODUCE 100 BUSHELS ON 1½ ACRES.

1973



THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ISSUES THE FIRST REGULATION TO PHASE OUT LEADED GASOLINE, CREATING AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ETHANOL TO BE USED AS AN OXYGENATE. THE WORLD'S LARGEST EAR OF CORN IS BUILT IN OLIVIA, MINN. IT'S SOON DECLARED THE CORNIEST ATTRACTION EVER.

CORNY FACT

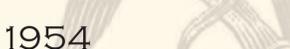
ONE BUSHEL OF CORN CAN SWEETEN MORE THAN 400 CANS OF SODA.

1970

ETHANOL USE DROPS DRAMATICALLY SINCE WWII DUE TO LOW-COST FUEL SUPPLIES.

1966

HIGH-LYSINE CORN IS DEVELOPED, BRED WITH THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING PROTEIN LEVELS IN CORN.



1960s

DURING THIS DECADE, ONE FARMER CAN FEED 26 PEOPLE, UP FROM NINE IN 1930.

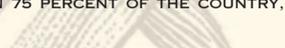
1957

FARMERS FROM NINE STATES FORM THE NATIONAL CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION.

CORNY FACT

CORN GROWS ON EVERY CONTINENT EXCEPT ANTARCTICA. NO SURPRISE THERE.

1954



THE NUMBER OF TRACTORS ON FARMS EXCEEDS THE NUMBER OF HORSES AND MULES.



1940s

TRACTORS REPLACE HORSES, AND THE SECOND AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY REVOLUTION BEGINS. PRODUCTIVITY RISES SHARPLY. THE ARMY BUILDS THE FIRST U.S. ETHANOL PLANT IN OMAHA.

1935



THE NUMBER OF U.S. FARMS PEAKS AT 6.8 MILLION. TODAY, THERE ARE ABOUT TWO MILLION.

1934

THE WORST DROUGHT IN U.S. HISTORY COVERS MORE THAN 75 PERCENT OF THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE GREAT PLAINS.

1930s

IT TAKES 15 TO 20 LABOR HOURS TO PRODUCE 100 BUSHELS OF CORN (ON 2½ ACRES).

CORNY FACT

CORN IS MEASURED BY THE BUSHEL. A BUSHEL IS APPROXIMATELY 56 POUNDS OF CORN KERNELS.

1917

EUROPEAN CORN BORER DISCOVERED NEAR BOSTON! THAT SAME YEAR, A SYSTEM FOR PRODUCING MODERN HYBRID CORN SEED IS DEVELOPED, ELIMINATING THE NEED TO SAVE SEEDS.

1908



HENRY FORD BUILDS HIS FIRST MODEL T, AND DESIGNS IT TO RUN ON PURE CORN ETHANOL.

1892

THE WORLD'S ONLY CORN PALACE IS ESTABLISHED IN MITCHELL, S.D.

CORNY FACT

IN 2011, U.S. FARMERS GREW JUST MORE THAN 91 MILLION ACRES OF CORN. AN ACRE IS APPROXIMATELY THE SIZE OF A FOOTBALL FIELD, WITHOUT THE END ZONES.

1880s

CANDY CORN MAKES ITS DEBUT. THE KERNEL SHAPE IS SO POPULAR, CANDY COMPANIES BEGIN EXPERIMENTING WITH OTHER VEGETABLE-SHAPED TREATS, LIKE TURNIPS.

1857

THE LARGEST USER OF CORN STARCH? THE LAUNDRY INDUSTRY.

1621

PILGRIMS EAT CORN AT THE FIRST THANKSGIVING, AND ARE SHOWN HOW TO PLANT IT USING THE LATEST, CUTTING-EDGE FERTILIZER — A SMALL FISH.

1492

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS MENTIONS CORN IN HIS JOURNAL, SAYING IT WAS "WELL TASTED, BAKED AND DRIED AND MADE INTO FLOUR." HE LATER TAKES CORN BACK WITH HIM TO SPAIN, WHERE IT IS "WELL SPREAD THROUGHOUT EUROPE."

THE BEGINNING

IT ALL STARTED WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE EARLY AMERICAS DOMESTICATING A PLANT WITH A TALL, LEAFY STALK AND HARVESTING THE SEED KERNELS THAT GREW FROM IT. CORN HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE THEN, AND IS NOW THE MOST WIDELY GROWN CROP IN AMERICA, WITH MORE THAN 13 BILLION BUSHELS HARVESTED ANNUALLY. IF THERE'S ONE THING TO TAKE AWAY FROM THE ABOVE TIMELINE, IT'S THIS: CORN IS DEEPLY ROOTED IN HUMAN HISTORY.

