Iowa’s Corn and Agriculture Industry

How does Iowa corn impact Iowans and the world?

Iowa leads the United States in corn production. The state set a record in 2016 with 2.7 billion bushels, slightly ahead of 2017 and 2018 levels. In 2018, however, the estimated yield set an all-time high at 204 bushels. Iowa’s incredibly fertile fields of north central Iowa stretch for miles of corn and soybeans, providing the United States with two of their most valuable exports.

History of Corn and Iowa

Corn has been at the center of Iowa life for almost a thousand years. The ancestors of our modern corn plants first appeared in Central Mexico as a tiny ear wrapped in a tight husk. Through careful cultivation, mostly by American Indian women, the plant eventually evolved into size and shape we know it today. It spread into what is today the American Southwest, along the Gulf Coast and up the Mississippi River and its tributaries until it was a staple of the Upper Midwest and most tribes east of the Mississippi. English colonists first encountered it with the tribes they met on the Atlantic Coast from New England south to Georgia. Corn cultivation had a major impact on the seasonal activities of those who planted it. The year revolved around spring planting and fall harvest, often with the celebration of a successful crop marked with annual festivals. In Iowa pioneer times, farm boys could often attend school only in the winter because their labor was needed at home for planting, cultivation and the fall harvest.

Corn is a giant grass plant and, therefore, easily adapted to the fertile plains of the Iowa prairies. It is incredibly productive as one kernel planted will produce one or two ears with 700+ kernels each. Hybrid varieties developed and spread in the 1920s and 1930s proved so successful that most Iowa farms had adopted them for the end of World War II. Plants grown from hybrids, however, lack the vigor of the parents, creating an annual market and a very profitable hybrid seed industry for the state.

Because corn is bulky, farmers learned early that it is more profitable to feed their corn to livestock, primarily hogs, and then market “the corn” as pork. The Corn Belt corn/hogs economy developed in the late 19th century when the railroad lines connected midwestern farmers with eastern markets. Most of the corn grown in Iowa is what called “field corn.” Only one percent of corn planted in the United States is sweet corn. Almost all field corn is used for animal feeds, the production of ethanol as a fuel for automobiles and for manufacturing in products like plastics.

Corn’s Effect on Farming Practices

Farm practices have evolved radically since early American Indians and pioneer times. An early technique was to dig a small hole with a hoe and to drop in three to five kernels. Indians often planted beans and squash around the corn to allow the vines to grow up the corn stalks. Weeds were chopped out during the growing season. The labor required kept fields small. The introduction of horse-drawn plows and planters in the mid-19th century allowed one farmer to cultivate much larger fields. The mud and clay scoured ("slid off") John Deere’s steel plowshare, saving the time the farmer had to stop and remove the sticky soil. With the tractor in the early 20th century and the mechanical corn picker, field sizes again took a major leap.

Agriculture has been a major occupation of Iowans and corn has been the most significant product. Iowa is truly a product of this incredible grain.
Supporting Questions

How has farming in Iowa seen continuity and change?

- Average Farm Size in Iowa Map, 1933 (Map)
- Corn Yield Map of Iowa, 1933 (Map)
- Farmer Working a Corn Field with a John Deere Tractor, ca. 1945 (Image)
- Field Workers Harvesting Sweet Corn in Grimes, Iowa, August 1946 (Image)
- Number of Farms and Average Farm Size in Iowa from 1950 to 2014, 2015 (Document)
- Corn for Grain Yield Map of Iowa, 2018 (Map)
- Gulls Following a Farmer on his Tractor, Date Unknown (Image)

What impact did John Deere have on farming in Iowa?

- “The Hawkeye Cultivator,” 1863 (Document)
- Gilpin Sulky Plow Patent, 1875 (Document)
- “The Original Steel Plow” and John Deere, 1882 (Document, Image)
- “A Short Interview” with John Deere, ca. 1886 (Document)
- New Deal Gang Plow with Traction Engine Advertisement from John Deere, 1889 (Document)
- Brochure about John Deere’s Gilpin Sulky Plow, 1895 (Document)
- Aerial View of the John Deere Tractor Company in Waterloo, Iowa, 1944 (Image)
- Farmer Operating Corn Picker with John Deere Tractor, ca. 1945 (Image)

Where does Iowa corn go and how is it used?

- Flowchart of U.S. Agricultural Supply Chain for Raw and Processed Products, 2009 (Document)
- Flowchart Showing the Uses of Corn, 2009 (Document)
- “Percent of Total U.S. Corn Exports by Country” Graph, 2017 (Document)
- “Compare... Cargo Capacity” Infographic, February 25, 2019 (Document)

What is Iowa Sister States’ role in global agricultural opportunities?

- Iowa Hog Lift to Japan, 1960 (Image)
- Lee Norris’ Truck Loaded with Hogs, 1960 (Image)
- Letter from Governor Herschel Loveless to Lee Norris about the Hog Lift, January 18, 1960 (Document)
- Speech by Governor Norman Erbe on the Dedication of the Japanese Friendship Bell, October 17, 1962 (Document)
- Governor of Yamanashi, Japan, Asking Citizens to Help Iowans Suffering from Flood Damage, 1993 (Document)
- “Iowa Sister States Agriculture Impact,” 2019 (Document)

*Printable Image and Document Guide
Additional Resources

**A Tale of Two Corns**
This two-page handout is from the National Corn Growers Association and it shows how corn from used in 2017.

**Iowa Corn: Exports**
This video focuses on the supply and demand of Iowa corn.

**Iowa Nice Guy: Get Educated on Ethanol**
This video looks at the uses and production of ethanol in Iowa.

“Norman Borlaug” on Iowa Public Television’s Iowa Pathways
The webpage from Iowa Public Television includes text and images of the famous Iowan, Norman Borlaug, who impacted global agriculture, fed billions of people, won a Nobel Peace Prize and established the World Food Prize.

“My Family’s Corn Farm”
This online book shows text and photos of an Iowa girl whose family grows corn. The story is told from girl’s perspective with additional information about farming for adults.

**John Deere 1927 Corn Picker**
This one-minute video shows a 1927 John Deere corn picker in action.

**Picking Corn with Horses**
This one-minute video shows a farmer picking corn with the use of horses.

**Harvesting Corn with Belgian Horses Pulling a Corn Binder**
This three-minute video shows a farmer harvesting corn with the use of Belgian horses pulling a corn binder.

**The Boy Who Changed the World by Andy Andrews**
This book tells the story of how Norman Borlaug saved the lives of two billion people but would not have gotten to that point without the very important actions of other people.

**Sweet Corn and Sushi by Lori Erickson**
This book tells the story of how Iowa and Yamanashi became sister states.

**The Commodity Chain of Corn**
This interactive webpage is a visual representation of information on global corn production, sweet corn production, subsidies, ethanol, livestock feed, corn in food and U.S. corn exports.

“Branstad Asks for Support for Snow-Ravaged Japan Sister State” Article from *The Des Moines Register*
This article focuses on how Governor Terry Branstad asked Iowans to send money to Yamanashi, Japan, after heavy snow damaged roads and infrastructure in the winter of 2014.
Average Farm Size in Iowa Map, 1933

Description
In 1933, the State Planning Board of Iowa, a special committee that only existed from 1934 to 1939 to study long-term land use plans for the state, published this map showing the average farm size measured in number of acres. They also showed if the land was used for cash grain crops and/or livestock.

Transcript of Average Farm Size in Iowa Map

Source-Dependent Questions
- Which district has the largest average farm size in Iowa? Explain how you know which district that is.
- Look at the map, “Number of Farms and Average Farm Size, Iowa: 1950-2014.” How did the size of Iowa farms change from 1932 to 1950?

Citation Information
“Average farm size: average size of farms by district, 1932,” Iowa State Planning Board, 1933. Courtesy of University of Iowa Library and Archives
Corn Yield Map of Iowa, 1933

Description
Each year, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) publishes many statistics telling what happened in agriculture that year. One of those statistics is the average corn yield. They add together all of the bushels of corn harvested in that county and then divide by the number of acres of corn planted in the county to calculate an average for the county. The USDA publishes this information every year. For this publication, they show the average yield for a group of counties, called a region.

Transcript of the Corn Yield Map of Iowa

Source-Dependent Questions
• What was the statewide average corn yield from 1928 to 1932?
• What might be some of the reasons for the changes in yield between 1932 and 2018?

Citation Information
“Yield of corn: average yield of corn in bushels per acre, by region 1928-1932: state average 37.57,” Iowa State Planning Board, 1933. Courtesy of University of Iowa Library and Archives
Farmer Working a Corn Field with a John Deere Tractor, ca. 1945

Courtesy of the State Historical Society of Iowa, ca. 1945

Description
In the early summer, before corn plants are big enough to shade the ground around them and fill in the rows, the farmer has to get rid of the weeds so they do not choke out the corn plants. In the 1940s, farmers worked the fields with a cultivator attached to a tractor. Today, many farmers use a chemical to do that job.

Source-Dependent Questions
- Based on close observation, what season is shown in the photo? Why did you make that determination?
- Compare this photo to this one. What is different about the beginning of the farming season to the end of the season? What other similarities and differences do you notice between the photos?
Field Workers Harvesting Sweet Corn in Grimes, Iowa, August 1946

Description
For about five weeks in the summer, many people in Iowa enjoy fresh from the field sweet corn. In this photo, field workers are harvesting sweet corn for the Beaver Valley Canning Company (later called the Grimes Canning Company) on the farm of Jesse Taylor near Grimes, Iowa. Even though sweet corn is only a small percentage of the corn grown in Iowa, it is the corn that we buy canned or frozen from the grocery store. The kernels on field corn are removed from the cob in the field, but the ears of sweet corn must remain whole until they get to the canning factory.

Source-Dependent Questions
• What technology is helping these workers to do their job?
• How is this similar to and different from how corn is harvested today?
Number of Farms and Average Farm Size in Iowa from 1950 to 2014, 2015

This graph looks at the number of farms compared to the average farm size in Iowa from 1950 to 2014.

Transcript of “Number of Farms and Average Farm Size - Iowa: 1950-2014”

Source-Dependent Questions

- When the same measurement is taken over a period of time and put on a graph, a trend line forms. What is the trend for the number of farms in Iowa from 1950 to 2014? What is the trend for the average size of a farm in Iowa from 1950 to 2014?
- Connect to what you know about urban and rural areas as well as agriculture and manufacturing. Make a prediction about where people are living and what kinds of jobs they may have today versus long ago. Explain your prediction.

Citation Information

Corn for Grain Yield Map of Iowa, 2018

Description
Each year, the United States Department of Agriculture puts out statistics about what happened in agriculture that year. This map shows the average bushels of corn produced per acre for by county. Many variables impact the corn crop yield such as weather and soil conditions. The top of the map reads that the state average is 196.0 bushels per acre.

Transcript of “Corn for Grain Yield - Iowa: 2018” Map

Source-Dependent Questions
- What was the statewide average corn yield from 2018?
- How does this statewide average corn yield compare with the statewide average yield in 1928 to 1932? Make a graph to show the comparison.
- 2018 was a drought year for some parts of Iowa. Use evidence from the map to predict which parts of Iowa received less rain and hotter temperatures.

Citation Information
Gulls Following a Farmer on his Tractor, Date Unknown

Description
One of the things that has not changed about growing corn is the kind of work that happens. In the spring, farmers prepare the soil and plant the corn seeds. At the time of this photograph, many farmers used a plow to turn the soil over before they planted the seeds. Turning over the soil with a plow blade broke up the grass roots and made it easier for the corn seeds to sprout. Today, many farmers no longer do this because it can cause the topsoil to wash away in the sun, wind and rain.

Source-Dependent Questions
- Compare the working conditions of this Iowa farmer from about 1940 with the working conditions of farmers today. What is the same, and what is different?
- Why would seagulls love farmers who are plowing their fields before they plant them? *(Hint: They are round, wiggle through the dirt and are mighty tasty to a seagull.)*
"The Hawkeye Cultivator," 1863

Description
The Hawkeye Cultivator was John Deere's first riding implement. Just like his original steel plow, the invention came about to serve a need. Many men were returning from the Civil War wounded and unable to walk behind an implement. Deere's Hawkeye Cultivator allowed men with injured or missing limbs to still cultivate their fields.

Transcript of "The Hawkeye Cultivator"

Source-Dependent Questions
- What job is this machine intended to do?
- How does this machine help the user?

Citation Information
Gilpin Sulky Plow Patent, 1875

Description
When an inventor registers a patent for their invention, they have the right to produce and sell that invention for a certain number of years, and no one can copy their idea. Gilpin Moore received a patent for his invention in 1875, and then partnered with John Deere to manufacture it.

Transcript of the Gilpin Sulky Plow Patent

Source-Dependent Questions
- Why would an inventor want a patent?
- Was John Deere copying Moore’s idea? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Citation Information
“The Original Steel Plow” and John Deere, 1882

Description
In the mid-1800s, Iowans worked very hard to produce a corn crop in the thick prairie sod. In Illinois, our neighbor to the east, John Deere was working as a blacksmith when he had an amazing idea. More than 175 years later, the company he started is still an industry leader in new agriculture innovations. This article tells Deere’s story of innovation.

Transcript of “The Original Steel Plow” Text

Source-Dependent Questions
- How did John Deere get the idea for his invention?
- Make an inference - who would benefit from Deere’s steel plow?
- In what ways did a steel plow represent an innovation or improvement to how fields were plowed?

Citation Information
“The Original Steele Plow,” 1882. Courtesy of John Deere
“A Short Interview” with John Deere, ca. 1886

Description
W. L. Wilkings describes in this article in *The Sioux City Daily* a conversation he had with John Deere while the two were traveling to California on a train. This conversation happened shortly before Deere died in May 1886.

Full Transcript of “A Short Interview”

Transcribed Excerpt from “A Short Interview”

Source-Dependent Questions
• How did John Deere respond when his friend did not pay back the loan?
• Make an inference: What traits of good character does Wilkins report that Deere had? Use evidence from the text to support your answer?
New Deal Gang Plow with Traction Engine Advertisement from John Deere, 1889

Description
It was not until 1918 that John Deere’s company introduced a tractor. However, they started making implements for and even partnering first with steam engine manufacturers and then manufacturers of gasoline and kerosene tractors. This advertisement for a “gang plow” was like a row of four, five or six of Deere’s original steel plows all connected together. As new companies emerged, Deere & Company had to adjust and adapt in order to provide the products that their customers wanted and remain competitive in the market.

Transcript of the New Deal Gang Plow with Traction Engine Advertisement

Source-Dependent Questions
- How many furrows (rows) did a New Deal Gang Plow have?
- How did competition influence Deere & Company’s production of goods?

Citation Information
Brochure about John Deere’s Gilpin Sulky Plow, 1895

Description
Farm implements were designed to make work easier and allow a farmer to produce more each year. Companies had to work hard to earn the farmer’s business. This brochure points out the strong features of the Gilpin Sulky Plow that John Deere manufactured.

Transcript of Brochure about John Deere’s Gilpin Sulky Plow

Source-Dependent Questions
• According to this brochure, why is the Gilpin Sulky Plow a good investment for a farmer?
• How will this implement help a farmer? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Citation Information
Aerial View of the John Deere Tractor Company in Waterloo, Iowa, 1944

Description
In the late 1800s and early 1900s, farmers all over America turned to tractors with gasoline and diesel-powered engines. But it was not until 1918 that Deere & Company started producing them. Even then, it was under a different name because Deere & Company bought out the Waterloo Gasoline Engine Company in Waterloo, Iowa. According to the company website, they sold 5,634 Waterloo Boy tractors in their first year. They continued manufacturing the popular “Waterloo Boy” tractor under that brand name until 1923 when John Deere came out with the John Deere Model D. In 1927, John Deere came out with its first harvester. This is how the John Deere Tractor Company came to be located in Waterloo, Iowa, and they are still there today. This photograph from 1944 shows a large network of buildings, railroad lines and roads. There is even two water towers to supply the factory.

Source-Dependent Questions
• Think about the community that a John Deere factory was/is located in. How big of an impact does Deere & Company have on non-farmers in and around that community?
• Look at the roof on each building. Most of them seem to have a part that is built up higher than the rest of the roof and has windows in it. Why do you think that may have been built that way?
Farmer Operating Corn Picker with John Deere Tractor, ca. 1945

Description
While John Deere's original invention focused on plowing the land, Deere & Company expanded their product lines to include other parts of farming as well. Only four years after introducing their first John Deere brand tractor, the company introduced their first harvester, the John Deere No. 2. In this photograph, a farmer drives a John Deere tractor with a corn picker and wagon both attached to the tractor. This corn picker harvests the ear from the plant but does not shell the kernels from the cob. That is another step in the farmer's production before selling the corn.

Source-Dependent Questions
• How many people does it take to operate this equipment? How does that impact a farmer financially? Compare this photograph to the image of “Field Workers Harvesting Sweet Corn.”
• How did the inventions that John Deere made impact the farmer in this photograph?
Flowchart of U.S. Agricultural Supply Chain for Raw and Processed Products, 2009

Description
This infographic shows the modes of transportation that raw and processed agricultural products travel from source to destination. It was featured in a study that looked at the infrastructure that the United States has in place to move agricultural goods from one way to another. The availability of transportation allows farmers to get their crops to the locations where they are needed.

Transcript of Flowchart of U.S. Agricultural Supply Chain for Raw and Processed Products

Source-Dependent Questions

- An example of an intermediary good made with corn is corn meal, which is the main ingredient in corn bread muffins. Using this infographic, tell the story of where corn meal travels from the field to a person’s home where it is made into a corn bread muffin.
- Based on this infographic, does all corn that is exported out of the United States leave the country as a raw agricultural product? Explain why or why not.

Citation Information
Flowchart Showing the Uses of Corn, 2009

Description
Corn is used in a wide variety of products from frozen corn for people to eat to livestock feed to explosives to soaps, to ethanol and many more. The National Corn Growers Association created this chart in 2009 to help people understand all that corn goes into.

Transcript of Flowchart Showing the Uses of Corn

Source-Dependent Questions

- Which uses of corn surprised you?
- One use of corn is in breakfast cereals. Make a list of all of the different jobs it would take to go from a farmer growing corn to a consumer eating the breakfast cereal. Check your ideas using “U.S. Agricultural Supply Chain for Raw and Processed Products” infographic to help.

Citation Information
“Corn,” Center for Crops Utilization Research, Iowa State University, 2009. Courtesy of Iowa State University
“Percent of Total U.S. Corn Exports by Country” Graph, 2017

Description
The Foreign Agricultural Service department of the USDA published a chart showing the countries who received corn that was exported from the United States during the marketing year 2017 through 2018. This means the corn was grown during the summer of 2017, harvested in the fall of 2017, and sold in late 2017 or in the winter/spring of 2018.

Transcript of “Percent of Total U.S. Corn Exports by Country” Graph

Source-Dependent Questions
• According to this graph, which continent(s) receive the most grain from the United States?
• For how many of the countries that the United States exports to will the corn travel on a ship or ocean liner?

Citation Information
“Compare... Cargo Capacity” Infographic, February 25, 2019

Description
This infographic was produced by the Iowa Department of Transportation in 2016 to show the volume of cargo capacity and the equivalent units of semi-trucks, rail cars and barges. For example, one 15-barge tow can haul the same amount of grain as 1,050 semi-truck trailers or 216 rail cars.

Transcript of “Compare... Cargo Capacity” Infographic

Source-Dependent Questions
- How many semi-truck loads of corn fit into one railcar?
- In order to load a 15-barge tow, how many semi-trucks would be needed?
- What are some of the potential advantages and disadvantages of using rail lines opposed to trucks?

Citation Information
“Compare... Cargo Capacity,” Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT), 25 February 2019. Courtesy of Iowa DOT
Iowa Hog Lift to Japan, 1960

Description
The image shows hogs from Iowa being taken off a plane in Yamanashi Prefecture in Japan. There were 36 hogs sent from Iowa farms, with 35 arriving alive in Japan. Master Sergeant Richard Thomas inspired this outreach from Iowans to the citizens of Yamanashi, Japan. Thomas served in the United States Air Force, had been stationed in Japan and got to know many people from Yamanashi. When he heard about the damage from the typhoons, he wanted to do something to help.

Source-Dependent Questions
- Master Sergeant Richard Thomas had been stationed in Yamanashi, Japan. Why do you think he wanted to help that community after the devastating typhoons?
- Transportation has changed since 1960. Imagine this “hog lift” was took place today and use what you know to predict how the transportation would be different.

Citation Information
Goeppinger, Walter, Iowa State University, 1960. Courtesy of Iowa State University Special Collections
Lee Norris’ Truck Loaded with Hogs, 1960

Description
Lee Norris operated a sale barn on his farm near Freemont, Iowa, for many years. In the 1950s, representatives from Japan would often attend the hog auctions at Mr. Norris’ farm because of the high-quality purebred Hampshire hogs that he raised and sold. When Master Sgt. Richard Thomas wanted to arrange a hog lift to Japan to help repopulate the hog population after the typhoons, Norris was ready. Seven of the 39 hogs that went to Japan were from Norris’ farm, and they were transported from Norris’ farm to the Des Moines airport in this truck. Japanese buyers continued to return to Norris' farm to buy hogs for more than twenty years after the 1960 hog lift.

Source-Dependent Questions
- Look closely at the photo - there are seven hogs in this truck. Where are the hogs? What preparations would Lee Norris, the owner of the hogs, need to do to his truck to drive the hogs to Des Moines?
- Lee Norris was known for his high-quality purebred Hampshire hogs. Why would purebred hogs be a good choice to send to Japan?

Citation Information
Letter from Governor Herschel Loveless to Lee Norris about the Hog Lift, January 18, 1960

Description
Governor Herschel Loveless was present when the hogs were loaded onto the U.S. Air Force cargo plane bound for Japan in 1960. In this letter, Governor Loveless thanks Lee Norris for his involvement in the hog lift. Norris provided seven of the 39 hogs that were sent to Japan.

Transcript of Governor Herschel Loveless' Letter to Lee Norris

Source-Dependent Questions
- What was Governor Herschel Loveless grateful for?
- Make an argument for why this hog lift was a good idea from a humanitarian perspective and an economic perspective.

Citation Information
Loveless, Herschel C., 18 January 1960. Courtesy Elnora Norris
Speech by Governor Norman Erbe on the Dedication of the Japanese Friendship Bell, October 17, 1962

Description
The Bell of Peace and Friendship was given as a gift from the Yamanashi Province in Japan to the people of Iowa in 1962, about two and a half years after the 1960 hog lift from Iowa to Yamanashi. This is Iowa Governor Norman Erbe’s speech at the dedication ceremony on the Iowa State Capitol grounds on October 17, 1962.

Transcript of the Speech by Governor Norman Erbe on the Dedication of the Japanese Friendship Bell

Source-Dependent Questions
- What was Yamanashi, Japan's response to the 1960 hog lift?
- According to these remarks, what was the impact of the 1960 hog lift two and a half years after it happened? Use evidence from the text in your answer.
Governor of Yamanashi, Japan, Asking Citizens to Help Iowans Suffering from Flood Damage, 1993

Description
Governor Terry Branstad invited Governor Ken Amano of Yamanashi, Japan, to visit Iowa in May 1993 to attend the Iowa State Fair. At that time, Branstad had no way of knowing the devastating flood that would impact thousands across the state of Iowa in 1993. After learning of the problem, Amano sent this request to the people of Yamanashi asking them to help Iowans. When Amano visited Iowa in August of 1993, he gave Branstad $300,000 to help with flood relief.

Transcript of a Press Release from Governor of Yamanashi, Japan, Asking Citizens to Help Iowans Suffering from Flood Damage in 1993

Source-Dependent Questions
- How does a sister state relationship connect Iowa and Yamanashi, Japan?
- What is Governor Ken Amano asking the people of Yamanashi to do?

Citation Information
Amano, Ken, Yamanashi International Association, 1993. Courtesy of Iowa Sister States

Description
In a feature article in *Iowa Heritage Illustrated* from 2001, Ginalie Swaim writes how Master Sergeant Richard Thomas, a Des Moines native who was stationed with the U.S. Air Force in Japan, heard about two terrible typhoons in Yamanashi and mobilized a group of Iowans to replenish hog population, which had been wiped out by the storms. This began a “Sister State” relationship between Yamanashi, Japan, and Iowa. Now, Iowa Sister States has developed connections in nine countries and works to connect agricultural and diplomatic connections between the countries.

Transcript of “The 1960 Hog Lift” Article

**Source-Dependent Questions**
- What happened in Yamanashi, Japan, that caused Iowans to send hogs there, and who made the connections to make that possible?
- How did the country and people of Japan show they were grateful for the gift from Iowa?
“Iowa Sister States Agriculture Impact,” 2019

Description
Founded in 1985, the Iowa Sister States organization has worked to connect Iowa culture and agriculture with “sister cities” in nine countries around the world. The organization hosts exchange programs with Iowans visiting these sister cities, as well as groups from the sister cities visiting Iowa. It is an organization that seeks to help people from different cultures understand, do business with and help each other.

Transcript of “Iowa Sister States Agriculture Impact”

Source-Dependent Questions

- How has Iowa Sister States impacted Iowans? How has Iowa Sister States impacted people in other countries? Use evidence from the text in your answer.
- Use evidence from the text to list ways that farmers in Iowa participate in a global economy.

Citation Information
“Iowa Sister States Agriculture Impact,” 2019. Courtesy of Iowa Sister States