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# Maryland Agriculture

*Full of Food, Farmers & Fun!*

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Crops

E N R I C H M E N T

Maryland Agriculture

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Barley



Blue Crabs



Corn



Soybeans



Wheat



Maryland

# Barley

The U.S. harvests around **170 MILLION bushels** of barley per year on **2.2 MILLION acres** of land.



The U.S. produces mostly **spring** barley.

## Ways to Classify Barley:

1. Spring Barley
2. Winter Barley
3. 6-Row Barley
4. 2-Row Barley

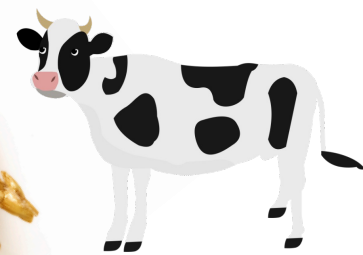
Barley is one of the **oldest** domesticated grain crops.

A **small** percentage of barley is milled into flour.



Barley is a cool-season, annual crop.

Barley is used as a feed grain for livestock.



The head of the plant is called the "**barley spike**" which is made up of 20 - 60 grains.

Barley is a **tall grass** with a stem that reaches between 30 - 35 inches high.

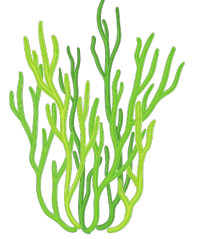


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# Blue Crabs

Half of the U.S. Blue Crab harvest comes from Maryland.

Blue crabs are **“bottom-dwellers”**.



Females have **red** on their front pincers, males do not.

Blue crabs **defend** themselves with these **front pincers!**

Blue crabs weigh **1 - 2** pounds.

The blue crabs shell is called the **“carapace”**.

Their shells can reach up to **9 inches** wide.



Blue Crabs **hibernate** through the winter months.

Mature female blue crabs are called **“Sooks”** and males are called **“Jimmies”**.

Very closely related to lobsters and shrimp.

Males tend to prefer **fresh water** over salt water.



**“Swimmerettes”**  
Blue crabs have adapted over time to have their hind legs function like paddles to help them swim.

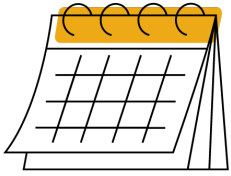




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# Corn

The U.S. is the **LARGEST** producer, consumer & exporter of corn in the world.



**90 MILLION acres** of corn is harvested each year in the U.S.

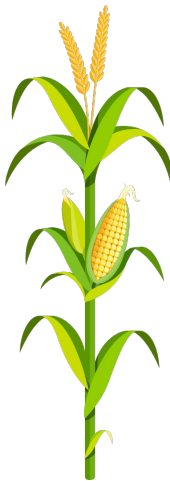
Corn is America's **number 1** field crop.

An ear of corn **ALWAYS** has an even number of rows.

Corn is considered a **vegetable, fruit** AND a **grain!**

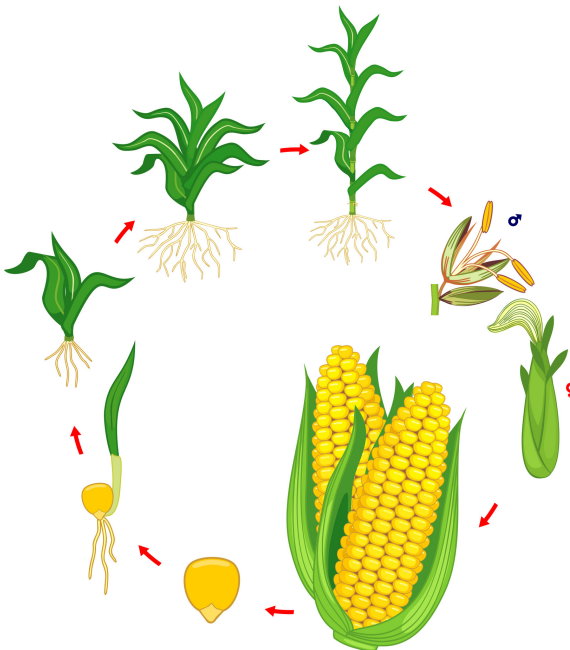


There are around **800** kernels on each ear of corn.



Most countries outside of the United States call corn "**maize**".

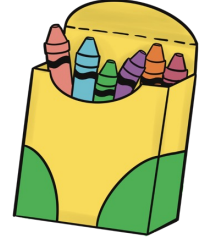
Most of the corn grown in the U.S. is grown in what is called the "**corn belt**" located in the Midwest.



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The U.S. produces around **4 BILLION bushels** of soybeans each year.

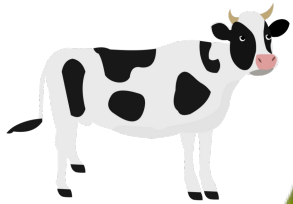


**75 MILLION** acres of farmland are used for growing soybeans in the U.S.

One acre of soybeans can produce **82,368** crayons!

Soybeans are a part of the **legume** family.

Soybeans were first grown in the U.S. for cattle feed.



The U.S. is the **leading** country in soybean production.

Soybean pods usually contains **3 seeds** each.

Each soybean plant produces around **100** pods.



Soybean plants average **3 - 5 feet** tall.



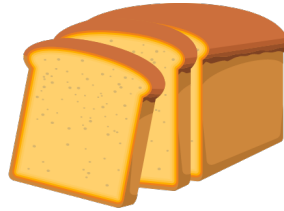
# Wheat

The U.S. produces around **1.65 BILLION** bushels of wheat each year.

**1** bushel of wheat contains around **100,000,000** individual kernels.

## 6 Classes of Wheat Grown in the U.S.

1. Hard Red Winter
2. Hard Red Spring
3. Soft Red Winter
4. Soft White
5. Durum



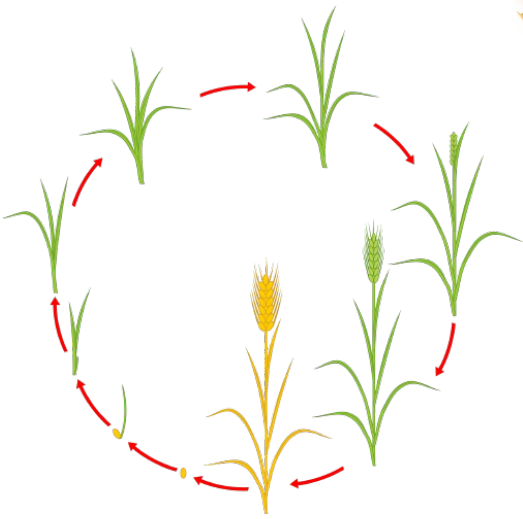
1 bushel of wheat can produce **90 loaves of bread.**

**Hard Red Winter** wheat is used mostly for making **breads.**

1 acre = **40** bushels of wheat.

The average wheat crop grows to be between **2 & 4** feet tall.

Wheat grows best in **warm** weather.



Wheat is the **MOST** harvested crop in the world.

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