Cultivated for 10,000 years, wheat is one of the world’s most important plants. Today, U.S. farmers grow about 50 million acres of wheat, providing food for hundreds of millions of people at home and abroad. They support jobs in rural communities as well as mills, bakeries, grocery stores and restaurants.

51.6 bushels/acre of wheat were harvested in the 2019 crop year. A modern combine can harvest 1,000 bushels/hour.

Wheat farmers average a meager 12¢ on a loaf of bread which retails for $3.49.

20% of calories consumed by humans are from wheat, as stated by the United Nations. The complex carbohydrates in grain-based foods provide essential fuel the body needs.

17 billion base pairs make up wheat’s genome, 5X more than the human genome and 40X more than the rice genome.

In 2018, the food and agriculture industries reached across the U.S. employing 22.78 million, and generating $729.37 billion in wages. The direct employment of both industries is equivalent to 14.9% of total U.S. employment.
Through a staff of nine, NAWG acts as the primary representative on Capitol Hill for wheat growers. NAWG consists of 20 state wheat grower organizations, representing more 77% of wheat grown.

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