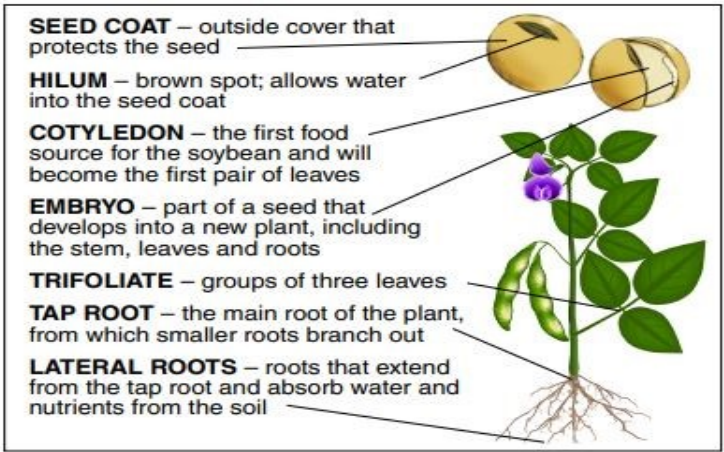


Agriculture Adventures for Families

This month we highlight the importance and versatility of soybeans. In a few short weeks you will see farmers entering their fields to plant soybeans in Cook County. Not only will you find soy in foods you eat, but as a renewable resource they are finding their way into less obvious products as well including car parts, artificial turf and much more. Have fun growing your Beanie Babies and drop us a note if you need a few soybeans!



Soybean Parts



Beanie Baby



Now that you know how soybeans grow, why not grow your own?

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Jewelry size resealable bag (found in craft stores)
- Crystal Soil (Found in plant nurseries or from Flinn Scientific 800-452-1261)
- Hole Punch
- Water
- Measuring spoons
- Soybeans
- Yarn



1. Punch a hole in the top of your bag, above the zipper seal.
2. Place ¼ teaspoon of Crystal Soil into the bag.
3. Drop 1-2 soybeans into the bag.
4. Add 1 tablespoon of water.
5. Seal your bag.
6. Insert the yarn into the hole to make a necklace.
7. Use the yarn to hang your beanie baby around the room to chart the effect of various exposures to light and heat. You might want to wear it around your neck and under your shirt to provide constant heat for your Beanie Baby!
8. Check your Beanie Baby several times a day to watch the process of germination.
9. Record the growth on a chart.



Technology, Drones, & Soybeans



Farmers have been growing soybeans for thousands of years, but the technology used by farmers is constantly changing. Here are just some of the ways technology is changing the soybean industry today:

BLOCKCHAIN – A new technology changing the way banks, companies and people send money to one another. While it is most famous for its uses with digital currencies like Bitcoin, one of the very first blockchain transactions tracked the purchase and shipment of soybeans. This new technology has the potential to speed up and protect soybean sales in the future.



DRONES – Up to 80% of nonmilitary drone use in the United States is for agriculture. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or UAVs as they are sometimes called, help farmers survey their fields in new, important ways.

Previously, to get an image of an entire field a farmer would have to lease a private pilot to fly over and photograph the field. Now farmers can control UAVs themselves and take clearer images more often, and for a much lower cost. Soybean farmers use different types of imaging when surveying with drones. Aside from spotting flooded areas, and mapping the terrain, specially equipped drone cameras can take Normalized Difference Vegetation Index images (NDVI) which can help farmers analyze crop health.

BIOTECHNOLOGY – By making small changes in the genetics of plants, biotechnology practices can help those plants thrive in less than perfect conditions. Like flipping a light switch on and off, scientists activate or deactivate certain traits in a plant by turning parts of the plant’s genetic code on or off. For soybeans, this technology is used to help more soybeans grow in less space. In a way, biotechnology has been around since the ancient beginnings of farming through selective breeding. Early on, people realized they could replicate the traits they liked in their crop by planting the seeds of plants with that trait.



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 2021 and your name is automatically entered into an “End of Year” drawing for a gift basket full of ag themed goodies.

Good luck!

April Word Search

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

Brown

Crops

Drones

Embryo

Field

Green

Hilum

Leaves

Plant

Roots

Science

Seed

Soybean

Technology

Traits

Water

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.

Last Month's Word Search Winner Is..

Angelo Luciano

