

agricultural strengths

Iowa's preeminence in the bioeconomy platform stems from having some of the most fertile land in the nation. This is also a result of being able to successfully leverage its natural strengths in becoming a world leader in the use of biotechnology to enhance the value of crops and to supply value-added, plant-based materials to new and expanding markets.

Iowa is a leading producer of corn, soybeans, pork and eggs in the United States and is home to global leaders in the food industry. From crop protection and plant-based seed genetics to biofuel and biorenewable chemicals, Iowa is the birthplace and center of many agricultural industry-based innovations. Leadership, combined with a skilled, productive workforce and robust transportation infrastructure, make Iowa the perfect place to locate!

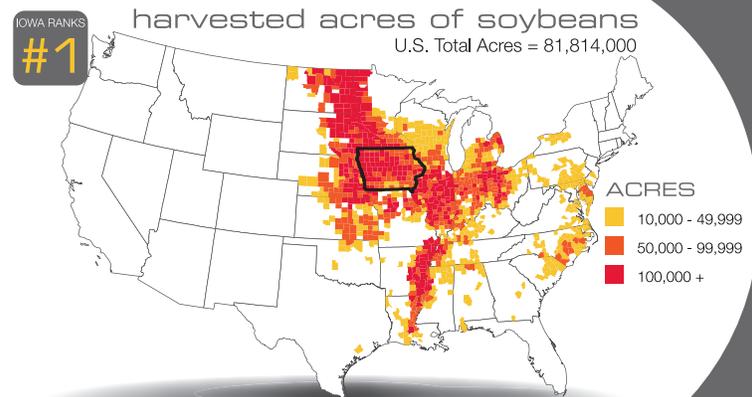
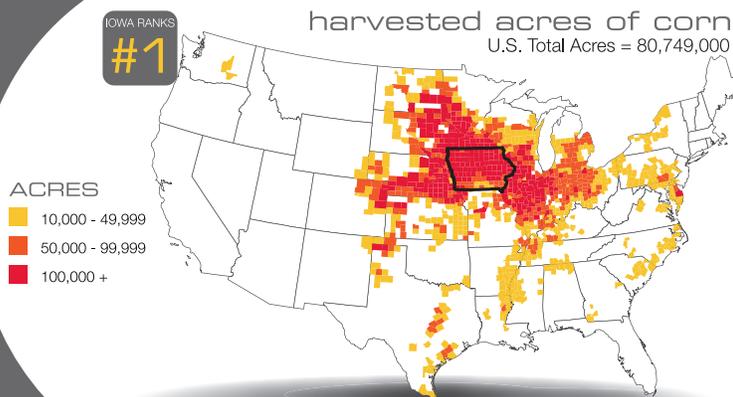
companies at work in Iowa



quick facts

- In 2016, Iowa signed into law the Renewable Chemicals Tax Credit Program - the first of its kind in the U.S. The program incentivizes the production of high-value chemicals that can be processed into consumer products.
- 86 percent (12.4 million hectares) of the state's land is arable - one of the highest U.S. percentages.
- Per capita, Iowa is the second wealthiest of agricultural states with total farm cash receipts of \$30.6 billion.
- Iowa's 10 million hectares of crop land harvested are eight percent of the U.S. total and leads all states.
- Iowa's 5.2 million hectares of corn yielded an average of 12.2 metric ton/hectare for a total of 63.6 million metric tons, 18 percent of the nation's corn supply.
- Iowa's four million hectares of soybeans yielded an average of 3.5 metric tons/hectare for a total of 14 million metric tons, 14 percent of the nation's soybean production.

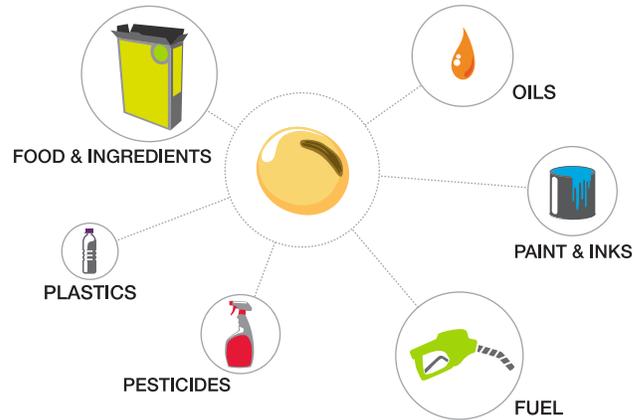
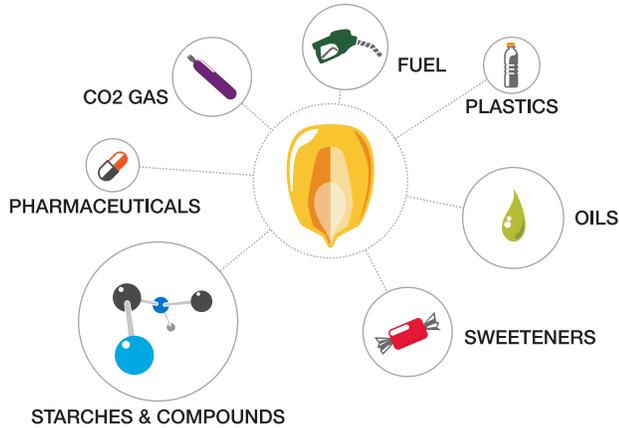
All stats are from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 2015, except where noted.



Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture; National Agricultural Statistics Service, Quick Stats - 2015



corn and soybean based products made in Iowa



Iowa's universities are leaders in agricultural research and development

Exciting agricultural advancements are developing at university research facilities across the state:

- Iowa State University's (ISU) Plant Sciences Institute and its associated centers conduct fundamental and translational research to provide knowledge and solutions in food production, bioenergy production, sustainable ecosystems and human health.
- ISU's Center for Crops Utilization Research (CCUR) is a research, development and technology transfer program focused on adding value to crops, developing biorenewables, applying biotechnology to increase value and technology transfer to the private sector.
- The Center for Bioplastics and Biocomposites is located at ISU and focuses on developing high-value biobased products from agriculture and forestry feedstocks.
- ISU's BioCentury Research Farm is the first-in-the-nation integrated research and demonstration facility dedicated to biomass production and processing.

The capabilities of this facility not only accelerate innovation and production capacity associated with biobased fuels, chemicals and products but also facilitate collaborations for developing sustainable technologies to provide solutions that pave the way to meet national energy, economic and environmental directives.

- The University of Iowa's Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing is reshaping the agricultural, chemical, nutritional and pharmaceutical industries by combining the intellectual talents of top scientific faculty with the practical delivery of new technologies.

learn more

Iowa is leading the 21st century bioeconomy, beginning with the world's leading university research and development centers to global seed, food and chemical companies that provide the feedstock for the next generation fuels and chemicals. Learn what Iowa can do for you at iowaeconomicdevelopment.com or contact business@iowa.gov.