



Illinois **A**GRICULTURE in the ClassroomSM

20 - 20
26 - 27

CALENDAR

Photo by Illinois Farm Bureau® photographer: Catrina Rawson



Dairy cows enjoy their daily feed on a farm in Winnebago County.

AUGUST

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 Dairy refers to the food group containing milk and milk products, including ice cream, sour cream, butter, yogurt, cheese, buttermilk, and cream cheese.	4 Milk has every nutrient your body needs to live and is the best recovery drink after a workout.	5 There are 7 common dairy cow breeds in the United States. The most common breed is Holsteins, which are black and white.	6 Female dairy cattle who have not yet had a calf are called heifers. A heifer is called a cow after she gives birth to her first calf.	7 Plastic milk bottles were first introduced in the United States in 1967.	8
9	10 Male dairy cattle are called bulls and do not produce milk.	11 Dairy cows drink 30-50 gallons of water per day. That is about an entire bathtub full of water!	12 The average dairy cow produces 8 gallons of milk per day. That is more than 2,300 gallons, or 19,825 pounds of milk each year.	13 The average American consumes almost 25 gallons of milk a year.	14 The dairy industry contributes over \$600 billion to the U.S. economy each year.	15
16	17 A dairy cow spends 8 hours per day chewing her cud. That's like spending an entire school day chewing!	18 A cow turns grass into milk within 2-3 days of digestion.	19 Dairy cows are social animals, naturally forming herds and making friends.	20 Before modern milking machines, a farmer could milk about 6 cows by hand in one hour. Now, farmers can milk over 100 cows in an hour.	21 People were herding dairy cows over 7,500 years ago!	22
23	24 All female cows must have a calf to produce milk.	25 Home delivery of milk started in 1942 as a war conservation measure.	26 Illinois has about 79,000 dairy cows that produce close to 2 billion pounds of milk a year.	27 The dairy industry supplies jobs to over 11,600 Illinois residents.	28 97% of all U.S. dairy farms are family-owned and operated.	29
	30 Most dairy cows are milked 2-3 times per day.	31				



Horses graze on pasture grass in Stark County.

SEPTEMBER

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Horses are ungulates – mammals with hooves.	2 There are more than 300 different breeds of horses and ponies!	3 Horses belong to the Equus family. The term Equus comes from the ancient Greek word meaning quickness.	4 A male horse is called a stallion, and a female horse is called a mare.	5
6	7 Although most horses are a shade of brown or gray, there are several other varieties of colors including palomino, pinto, bay, and chestnut or sorrel.	8 Horses only breathe through their noses and not through their mouths like humans.	9 The average lifespan of a horse is 20-25 years, although they can live for up to 30 years.	10 Male horses have 40 teeth while females have 36.	11 Modern day equines are classified into four groups based on their size: miniatures, ponies, light weights, and heavy weights, or draft horses.	12
13	14 In Illinois, 645,000 acres of land are used for horse-related purposes.	15 The height of a horse is measured from the ground to their withers, which is the high point between a horse's shoulder blades.	16 A hand is a unit of measurement when measuring the height of a horse. One hand is equal to four inches.	17 Horseback riding is proven to have therapeutic benefits to humans with physical and mental illnesses and aids people with disabilities.	18 Horses' hooves need to be trimmed every 6-8 weeks and are trimmed by professionals called farriers.	19
20	21 Horses are herbivores, which means they only eat vegetation, preferably grass and hay.	22 Horses have lived on Earth for more than 50 million years, evolving from much smaller creatures. They were first domesticated between 4000 and 3000 B.C.	23 Horses and mules were the only means of power on a farm until the tractor was developed in the early 1900s.	24 From 1860-1861 the Pony Express was a fast method for mail delivery. It closed in October 1861 with the development of the transcontinental telegraph.	25 The four natural gaits, or speeds, of a horse are walk, trot, canter, and gallop.	26
27	28 A horse only sleeps for about three hours a day and can sleep both lying down and standing up!	29 A horse can sense a human heartbeat from up to 4 feet away.	30 A horse has larger eyes than any other land animal except the ostrich.			



Wheat is nearly ready for harvest in this field in Mason County.

OCTOBER

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Wheat is a member of the grass family and produces a dry, edible seed known as a kernel.	2 Thousands of varieties of wheat fall into six classes: hard red winter, hard red spring, soft red winter, hard white, soft white, and durum.	3
4	5 Most of the wheat grown in Illinois is soft red winter wheat, which is used to make cereals, cakes, cookies, and pretzels.	6 Because wheat is such a versatile plant, it is being harvested somewhere in the world every month of the year.	7 The starch found in wheat makes it suitable to be used as a versatile adhesive. The sticky stuff on the back of stamps contains wheat!	8 A new variety of wheat can take up to 17 years to develop before it is available for farmers to plant.	9 Wheat helps reduce soil erosion and keeps the ground covered in winter months.	10
11	12 Never refrigerate any bread products as they will become stale 6 times faster. Leave bread and bagels at room temperature or freeze them.	13 Wheat is the most harvested crop in the world.	14 It takes a combine nine seconds to harvest enough wheat to make 70 loaves of bread.	15 A spike is the head of a wheat plant and contains between 50 and 75 kernels.	16 The wheat plant below the spiked head is called straw after harvest.	17
18	19 Depending on the variety of wheat, the kernels can be white, yellow, red, or purple.	20 Nearly 50% of the U.S. wheat crop is sold and exported to about 60 nations around the world.	21 Kansas produces the most wheat of any state, while Illinois ranks 10th in the nation.	22 About 83% of the wheat produced in Illinois is grown in the southern half of the state, where there is a longer growing season.	23 In 2024, Illinois harvested over 58 million bushels of wheat on 700,000 acres.	24
25	26 After harvest, the straw is bundled together by a machinery attachment called a baler. The straw is then used for animal bedding.	27 Cultivated wheat originated in the "cradle of civilization" in the Tigris and Euphrates River Valley, near what is now Iraq.	28 Swiss lake dwellers ground wheat kernels, mixed the flour with water, and baked the first flatbreads as early as 7000-6000 B.C.	29 You could make 5,000 four-inch cookies or fill 53 boxes of cereal with one bushel of wheat!	30 A wheat plant grows to be 2-4 feet tall.	31



Harvested soybeans from this field are stored in grain bins until the farmer is ready to sell them.

NOVEMBER

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 The soybean plant is a type of legume. These bushy, green plants grow 3-5 feet tall.	3 Soybeans are a great source of protein and all nine of the essential amino acids, essential vitamins, and minerals.	4 Soybeans have the ability to fix nitrogen in the soil, which improves soil fertility and reduces the need for chemical fertilizers.	5 The soybean is used for animal and human consumption, as well as consumer and industrial use.	6 The soybean is one of the most versatile seeds grown in the world.	7
8	9 Soybean plants sprout small flowers which, when pollinated, will grow into small pods of soybeans.	10 Soybean oil is the main edible oil used in the United States. Soybeans are the #1 ingredient in vegetable oil.	11 Soybeans can be processed into a fuel called biodiesel, which is the fastest-growing biofuel in the country.	12 In the fall, the soybean plant turns brown and the leaves drop off before they are harvested.	13 Asian countries have been eating soybeans and using by-products from the plant for thousands of years.	14
15	16 Farmers in China began growing soybeans more than 5,000 years ago.	17 Henry Ford experimented with soy-based plastics in the production of his cars. In 1940, he swung an axe at a car trunk to demonstrate the durability of soy plastics.	18 Soy ink is used in over 95 percent of America's daily newspapers that circulate more than fifteen hundred copies per run.	19 In the 1920s, Dr. John Harvey Kellogg developed soy milk and meat substitutes from soybeans.	20 During the Civil War, soybeans were used in place of coffee beans because real coffee was scarce.	21
22	23 More soybeans are grown in the United States than anywhere else in the world. The United States produces 55% of the world's soybeans.	24 Illinois plants enough soybeans to cover nine million football fields!	25 Decatur, Illinois is the Soybean Capital of the World.	26 In 2025, Illinois grew more soybeans than any other state in the country, growing 663 million bushels on 10.3 million acres.	27 After harvest, soybeans are transported by trucks, trains, and barges. Barges are used on rivers, like the Mississippi River, and transport the beans for export.	28
29	30 One acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.					



Illinois farmers raise over 730,000 turkeys per year.

DECEMBER

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 The term poultry refers to chickens, turkeys, ducks, ostriches, emus, quail, pheasants, geese, or pigeons raised for meat or eggs.	2 The house or cage in which a chicken lives is called a "coop."	3 Chickens are omnivores. They eat seeds and insects but will also eat larger prey like small mice and lizards.	4 You can tell if an egg is fresh or stale by dropping it in water. A fresh egg will sink, but a stale one will float.	5
6	7 You can tell what color egg a hen will lay by the color of her earlobes.	8 There are approximately 30 distinct vocalizations chickens use to communicate with each other.	9 If all the chickens on earth were evenly distributed among all the people on earth, each person would have at least 3 chickens.	10 More than 300 breeds of chickens exist, but only a few are used for meat-type production.	11 Most of the time, hens will not try to hatch the eggs they lay. Sometimes, hens will "go broody", which is when they will sit on eggs for 21 days to hatch them!	12
13	14 Female chickens and turkeys are called hens, male chickens are called roosters, and male turkeys are called toms.	15 Turkeys have roamed North and South America for 10 million years.	16 How many feathers does a chicken have? To settle an argument, an Ohio man once took time to count them on one of his chickens. He found 8,325 feathers!	17 In 1620, settlers brought turkeys along on their ships. Although there were wild turkeys in the forests, they wanted domesticated birds for their barnyards.	18 Benjamin Franklin praised turkeys as respectable birds and stated that the turkey was a more noble candidate for the U.S. National Bird.	19
20	21 Illinois has over 5 million chickens that produce nearly 128 million dozen eggs each year.	22 Chicken is the #1 protein consumed in the United States.	23 The top 5 egg producing states are Iowa, Indiana, Ohio, California, and Pennsylvania.	24 The average American eats 91 pounds of chicken and about 250 eggs per year.	25 Chickens are not completely flightless. They can get airborne enough to make it over a fence or into a tree.	26
27	28 One way to determine the sex of a turkey is by the shape of its poop. Hens leave spiral-shaped droppings while toms leave elongated "J"-shaped droppings.	29 Chicken and turkey flocks establish a pecking order, an order of dominance or importance. Those higher on the pecking order get priority to feed and nesting location.	30 If you grasp an egg in the palm of your hand and squeeze evenly around it with your fingers, you will not be able to crack it!	31 For short periods of time, chickens can run up to 9 miles per hour and domestic turkeys can run up to 20 miles per hour!		



Photo by Rhiannon Branch

This beef calf sticks close to its mother in the winter snow.

JANUARY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Cattle are a part of the bovine (Bovidae) family, which also includes sheep, goats, bison, and antelopes.	2
3	4 There are many breeds of cattle. The most popular breed is Angus, which is solid black in color and known for its high quality of meat.	5 Ground beef, roast, sirloin, steaks, ribs, and chuck are different cuts of beef. The names of the meats vary regionally.	6 Beef is a good source of ZIP: zinc, iron, and protein.	7 Helping your body maintain a healthy immune system, convert food into energy, and build muscle are a few benefits of eating beef.	8 Cattle can eat up to 40 pounds of feed a day, which includes grass, hay, corn, and silage.	9
10	11 The gestation (pregnancy) period for cows is 9 months. Depending on the breed, a calf can weigh 60-100 pounds at birth.	12 Cattle are ruminants. They have four-compartment stomachs that help them digest very tough food like grass.	13 The first milk produced from the mother after birth, called colostrum, contains antibodies for the newborn calf.	14 It is vital that newborn calves drink their mother's colostrum as soon as possible because they are born with no protection from germs and diseases.	15 A newborn calf drinks its mother's milk and eats grass for the first six months.	16
17	18 Beef cattle only sleep about 4 hours a day!	19 A 1200-pound beef animal will produce approximately 500 pounds of meat.	20 Cattle were first brought to the western hemisphere in 1493 by Christopher Columbus on his second voyage.	21 Columbus' Spanish cattle were also introduced to Mexico and were the foundation to the breed we now know as Texas Longhorn.	22 Cattle were first domesticated in 6500 B.C.	23
24	25 In 2025, there were close to 1.02 million cattle and calves on Illinois farms.	26 The top 2 leading counties in Illinois for beef production are Adams and JoDaviess.	27 The U.S. supplies 19% of the world's beef with 10% of the world's cattle.	28 Cows can detect odors from up to 6 miles away.	29 You could buy a hamburger for just 5 cents in 1921 and 12 cents in 1950.	30
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Access to fresh, clean water is important for raising healthy and happy pigs.

FEBRUARY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 There are over 180 species of pigs worldwide. The most popular breed of pig in North America is the Yorkshire, which is a white pig with pointy ears.	2 Pork is the food product that comes from pigs. Some examples are bacon, ham, ribs, and pork chops.	3 Pork is packed full of nutrients like iron, thiamin, niacin, zinc, and B-vitamins that all help our bodies function and stay healthy.	4 Americans consume 318 million pounds of ham in the holiday season!	5 A female pig used for breeding is called a sow. Sows are pregnant for about 3 months, 3 weeks, and 3 days.	6
7	8 Insulin and about 40 other medicines are made from pigs.	9 A sow will farrow a litter of baby pigs called piglets. There are usually between 8-12 piglets in a litter.	10 Most sows farrow 2-3 litters of piglets each year.	11 A sow is put in a special area called a farrowing stall that has adjustable rails to separate her from her piglets so they can nurse without getting hurt.	12 At birth, a piglet weighs around 2 ½ pounds. They will weigh about 280 pounds by the time they are four to six months old.	13
14	15 After piglets reach a certain age and weight, they are weaned and moved to the nursery.	16 Pigs start in the nursery weighing around 15 pounds and leave the nursery when they weigh 50-60 pounds.	17 The pig dates back 40 million years. Fossils indicate that wild pig-like animals roamed forests and swamps in Europe and Asia.	18 Pigs were domesticated in China around 4900 B.C. By 1500 B.C., they were being raised in Europe.	19 A pig's squeal can range from 110-115 decibels.	20
21	22 As pigs grow, they can eat up to nine pounds of feed per day.	23 In Illinois, there are around 1,687 pig farms that raise more than 10.5 million pigs.	24 Illinois ranks fourth in pork production in the United States.	25 Illinois pig farmers produce 2.1 billion pounds of pork each year. That's more than 6 billion pork chops!	26 The pork industry supplies around 32,690 jobs in Illinois. This includes pork production, feed and equipment suppliers, transporters, and processors.	27
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This field of pumpkins grows quickly in the heat of summer.

MARCH

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Pumpkins are members of the gourd family, which includes cucumber, honeydew melons, cantaloupe, watermelons, and zucchini.	2 Pumpkins are native to Central America and Mexico but now grow on all continents except Antarctica.	3 The taproot of a pumpkin grows 2-3 feet deep.	4 Most pumpkin varieties are orange in color. The orange color is a clue that they are full of the antioxidant beta-carotene.	5 Depending on the variety, pumpkins can range in size from less than one pound to more than 2,000 pounds!	6
7	8 Pumpkins are classified as a fruit because they are a part of the plant that contains seeds.	9 Pumpkin vines produce edible flowers that need to be pollinated before eventually turning into a pumpkin.	10 Pumpkins are good for your body. The filling is rich in vitamin A and potassium.	11 Most pumpkins are grown for processing into canned pumpkin and canned pie mix.	12 Processing pumpkins are more elongated and have a peach-toned color.	13
14	15 Pumpkins grown to be used as jack-o'-lanterns are much bigger and a darker color than processing pumpkins.	16 Pumpkins grow on vines that can grow up to 30 feet long!	17 Tiny green buds form at the bottom of the blossoms after pollination. Over time, the buds will grow into larger pumpkins.	18 Pumpkins were a staple of Native American diets centuries before the Pilgrims landed.	19 In early colonies, pumpkin shells were used as templates for haircuts to ensure a round and uniform finished cut.	20
21	22 Native Americans taught the Pilgrims their method of planting corn, beans, and pumpkins together, which they called the "Three Sisters."	23 The largest pumpkin pie ever baked weighed 3,699 pounds and was 20 feet in diameter! It took over 1,200 cans of pumpkin to make.	24 The tradition of carving jack-o'-lanterns came from the Irish tradition of carving turnips to scare away the evil ghost "Jack of the Lantern."	25 Morton, Illinois, where 85% of the world's canned pumpkin is processed, is considered the Pumpkin Capital of the World.	26 The Libby's canned pumpkin factory in Morton, Illinois can turn a truckload of pumpkins into processed canned pumpkin in as little as two hours.	27
28	29 In 2023, a Minnesota farmer broke the record for heaviest pumpkin grown in the United States with a pumpkin weighing 2,749 pounds!	30 Each pumpkin contains about 500 seeds.	31 Trevor Hunt holds the world record for most pumpkins carved in an hour. He carved 109 pumpkins, which is just 33 seconds per pumpkin.			



Shoppers search for the perfect plant at this nursery in Bureau County.

APRIL

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Floriculture is a branch of horticulture focused more specifically on the cultivation of flowering and ornamental, or decorative, plants.	2 Floriculture takes place in a variety of settings, from open ground to plastic greenhouses.	3
4	5 Floriculture crops include bedding plants, houseplants, flowering garden plants, and cut greens and flowers.	6 In agriculture, a nursery is a place where young shrubs, trees, and flowers are grown for people to buy and use for landscaping or decorating.	7 Plants develop from a tiny form called an embryo, which is usually contained within a seed.	8 Roots bring nourishment to the plant by absorbing dissolved minerals and water from the soil.	9 Germination is the term used for the stages of a sprouting seed. Seeds require warmth, moisture, and oxygen to grow.	10
11	12 Flowering plants produce offspring through pollination, which is the transfer of pollen from the stamen to the pistil of the flower.	13 Artifacts from 2800-28 B.C. were found in ancient Egyptian tombs and show how flowers were used for personal gifts, decorations, and ceremonial offerings.	14 In 1862, President Lincoln signed a law that established the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) which gave farmers and agricultural communities government recognition.	15 In 2014, Illinois had over 220 farmers participating in floriculture, which ranks IL as one of the 15 major flower producing states.	16 Chrysanthemums, or mums, were first cultivated in China as a flowering herb as far back as the 15th century.	17
18	19 More than \$26 billion is spent each year on floral products!	20 There are more than 83,000 people employed in the floral industry.	21 Prince Nursery was the first nursery in the U.S. and was established in 1737 in Flushing, New York.	22 There are more than 23,000 establishments in the floral industry. These include wholesaler businesses, floriculture growers, and florist establishments.	23 In the mid-1800s, arboreta and botanical gardens started opening across the country, presenting ornamental plants for public viewing.	24
25	26 The poinsettia is the #1 selling potted plant in the U.S.	27 In 1903, Liberty Hyde Bailey founded the American Society of Horticultural Science and worked to remove barriers between botany and horticulture.	28 Photosynthesis takes place in the leaves of plants, which is also where nutrients are stored.	29 Outdoor bedding and garden plants rank the highest in sales among floriculture products.	30 Nurseries provide the turf, shrubs, trees, and flowers people depend on for landscaping yards and parks.	



The delicate blossoms on these trees will soon grow into tasty apples.

MAY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3 The science of growing apples is called "pomology."	4 Apples are a part of the rose family, which also includes plants like pears, plums, almonds, and roses.	5 Apple trees can live for more than 100 years.	6 The oldest producing apple tree on record was 219 years old.	7 Apples will ripen six to ten times faster at room temperature than if they are refrigerated.	8
9	10 Apples have five seed pockets that each contain a seed. When you cut an apple horizontally, you can observe the star-shaped pattern of the seeds.	11 Apples are considered a nutritional powerhouse because they contain a variety of vitamins and nutrients, however most of the nutrients are found in the skin.	12 Apple trees produce blossoms in the spring which will mature into fruit by autumn. They are harvested in the fall by hand picking.	13 After apples are harvested, they are stored in controlled atmospheric storage units that regulate temperature, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and humidity levels.	14 Early each season, apple trees must undergo a "thinning" process where growers remove many of the small fruits to leave about one apple every six inches.	15
16	17 Archeologists have found evidence that humans have enjoyed apples since at least 6500 B.C.	18 The apple tree originated from central Asia, near the Caspian and Black Seas. In 1620, the pilgrims brought apples to the United States.	19 In 1666, Sir Isaac Newton saw an apple fall from a tree. This made him think about gravity and in 1687 he published the Universal Law of Gravity.	20 Apples can be used to make natural dye for fabrics.	21 On August 21, 2007, the GoldRush apple was officially made Illinois' State Fruit. The GoldRush apple is a hybrid sweet-tart yellow apple.	22
23	24 It took scientists 30 years to create the perfect Honeycrisp apple.	25 There are more than 27,000 apple producers in the United States growing apples on 382,000 acres of land.	26 Each year, the United States grows around 11.1 billion pounds of apples, generating \$3.2 billion in revenue.	27 There are over 7,000 varieties of apples grown in the U.S., making us the 3rd largest apple producer worldwide.	28 67% of apples in the United States are grown for fresh consumption, and 30% are processed for juice and apple food products.	29
	30 The average person eats 65 apples per year!	31				



Photo by Illinois Farm Bureau® photographer, Catrina Rawson

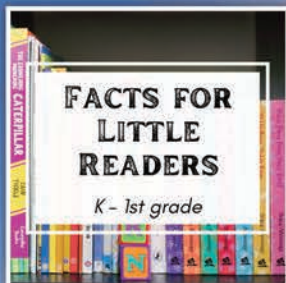
Corn grows quickly in the summer heat.

JUNE/JULY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 The corn plant is made up of stalks, tassels, husks, ears, leaves, roots, and kernels.	2	3 A kernel is the seed of the corn plant. One ear of corn averages 800 kernels.	4	5
6	7 Each corn kernel contains four major components: starch, protein, oil, and fiber.	8	9 Corn is a grain, not a vegetable, and is part of the grass family.	10	11 The most common types are field corn, sweet corn, and popcorn.	12
13	14 Dent corn, or field corn, is higher in starch and lower in sugar than sweet corn.	15	16 Most corn grown in Illinois is field corn, which is used for animal feed, processing, and ethanol production.	17	18 Ethanol is a high-performance, renewable fuel made from locally grown corn.	19
20	21 Native Americans taught the settlers of Jamestown how to grow their own corn.	22	23 Corn can even be used to make biodegradable plastic!	24	25 An acre of corn will give off 4,000 gallons of water per day in the form of evaporation.	26
27	28 Illinois produces enough corn each year to fill a train of box cars stretching more than 7,600 miles.	29	30 Corn cobs always have an even number of rows.			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 The combine machine combines the work of three essential harvesting tools – the reaper, thresher, and winnower.	3
4	5 Each popcorn kernel has a small amount of water trapped inside. When heated, the water expands and pops the kernel.	6	7 For Illinois corn, 48% is exported, 22% is used to make ethanol, 20% is processed, and 4.7% is used for animal feed.	8	9 For early European settlers in North America, corn was so valuable it was used as money and traded for other products.	10
11	12 The world record for the tallest corn stalk is more than 35 feet.	13	14 One bushel of corn weighs 56 pounds and can produce 2.8 gallons of ethanol.	15	16 Field corn plants form brace roots above ground for support and grow to 15 feet tall.	17
18	19 Corn is called maize by most countries, which comes from the Spanish word "maiz."	20	21 Popcorn is the official Illinois State Snack Food.	22	23 One bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of Coca-Cola!	24
25	26 The tassel is the tuft at the top of the corn plant and contains the pollen.	27	28 Over half of all the corn grown in the United States is grown in four states: Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Nebraska.	29	30 Illinois ranks #2 in corn production in the U.S.	31



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