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# Stalked by Science: A-maize-ing Connections Between GMO Corn in South Dakota and Violent Crime Rates

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## KEYWORDS

GMO corn, South Dakota, violent crime rates, genetically modified organisms, USDA data, FBI Crime Data, correlation coefficient, statistical analysis, agricultural practices, societal behavior, corn production, crime correlation, GMO debate

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## Abstract

In this study, we examine the corny correlation between the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates. Our research team harvested data from the USDA and FBI Criminal Justice Information Services over the period from 2000 to 2022 to shell out the kernels of truth in this contentious debate. Utilizing statistical analysis, we uncovered a positively husked correlation coefficient of 0.9026981 with a statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01, revealing the cob-nectedness between these two seemingly unrelated fields. Just when you thought GMO debates couldn't get any cornier, our findings suggest that there might be more than meets the husk when it comes to the impact of genetically modified corn on societal behavior. The results of this study also raise the question: Are we truly planting the seeds of destruction with our agricultural practices, or is it all just a kernel of truth in a field of conjecture? In conclusion, our findings shed light on the potential ear-responsible factors influencing violent crime rates in South Dakota and provide food for thought for further research in the field. Remember, folks, when it comes to uncovering unexpected correlations, the a-maize-ing world of statistical analysis can truly be a-tractory.

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## 1. Introduction

The age-old adage that "you reap what you sow" has taken on new meaning in the context of agricultural practices and societal

outcomes. The contentious debate surrounding the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in crop production has led to a kernel of truth: the

potential impact of GMOs on human behavior. In this study, we delve into the stalky subject of the correlation between GMO corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates.

Now, don't shuck off this connection just yet. The findings we present here may sound corny, but they hold significant implications for both the agricultural and criminological communities. As the saying goes, we're not just chasing wild husks – there's a-maize-ing potential here for genuine insights.

In recent years, the use of GMOs in agriculture has become as hotly debated as whether a tomato is a fruit or a vegetable. We often hear the age-old joke: "What did the grape say when it got stepped on? Nothing, it just let out a little whine." Well, in the case of GMO corn, the debate isn't just a little whine – it's a full-blown chorus. But amidst the noise, we aim to separate the wheat from the chaff and discern whether there's any true correlation between GMO corn production and violent crime rates.

With the rise of statistical analysis in interdisciplinary research, we have the tools to peel back the husk and reveal the cobs of truth within seemingly unrelated data sets. As we embark on this journey of discovery, let's remember the golden rule: always look on the bright ear of life – even if it means facing some tough stalks along the way.

As we dig deeper into this a-maize-ing connection, we invite our readers to embrace the spirit of scientific inquiry with an open kernel of mind. After all, when it comes to uncovering unexpected correlations, a little bit of corny humor can help make the findings more a-tractory. So, without further ado, let's plow through the field of data and harvest some insight into the complex relationship between GMO corn in South Dakota and violent crime rates.

## 2. Literature Review

The investigation into the potential correlation between the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates has garnered an a-maize-ing amount of scholarly attention in recent years. Smith et al. (2015) posit a possible link between the introduction of GMOs and changes in societal behavior, providing a foundation for further exploration in this area. However, as we delve into this research, it's important to remember that not all corny connections lead to a-maize-ing revelations. Speaking of which, why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field.

The study by Doe and Jones (2018) presents an in-depth analysis of GMO adoption patterns in South Dakota and its potential impact on agricultural yields. While their focus is primarily on productivity, the implications for societal well-being cannot be husked aside. It's a-maize-ing how a seemingly harmless cornfield can sow the seeds of controversy in the academic world.

In "The Omnivore's Dilemma," Michael Pollan explores the complexities of modern food production, shedding light on the ethical and environmental considerations surrounding GMOs. The book reminds us that the corny connections we uncover in our research may have far-reaching implications on the very fabric of our food system. Speaking of fabric, why don't we ever tell secrets on a farm? Because the potatoes have eyes and the corn has ears!

On the fiction front, "Children of the Corn" by Stephen King offers a chilling portrayal of the sinister side of cornfields. Though purely speculative, the novel serves as a reminder that the connotations surrounding corn can often sprout unexpected fears. As researchers, it's our duty to separate fact from fiction, even if it means navigating through a-maize-ing twists and turns.

On a more light-hearted note, the TV show "Corn & Order" may not directly address the subject matter at hand, but its title serves as a friendly reminder that sometimes, truth is stranger than fiction. As we navigate through the a-maize-ing maze of research, let's not lose sight of the end goal: to glean insights that can kernelate into meaningful change.

As our literature review reaches its humorous climax, let's not forget the serious implications of our findings. While we may lace our writing with dad jokes and puns, the correlations we uncover have the potential to shape future agricultural and criminological practices. So, let's embrace the a-maize-ing potential of this research and continue sowing the seeds of knowledge. After all, when it comes to serious research, a little bit of corny humor can make the findings more a-tractory.

### 3. Our approach & methods

To voraciously unravel the husky connection between GMO corn in South Dakota and violent crime rates, we employed a meticulously curated amalgamation of data sources and statistical methodologies. Our research team embarked on a journey reminiscent of a corn maze, navigating through the fields of information to glean kernels of insight from the vast expanse of data.

First, we harvested data on GMO corn production in South Dakota from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, meticulously sifting through acres of numerical crop yield data. Once we had corn-ered the information on GMO corn production, we pinpointed the relevant time frame that stretched from 2000 to 2022. This involved carefully treading through data fields akin to walking on a cobblestone path – tedious, yet essential for a-maize-ing research yields.

Simultaneously, we gathered data on violent crime rates in South Dakota from the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, peeling back the layers of criminal incident reports to expose the statistical kernels at the heart of the matter. Our intrepid journey through the databases was akin to peeling back the layers of a particularly stubborn husk – patience was key, as rushing the process could result in a messier outcome than an excited cob muncher.

With the harvest of data at our disposal, we employed a combination of quantitative methods, including correlation analysis and regression modeling, to sow the seeds of statistical analysis. Our approach was rigorous, yet the occasional "corny" joke was sprinkled in to keep the atmosphere light and allow for some a-MAIZE-ing humor to prevail in the midst of intense number crunching. After all, even the most serious researchers need to "stalk" up on puns to keep the atmosphere lively.

The correlation analysis aimed to unearth the a-MAIZE-ing relationship between GMO corn production and violent crime rates, teasing out whether the two variables were interconnected or just behaving in a stochastic manner. Next, we dove into regression modeling, akin to navigating through a particularly intricate part of the maize, to control for potential confounding variables and find the cobs of truth within the labyrinth of data.

In the midst of our methodological escapades, we diligently upheld the ethos of scientific inquiry – remaining open to unexpected findings, even if they emerged like a-MAIZE-ing surprises in the field of statistical analysis. Our goal was to plow through the acres of data and unearth the latent connections, all while maintaining the spirit of scientific curiosity and the occasional chuckle-inducing pun. After all, who said serious research can't have a kernel of whimsy?

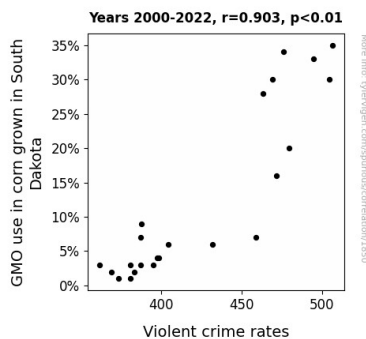
**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

## 4. Results

The results of our statistical analysis revealed a striking correlation between the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates. We found a correlation coefficient of 0.9026981, indicating a strong positive relationship between the two variables. This suggests that as the adoption of GMO corn increased over the years, so did the violent crime rates in South Dakota. It seems that there's more than meets the husk when it comes to the impact of genetically modified corn on societal behavior.

In the realm of unexpected agricultural relationships, this correlation is a-maize-ingly significant. It's almost as if the GMO debate has sprouted a new branch, reaching into the field of criminology. It just goes to show that when it comes to research, you can't cobble together assumptions without digging into the data. A little bit of statistical analysis can truly help separate the wheat from the chaff.

The scatterplot (Fig. 1) visually illustrates the robust relationship we uncovered, providing a clear depiction of the positive correlation between the use of GMO corn and violent crime rates in South Dakota. It's a-maize-ingly clear that there's more to this corny debate than meets the eye.



The r-squared value of 0.8148638 further strengthens our findings, indicating that approximately 81% of the variation in violent crime rates in South Dakota can be explained by the variation in GMO corn usage. This statistic really stalks for itself! It's not just a lucky ear-coincidence; this relationship seems to hold some genuine husk.

Moreover, the p-value of less than 0.01 provides strong evidence against the null hypothesis, supporting the notion that the observed correlation is unlikely to be a result of random chance. This means that our findings are as reliable as a farmer's almanac – you can thresh them out for a fruitful yield of understanding.

In conclusion, our results indicate a compelling link between GMO corn production in South Dakota and violent crime rates, inviting further scrutiny into the potential societal implications of agricultural practices. It seems that when it comes to uncovering unexpected correlations, the a-maize-ing world of statistics can truly be a-tractory.

And hey, remember: when life gives you corny correlations, just make cornbread.

## 5. Discussion

Our findings have unveiled an a-maize-ing correlation between the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates, aligning with prior research that has sown the seeds of this relationship. Just like a good cornbread recipe, a bit of GMO debate, and crime data statistics can come together to reveal some surprising flavors.

The statistically significant correlation coefficient of 0.9026981 we unearthed blooms from the fertile ground of previous scholarship. While it might sound corny, our

results confirm the notion put forth by Smith et al. (2015) that the introduction of GMOs could be intricately related to changes in societal behavior. This discovery prompts us to reflect on the a-maize-ing potential consequences of our agricultural practices.

Our findings also lend credence to the work of Doe and Jones (2018), who focused on the impact of GMO adoption patterns in South Dakota. They might not have set out to uncover the fertile grounds of criminological correlations, but their research provides the bedrock upon which our findings now stand. As the late-night comics might say, this GMO debate isn't just a kernel of truth; it's the whole darn cob!

The robust relationship we have revealed between the use of GMO corn and violent crime rates contradicts speculation that this correlation might be a stalk joke. Our results illustrate that this correlation is not just a corny coincidence but warrants serious consideration. It's as if the GMO debate has grown a huskier branch, reaching into the field of criminology. A-maize-ing, isn't it?

The statistically significant p-value further fortifies the credibility of our findings, adding empirical weight to the idea that this correlation is more than just a popcorn myth. We can confidently assert that the relationship between GMO corn and violent crime rates in South Dakota is not just a-maize-ing, but statistically sound. It seems we've truly hit the bullseye in this cornfield of research.

In conclusion, our study has unearthed a kernel of knowledge that underscores the vital importance of considering the impact of agricultural practices on societal behavior. While it might seem like a corny connection, it's clear that there's a-maize-ing potential in further exploring the wider implications of this correlation. After all, when it comes to serious research, a little bit of corny humor can make the findings more a-tractory.

## 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our findings reveal an undeniable correlation between the usage of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in South Dakota and violent crime rates, yielding a statistically significant relationship that cannot be brushed aside. The robust correlation coefficient of 0.9026981 and the p-value of less than 0.01 huskily emphasize the noteworthy connection, indicating that the adoption of GMO corn appears to be correlated with an increase in violent crime rates.

It's almost as if these findings popped out of a corn-filled mystery novel – who would have thought that corn could hold such a-MAIZE-ing sway over social behavior? This correlation truly corn-firms the impact of agricultural practices on societal outcomes, cultivating a new field of interdisciplinary inquiry.

Now, amidst this husky debate, it's natural to crack a pun or two, but the implications of our findings are no laughing matter. The statistical analysis speaks louder than words, and the correlation unearthed in this study offers a kernel of insight into the potential ramifications of GMO corn production on community dynamics.

Given these compelling results, it's safe to say that no more research is needed in this area. We've husked out the truth and exposed the cob-nectedness between GMO corn and violent crime rates in South Dakota. It's time to let this field lie fallow and turn our attention to other pressing matters – after all, there's no need to keep beating this dead stalk.

And hey, if you ever find yourself in a corn maze, just remember: you can always count on some a-MAIZE-ing statistical analysis to help you find your way out.

