

Corn in Kentucky

Corn is an important crop grown in Kentucky. Farmers in Union, Christian, Henderson, Logan, Graves and Daviess Counties grow many acres of corn each year as well as farmers in every other county across the state.

Kentucky ranks in the top 20 states in the U.S. for acres of corn produced. About 150 million bushels of corn are grown here each year. That is more than 8 billion pounds!

The scientific name for corn is *Zea mays*. It is often called maize and is actually a grass.

Corn Trivia

Do you know the answers to these fun corn facts?

A kernel of corn is mostly:

- a) starch
- b) water
- c) oil

How many kernels does the average ear of corn have?

- a) 50
- b) 200
- c) 500
- d) 800

In Kentucky, corn is usually planted in:

- a) January
- b) April
- c) October

and harvested in:

- a) September
- b) December
- c) May

Circle the products below corn is used to produce:

- a) Soup
- b) chewing gum
- c) cornmeal
- d) toothpaste
- e) baby food
- f) ink
- g) paper
- h) fuel

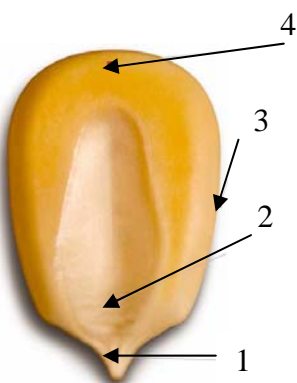
Parts of a corn kernel:

Endosperm is the largest part of the seed and is a starchy energy source.

The *germ* or *embryo* is the living part of the seed that grows into the corn plant.

Pericarp is the outer cover that protects the kernel.

The *tip cap* is where the kernel was attached to the cob.



Can you identify the important parts of a corn kernel?

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

