**October 10, 2023**

Another in the series of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom non-fiction text examples to be used in your classroom. Remember, these will be available every MONDAY afternoon that *FarmWeek* is published during the school year.

Questions about this can be directed to Kevin Daugherty, Education Director of Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom at [kdaugherty@ilfb.org](mailto:kdaugherty@ilfb.org).

\*\*Reminder these questions are designed to use with the on-line version of *FarmWeek.*

<https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

Note, by request of teachers we have included the answers to the questions immediately following the questions on a separate worksheet.

**NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLASS PERIOD\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Please use the online version of *FarmWeek.*  <https://www.farmweeknow.com/eedition/>

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Or use this link to the article. <https://iaitc.co/pumpkinharvest>

Use the article titled: Mid-season turnaround boosts pumpkin production

**Questions**

1. What percentage of national canned pumpkin does Nestle Libby’s in Morton produce?
2. What were the weather concerns for pumpkins in the summer of 2023?
3. What is the difference between food-grade pumpkins versus ornamental or Jack-o-lantern varieties?
4. Corn and soybean farmers use bushels, how do pumpkin farmers measure productivity in pumpkins?
5. What does the result of the pumpkin harvest say for potential supplies for fall 2023 holiday baking?
6. John Ackerman grows more than 160 varieties of pumpkins. What do you think about that number of pumpkins available? Describe what you think about pumpkins.

Answers

1. 85% of the canned pumpkin for the nation is processed in Morton.
2. Drought conditions in May and June and then again in August, coupled with high heat were both issues.
3. Food-grade pumpkins are lighter colored and not as colorful or orange than ornamental or Jack-o-lantern pumpkins.
4. Pumpkin farmers calculate tons (of pumpkins) per acre.
5. Current production levels point to ample supplies of pumpkin for fall 2023 baking.
6. Answers will vary.