

# AGRICULTURE ADVENTURES FOR FAMILIES

Hopefully your summer travels will include some stops in Illinois to visit historic sites as part of the bi-centennial. To look for suggestions on travel stops visit <https://www.enjoyillinois.com/travel-illinois/> You might even want to pull over at a scenic location and have a picnic as part of your travels. Thanks to farmers everywhere who grow the food and supplies that make that picnic possible. Let's take a peek inside your basket!

**Tortilla Chips:** 94% of the corn grown in the United States is field corn. There are over 4,000 uses for corn products and more are being found every day. Tortilla chips are made from field corn, the #1 crop in Illinois.

**Beef and Pork Hot Dogs:** Pork is the top meat produced in Illinois which ranks 4th in pork production in the U.S. In 2017 there were over 1 million cattle on Illinois farms which ranked 27th in the nation.

**Flowers:** 79% of the our county's annual agriculture sales comes from floriculture crops, including those grown in nurseries and greenhouses.

**Hot Dog Bun:** Most hot dog buns are made from wheat, but also may contain corn and even soybeans. Illinois grows red winter wheat which is harvested in mid-summer.

**Oatmeal Cookies:** Oats are produced by farmers in Illinois and are used in human foods where they are most commonly rolled or crushed into oatmeal, or ground into fine oat flour.

**Cheese:** Many farming operations in Northern Illinois are cow dairy farms. There are also goat dairy farms in Illinois.

**Wool blanket:** Sheep have played an important role in human history. They were among the first species to be domesticated and provided both meat for food and wool for clothing. One pound of wool can make ten miles of yarn.

**Fruits and Vegetables:** Illinois has good soil and a favorable climate, making the state a top grower of several specialty crops. Many people don't realize that crops like pumpkins, peaches, apples, grapes, horseradish and melons are grown on Illinois farmland.

**Soybean oil:** Soybeans are used in the main edible oil used in the United States. Soybeans are the #1 ingredient in vegetable oil and the #2 crop grown in Illinois. Many salad dressings contain soybeans as well.

**Lettuce:** Right now a huge new industry is producing vast amounts of lettuce and microgreens using indoor hydroponics and aquaponics. This new industry is changing the way farmers are producing greens.

**Honey:** Illinois is home to many beekeepers who are creating wide varieties of honey. On average, one hive of honeybees collects 66 pounds of pollen per year.



Choose your prize: Choices include a \$25 Beggar's Pizza Gift Card, a \$25 Home Run Inn Gift Card, OR \*3 AMC Movie Tickets

*\*AMC Yellow tickets not valid in California, New York & New Jersey.*

Complete the Word Search puzzle for your chance to win! Winners will be contacted by mail.

**Mail to:** Cook Co. Farm Bureau  
Ag Adventures Word Search  
6438 Joliet Rd  
Countryside, IL 60525  
**Fax to:** 708-579-6056  
**Email to:** FBcooperator@gmail.com

Complete and submit an entry every month all in 2018 and your name is automatically entered into an "End of Year" drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies. Good luck!



**Stephanie Oehmen**  
Congratulations for being last month's word search winner!

## July Word Search

B Z I D O S J F K U C D N P M  
P T F C S I L F Y Y B H H B  
T J O T E O K B E E Y Y T O O  
C L A R W C N L U H D L Q T S  
M O M E T X R Y B R V F K D Q  
L O R E H I E E O E X V J O R  
K S U N K O L P A F E Q F G D  
V E T B L D O L O M Z F F S U  
E A O R Z N Z O A K O C W T W  
S P E C I A L T Y C R O P S O  
U C A C R V V T J E H T W E O  
O M S G A Q U A P O N I C S L  
H Y L I O N A E B Y O S P P B  
N L E L J N D H P O R K F S L  
E M Z N J T P W R O Q U V I A  
E D B Y O H N I Y D T Q E C N  
R E U Y O H Q X E A W T M C K  
G Z Q F Z K G Y E V G I F R E  
E S E E H C I U X L M Z S Y T  
L C L X R P Y P A E M L J Y A

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|-------------|-----------------|
| Aquaponics  | Ice Cream       |
| Beef        | Oats            |
| Cheese      | Pork            |
| Flowers     | Soybean Oil     |
| Greenhouse  | Specialty Crops |
| Honey       | Tortilla Chips  |
| Hot dogs    | Wheat           |
| Hydroponics | Wool Blanket    |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.