

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 31, 2017



Contact:

Nick George, President
608-255-9946

Nick.George@mwfpa.org

Brian Elliott
Dir. of Communications
608-255-9946

Brian.Elliott@mwfpa.org

Minnesota Sweet Corn Production Leads Nation

The Midwest Food Products Association ([MWFPA](http://www.mwfpa.org)) today touted United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) figures showing Minnesota maintained its number one ranking nationally in production of sweet corn for processing in 2016.

The production of sweet corn for processing in Minnesota totaled 700,685 tons and was valued at \$55.4 million for the year. Sweet corn for processing is heavily concentrated in the Midwest. According to the USDA figures, Minnesota accounts for 28 percent of the nation's total production.

In Minnesota sweet corn is grown on about 100,000 acres of farmland across the state. Most of the crop will either be frozen or canned for resale. According to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, processing corn products instead of exporting raw corn doubles the value of each bushel.

-MORE-

“Food processing is strongly tied to the agricultural community. Minnesota places perennially among the top states in the production of sweet corn, oats, sugar beets, green peas and soybeans, in addition to turkeys, hogs and pigs,” according to Nick George, president of MWFPA. Minnesota is a major food processor hosting companies possessing national and international name recognition.

Minnesota also maintained its second place ranking for the production of green peas for processing in 2016, producing 95,250 tons of with a total value of \$23.7 million. Pea production in the U.S. totaled 6.88 million cwt.

-30-