

CAN YOU SPOT ILL! AG AROUND YOU?

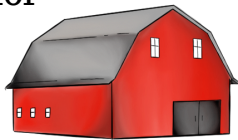
Illinois agriculture is very diverse. But what are farmers growing and raising and what are these products used for? Keep reading to learn more about Illinois livestock, commodities, environment, and products and think about why each of these items are important to you and those around you.



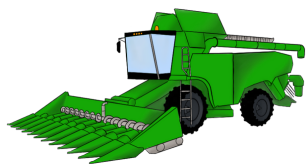
GENERAL AGRICULTURE

Every career in the world of agriculture uses tools, machines, buildings, technology, and more in order to get the job done! Here are a few that you might recognize!

Barns are used for storing tools, machines, or products or used as shelter for livestock.



Tractors are used to pull different implements for plowing, planting, mowing, and more.



Combines do the work of reaping, threshing, and winnowing all with just one machine.

A hand trowel is used to dig small holes or transfer dirt in pots. You may have used this in your garden!



A semi is a vehicle that transports many different types of products from place to place.



A pitchfork is used to lift and throw loose materials like hay, straw, leaves, or manure.



A silo stores bulk product like grains, seeds, or feed silage.

ENVIRONMENT

The relationships within ecosystems are very complex and important! From the sun up above to the worms below our feet, we rely on the health of our ecosystem to grow healthy food for our families.



Earth is our home and is made up of 75% water and 25% land. It provides us with the resources we need to survive.

The monarch butterfly, a well known pollinator, is the Illinois State Butterfly!

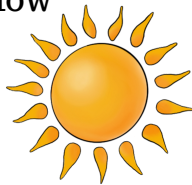


Water, both saltwater and freshwater, makes up 75% of Earth's surface.



A caterpillar is one part of the butterfly lifecycle. All plants and animals go through different stages as they grow and reproduce.

The sun provides warmth and light and also powers the flow of energy through the ecosystem.



A bee is another popular pollinator. There are 400-500 native species of bees in Illinois!



Trees turn Carbon Dioxide into Oxygen that we need to breath! They also provide habitats and shade for many animals.

Earthworms help decompose organic matter, aerate the soil, and can even turn food scraps into healthy soil!



Flowers provide food for many insects, birds, and small mammals.



The Recycle symbol represents materials that can be re-used in efforts to eliminate waste and pollution.



Cowbells are traditionally used for farmers to hear their herd when they are grazing.

Abraham Lincoln is famous for many reasons. In 1862, he signed legislation to create the U.S. Department of Agriculture.



Silverware are tools used to help eat our food.



COMMODITIES

Illinois farmers grow a lot of different crops at a large scale that not only feed families in Illinois, but also families all over the world.



Illinois grows over 10 millions acres of soybeans every year!

Illinois is #1 in horseradish production!
Horseradish is the root of the plant.



Most corn you see growing is field corn, but there is also sweet corn and popcorn!

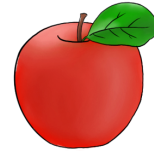


Morton, Illinois grows so many pumpkins, they're considered the "Pumpkin Capital of the World!"

Not all of Illinois has the correct climate to grow cotton, but some farmers in Southern Illinois near the Mississippi River are able to do so.



The GoldRush apple is the official Illinois State Fruit.

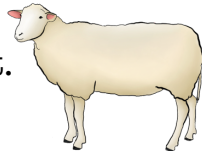


The type of wheat grown in Illinois is called soft red winter wheat.

LIVESTOCK

Many crops grown in Illinois are raised to feed to livestock. These animals are raised for food, fiber, and many other products we use every single day.

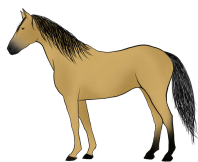
Sheep are raised for their wool and their meat.



Turkeys are raised for their meat.

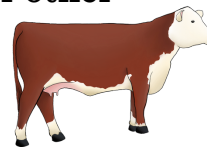


Roosters are raised to fertilize the eggs that will be raised as hens.



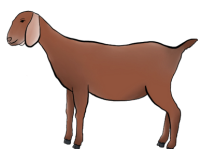
Horses are raised for their role recreational activities.

Beef Cattle are raised for their meat, called beef. Like pigs, other parts of them are used for other common products.

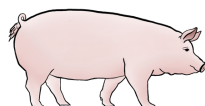


Hens are raised for their eggs and meat.

Dairy Cows are raised for their milk.



Goats are raised for their meat and milk.



Pigs are raised for their meat, called pork. Many other parts are also used for various common products.

PRODUCTS & BY-PRODUCTS

A product is the planned product as the end result of growing crops or raising livestock. A by-product is a second product made by other parts of those crops and livestock.

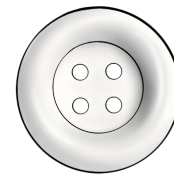
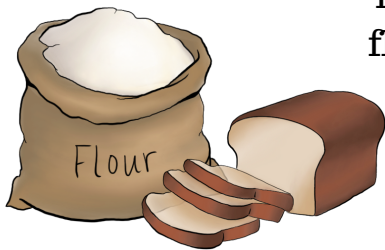


Milk is a product from dairy cows, but other products like cheese and ice cream can be made using the milk!

Fibers, like cotton, wool, or cashmere, are processed and spun into skeins, or yarn balls. Those fibers are then used to make fabric pieces and clothes!



Once wheat is milled, it becomes flour. We use flour to make many other products, like bread.



The bones from pigs and cattle are used to make buttons.

Steak is a product that comes from beef cattle.

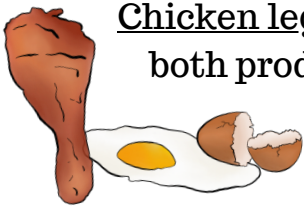


Fatty acids from pigs and cattle are used as ingredients to make cosmetics, like lipstick.



The hide of cattle are used to make footballs.

Chicken legs and eggs are both products that come from chickens.



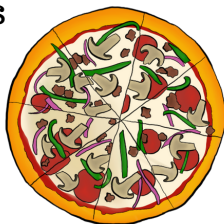
Corn glucose is used as an ingredient in making toothpaste.



The hair from pigs and cattle are used to make paint brushes.



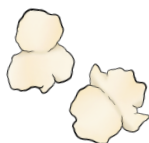
Pizza is a food product that is made with ingredients from many types of crops!



The sweet taste of various sodas are because of the ingredient corn syrup.



Popcorn is a product that comes from a special variety of corn.



The main ingredient of vegetable oil is soybean oil.



Straw is the by-product of wheat and grain plants after they have been harvested. It is commonly used as animal bedding!