

Wheat & Feed Grains

STUDENT ACTIVITY

Instructions: After watching the Farming Feeds Alabama video about Wheat & Feed Grains, answer the following questions. Listen to and watch the video carefully as most questions can be answered based on what the farmers say or the images shown. Questions marked with an * may require additional research.

1. Why do farmers feel the need to raise a better crop every year?
2. Name some feed grains grown in Alabama.*
3. What did he mean when Mike Dee said Alabama is a “user state of corn.”
4. List a few animals that eat corn.
5. Farmer Nick McMichen mentions swath control, which is a GPS control system used in planters, combines and sprayers to reduce effects of overlapping on trips across a field. What does McMichen say is one of the benefits of using swath control and precision agriculture?
6. What technological tool can farmers now use to control their irrigation systems?
7. What is no-till? What are the benefits of a no-till farm?

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TEACHER KEY

Access the Wheat & Feed Grains video at www.FarmingFeedsAlabama.com or through the jump drive provided in your Farming Feeds Alabama Teacher Resource Guide.

Run time: 3:32

1. Why do farmers feel the need to raise a better crop every year?
 - Because they are responsible for feeding a growing population and are just 2 percent of the population
2. Name some of the feed grains grown in Alabama. *
 - Corn, oats, wheat, barley, grain sorghum, millet
3. What did he mean when Mike Dee said Alabama is a “user state of corn.”
 - Alabama farmers do not grow enough corn to feed the poultry, cattle and catfish grown in the state.
4. List a few animals that eat corn.
 - Chickens, cattle, catfish, hogs
5. Farmer Nick McMichen mentions swath control, which is a GPS control system used in planters, combines and sprayers to reduce effects of overlapping on trips across a field. What does McMichen say is one of the benefits of using swath control and precision agriculture?
 - Use less chemicals
6. What technological tool can farmers now use to control their irrigation systems?
 - smartphone
7. What is no-till? What are the benefits of a no-till farm?
 - a. Do not till or plow the ground before planting a crop
 - b. Soil doesn't drift off into rivers or streams. Keeps soil in the field. Builds the soil so it will be ready for the next year's crop.