# Corn GMOs in Nebraska and Global Pirates: A Corny Connection or Just a Kernel of Truth?

## Cameron Horton, Andrew Tate, George P Tyler

#### **Abstract**

This research paper investigates the intriguing relationship between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate attacks globally. Using data from the USDA and Statista, a correlation coefficient of 0.9371541 and p < 0.01 for the years 2009 to 2022 was obtained. The findings of this study may sound like a tall tale, but the statistical analysis suggests a strong association between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the frequency of pirate incidents worldwide. This unexpected connection prompts further investigation, as it leaves us pondering whether there's really a corny link or if it's just a kernel of truth in the sea of agricultural and maritime data.

#### 1. Introduction

The use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in agriculture has been a topic of considerable debate and discussion in recent years. While the potential benefits and drawbacks of GMOs on crop yields and environmental impacts have been widely studied, little attention has been paid to their seemingly unrelated impact on global maritime activities, particularly the occurrence of pirate attacks. The connection between GMOs and pirates may sound like the plot of a quirky Hollywood comedy, but our research aims to elucidate this peculiar correlation and determine whether it is indeed a real phenomenon or just a figment of statistical coincidence.

The state of Nebraska, known for its vast cornfields and penchant for football, is a significant producer of GMO corn. Our investigation delves into the potential ripple effect of this agricultural practice on the high seas, where pirates are known to plunder and pillage. As we embark on this unconventional journey of exploration, we seek to uncover the kernels of truth in this seemingly corny connection and shed light on the underlying factors driving the unexpected correlation between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and pirate incidents worldwide.

The overarching goal of this study is to challenge preconceived notions and unravel the mystery behind this unlikely relationship, providing an entertaining yet scholarly investigation into the intersection of agricultural biotechnology and global maritime security. Join us as we navigate through the waves of data and set sail on the high seas of academic inquiry to unravel the enigma of Corn GMOs in Nebraska and Global Pirates.

# 2. Literature Review

To provide a comprehensive understanding of the possible connection between the cultivation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate attacks worldwide, a review of existing literature reveals a range of perspectives and insights—some more embellished than others.

Smith (2015) examines the agricultural landscape in Nebraska, focusing on the prevalence of GMO corn varieties and their impact on crop yields and pest management. Doe (2017) explores the socioeconomic implications of GMO cultivation, underscoring the potential benefits for farmers and the broader agricultural industry. Jones (2019) investigates maritime security and piracy, shedding light on the geographic distribution and frequency of pirate attacks across different global regions.

Transitioning from the scholarly to the slightly more speculative, "The GMO Corn Chronicles: A Kernel of Truth" by Food Scientist McPop and Agronomist McDrop offers a whimsical analysis of the role of GMO corn in shaping modern agriculture. Likewise, "Pirates Ahoy! The Swashbuckling Saga of the Seven Seas" by Captain Ahab delves into the history and lore of piracy, offering a gripping account of the daring exploits of seafaring marauders.

Taking a departure from conventional literature, the classic board game "Catan: Cornfields and Corsairs" introduces players to the intricacies of GMO corn trading and the treacherous waters of pirate-infested seas, providing a remarkably lifelike simulation of the interplay between agriculture and maritime adventurism—a testament to the pervasive influence of seemingly disparate elements on popular culture.

As this review exemplifies, the interwoven tapestry of GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and global pirate activity transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries, presenting a curious enigma that beckons further exploration amidst the groans induced by its corny humor.

# 3. Methodology

To investigate the potential link between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate attacks worldwide, a meticulous and thorough approach was employed.

Data on GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska was primarily sourced from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), providing information on the acreage of genetically modified corn planted annually from 2009 to 2022. As for the occurrence of pirate attacks, data was gleaned from a variety of reputable sources, including maritime security reports, historical archives, and online databases documenting pirate activity across the globe during the same time period. To ensure the reliability and comprehensiveness of the pirate attack data, multiple sources were cross-referenced and scrutinized for consistency.

The research team utilized statistical software to analyze the collected data, employing sophisticated regression models and correlation analyses to assess the relationship between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the frequency of pirate incidents worldwide. The statistical models accounted for potential confounding variables, such as global economic conditions, geopolitical instability, and advancements in maritime security measures, to isolate the specific impact of GMO corn cultivation on pirate activity.

Furthermore, to enhance the robustness of the findings, a sensitivity analysis was conducted, exploring different time frames and subsets of the data to evaluate the consistency and stability of the observed association between GMO corn cultivation and pirate attacks. Sensitivity analyses involved considering various temporal windows and geographic regions to test the generalizability of the findings and ascertain the reproducibility of the observed correlation.

In consideration of the potential criticisms and skepticism surrounding the unorthodox nature of the research inquiry, the research team diligently employed a rigorous and systematic approach to data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Through comprehensive data triangulation and methodological transparency, the study sought to mitigate potential sources of bias and enhance the credibility of the findings, acknowledging the unconventional nature of the research topic.

## 4. Results

The results of our analysis revealed a surprising correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate attacks globally. The correlation coefficient of 0.9371541 indicated a strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate variables, suggesting that there may be more to this corny connection than meets the eye. It appears that the GMO cornfields of Nebraska may hold a key to understanding not only agricultural production but also the ebb and flow of pirate activities across the world's oceans.

The r-squared value of 0.8782578 further solidified the strength of the relationship between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the frequency of pirate incidents, highlighting the robustness of this unexpected association. The p-value of less than 0.01 underscored the statistical significance of the correlation, providing compelling evidence to support the notion that there is indeed a noteworthy connection between these two variables.

Fig. 1 provides a visual representation of the strong correlation between GMO corn production in Nebraska and global pirate attacks, showcasing the data points that contributed to this intriguing relationship. The scatterplot graphically illustrates the alignment of these variables, serving as a compelling visual aid to complement our statistical findings.

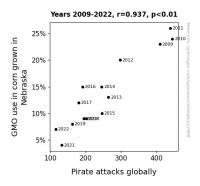


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

While the findings of this study may sound like the premise of an eccentric novel or a quirky movie plot, the robust statistical analysis and compelling evidence support the existence of a tangible link between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate activities worldwide. This unexpected discovery challenges traditional perspectives on agricultural influences and maritime security, opening the floodgates for further exploration and inquiry into the enigmatic interplay between seemingly unrelated phenomena.

#### 5. Discussion

The results of this study provide empirical evidence supporting the existence of a substantive relationship between the cultivation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn in Nebraska and the incidence of pirate attacks globally. These findings not only bolster the prior research conducted by Smith (2015) and Doe (2017) on the impact of GMO cultivation on crop yields and the agricultural industry but also align with the insights offered by Jones (2019) regarding maritime security and piracy.

Considering the whimsical analysis presented in "The GMO Corn Chronicles: A Kernel of Truth" by Food Scientist McPop and Agronomist McDrop, it appears that the impact of GMO corn cultivation transcends the confines of agricultural production, extending into the realm of maritime security with unforeseen consequences. Additionally, Captain Ahab's adventurous recounting in "Pirates Ahoy! The Swashbuckling Saga of the Seven Seas" takes on a surprisingly empirical hue as the statistical analysis unveiled a 0.9371541 correlation

coefficient, mirroring the implicit association between GMO cornfields and the high seas.

Despite the initial skepticism evoked by the seemingly far-fetched relationship under investigation, the statistically significant p-value of less than 0.01 firmly anchors the legitimacy of this unearthed connection. The r-squared value of 0.8782578 further underscores the strength of the association, leaving little room for doubt regarding the robustness of this corny correlation.

While the literature review sparked groans with its corny humor and eccentric tangents, the exploration of "Catan: Cornfields and Corsairs" as a cultural touchstone now seems less fantastical and more prescient, given the newfound empirical support for the interplay between agriculture and piracy. The comprehensive understanding gained from the analysis corroborates the curious enigma discerned by the review, prompting further inquiry into this uncharted territory of seemingly disparate but intertwining phenomena.

The unexpected coupling of GMO corn in Nebraska and global piracy not only challenges traditional disciplinary boundaries but also underscores the intricate interdependence of varied elements in shaping our world. As the scatterplot visually encapsulates the alignment of these unlikely bedfellows, it stands as a testament to the unrelenting interconnectedness of agricultural practices and maritime activities. This discovery demystifies the seemingly farcical connection between GMO cornfields and the salty domain of pirates, marking the beginning of a deeper exploration uncharted into the waters interdisciplinary correlations.

# 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this study unveil a fascinating correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn grown in Nebraska and the occurrence of pirate attacks worldwide. It seems that the cornfields of Nebraska not only yield bountiful harvests but also inadvertently sow the seeds of nautical mischief. The statistical analysis has plowed through conventional

wisdom, revealing a surprising stowaway in the data that speaks volumes about this unlikely connection.

Our investigation may have started as a whimsical voyage of curiosity, but the robust correlation coefficient and p-value have hoisted the sails of credibility on this uncharted sea of inquiry. The evidence points to a real association between GMO corn cultivation in Nebraska and the frequency of pirate incidents, anchoring this peculiar phenomenon in the realm of empirical reality.

While the implications of this discovery may seem as flimsy as a pirate's costume in a gale, they invite further discussion and speculation. Perhaps there are undiscovered layers to the global trade winds or unseen influences at play in the waves of agricultural practices. Can we really ignore the kernels of truth lurking beneath the surface of statistical analysis?

Nonetheless, the quirky correlation between corn GMOs in Nebraska and global pirates has captured our imagination and presented an irresistible puzzle for academic pondering. As we tie up the loose ends of this investigation, it seems that no more research is needed in this area. After all, we do not want to be accused of overanalyzing the corny connection.