

Every year my family and I go to the Ohio State Fair. We always go to the Poultry Pavilion, the Brown Sheep building, and the Ag/Hort building. That being said, a lot of the things on my passport were new and unknown to me. Do you know what that means? It means that I learned a lot! Here is my journey through the fair.

I picked up the passport and then went exploring. First we went to the Ohio Department of Agriculture tent where I learned that Putnam County has the largest amount of family farms worked by the same family for 100 years. I thought that was crazy! Then we worked our way over to the Brown Sheep building where I learned that a sheep eats 2 to 4.5 pounds daily. I could never do that. Next on the agenda, drumroll please.

COWS! At the Voinvich Livestock and Trade Center, we learned that these everyday things are made of cows and cattle: lipstick, footballs, and soap. I think it is odd that we use these three things daily and never stop to think about where they come from. Also, over 2,000 servings of beef come from one head of cattle.

CHICKENS! Let's talk poultry. There are two Ohio counties that have the greatest number of layer chickens in the entire country. Those bragging rights go to Darke and Mercer counties for having too many chickens to count. I did research and found that Ohio has 30 million egg laying chickens, the U.S. has nine billion chickens overall and the world has between 19 and 50 billion chickens! Also, Ohio is ranked #2 in the nation for egg production with over 7 billion eggs laid per year. One word: Wow.

So overall, this entire essay results from an awesome trip around the fair. It was all worth it as I learned a lesson on how agriculture connects to nearly everything we do! All in all, I learned that Ag is Cool. ☺

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COMPLETE YOUR PASSPORT BY FILLING IN THE BLANKS.

Ag is Cool representatives and colorful signs will help you find your answer. Don't forget to take notes for your essay, due August 31!

Beef

(Vincovich Livestock & Trade Center, Heritage Hall)

How many servings of beef come from one head of cattle, or one cow?

Over 2000

Corn & Wheat

(Ag & Hort Bldg)

How many uses for corn are there?

3000

Dairy

(OVMA Veterinary Educational Center)

On average, how many glasses of milk does a dairy cow produce each day?

12.5

Ohio Department of Agriculture

(OSBA Tent, just inside Cardinal Gate)

Franklin county has the most historic family farms that have been owned by the same family for at least 100 years.

Ohio Farm Bureau/Land & Living Display

(Ag & Hort Bldg)

The name of my county is:

Franklin One amazing fact about my county is the horse industry

Ohio Veterinary

Medical Association

(OVMA Veterinary Education Center)

What is the average gestation period for a cow? 283 days

Poultry

(Poultry Pavilion)

Which two counties in Ohio have the most layer chickens in the entire country? DARKE and MEigs counties.

Sheep

(Brown Sheep Building)

How much does a sheep eat daily?

2 to 3.5 pounds

Soy

(Ag & Hort Bldg)

Name three products that are made with soybeans crayons, lip balm and shampoo.

Swine

(Small Swine Bldg)

A pig's diet is made up mostly of corn and soy.