

LEARN⁺™
more

Wisconsin Agriculture

Full of Food, Farmers & Fun!



15
Crops

Wisconsin Agriculture

LEARN More



Barley



Cabbage



Carrots



Cheese



Corn



Cranberries



Cucumbers



Green Beans



Milk



Oats



Peas



Potatoes



Soybeans



Sweet Corn



Wheat

Wisconsin

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

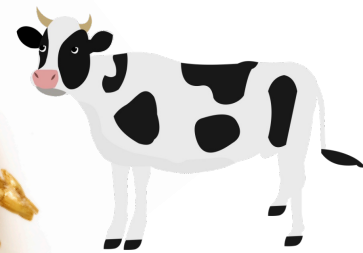
Barley is one of the **oldest** domesticated grain crops.

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.



Wisconsin

Cabbage

The U.S. harvests **58,000+** acres of cabbage each year.

Cabbage grows best with a lot of **sunlight**.



Cabbage is a “**cold-weather veggie**”.

Cabbage is one of the **OLDEST** vegetables in existence...has been harvested for over **6,000** years!

Peak season is from **November** to **April**.

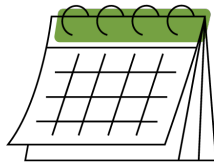
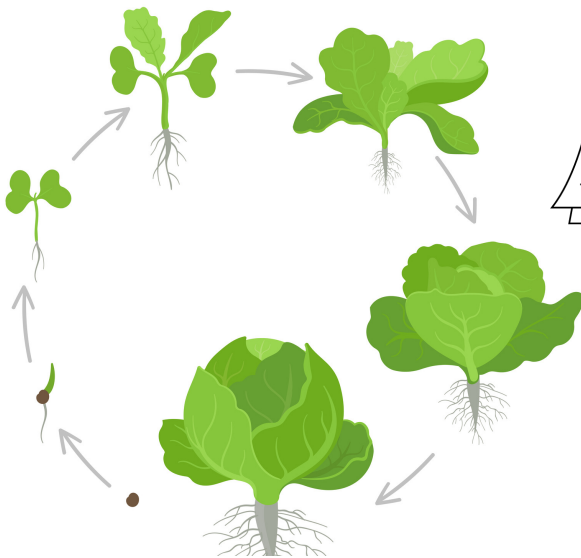


Types of Cabbage:

1. Early
2. Late

An average cabbage plant is **4 - 6 feet** tall.

Early cabbage takes **45 days** to mature, and late cabbage takes **87 days**.



The most **popular** varieties of cabbage:

1. **Green Cabbage**
2. **Red Cabbage**
3. **Savoy Cabbage**

Wisconsin

Carrots

Wisconsin is home to **3,400 acres** of carrots.

The U.S. produces **3+ BILLION pounds** of carrots each year.



Carrots are **88%** water.

Carrots are the **second most popular** vegetable in the world.



2,000 carrot seeds fit in **1 teaspoon**.

Carrots take **4 months** to complete growing.

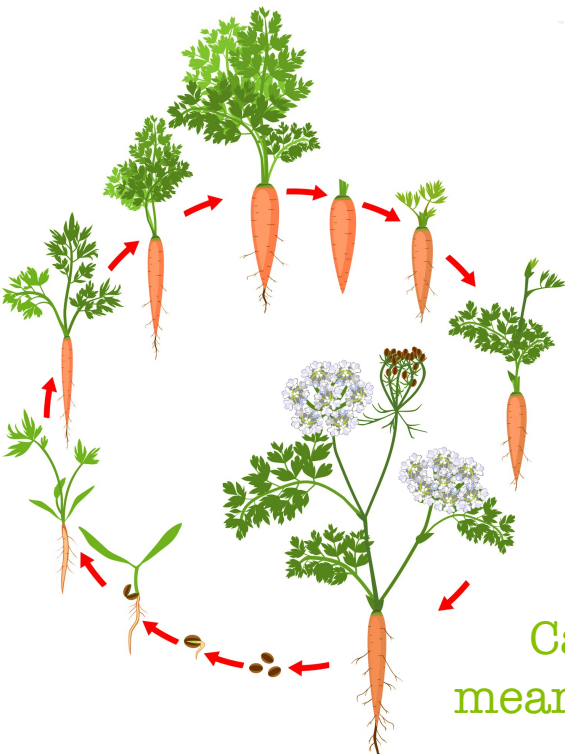
Carrots thrive in overall **cooler** temperatures.

Carrots can survive entire **WINTERS** underground!



The world record for the longest carrot is over **19 feet!**

Carrots are **biennials**, which means they have a 2-year life cycle.



Wisconsin

Cheese

Wisconsin is the **#1 state in cheese production** – making 26% of U.S cheese.



The United States is the **#1 cheese producing country** in the world.

Wisconsin produces A LOT of cheese each year...around **2 BILLION** pounds!

Cheese is made by **curdling** milk.



Mozzarella is the MOST popular type of cheese worldwide.



On average a dairy cow will eat **90 pounds** of feed per day and enough water to fill a **bathtub!**

6 Major Breeds of Dairy Cattle:

1. Ayrshire
2. Brown Swiss
3. Guernsey
4. Holstein
5. Jersey
6. Milking Shorthorn

1.25 gallons of milk makes **1 pound** of cheese.



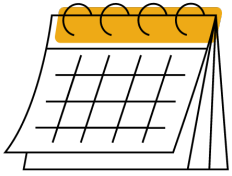
Dairy cows produce **5 - 6 gallons** of milk per day.



Wisconsin

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.

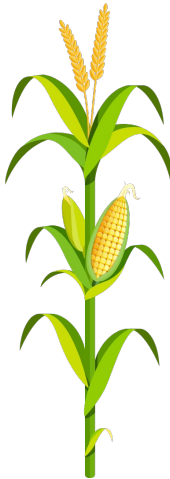
Corn is America's **number 1** field crop.

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

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

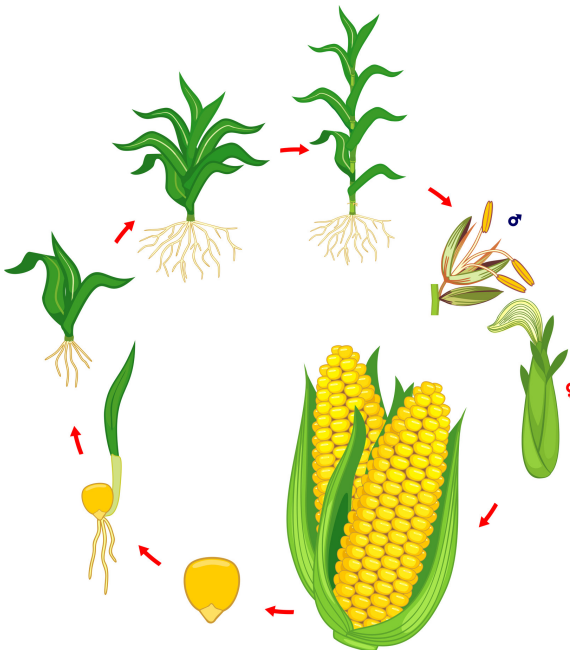


There are around **800** kernels on each ear of corn.



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.



Wisconsin

Cranberries

Around **4.8 MILLION** barrels of cranberries are produced in Wisconsin each year.

Cranberries are commercially grown in man-made **wetlands** or **bogs**.



Wisconsin is the **LARGEST** cranberry producing state.

Cranberries are one of the few fruits **native** to North America.

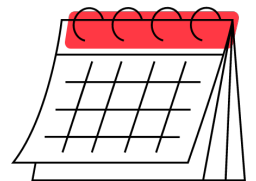
Cranberries are **90%** water.



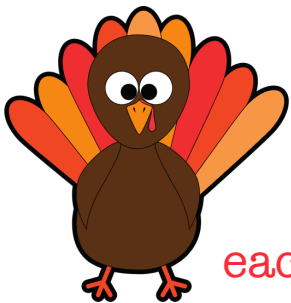
Cranberries have small air pockets that allow them to float.

5% of cranberries produced are sold fresh. The rest are turned into **juice**.

Cranberries are typically in season from **October** to **November**.



20% of total cranberries consumed in the U.S. each year, are consumed the week of **Thanksgiving**.



Cucumbers

Wisconsin is home to **6,700 acres** of cucumbers.

In total, the U.S. produces over **1 BILLION pounds** of cucumbers each year.

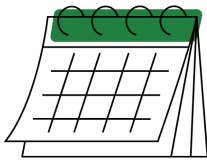
Cucumbers can be grown without the use of soil – this is called **hydroponics**.

Cucumbers are **90%** water.

Cucumbers take **12 weeks** to produce fruit after being planted.



60 million tons grown worldwide each year.



They are a **fruit!**

Cucumbers can grow up to **2 feet** long!



The large leaves on the cucumber plant provides **shade** for the developing fruit.



Bees are **essential** for the pollination of cucumbers.



Wisconsin

Green Beans

Wisconsin is home to over **26,000 acres** of green beans.

Bush & pole are the 2 main types of green beans.



Try growing green beans in your garden!

Green beans are the **3rd most** home-grown vegetable.

The U.S. produces over **1.5 BILLION pounds** of green beans each year.

130+ varieties of green beans.

Green beans are also known as “**string beans**” or “**snap beans**.”



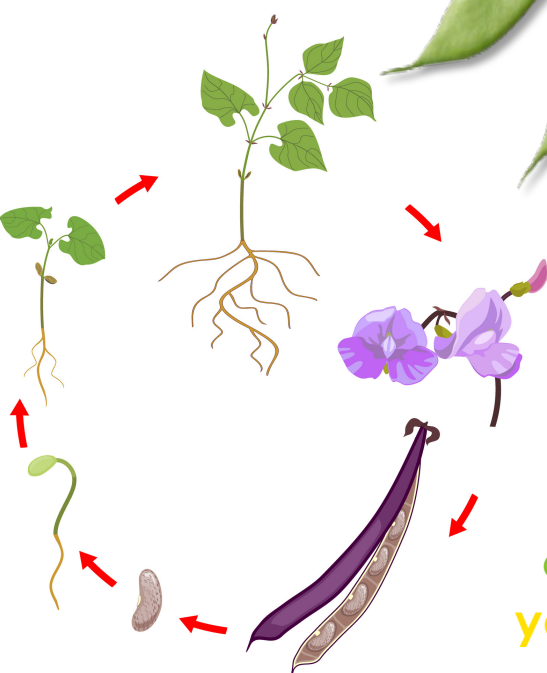
The World's Tallest Bean Plant was over **45 feet tall.**



Equivalent to **3 fully-grown giraffes** stacked on top of one another.



String beans can be **green, yellow** or **purple!**



Wisconsin

Milk

Wisconsin is home
1,270,000 dairy cows.

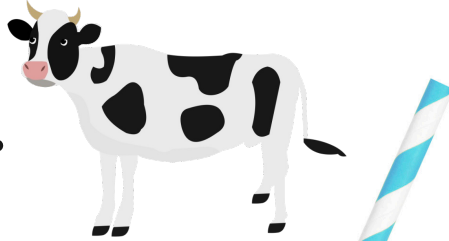
31.8 BILLION pounds
of milk is produced in
Wisconsin each year.



Nearly **98%** of U.S. dairy farms are family owned & operated.

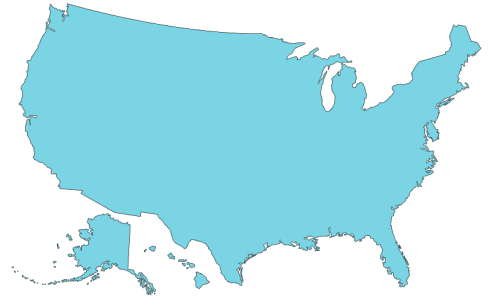
6

Breeds of
Dairy Cows:



1. Ayrshire
2. Brown Swiss
3. Guernsey
4. Holstein
5. Jersey
6. Milking Shorthorn

ALL 50
states have
dairy farms!



Holstein cows
all have a **unique**
pattern of spots!

1 cow produces around
6 gallons of milk per day.

The reason milk is
white is because it
contains "**casein**"
- a type of protein.

Farmers
measure milk
in **pounds**.

Milk is the source of
ALL dairy products!

The U.S. produces
~**21 BILLION** gallons
of milk each year.



Oats

The U.S. produces around **57 MILLION bushels** of oats each year.

Oats have been cultivated for **thousands** of years.

2 Kinds of Oats:

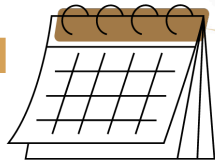
1. Husked
2. Naked

More than half of the world's oats are grown in the U.S. & Canada.

Oats are a **cool season** crop.

Oats are **planted** during the summer and early fall.

January is National Oatmeal Month!



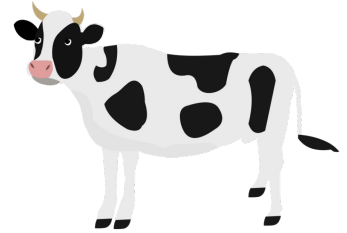
Oats are commonly rolled and made into **oatmeal**.

Farmers use a "**combine harvester**" to harvest the oats.



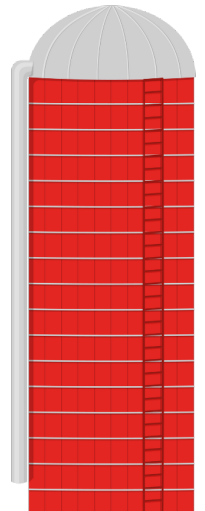
Oats are also used to make flour and alternative milk.

Farmers use oat straw as **bedding** for cattle & horses.



95% of oats grown in the U.S. are used for livestock feed.

Oats are stored in **silos**.



Wisconsin

Peas

The U.S. produces **450+ MILLION pounds** of peas each year.

Throughout the U.S. there are about **893,000 acres** of peas.

3 Main Types of Peas:

1. English Pea
2. Snow Pea
3. Sugar Snap Pea

Peas make a great snack!



Pea pods grow to be around **4 inches** long.

The average pea weighs **0.1 - 0.3 grams!**



When a pea pod is **ripe**, the pod will split in half.

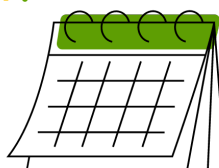


Peas are **cool-weather** crops that cannot tolerate the heat.

There are **5 - 10** peas in each pod.

A fully mature pea is **yellow**.

Harvesting takes place **60 - 70 days** after planting.



Wisconsin

Potatoes

Approximately **1 MILLION acres** of potatoes are harvested each year in the U.S.



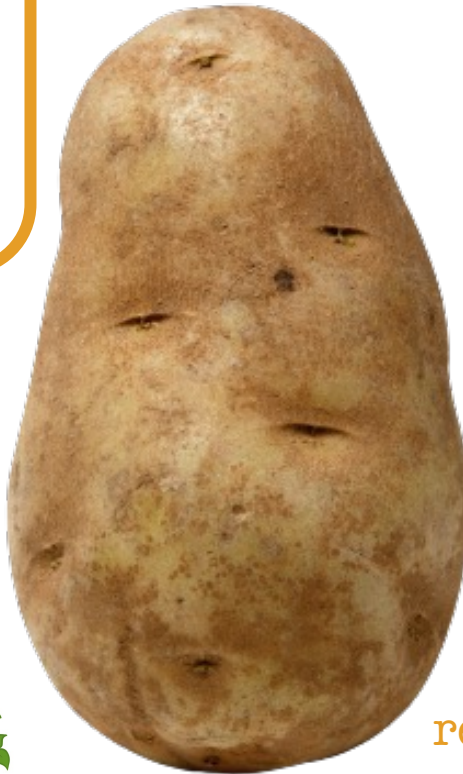
U.S. farmers produce around **4.5 million pounds** of potatoes every hour.



In 1995, potatoes became the first vegetable grown in **space!**



Potatoes are the **second** most consumed food in the U.S. after dairy products.



AUGUST 13

National Potato Day

Potatoes are also referred to as **“spuds”**.

35% of potatoes are turned into French fries.



Potatoes are grown **underground.**

Potatoes are an **annual** plant.

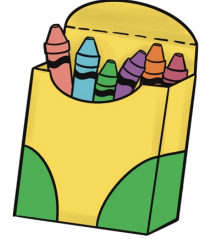


Potatoes are a part of the **nightshade** family.

Wisconsin

Soybeans

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

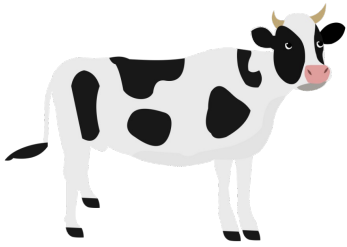


75 MILLION

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**.



“Miracle Bean”



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.



Wisconsin

Sweet Corn

Only 1% of all corn grown in the U.S. is sweet corn.

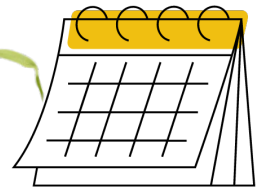
The U.S. is home to around **340,000 acres** of sweet corn.

All 50 states grow sweet corn – find some at your local farmer's market!

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

In many other countries, corn is called "**maize.**"

Only 1% of the corn grown in the U.S. is sweet corn.



Sweet corn is in *peak* season from **May - Sept.**

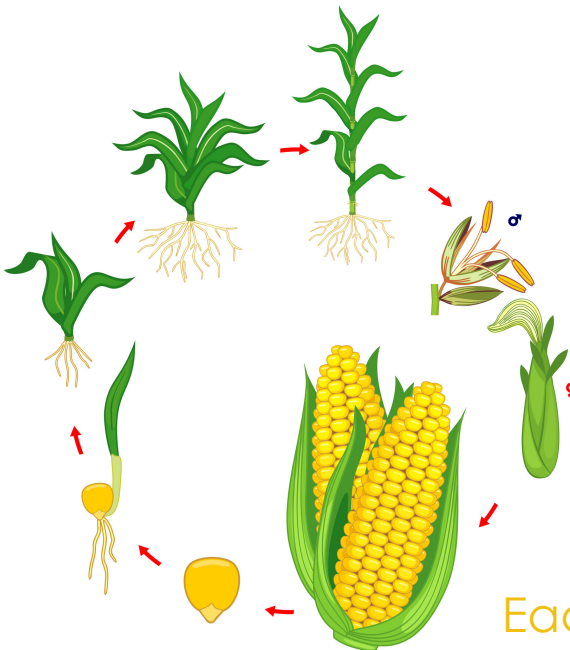


Around **800** kernels on each ear of corn.

Sweet corn is pollinated by the **wind.**

Sweet corn is the **ONLY** corn grown for **human** consumption.

Corn is considered a **grain, fruit & vegetable.**



Each stalk produces **1 - 3** ears of corn.

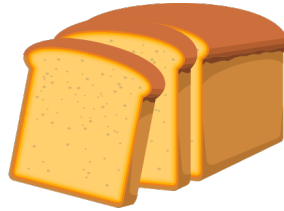
Wheat

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



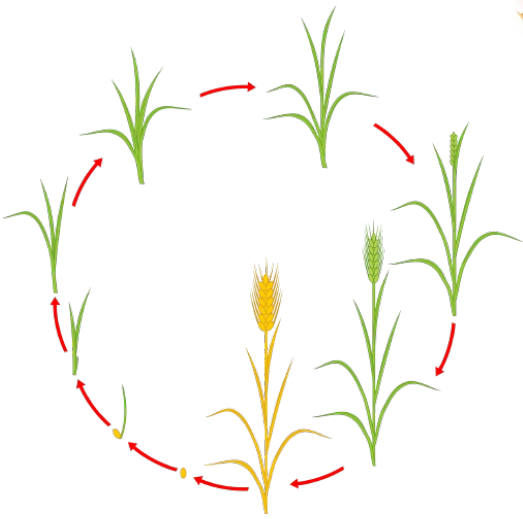
1 bushel of wheat can produce **90 loaves of bread.**

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.

Learn More Library

