

A Corny History

Corn is a native plant of the Americas and has been grown for food and other uses for thousands of years.



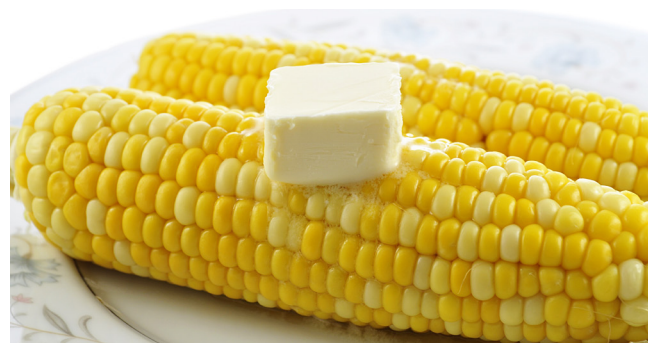
Did you know that corn is a type of grain? The seeds are made of starch, protein, oil and fiber.

TYPES OF CORN



FIELD CORN or "dent" corn is the most abundant type of corn grown.

POPCORN is a special type of corn that explodes when heated because of the moisture inside.



SWEET CORN is the type enjoyed while the seeds are still moist. It is harvested much earlier than field corn.

CORN is a MAIZEing

Oh, How it Grows!

It takes a corn plant between 3 and 4 months to grow and mature. Most field corn is planted in the spring and harvested in the early fall.



Corn needs soil, light, water and carbon dioxide to grow. Water from rain or irrigation is very important during pollination. A combine harvests field corn when it is dry enough for storage. Corn is then transported to the markets that need it.



Livestock

Corn is an important feed for animals like chickens, cows, pigs, goats and sheep.



Food

Many foods are made with corn or contain corn-based ingredients. Just look on the nutrition label.



Did You Know?
A box of corn flakes contains less than 10 cents worth of corn. Most of the cost for food comes from energy, labor and marketing.

Fuel Ethanol

The starch in corn can be fermented and distilled into alcohol and used for fuel. Ethanol is most often blended with gasoline to reduce harmful emissions and boost octane.

Industrial Uses

Corn can be found in many of the items we use every day, such as batteries, school supplies, paints, makeup, tires, medicines, and more.



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