



NEWS RELEASE

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Minnesota Ranks First in Green Pea Production, Second in Sweet Corn Production

Madison, WI: The Midwest Food Products Association ([MWFPA](http://mwfpa.org)) recognizes Minnesota's ranking as first in green pea production in 2023, with 35 percent of the nation's production. Minnesota maintains its high ranking nationally for the production of sweet corn, with 93,500 acres grown last year.

These rankings, released by the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistical Service, may be viewed at nass.usda.gov.

Minnesota is known for producing the most green peas, with 1.81 million tons harvested with a value of \$33.7 million in 2023. Green peas are a nutritious cool season, annual crop.

Also in 2023, the North Star State was second in national sweet corn production, just behind Washington state. Most of the sweet corn grown for processing is produced in the southern portion of the state near processing or canning facilities. Sweet corn production is heavily concentrated in the upper Midwest and the Pacific Northwest.

Like peas, the majority of Minnesota's sweet corn crop is frozen or canned. The production of sweet corn for processing in Minnesota totaled 726,308 tons and was valued at \$82.8 million for the year. "Food production is an important industry in the Midwest, alongside agriculture," said Jason Culotta, president of MWFPA. "Minnesota is a major food processing state, hosting companies with international name recognition, and MWFPA is proud to support and advocate for its Minnesota member plants and their operations in this region."

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MWFPA represents the interests of the region's dynamic food products industry. The Association lobbies on legislative and regulatory matters, promotes safe food processing practices, investigates new technologies, funds industry research, and plans industry events. It represents processing facilities in Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.