

Each year, Minnesota Corn allocates corn check-off funds to programs that increase awareness of agriculture, corn, corn farming, and biofuels. In 2022, MCGA invested in programs such as:

CommonGround Minnesota

CommonGround Minnesota is a Minnesota Corn run program that educates non-farming women about agriculture through events, blogs, videos, and social media. Women farmers serve as the face of the program, volunteering their time to write blog posts and answer audience questions at events. In 2022, CommonGround Minnesota engaged hundreds of urban and suburban women with positive messages about food and farming.



County corn growers associations

Supported in part by Minnesota Corn, county corn growers associations engage farmers and non-farming rural audiences through community gatherings, local programs, golf tournaments, fuel promotion events, and more. In 2022, the state's 52 county associations helped teach thousands of consumers about biofuels and corn farming through over 250 fuel promotion events, sports sponsorships, and other activities.



Farmamerica

Also known as the Minnesota Agricultural Interpretive Center, Waseca-based Farmamerica features exhibits and buildings that tell the story of agriculture in the state. In recent years, Minnesota Corn has contributed to a capital campaign to renovate and expand the Farmamerica campus. In October, Farmamerica unveiled its new lobby and discovery center.



Farm at the Arb

Located at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Farm at the Arb provides visitors with the chance to learn about agriculture, explore Minnesota farm crops, and get tips on growing fruits and vegetables. Minnesota Corn sponsors the Farm at the Arb "Farm Crawl" smartphone virtual tour and the "Corn is Everywhere" event, which highlights how corn impacts our everyday lives.



Minnesota Agriculture in the Classroom (MAITC)

MAITC provides free curriculum, educational resources, grants, outreach, and professional development opportunities to increase ag literacy through K-12 education. In 2022, Minnesota Corn helped MAITC reach over 161,000 K-12 and post-secondary students with messages about agriculture and farming. Minnesota Corn's support also helped MAITC operate its farm camp program.



Minnesota Agriculture & Rural Leadership (MARL)

MARL is a two-year leadership program through Southwest Minnesota State University that works to develop the leadership skills of ag and rural professionals. Participants attend seminars that feature a mix of leadership study, personal skill building, and location-related subject matter. In 2022, Minnesota Corn's support helped MARL develop the leadership skills of 27 farmers and rural and agriculture professionals.



Variety Plot

Minnesota Corn's Variety Plot program provides farmers with localized data on the performance of corn and soybean varieties. In 2022, eight counties maintained corn variety plots, and eight counties maintained corn and soybean variety plots. Some also held plot days. See harvest results from the test plots at varietyplot.mncorn.org.



Corn by the Numbers

2022 MINNESOTA CORN PRODUCTION

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Acres planted | 8.1 million |
| Yield* | 191 bushels/acre |
| Total production* | 1.4 billion bushels |

2022 NATIONAL CORN PRODUCTION

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Acres planted | 88.6 million |
| Yield* | 172.3 bushels/acre |
| Total production* | 13.9 billion bushels |

*Based on USDA November estimates
Source: USDA

About the Minnesota Corn Growers Association

MCGA is Minnesota's grassroots corn growers association. Founded in 1978, MCGA advocates on behalf of corn farmers, supports county corn growers associations, and works closely with the Minnesota Corn Research & Promotion Council to fund research, promotion, and outreach aimed at increasing opportunities for corn farmers.

MCGA Financials

| |
|-------------------------------------|
| Operations and Administration - 44% |
| Advocacy - 51% |
| Education and Promotion - 5% |
| Total: \$486,183 |

About the Minnesota Corn Research & Promotion Council

The MCR&PC oversees the Minnesota corn check-off, funds that are used to increase opportunities for corn farmers in the state. The council invests check-off dollars into research, promotion, & outreach programming aimed at developing markets for corn, increasing on-farm sustainability, and improving quality of life for corn farmers and all Minnesotans.

Corn Check-off Investment Allocation

| |
|--|
| Research and Utilization - 29% |
| National Corn Growers Association - 20% |
| Membership and Consumer Engagement - 20% |
| Education, Outreach, and Promotion - 18% |
| Export Programs - 7% |
| Operations and Administration - 6% |
| Total: \$11,763,157 |

CORN BY THE NUMBERS



LEARN MORE ABOUT
MINNESOTA CORN
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SCAN ME

FOLLOW US:



500 E. Travelers Trail, Suite 600, Burnsville, MN 55337

2022

ANNUAL REPORT
MINNESOTA CORN GROWERS ASSOCIATION
MINNESOTA CORN RESEARCH & PROMOTION COUNCIL

DEAR MINNESOTA CORN PRODUCERS:

We hope you had a relaxing holiday season. As we prepare for 2023, we want to thank you for your continued support of the Minnesota corn check-off and the Minnesota Corn Growers Association. Without farmers like you, we couldn't fund critical programs or advocate for policies that support corn growers. Thank you.

For Minnesota's corn organizations, 2022 was another successful year. MCR&PC once again invested in important research, promotion, and outreach programs that increase opportunities for corn farmers. Meanwhile, MCGA successfully supported legislation that developed and maintained markets for corn, ethanol, and ethanol co-products. While we're proud of all our efforts, there are a couple we'd briefly like to highlight here.

In October, Minnesota Corn hosted international buyers at family farms during the U.S. Grains Council's Export Exchange, which was held in Minneapolis. Thanks in part to these efforts, international buyers committed to purchasing over \$225 million worth of U.S. grains and grain co-products. Also in the fall, Minnesota Corn signed a pledge by the Taiwanese Feed Industry Association that commits Taiwanese feed manufacturers to purchase roughly \$600 million in U.S. corn and DDGS in 2023 and 2024.

When it came to research and utilization, Minnesota Corn continued investing in research with Lakril Technologies. The University of Minnesota-based start-up company has developed a cost-effective method of producing acrylic acid and acrylates, which are used to manufacture paints, coatings, and textiles, out of renewable feedstocks like corn. This could increase corn demand by tens of millions of bushels annually, providing a boost to Minnesota farmers and rural communities.

On the policy front, one of our biggest successes was the Biden administration's emergency order allowing for uninterrupted sales of Unleaded 88 during the summer 2022 driving season. This order was spurred in large part by grassroots advocacy from corn farmers in Minnesota and across the U.S. Thanks to the order, Minnesota drivers filled up with Unleaded 88 at record levels this summer. Additionally, in October, we celebrated the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's announcement of grants to 44 fueling stations that was spearheaded by funding through an MCR&PC-state biofuel infrastructure grant program. The grants, funded in part by a \$1 million contribution by MCR&PC in 2021, leveraged \$6 million from the state to help thousands more Minnesota drivers access the benefits of higher ethanol blends.

Overall, 2022 was another strong year for Minnesota Corn of developing opportunities for the state's corn farmers while improving quality of life for rural communities and all Minnesotans. It's a pleasure working with such dedicated grower-leaders to advance the interests of corn farmers, and we appreciate your support.

Here's to a successful 2023 growing season.



RICHARD SYVERSON
MCGA PRESIDENT

DOUG ALBIN
MCR&PC CHAIR

The Minnesota Corn Growers Association supports policies that ensure corn farmers can produce an abundant, sustainable crop and maintain market access. In 2022, thanks to the grassroots support of corn farmers, we had the following successes:

Connecting with legislative leaders

MCGA hosted candidates for Minnesota's First Congressional District and U.S. Rep. Michelle Fischbach at family farms in summer 2022, highlighting legislative priorities and noting how corn farmers are leading on sustainability. We also encouraged state and federal lawmakers and government officials to support policies that benefit corn farmers during visits to Congress and the state Capitol. In addition, we built relationships with legislative candidates during the 2022 campaign and deepened connections with state legislators through an urban-rural exchange program.

Ensuring uninterrupted Unleaded 88 sales in summer 2022

Corn farmers in Minnesota and nationwide successfully urged the Biden administration to use its emergency authority to ensure uninterrupted sales of Unleaded 88 during the summer driving season. Thanks in part to this announcement, sales of Unleaded 88 hit new monthly records in Minnesota in the summer.

Highlighting critical farm tools

As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) considers revising the registration of atrazine, Minnesota corn farmers submitted nearly 500 public comments about the importance of this tool. In Minnesota, MCGA submitted an amicus brief in the Limbo Creek state Supreme Court case. Thanks in part to our brief, the court declined to rule on a broader question, which would have resulted in significant regulatory requirements for drainage projects across the entire state.

Supporting increased biofuel access

In fall 2022, we celebrated the announcement that 44 fueling stations are receiving funds through a state biofuel infrastructure grant program spearheaded by MCR&PC. Thanks to grassroots advocacy from Minnesota's corn farmers, state lawmakers allocated \$6 million to the program in 2021. MCR&PC contributed an additional \$1 million.

At the federal level, MCGA continued supporting the bipartisan Next Generation Fuels Act, which would lower fuel prices and reduce transportation-related carbon emissions. The bill has been introduced in both chambers of Congress and has support from Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar & Minnesota Reps. Angie Craig and Michelle Fischbach. We also applauded the U.S. House of Representatives for passing a bill that would ensure permanent year-round sales of Unleaded 88.

Finally, we thanked Gov. Tim Walz for joining a formal request to the EPA along with eight other Midwestern governors to exercise their authority so Unleaded 88 can be sold year-round beginning June 1, 2023.

Research and utilization projects at a glance

Better Fuel Initiative

The Better Fuel Initiative is Minnesota Corn's official biofuel promotion campaign. In 2022, Better Fuel Initiative ads featuring KFAN's Chris Hawkey promoted Unleaded 88 on TV, digital platforms, and traditional channels throughout the state. Thanks in part to the campaign, reported Unleaded 88 sales in Minnesota were on pace to break a state record in 2022.



Biofuels research project

This project, led by The Hormel Institute, is exploring whether the petroleum-derived aromatic compounds blended into gasoline to boost octane levels — ensuring fuel stability — are more harmful than currently understood. The research could pave the way for the increased substitution of ethanol in place of aromatics in gasoline. Ethanol has the same octane-boosting properties as aromatics.



Nutrient management dynamics in northwestern Minnesota corn production

Dr. Lindsay Pease of the University of Minnesota is studying how nutrient management decisions in northwestern Minnesota corn fields affect yield, nutrient losses, and soil nitrogen, phosphorus, and carbon availability. She is also evaluating how application of phosphate fertilizers affects agronomic factors when applied annually versus every two years.



Sustainable polymers from corn as tomorrow's plastics

Led by Dr. Marc Hillmyer of the University of Minnesota NSF Center for Sustainable Polymers, this research project aims to develop the next generation of bioplastics made from corn. Corn-based plastics, including polylactic acid (PLA) plastics, are used today but have some limiting physical properties. Research supported by the state's corn farmers includes projects that will greatly increase how and where corn-based plastics can be used by adding toughness, strength, better thermal stability, and other characteristics that will expand applications.



U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF)

USMEF promotes U.S. red meat — beef, pork, & lamb — in international markets. In 2022, Minnesota Corn supported USMEF's efforts to promote beef exports in Japan & South Korea, the two largest international markets for U.S. beef by volume. Thanks in part to these investments, the U.S. exported beef to South Korea at a record pace through the first nine months of 2022.



U.S. Grains Council (USGC)

USGC develops export markets for U.S. barley, corn, sorghum, and related products including distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS) and ethanol. Thanks in part to the efforts by USGC to develop and maintain export markets, U.S. grain exports in 2021-22 totaled more than 122 million metric tons, the second-highest year on record. In 2021-22, MCR&PC member Chad Willis served as chair of USGC.



Read summaries & updates on all Minnesota Corn-funded research - plus results from previously funded projects - at mncorn.org.

SCAN ME

In 2022, Minnesota Corn allocated more than \$3.5 million to research and utilization projects aimed at making corn farming more efficient, productive, profitable, and sustainable. The projects help farmers by:

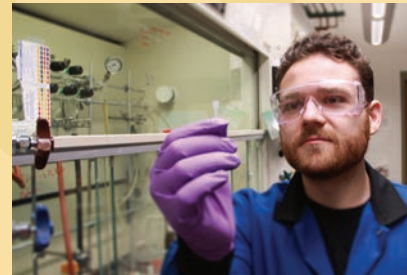
Educating on nutrient management

By supporting the University of Minnesota Extension's Nitrogen Smart program & funding a water-quality extension educator position, Minnesota Corn is helping farmers learn about cutting-edge nutrient-management tools.



Expanding uses for corn

Minnesota Corn supports research into the next generation of corn-based bioplastics, the potential of dried distillers grains as a human food ingredient, and factors that impact grain durability during shipping.



Improving the sustainability of corn production

By supporting projects focused on nutrient management, precision irrigation, water quality, and conservation practices, Minnesota Corn is helping corn farmers become more environmentally friendly.



Maintaining and developing markets for corn

Through biofuel promotion and investments in export markets, Minnesota Corn aims to increase demand for our state's corn crop.

