

Nebraska Agriculture Fun Facts



NEBRASKA

Good Life. Great Roots.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

brought to you by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture

What is

Agriculture?

Agriculture feeds, fuels, and clothes the whole world, plus so much more! Almost every product we use comes from a plant or animal by-product that was produced by a farmer or rancher.

Can you find all these products hidden in the picture?



We have all these products because of agriculture!





Where is agriculture in

Nebraska?



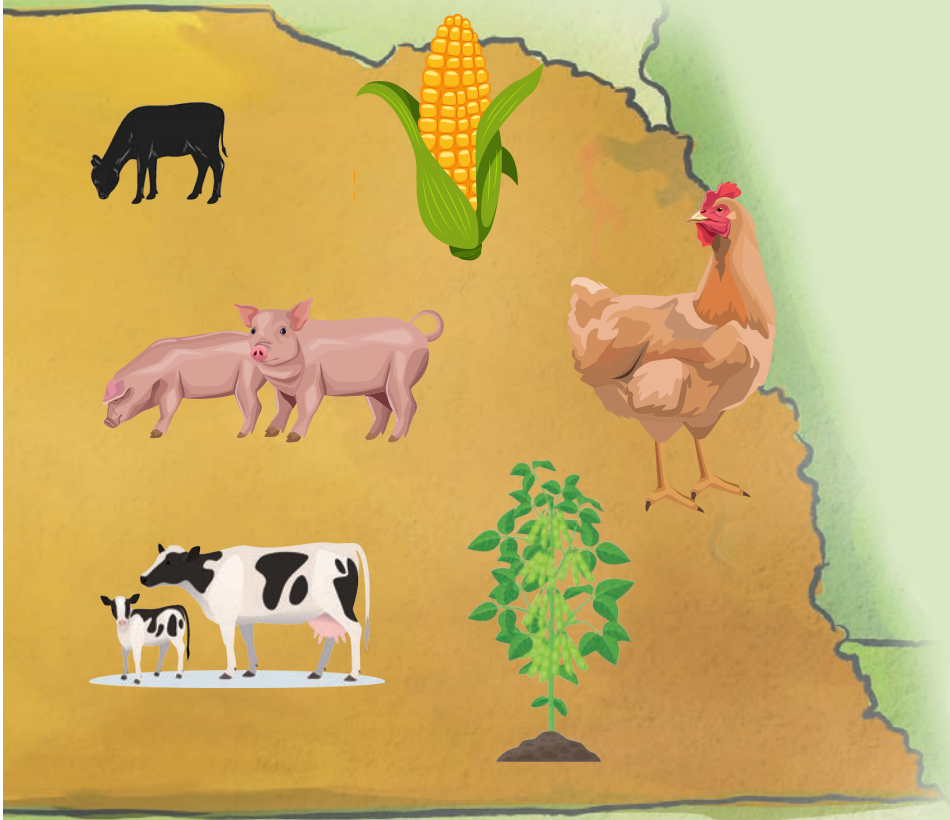
Nebraska ranks nationally!

#1 in commercial cattle slaughter, Great Northern bean production and popcorn production.

#2 in ethanol production, bison, cattle, calves, cattle on feed, and pinto bean production.

#3 in corn for grain production and hay production.

In 2021, there were
44,800 farms and ranches
in Nebraska!



All over!

**Agriculture is the driving force
for Nebraska's economy!**

Did you know there are different kinds of corn?

3 main types of
corn grown in
Nebraska:

Sweet Corn

Do you like corn on the cob? That's sweet corn!

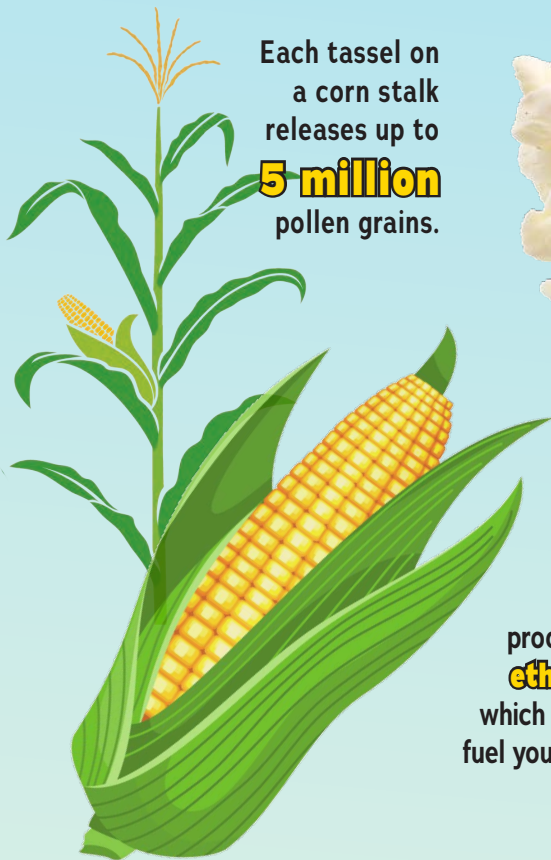
Field Corn

This kind of corn is what you see in most fields!
It is used mainly for animal feed and ethanol.

Popcorn

Nebraska is the #1 producer of popcorn in the U.S.!





Each tassel on a corn stalk releases up to **5 million** pollen grains.



Can you find all **6 kernels** hidden in this book?

Corn produces **ethanol** which helps fuel your car.



Why is it so hard to hear in a cornfield?



Because everything goes in one ear and out the other!



BEEF

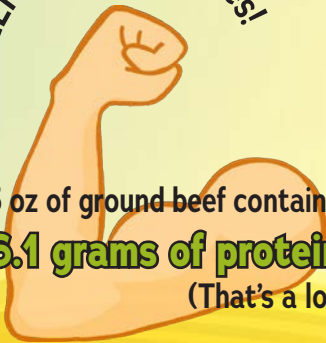


Beef cuts you might eat include hamburger, steak, roasts and brisket.



BUT, we get more than just meat from beef animals.

BEEF builds **big** muscles!



3.5 oz of ground beef contains **26.1 grams of protein.**
(That's a lot!)



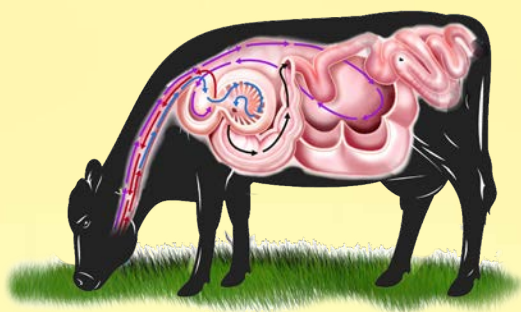
All of these products are **by-products** of beef!

Baby cows are called **calves**.



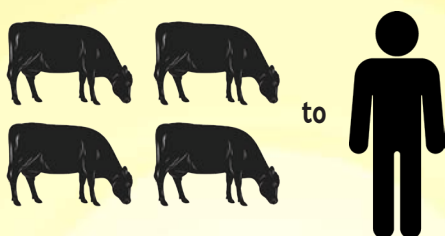
All cattle raised for meat, called **beef cattle**, eat corn and grass most of their lives.





Cattle are **ruminants** which means they have **4 compartments** in their stomachs!

Cows outnumber people in Nebraska



4 cows to 1 person.

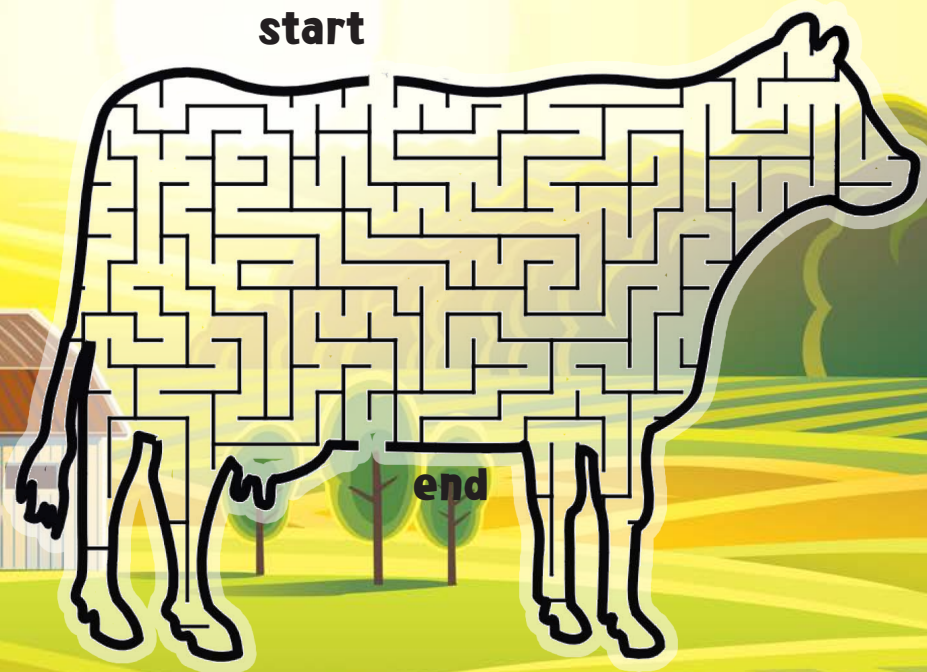
One steer can produce

720

1/4 pound hamburgers!



start




end

DAIRY




Did you know
1 cow can produce
1,500 gallons
of milk!



It only takes
5-7 minutes
to milk a cow.



Dairy includes milk, cheese, yogurt,
ice cream, butter and so much more!



One glass of milk
has all the **calcium**
you need in a day.
This keeps your
bones strong!



CHICKEN & EGGS

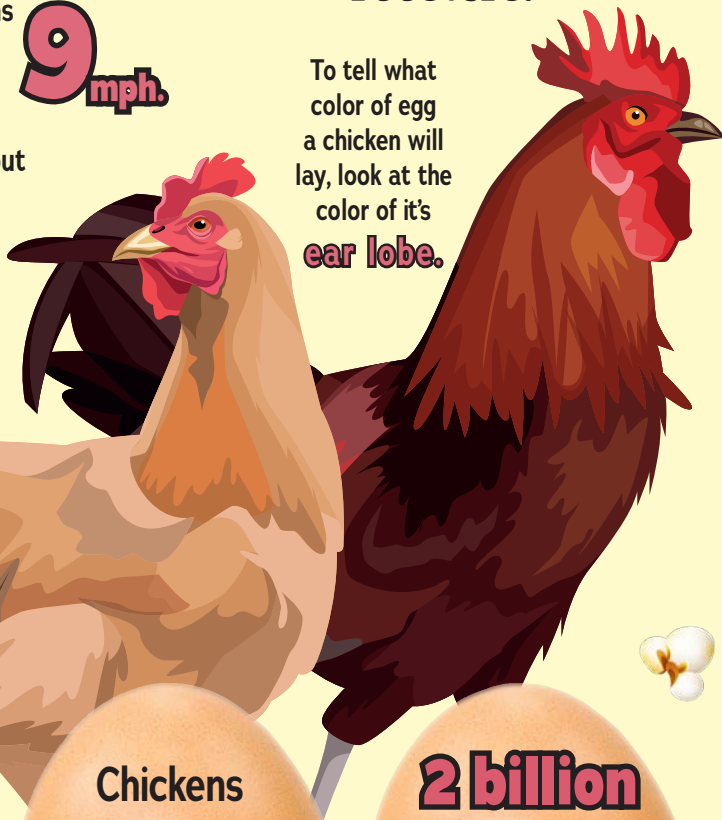
Chickens used to produce meat are called **broilers.**

Male chickens are called **roosters.**

Chickens can run up to **9 mph.**

Hens eat about **4 pounds** of feed to produce **1 dozen** eggs!

To tell what color of egg a chicken will lay, look at the color of its **ear lobe.**



Chickens will lay around **250** eggs per year.

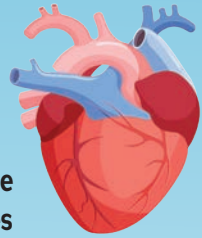
2 billion eggs will be laid this year in Nebraska .

PIGS


Americans eat **49 lbs.** of pork every single year.

A baby pig, or **piglet**, doubles its weight in just **7 days!**

Heart valves from pigs are used to replace **human** valves



Bacon, ham, pork-chops, hot dogs, sausage, and pepperoni all contain **pork**, which is meat from pigs!



Most pigs are raised in barns to keep them healthier and protect them from harsh weather.

SOYBEANS

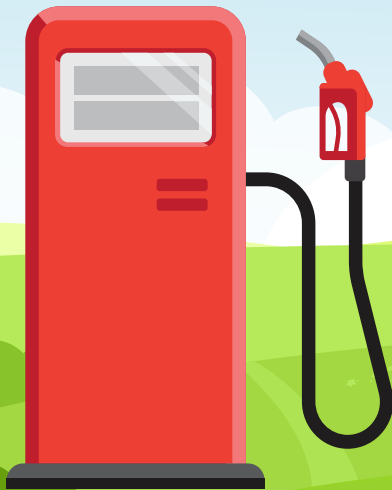
Common soybean food products include soy flour, soy milk, tofu, soy sauce, soy cheese, baby formula and edamame!

More soybeans are grown in the **United States** than anywhere else in the world!

Soybean plants can grow up to **5 feet** tall!



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



Soybeans produce **soy oil** which is converted to **soy biodiesel**.



WHEAT

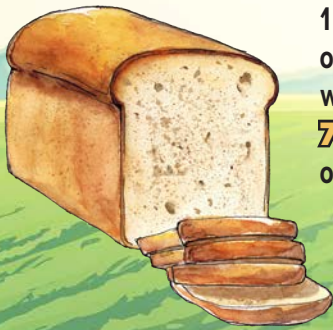
Wheat is in flour, bread, noodles, cakes, cereal, muffins and much more!

Farmers receive about **5 cents** from each loaf of bread sold.

Wheat needs **110-130 days** to grow before being harvested.

The **kernel** is where the nutrients are stored.

On average, each American consumes **55 lbs. of bread** per year!



1 bushel of wheat will produce **73 loaves** of bread!



A family of 4 could live for **10 years** off the bread produced by one acre of wheat!

DRY EDIBLE BEANS

These are beans that are dry packaged in sealed bags and precooked in cans including pinto, kidney, navy, lima and black beans.

Nebraska is a **top producing** state for dry edible beans!

The lima and pinto beans were first cultivated **5,000 years ago**.



SUGAR BEETS

Sugar beets have been grown in Nebraska for more than **100 years!**



55% of the world's sugar production comes from sugar beets.

POTATOES

Nebraska grows **800 million** pounds of potatoes per year!

Potatoes are grown in **sandy soils** from Columbus, NE, in the east, to Kimball, NE, in the west.



Potatoes are the **leading** vegetable crop in the U.S.!

FARM EQUIPMENT

To produce enough food for everyone, farmers and ranchers use important tools and or equipment to make the job easier and faster.



Drone

Technology that helps farmers scout fields and much more

Grain Cart



attached to a tractor to transport grain



Tractor

used for a variety of farm jobs including feeding animals and planting crops

Crop Duster



sprays large fields to kill weeds



Combine

harvests corn,
soybeans, wheat
and more



Hay baler



gathers cut grass and bundles it into small square
bales, large square bales, or round bales to feed animals

Ag-tivites!



1. teawh _____
2. tletac _____
3. gges _____
4. norc _____
5. ybosanse _____
6. lkim _____
7. pcoornp _____
8. spgi _____

WORD JUMBLE

Can you find all the fruits and
veggies in the search?



APPLE	Y	B	E	A	N	O	U	A
PEACH	A	D	F	E	G	V	I	P
PLUM	M	G	H	N	A	Z	H	P
CARROT	P	Z	A	C	D	R	M	L
YAM	L	M	A	C	A	U	Y	E
BEAN	U	Y	Q	V	L	E	Y	Q
	M	W	H	P	Z	F	P	A
	A	C	A	R	R	O	T	T

1. How many compartments are in a cow's stomach?

- a. 1
- b. 3
- c. 4
- d. 5

2. A piglet typically weighs how much at birth?

- a. 5 lbs
- b. 3.5 lbs
- c. 7 lbs
- d. 1 lb

3. How much beef do Americans eat per year?

- a. 68 lbs
- b. 54 lbs
- c. 73 lbs
- d. 40 lbs

4. About how many kernels are on an ear of corn?

- a. 800
- b. 100
- c. 30
- d. 47

Help all the animals get back to the barn!



Answers: 1. c 2. b 3. a 4. a

Want more fun facts and ag-tivities?

A stylized illustration of a farm scene. In the foreground, a large red barn with a white double door and two small windows sits on a green field. To the right, a red windmill is partially visible. The background shows rolling green hills and a warm, orange and yellow sunset sky.

Additional agricultural facts and activities can be found on
the Nebraska Department of Agriculture Kids' page at:

nda.nebraska.gov/kids

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