

MORE PEOPLE, LESS FARMS – THINK ABOUT IT!

1. USING THE GRAPHS, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
 - IN 1940, ONE U.S. FARMER PRODUCED ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED _____ PEOPLE.
 - IN 1990, ONE U.S. FARMER PRODUCED ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED _____ PEOPLE.
 - HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE DID ONE FARMER FEED IN 1950 AS COMPARED TO 2004? _____
 - IN 1880, THERE WERE _____ FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES.
 - IN 1980, THERE WERE _____ FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES.
 - FROM 1920 TO 2005, THE AMOUNT OF FARMS HAS DECREASED BY _____.
2. LOOK AT THE GRAPH TITLED "NUMBER OF FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES." LABEL THE GRAPH WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN U.S. HISTORY AS WELL AS THE AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION AND EVENTS MENTIONED IN THIS BOOKLET. WHAT CONNECTIONS EXIST BETWEEN THESE EVENTS AND THE NUMBER OF U.S. FARMS?
3. THE AMOUNT OF U.S. FARM LAND IS DECREASING, WHILE THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE FED BY ONE FARMER IS INCREASING. WHAT CONCLUSIONS CAN YOU DRAW ABOUT AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES WITHIN THE UNITED STATES?
4. CHALLENGE QUESTION: RESEARCH DIFFERENT AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF FOOD PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING. HOW DO THESE ADVANCEMENTS RELATE TO AFFORDABLE FOOD COSTS IN THE UNITED STATES? HOW DO THESE ADVANCEMENTS RELATE TO THE TREND OF FEEDING MORE PEOPLE ON LESS LAND?

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1. USING THE GRAPHS, ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
 - IN 1940, ONE U.S. FARMER PRODUCED ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED 19 PEOPLE.
 - IN 1990, ONE U.S. FARMER PRODUCED ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED 129 PEOPLE.
 - HOW MANY MORE PEOPLE DID ONE FARMER FEED IN 1950 AS COMPARED TO 2004? 125
 - IN 1880, THERE WERE 4.0 million FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES.
 - IN 1980, THERE WERE 2.4 million FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES.
 - FROM 1920 TO 2005, THE AMOUNT OF FARMS HAS DECREASED BY 4.4 million farms.
2. LOOK AT THE GRAPH TITLED "NUMBER OF FARMS IN THE UNITED STATES." LABEL THE GRAPH WITH SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN U.S. HISTORY AS WELL AS THE AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION AND EVENTS MENTIONED IN THIS BOOKLET. WHAT CONNECTIONS EXIST BETWEEN THESE EVENTS AND THE NUMBER OF U.S. FARMS? *Answers will vary, but may include the following conclusions: Increased number of farms from 1914-1918: During World War I, President Wilson pushed for increased food production as vital to Allies' success. Decreased number of farms from 1935 could be a result of the Dust Bowl as farmers left their land in search of jobs; Significant decrease in the number of farms from 1937 to 1945: Individuals left rural areas to help out with the war effort or enlist in the Armed Forces. As well, there were significant technological and agricultural advancements in the 1960s.*
3. THE AMOUNT OF U.S. FARM LAND IS DECREASING, WHILE THE AMOUNT OF PEOPLE FED BY ONE FARMER IS INCREASING. WHAT CONCLUSIONS CAN YOU DRAW ABOUT AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WITHIN THE UNITED STATES? *Answers will vary, but may include the following conclusions: Overall, technology has allowed farmers and ranchers to do more with less land. Improved production practices: more advanced machinery and increased use of technology.*
4. CHALLENGE QUESTION: RESEARCH DIFFERENT AGRICULTURAL ADVANCEMENTS IN THE AREAS OF FOOD PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING. HOW DO THESE ADVANCEMENTS RELATE TO AFFORDABLE FOOD COSTS IN THE UNITED STATES? HOW DO THESE ADVANCEMENTS RELATE TO THE TREND OF FEEDING MORE PEOPLE ON LESS LAND? *Answers will vary but will include comments such as: advancements in processing led to longer shelf life for food, new products, and improved nutrition.*