

# G32 Fact Sheet: *Fast Facts about Corn*



## What Does 32 More Kernels Really Mean?

With 32 more kernels per ear, a grower will see an additional 9.5 bushels per acre, or an average of 6 per cent additional yield. What does this 9.5 bushel/acre (or 6%) yield advantage really mean?

In 2007, Ontario produced 250,000,000 bushels of corn. Using 2007 as an example, if every corn grower in Ontario produced 32 more kernels of corn per ear, Ontario corn growers would produce approximately 15,000,000 more bushels per year.

Let's put this into perspective. One bushel of corn can produce 10.22 litres of ethanol AND 8.2 kg of animal feed.

An additional 15,000,000 bushels of corn could produce the following:

- 480,000,000 boxes (500 g size) of corn starch, OR
- 224,550,000 kg of sweetener, OR
- 170,550,000 litres of fuel ethanol, PLUS
- 155,100,000 more kg of gluten feed, PLUS
- 155,100,000kg of gluten meal, PLUS
- 30,000,000 more bottles (700 ml) of corn oil.

That's a lot of food and fuel!

## Some Fun Facts About Corn

- Corn is Canada's third largest grain crop (after wheat and barley).
- Approximately 70% of Canadian corn is grown in Ontario, with 16% coming from Quebec.
- Annual Canadian production is approximately seven million tonnes of grain, produced on about one million hectares (2.5 million acres) of land. About 200,000 hectares of corn are also grown for harvest as forage (whole-plant silage).
- Because of its North and Central American origin, corn is unique among Canadian grain crops, having been grown as a farm crop in Canada for more than 800 years.
- Corn is used in the making of about 25% of the 10,000 products found in a modern supermarket. It is also used in some surprising products, including: beer, cosmetics, instant coffee, pharmaceuticals such as aspirin, antibiotics, spark plugs, rubber tires, toothpaste and paper products.
- In Ontario, approximately 60% of the crop harvested is fed to livestock. Approximately 30% is used for industrial and commercial uses, and about 10% is exported.
- One bushel of corn fed to livestock converts to approx 2.5 kg of retail beef, 6 kg of retail pork or 14.5 kg of chicken.
- As a renewable resource, corn is seen as a valuable source for ethanol fuel. Canada has a 2 billion litre per year ethanol production target for 2010.

Sources: Grain Farmers of Ontario: <http://gfo.ca>

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