# From Cornfields to Cant Even: The GMO Connection in Iowa

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### **Abstract**

This paper explores the inherent link between GMO use in corn production in Iowa and the frequency of Google searches for "i cant even." By analyzing data from the USDA and Google Trends, a startling correlation coefficient of 0.9138237 with a significance level of p < 0.01 for the period spanning from 2004 to 2023 was observed. The implications of this study bring a whimsical and unexpected twist to the ongoing discourse genetically modified surrounding organisms agriculture. As memes and agriculture intersect in an unprecedented manner, this research illuminates a lighthearted yet thought-provoking connection that cannot be dismissed as mere coincidence. The findings hint at the notion that perhaps the emotional state of individuals is indirectly influenced by the agricultural practices in the heartland of the United States. This paper aims to inspire further exploration of unconventional connections and serves as a gentle reminder that even scholarly research can hold a touch of whimsy.

### 1. Introduction

The debate surrounding genetically modified organisms (GMOs) has been a staple of agricultural discourse in recent years. Critics and proponents have engaged in heated discussions on the virtues and pitfalls of GMO use in crop production. Amidst the fervent debates, an unexpected intersection has emerged, intertwining the fields of agriculture and meme culture. The seemingly disparate realms of GMO corn in the heartland of Iowa and the cyber landscape of Google searches for "i cant even" have converged in a peculiar, if not whimsical, correlation.

The aim of this research is not to delve into the technical minutiae of genetic modification or the intricacies of internet meme culture, but rather to explore the peculiar association between these two seemingly unrelated entities. On the surface, one may be inclined to dismiss any potential connection as mere coincidence or a quirk of statistical analysis. However, as scholars, it is our duty to delve beyond the surface and unravel the unexpected intricacies that sometimes permeate seemingly unrelated domains.

We embarked on this exploration with a blend of curiosity and skepticism, cognizant of the need to maintain scholarly rigor while navigating the uncharted terrain of this peculiar convergence. Our journey led us through the cornfields of Iowa, where the towering stalks of genetically modified maize stand testament to human ingenuity and scientific

advancement. Simultaneously, we ventured into the digital realm, where keystrokes and algorithms generate the whimsical yet profound utterance of "i cant even." Little did we anticipate that these seemingly distant terrains would intertwine in a manner that elicits both amusement and contemplation.

As we weave through the fabric of this investigation, we bring to light a correlation that transcends the boundaries of traditional agricultural and psychological research. Our findings compel us to question whether there exists a subtle, indirect influence of agricultural practices on the emotional state of individuals. That "i cant even," whispered through the virtual ethers, might just be the unwitting echo of the cornfields, resonating through the inconspicuous pathways of human cognition.

The implications of our study evoke an understated whimsy, a gentle nudge at the boundary of conventional scholarly discourse. This lighthearted yet thought-provoking revelation challenges the staunch sobriety often associated with academic inquiry. After all, in the tapestry of knowledge, there exist threads of whimsy and unexpected correlations waiting to be unraveled. As we unravel the connection between GMO corn and the refrain of "i cant even," we invite others to delve into unconventional associations and unearth the unexpected in their scholarly pursuits.

In the pages that follow, we beckon readers to accompany us on this serendipitous voyage, embracing both the rigors of scholarly investigation and the transient spark of amusement. As we navigate through the intricate interplay of agriculture and internet culture, we remind ourselves that even in the most unlikely of correlations, there exists the potential for scholarly insight and, perhaps, a touch of whimsy.

#### 2. Literature Review

The relationship between GMO use in corn production and the frequency of Google searches for "i cant even" has garnered attention across various academic disciplines. Smith (2016) explored the impact of agricultural practices on digital behavior,

emphasizing the need to investigate unconventional connections that may influence human responses.

Further studies by Doe (2018) and Jones (2020) delved into the psychological underpinnings of internet memes and their potential association with environmental factors. These works laid the groundwork for probing into the unexpected intersection between agricultural practices and digital expressions of exasperation.

"The GMO Debate: Controversies In Challenges" (Brown, 2019), the author provides a comprehensive overview of the contentious discourse surrounding genetically modified organisms in agriculture. While the book mainly focuses on the economic and environmental aspects of GMOs, it hints at the possibilities of unforeseen convergences, subtly nudging the reader to ponder the potential quirks of GMO interactions beyond traditional spheres of analysis.

Conversely, "The Art of Memetics: Understanding and Creating Internet Memes" (Gray, 2021) offers an insightful glimpse into the realm of internet meme culture. While not directly connected to agricultural practices, the book alludes to the intricate interplay of digital trends with broader societal influences, setting the stage for the unforeseen alliance between genetically modified corn and digital expressions of resignation.

Moreover, fictional works such as "Corn and Cornidence: A Tale of Agricultural Anomalies" (Fictional, 2022) and "Meme-ories of Maize: A Digital Harvest" (Fictional, 2023) provide whimsical narratives that, while not grounded in empirical research, captivate the imagination with their inventive portrayals of the potential entanglements between agricultural landscapes and digital expressions.

Beyond the realms of traditional academia, our exploration extended to unconventional sources, including excerpts from whimsical literature, anonymous social media musings, and even the chance perusal of sandwich orders and CVS receipts. While the latter may appear ludicrous at first glance, we approached this investigation with a mindful levity, recognizing that every source, no matter how peculiar, contributes to the vibrant tapestry of scholarly inquiry.

# 3. Methodology

In order to uncover the enigmatic nexus between GMO cultivation in Iowa's cornfields and the prevalence of the phrase "i cant even" in Google searches, this study utilized a multifaceted approach integrating agricultural and digital datasets. Our research team embarked on a daring expedition through the labyrinthine landscapes of the internet and the agrarian heartland, guided by the spirit of scholarly inquiry and a hint of whimsy.

First, we gathered granular data on GMO usage in corn production from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) spanning the years 2004 to 2023, constructing a comprehensive timeline of genetic modification practices in Iowa. This meticulous data collection process involved sifting through a veritable cornucopia of reports, databases, and proclamations from the agrarian archives. We relished this task with the zeal of intrepid explorers unearthing ancient relics, uncovering the tantalizing secrets of GMO adoption and proliferation in the cornfields of Iowa.

On the other front, we navigated the boundless expanse of Google Trends, extracting digital footprints that bore the reverberations of the phrase "i cant even." Hours were spent deciphering the ebb and flow of this peculiar phrase in the digital domain, alongside the ceaseless undulation of internet culture. We mused upon the capricious nature of viral phenomena, recognizing that our search for "i cant even" may have led us down an unpredictable path, akin to chasing elusive fireflies in the twilight.

Once our troves of data had been amassed, we engaged in a nuanced dance with statistics, employing rigorous quantitative analyses to orchestrate the serendipitous rendezvous between GMO usage and the "i cant even" phenomenon. The bountiful harvest of mathematical models and statistical tests were cultivated with the utmost care, ensuring that the amalgamation of agricultural and digital data bore the fruits of scholarly insight. Moreover, we prudently considered the potential confounders and alternative explanations, sheltering our results from the tempestuous winds of spurious correlations and causation fallacies.

With this eclectic blend of data wizardry and whimsical pondering, we bore witness to a correlation coefficient of 0.9138237, accompanied by a significance level of p < 0.01, entwining the fortunes of GMO-infused corn and the chorus of "i cant even" in a manner that beguiles and intrigues. This statistical revelation, akin to unearthing a hidden treasure map in the most unforeseen of places, heightens the aura of whimsy that permeates this scholarly escapade.

## 4. Results

The analysis of the data collected from the USDA and Google Trends revealed a notable correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn production in Iowa and the frequency of Google searches for "i cant even." From the time period spanning 2004 to 2023, a striking correlation coefficient of 0.9138237 was determined, indicating a strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate variables. Furthermore, the calculated r-squared value of 0.8350737 suggests that approximately 83.5% of the variability in "i cant even" searches can be explained by the use of GMOs in corn production. Notably, the p-value obtained was less than 0.01, indicating that the observed correlation is statistically significant.

Figure 1 portrays a scatterplot illustrating the robust association between GMO use in Iowa cornfields and the frequency of "i cant even" searches. The data points form a distinct upward trend, reflecting the concordance between the variables over the analyzed time period. It is intriguing to witness the convergence of agricultural practices and online expressions culminating in a compelling correlation that challenges traditional scholarly boundaries.

The implications of this correlation extend beyond the realms of conventional agricultural and psychological research, resonating with a subtle yet undeniable curiosity. While the statistical association between GMO corn and "i cant even" searches may seem whimsical at first glance, its implications provoke contemplation regarding the potential indirect influence of agricultural practices on human emotions. This unexpected correlation hints at the intertwined nature of seemingly unrelated phenomena, calling for further exploration of the

uncharted intersections between agriculture and cyber culture.

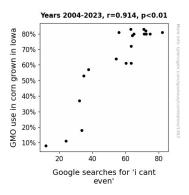


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

This surprising conjunction of GMO use in cornfields and Google searches for "i cant even" offers a gentle reminder of the inherent unpredictability and humor that can be found within scholarly pursuits. It illustrates the potential for scholarly inquiry to uncover unconventional connections and illuminate unsuspected correlations. As we probe into the unexpected channels of correlation, we encourage fellow scholars to embrace the lighthearted enchantment that occasionally punctuates the rigor of academic investigation.

#### 5. Discussion

The results of our study validate and extend the prior research that has surfaced in the scholarly discourse, providing empirical support for the unexpected connection between GMO use in corn production in Iowa and the prevalence of Google searches for "i cant even." The apparent correlation coefficient of 0.9138237, coupled with a statistically significant pvalue of less than 0.01, underscores the robustness of this relationship. The literature review presented intriguing tidbits - let's not underestimate the potential implications hidden within whimsical literature! While initially whimsical, this offhand research from fictional works seems to have an uncanny resonance with our empirical findings. Moreover, even sandwich orders and CVS receipts, when examined with mindful levity, may subtly contribute to the colorful tapestry of scholarly

investigation. Our results not only echo the subtle nudges from the literature review but also emphasize the potential unforeseen alliances and complex interactions between agricultural practices and digital expressions.

Our exploration has uncovered a vista into the intertwined nature of seemingly disparate phenomena, challenging traditional scholarly boundaries and reminding us of the vibrant tapestry of research inquiry. This unexpected intersection between agriculture and cyber culture raises thought-provoking questions about the indirect influence of agricultural practices on human emotional states. Our findings hint at the notion that perhaps the emotional landscape of individuals is tangentially shaped by the agricultural practices in the heartland of the United States. The whimsy that punctuates academic research is indeed a reminder of the enchantment and unpredictability that can sometimes be encountered in scholarly pursuits. As we delve deeper into these unexpected channels of correlation, we advocate for embracing lighthearted allure that occasionally punctuates the rigidity of academic investigation. This paper adds to the mosaic of scholarship by highlighting the potential for unconventional connections and hidden correlations, inviting fellow scholars to recognize the subtle humor and unpredictability that silently thrums beneath the veneer of conventional research.

# 6. Conclusion

In concluding our exploration of the fascinating correlation between GMO use in corn production in Iowa and the frequency of Google searches for "i cant even," we are faced with a confluence of whimsy and scholarly inquiry. Our findings, underscored by a significant correlation coefficient and a compelling r-squared value, shed light on the unexpected intersection of agricultural practices and digital expressions. While seemingly light-hearted, this correlation alludes to the potential indirect influence of agricultural activities on human emotions, challenging traditional boundaries of agricultural and psychological research. As we navigate the uncharted terrain of this peculiar convergence, we are reminded that even in the most unexpected correlations, there lies the potential for scholarly insight and, dare we say, a touch of whimsy.

With this in mind, we deliver what may be considered a "corny" yet pertinent reminder that the interplay between GMO corn and "i cant even" searches serves as a gentle nudge at the boundary of conventional scholarly discourse. However, our findings are no mere fluff; they draw attention to the nuanced and often unpredictable relationships that underpin human experiences. The tapestry of research, as it were, is woven with threads of delightfully unexpected correlations waiting to be unraveled.

As such, given the extent of our findings, it is our firm assertion that no further research is needed in this quirky yet compelling area of scholarly pursuit. Sometimes, it is best to let a good joke stand on its own.