

# AGRICULTURE ADVENTURES FOR FAMILIES



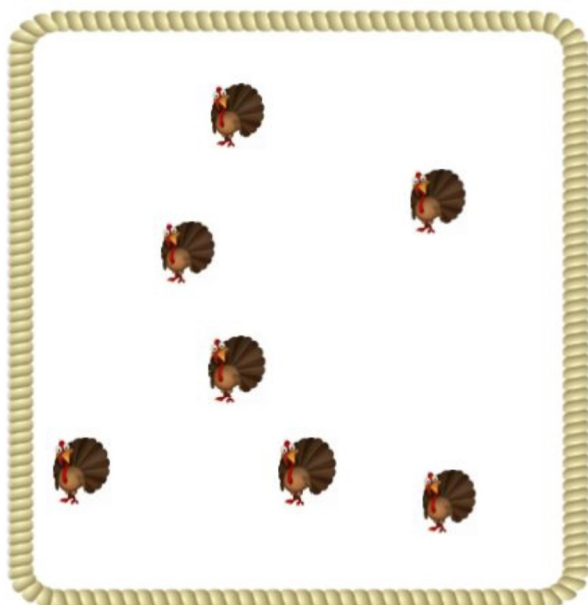
While we are thankful for so much each month of the year, November provides a special day to focus on our gratitude. Many gather to celebrate with a focus on food, friendship and family, so we'd like to share some of the origins of traditional Thanksgiving food in this month's edition of Ag Adventures for Families. We also thank the farmers of Illinois for all they produce for our plates and their dedication to providing for all.

## Sweet Potatoes



A yam and sweet potato are not botanically related, although the USDA has made it a requirement that the label "yam" must also say "sweet potato". Sweet potatoes are roots found mainly in tropical America and are part of the Morning Glory family. Yams are tubers (or bulbs) of a tropical vine found in Central and South America, the West Indies, Africa and Asia. Both yams and sweet potatoes grow from October through March. North Carolina produces nearly 60% of the nation's sweet potatoes. Sweet potatoes are full of vitamin A (they contain even more than carrots), while yams contain very little.

**Using only three straight lines, can you separate the turkeys into their own area?**



(Answer below by word search winner)

## Sweet Corn



Sweet corn is produced for the fresh, frozen and canned markets. According to the 2012 USDA Census of Agriculture, sweet corn was harvested on over 25,000 farms and in all 50 states. In terms of production and value, sweet corn is the second largest processing crop, surpassed only by tomatoes.

## Cranberries



Wisconsin is the top producer of cranberries (and green snap beans) with about 60% of all berries coming from our neighbor. Last month many cranberry farms in Wisconsin flooded their beds with water for harvest time where special machinery gathers the floating cranberries and sends them to harvest into cranberry products such as sauces and juice.



In honor of Veteran's Day (November 11) and Thanksgiving, we would like to thank our veterans for their service and for protecting our country!!

## Turkey



Minnesota continues to be the top turkey producing state. Male turkeys are called Tom's or "gobblers," after the "gobble" call they make to announce themselves to females (which are called "hens") and compete with other males. An adult Tom weighs 16 to 22 pounds on average, whereas a hen is smaller, weighing around 8 to 12 pounds. Both genders have a snood (a dangly appendage on the face), wattle (the red dangly bit under the chin) and only a few feathers on the head. Toms and hens are raised separately, but eat similar diets of corn, soybean meal and vitamins.

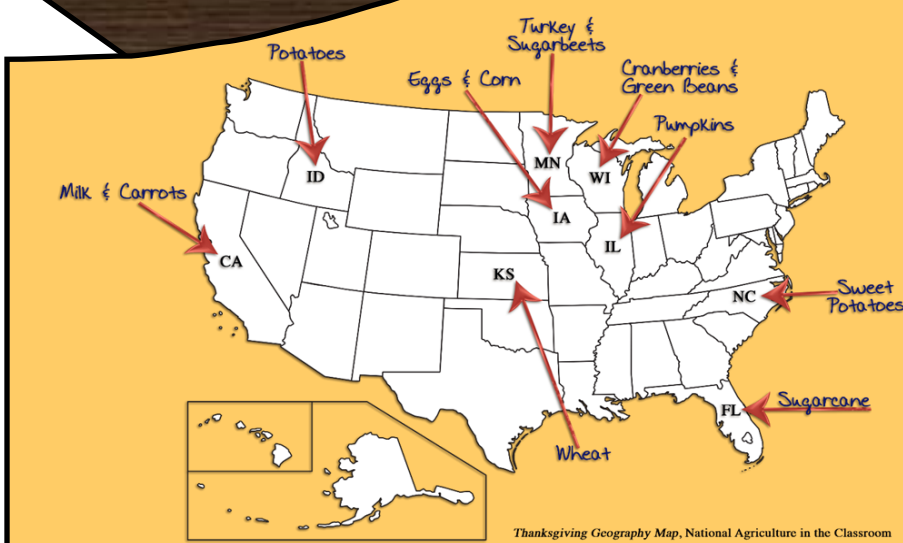
Our state fruit is the Goldrush Apple that are long-keeping and have a delicious sweet-tart taste. The name "goldrush" refers to the golden color and the "rush" of rich, spicy flavor. A properly stored goldrush apple will keep its crisp, firm texture and complex flavor for at least seven months. The skin of a goldrush apple is greenish-yellow with occasional bronze to red blush at harvest.

## Pumpkin



Illinois is home to Libby's pumpkin processing plant in Morton, IL the pumpkin capital of the U.S. More than 80% of the world's canned pumpkin is provided by Libby's. Their pumpkins are oval and pale orange and very different from the ornamental or carving pumpkins. They are meaty and grown specifically for canning.

## Apples



## November Word Search

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

Apple Pie

Cranberries

Gather

Gobble

Hen

Illinois

Libbys

Morton

Potatoes

Pumpkin

Sweet Corn

Thanksgiving

Tom

Turkey

Veteran

Yams

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

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

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

(Membership # is located on front of paper)

If you were to win, check your preference:

\_\_\_ Beggar's Pizza GC \_\_\_ HRI GC \_\_\_ 3 Movie Tix

(If a choice is not made, movie tickets will be sent)

Deadline is the 20th of each month.

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

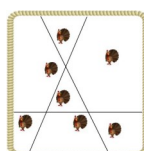
Fax to: 708-579-6056

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!



Last month's word  
search winner is....



John Deir