



### ***Theobroma cacao***

Fast Facts: Cacao pods were first used by the Mayans over 2,000 years ago to make a bitter drink. Today, most of the world's cacao supply is grown in West Africa.



### **Hershey's Milk Chocolate®**

Fast Facts: Chocolate was introduced to Europe by Spanish explorers in the 16th century. Today, the average American eats 10 pounds of chocolate per year.



### **Animal Hooves**

Fast Facts: Animal hooves, bones, and connective tissue contain collagen, a protein that makes them elastic. Collagen makes up one third of the protein in the human body.



### **Jell-O®**

Fast Facts: Jell-O hardens because it is largely composed of collagen, a fibrous protein. In the United States, nine boxes of Jell-O are sold every second.



### **Corn (*Zea mays*)**

Fast Facts: The state of Iowa grows 2 billion bushels of corn annually. One bushel of corn produces 38 boxes of Corn Flakes, 22 hamburgers, or 324 cans of soda.



### **Soft Drink**

Fast Facts: Every second over 7,000 Coca-Cola® products are consumed. The Varsity restaurant in Atlanta serves the largest volume of Coca-Cola® anywhere...3 million servings per year.



### **Chicle (*Manilkara zapota*)**

Fast Facts: Chicle is the sap of the *Manilkara zapota* tree. It is a form of natural rubber, removed from the tree in much the same way as maple syrup, that softens at body temperature.



### **Wrigley's Chewing Gum**

Fast Facts: North American children spend more than half a billion dollars on gum every year. Until 2004, it was illegal to manufacture, import, or sell gum in the country of Singapore.



### ***Brassica* spp**

Fast Facts: The spicy seeds of this plant are used to make the second most popular condiment in the United States. When sprinkled in socks, it saves toes from frostbite.



### **French's Classic Yellow®**

Fast Facts: French's Classic Yellow® is the number one best selling mustard in the United States. It is made using only the finest grade mustard seeds.



### **Eggs**

Fast Facts: Eggs develop from the inside out, from the yolk to the outer shell. Hens produce between 250 and 300 eggs per year.



### **Hellmann's Real Mayonnaise®**

Fast Facts: Mayonnaise is an emulsion, a mixture of two substances, like oil and water, that do not normally combine. Hellmann's® is America's favorite mayonnaise.



### **Mallow Root (*Althaea officinalis*)**

Fast Facts: Sap from the “jelly-like” root of *Althaea officinalis* has been used to make candy and confections. In today’s recipes, the root has been replaced by gelatin.



### **Marshmallows**

Fast Facts: Today, manufacturers use gelatin to give marshmallows their shape. More than 90 million pounds of Jet-Puffed Marshmallows® are purchased per year in the US.



### **Tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*)**

Fast Facts: Once thought to be poisonous, this fruit is consumed daily by most all Americans. Tomato juice is the official state drink of Ohio.



### **Ketchup**

Fast Facts: Ketchup was first made of mushrooms or fish brine, herbs, and spices. Children are the number one consumers of ketchup, eating more than 5 billion oz. per year.



### **Vanilla planifolia**

Fast Facts: Once pollinated by hummingbirds and bees, this flower is now pollinated by hand. Pods of this orchid are used to make the most popular flavoring in the world.



### **Pure Vanilla Extract**

Fast Facts: Pure vanilla extract contains 300 chemicals. Artificial vanilla flavoring contains only vanillin (the major component of pure vanilla) and can be synthesized from coal, oil, or wood.





### ***Saccharum officinarum***

Fast Facts: This plant is a member of the grass family, with cane-like stalks that contain a sweet, juicy sap. A refined version of the sap is consumed daily by all Americans.



### **Sugar**

Fast Facts: Sugar is extracted from two different plant sources, sugar cane and sugar beets. There are 725,000 sugar crystals in one cube of sugar.



### **Wheat (*Triticum aestivum*)**

Fast Facts: One bushel of wheat produces 42 pounds of white flour. There are more than 600 pasta shapes produced worldwide.



### **Bread**

Fast Facts: Each American, on average, consumes 53 pounds of bread per year. Farmers receive approximately 5 cents (or less) from each loaf of bread sold.



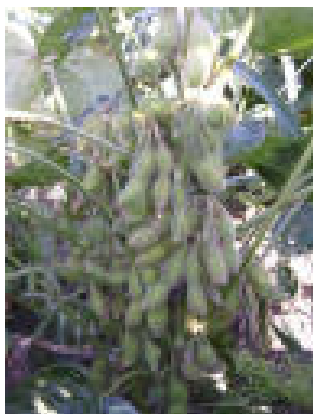
### ***Coffea* spp**

Fast Facts: Seeds of this plant were stolen from Arabia to bring it to Europe, and eventually the new world. Columbia is the western hemisphere's largest producer of this plant.



### **Coffee**

Fast Facts: A cup of coffee contains 450 chemical compounds that are responsible for its characteristic flavor. There are 7,569 Starbucks locations worldwide.



### **Soybean (*Glycine max*)**

Fast Facts: Soybeans are a complete source of protein, and as a result, soy products are often used as a meat substitute. Soybean oil is the most widely used vegetable oil.



### **Tofu**

Fast Facts: Used in China and Japan as early as 164 B.C., tofu can be fried, baked, mashed, marinated, barbequed, and frozen. Tofu is a common replacement for meat in recipes.



### ***Arachis hypogaea***

Fast Facts: While many people believe the seed of this plant to be a nut, it is actually a legume, related to beans. This plant covers thousands of acres in south Georgia.



### **Peanut Butter**

Fast Facts: The main ingredient of peanut butter is a member of the legume family. It takes 850 peanuts to make an 18 oz. jar of peanut butter.



### **Cow**

Fast Facts: The average cow drinks 30 gallons of water and eats 95 pounds of feed per day. A 1,000 pound cow produces 10 tons of manure per year.



### **Milk**

Fast Facts: Milk is an emulsion of fat and protein in water, along with dissolved sugars, minerals, and vitamins. The average American drinks 25 gallons of milk per year.