

A Growing Opportunity

Finding New Uses
for Nebraska Corn





Corn is everywhere

Batteries, paper, cosmetics, cleansers, crayons, absorbents, medicines, adhesives and solvents can all have corn as an ingredient in one way or another.

Batteries, for example, utilize cornstarch. Dextrins, made from cornstarch, are used in crayons. Oxidized cornstarch is spread over aspirin and super-absorbent cornstarch is found in some disposable diapers.

Corn is also replacing petroleum-based products in many industrial applications—from containers to clothing to carpeting. Because corn products are compostable and renewable, they are better for the environment than their petroleum counterparts.

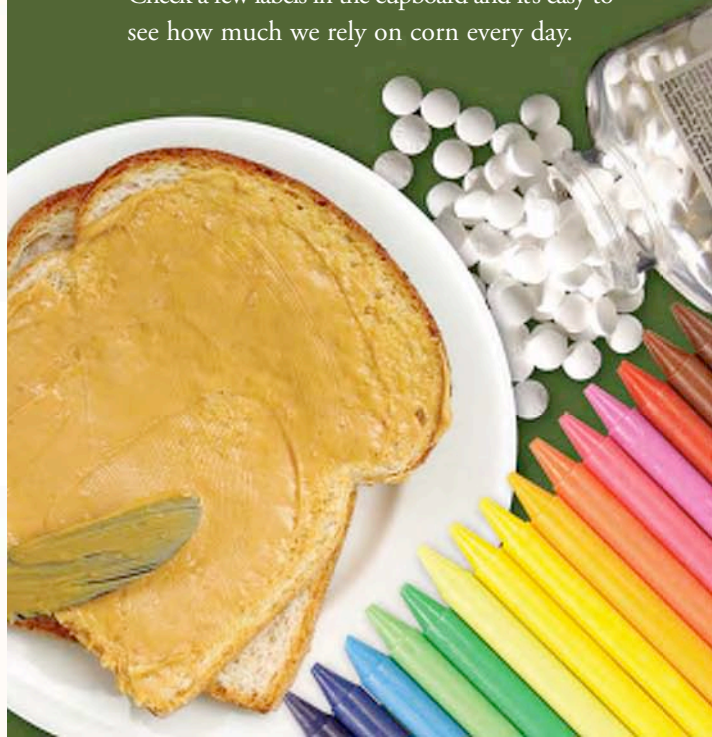
From what we eat to how we live, corn makes a difference.

It's the little things

It's hard to believe all of the products—things we use everyday—that include corn and ingredients from corn. And more are being developed everyday.

Of course there's the food products that come to mind—like corn chips, cornflakes or corn oil—but thousands of other foods contain corn-based ingredients. High fructose corn syrup is found in soda pop and hundreds of other products, cornstarch is found in pudding and ready-to-eat foods, dextrose improves the color and texture of breads and is found in peanut butter and sorbitol is used in toothpaste. Maltodextrin, another corn product, is found in instant tea, coffee and oatmeal.

Check a few labels in the cupboard and it's easy to see how much we rely on corn every day.





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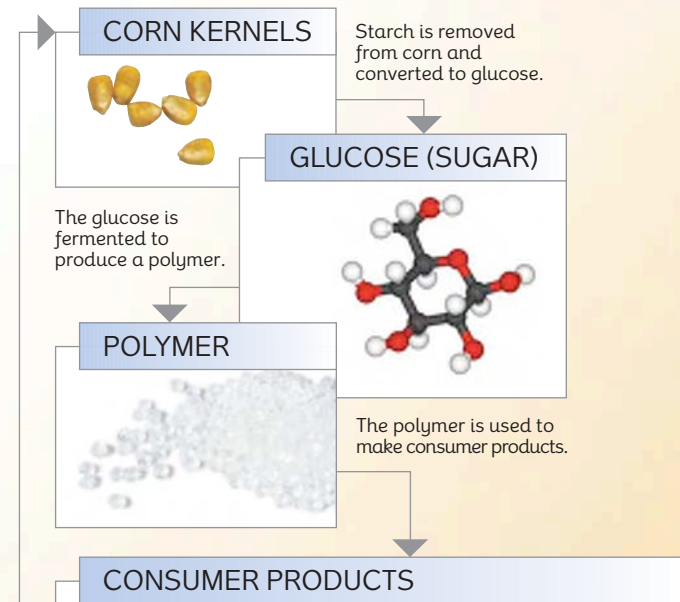
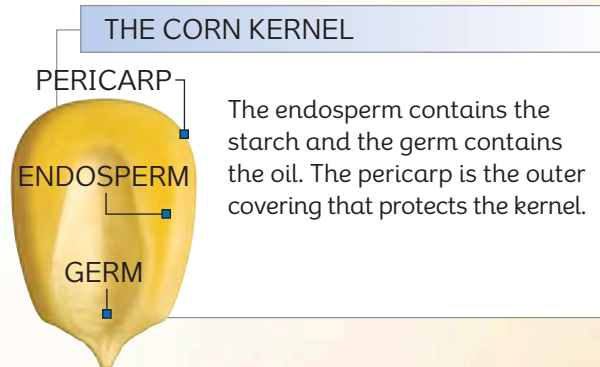
From what we eat to how we live, corn makes a difference.

Versatile, natural, compostable and renewable, each and every year.

Although a kernel of corn appears to be a pretty simple seed, as it turns out, we've learned that it is chock full of useful products. The trick was figuring out how to go from a corn seed to a plastic container or another useful, environmentally friendly product. Now that researchers understand how to do that, the list of products made from corn continues to grow. These corn-based materials are so versatile, manufacturers have used them in everything from deli containers to carpet to milk bottles to socks.

Being made from a renewable resource sets these products apart from their petroleum counterparts, but what really makes them special is that they are completely compostable and recyclable. In essence, corn-based products take the carbon dioxide from the air—through the corn plant—and return it to the soil when they biodegrade.

When you think about it, this simple kernel of corn isn't really simple at all. It's just been waiting for us to understand how to use it to its full potential.



Gift cards, coffee cups and blankets are just a few of the items being made from corn. Corn-based plastics and fibers are an attractive alternative to petroleum-based products.



There are hundreds of uses for Nebraska corn!
Here's a sampling...

PLASTICS



Cups, utensils, bowls, plates, deli containers, milk bottles, water bottles, candy wrappers—and CDs and DVDs and the jewel cases they come in. All can be made from corn-based plastic. The list goes on and on—and new uses are being developed every day. The best part? Corn-based plastic is 100% renewable and compostable and replaces petroleum-based plastics—and one of the largest corn-based plastic manufacturers, NatureWorks, is based in Blair, Nebraska.

TEXTILES



From comfy sweaters to performance sportswear to work attire to fashion runways around the world—corn-based clothing is catching on everywhere. Although sometimes used alone, corn-based fabrics are versatile enough to be blended with wool, cotton, nylon and other fabrics. It's also used in upholstery, bedding, pillows, baby wipes and diapers.

Dyes Detergents De-Icers
Absorbents
Textiles
Fireworks Lubricants
Ethanol Fuel

RUBBER

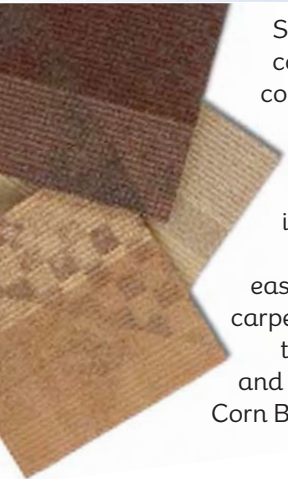
Micro droplets of corn starch transform into a unique filler product for automobile tires, replacing carbon black and silica. The corn-based filler reduces rolling resistance, which translates to less fuel consumption and a quieter ride. Tires with this corn-based product also take less energy to produce. Initially available only in Europe, this promising product could roll into the U.S. in the near future.



Rubber Components

Animal Feed Paint Beverages
Cosmetics
Water Treatment Supplies Building Materials
Paper Protein Products

CARPET



Superior carpets—made from corn! Carpet fibers spun from corn-based polymers are stain resistant and incredibly durable. Some brands even have permanent, in-fiber stain protection with a lifetime warranty. These easy-maintenance, corn-based carpets are available for home or the office in dozens of colors and styles. In fact, the Nebraska Corn Board has corn-based carpet in its office.

Food Products
Shampoo Solvents Packaging Materials
Carpets
Starches Dinnerware

Building Demand for Nebraska Corn

From bio-based plastics to livestock feeding—from ethanol to exports—the Nebraska Corn Board develops and supports numerous projects designed to increase the demand for Nebraska corn and enhance the profitability of Nebraska corn producers.

Funds for these projects come from corn growers themselves, generated by the corn checkoff. The checkoff is a self-help program—one that gives corn producers the power and the funding to stimulate use and demand for Nebraska corn.



Did you know there is corn in graham crackers, chocolate bars and marshmallows? For s'more information on the many uses for corn, contact the Nebraska Corn Board.



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