



# TEXAS

## TOP 5 CROPS: TEXAS

1. COTTON
2. CORN
3. HAY
4. WHEAT
5. RICE

### Crop Protection Leaders

Texas is home to fourteen leading crop protection companies: AMVAC Chemical Corp., BASF Corporation, BMO Capital Markets, DuPont Crop Protection, Estes, Inc., Exponent, inc., ISK Biosciences Corp, KMG Chemicals, Inc., Makhteshim Agan of North America, Inc., Monsanto Company, Schirm USA, Inc., Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc., Tessenderlo-Kerley, Inc., and Winfield Solutions, LLC. These companies provide thousands of jobs, boosting our economy and securing our state food supply.

- In the Lone Star State, an investment of \$1.00 in crop protection products yields anywhere from 7 to 27 times in direct economic returns, which the farming community can then reinvest to make Texas' agricultural economy even stronger.
- The net benefits Texas' agricultural economy gains from securing crops with various crop protection technologies ranges from \$18 million to \$1.4 billion, depending upon the product.

### CropLife America: Helping to Feed a Hungry World

*America's crop protection industry is helping to feed a hungry world, decrease food costs, drive our economy, and protect our environment.*

Crop protection technologies help control the thousands of weed species, harmful insects, and numerous plant diseases that afflict crops and threaten both the abundance and the safety of our food supply.

- The crop protection industry is one of the most highly-regulated in the U.S. today, ensuring the safety of users and consumers, and reducing environmental impacts. As the nation and the world confront the threat of climate change, the industry stands at the forefront of sustainable agriculture, helping farmers do more with less through innovation, while protecting the soil and natural habitats of the land they farm.
- Crop protection products help American farmers improve agricultural productivity, generating robust crop yields that drive local economies and create jobs from the farm, to the distribution system, to the grocery stores and restaurants who sell these plentiful foods. The strong crop yields made possible by crop protection also help keep food costs down so American families can afford meals for their table.

In Texas, the crop protection industry brings these same commitments, values, and technologies to the state's **\$100 billion food and agricultural economy**, safeguarding the state's food supply and protecting its environment.

### Agriculture in Texas: Driving the State Economy

*Agriculture accounts for about 7 percent of Texas' economy, employs 1,774,817 people, and ranks 2nd in the nation for total agricultural cash receipts.*

**247,437  
FARMS**

247,437 farms cover 130,398,753 acres across our state, powering a diverse agricultural economy.

**\$21  
BILLION**

Texas' agricultural products have an annual market value of \$21 billion, including 31% from crop production valued at \$6.5 billion.

**RANKS 1ST**

Texas' top crop, cotton, accounts for 9.4% of the state's crop production. The state is nationally ranked 1st in cotton production and produces about 7% of the world's cotton – traditionally enough to make almost 1.7 billion pairs of denim jeans.

**12 BILLION  
LBS OF CORN  
FLAKES**

Texas farmers harvest enough corn for more than 12 billion pounds of corn flakes; enough wheat to make more than 6 billion loaves of bread; and enough peanuts each year to make more than 7 billion peanut butter sandwiches.

Without crop protection, the vital economic impact of Texas's agricultural industry would be virtually devastated.

# CROP PROTECTION IN THE LONE STAR STATE

## Ensuring Texas' Robust and Healthy Food Supply

*The food supply nourishing Texas families—and exported around the globe—is fundamentally reliant upon crop protection technologies.*

Every spring and summer, plant diseases reproduce in countless numbers, infecting – and ultimately killing – Texas crops. Each year, **2.5 million weeds** prepare to emerge on every acre of Texas' cropland, competing with crops for water, nutrients, space, and sunlight. And across Texas, crop feeding insects reproduce in countless numbers, feeding on crops, reducing yields, making crops unmarketable, and in some cases killing the plant entirely.

These infestations threaten Texas' food supply, economy, environment, and health of our citizens. Crop protection products stem those threats, preventing crop loss and protecting the agricultural base.

## Safeguarding Texas' Environment and its Citizens

*Few industries play a greater role in driving sustainable agriculture than crop protection.*

Crop protection technologies enable Texas farmers to manage weeds without plowing or tilling the soil, reducing erosion and avoiding runoff into rivers and streams, while also reducing fuel consumption. Nationwide, this practice saves **337 million gallons of tractor fuel annually**, and prevents **356 billion pounds of disturbed soil** from eroding into rivers and streams.

*In Texas, crop protection technologies enable no-till production on 447,000 acres, preventing 1.6 billion pounds of soil erosion annually.*

Planting more acres of arable farmland decreases animal habitats, impacting biodiversity. Crop protection technologies enable Texas farmers to do more with less, reducing the need to convert additional acreage for crops.

Many invasive weeds and nuisance plants grow back when mowed or pulled. Far from being a simple annoyance, weeds kill native plants, suffocate lakes, and plug reservoir intakes, destroying the natural habitats of fish, birds, and mammals. Crop protection products are indispensable weapons, enabling Texas growers to successfully preserve several endangered species populations that had nearly vanished.

*Crop protection also guards the health of the food supply that sustains Texas families and the world.*

The ever-increasing reach of the global economy has allowed infectious agents like salmonella and E. coli to enter our food supply. The U.S. commitment to crop protection technologies serves as a first line of defense, attacking these threats and generating a safe, healthy, and robust food supply for Texas and the nation.

What would the Lone Star State's food supply look like **WITHOUT** crop protection?

-----

## NO COTTON

Without the benefits of crop protection products for cotton, availability of the so-called fabric of our lives would be reduced by up to 30% affecting not only Texas' agricultural industry, but damaging the U.S. textile, apparel, and home furnishing industries, among others.

## NO RICE

The classic American side dish of rice is one of Texas' leading crops, and without the benefits of crop protection technologies, U.S. dinner tables would enjoy up to 53% less rice dishes, resulting in a loss to the state's economy of up to \$67 million.

## NO WHEAT

From sandwich bread to cereal, to pasta, wheat is a staple of the American diet, but without crop protection Texas' contribution would be reduced by up to 40%, draining up to \$1 million from the state's economy.