

Hello everyone! I am Avery Shoffner, reporting from the Cardinal Gate at the Ohio State Fairgrounds. I cannot wait to share some exciting Ohio agricultural facts with you. I am actually from the food producing mecca area of Ohio, known as Shelby County, where we are helping to feed America. My county received this name because of companies such as Cargill, Mama Rosa's Pizza, Aunt Millie's Bakery and Freshway Foods. If you are ready, let's get our walking shoes on and go find out what makes Ag Cool!!!

I started my adventure in the sheep barn, because that is my comfort zone. You see, I am also from a family who raises sheep. I am proud to say that my family also live on a century farm. This is a farm that has been in one family for over 100 years. Even though I know a thing or two about sheep, I did not realize that 150 yards of wool are used in one baseball. When you stop and think about how many baseballs are around that is a lot of wool, from a lot of sheep.

I next ventured to the O'Neill Swine Building. Imagine to my surprise when I spotted, Marvelous, a 1170 pound boar, which is a male pig. You see, a pig's main diet is made up mostly of corn and soybeans. There are over 26,000 soybean farmers in the State of Ohio. You have to stop, think and wonder how many of those farmers may have helped in feeding Marvelous. There are also 3500 uses for corn. I personally think that probably one of the most important uses is feeding America and animals!

Eggs provide a great source of protein to help you power throughout the day. One hen lays an average of 300 eggs in one year. Good thing that I ate my egg for breakfast today! Finding these facts throughout the fairgrounds required energy.

When I returned to the Sheep Barn, 5236 steps later, I was Amazed, Grateful, Intrigued, Successful, Changed, Optimistic, Observant and Lucky, that I learned these facts and was able to share them with "EWE"!!! Ag Is Cool and Ohio should be proud.