

GROWING A NATION LESSON 1: SIGNIFICANT AGRICULTURAL EVENTS AFFECTING OUR AMERICAN SOCIETY ACTIVITY SHEET

Using the Significant Agricultural Events Timeline data sheet, determine which of the following events (by year) has affected the various components of our society. One event may affect several categories. After you have checked off the categories, rank what you think were the top ten events that had the most impact on our society.

Rank	Year/ Event	Families & Community	Science & Technology	Education	Economy, Business, Trade	Labor or Workforce	Legislation or Laws
	Era 1: Three Worlds Meet (beginnings to 1629)						
	1493 - Columbus introduces goats, sheep, pigs, hens, fruit, and Old World vegetable seeds						
	Era 2: Colonization and Settlement (1585-1763)						
	1607 - English colonists in Jamestown, VA, planted grain, potatoes, pumpkins, melon, cotton, oranges, and pineapples.						
	1609 - Indians taught the Jamestown settlers to grow corn.						
	Era 3: Revolution and the New Nation (1754-1820s)						
	1780 - U.S. Ambassador Ben Franklin sends soybean seeds back from France.						
	1786 - George Washington breeds the first mules in the U.S.						
	1790 - Total population: 3,929,214; farmers 90% of labor force; U.S. area settled extends westward on average of 255 miles; parts of the frontier cross the Appalachians.						
	1793 - Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin, patent 1794 Thomas Jefferson invented a moldboard for the plow.						
	1794 - Whiskey Rebellion: Western farmers revolt against a grain tax.						
	Era 4: Expansion and Reform (1801-1861)						
	1803 - Louisiana Purchase, a port for American farmers.						
	1805 - Cotton replaces tobacco as the main crop in the South.						
	1807 - Steamboats come into use.						
	1810 - Beginning of the "Industrial Revolution"						
	1819 - U.S. canning industry started.						
	1825 - Erie Canal finished.						
	1831 - Cyrus McCormick invented the grain reaper.						
	1837 - John Deere manufactures the steel plow.						
	1843 - Sir John Lawes founded the commercial fertilizer industry by developing a process for making superphosphate.						
	1845 - 1855 - Great Potato Famine in Ireland						

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	1855 - Michigan and Pennsylvania established the first state agricultural colleges.						
	1856 - A patent for condensing milk was issued to Gail Borden.						
	1858 - Mason Jars, used for home canning, were invented.						
	Era 5: Civil War and Reconstruction (1850-1877)						
	1861 - Pasteurization invented.						
	1862(a) - President Abraham Lincoln signed legislation creating the first Department of Agriculture and signs the Morrill Land Grant College Act.						
	1862(b) - Homestead Act gives 160 acres to settlers who will farm the land for five years.						
	1867 - Barbed wire invented. Cattle boom. Range wars break out between ranchers and farmers.						
	1869 - Transcontinental railroad completed.						
	Era 6: The Development of the Industrial United States (1870-1900)						
	1870 - Refrigerator railroad car patented.						
	1881 - Hybridized corn produced.						
	1887 - The Hatch Experiment Station Act was passed, providing federal grants to states for agricultural experimentation.						
	Era 7: The Emergence of Modern America (1890-1930)						
	1888 - The first long haul shipment of a refrigerated freight car was made from California to New York.						
	1892 - The gasoline tractor was built by John Froelich.						
	1900 - Special work projects for farm youth were organized in Illinois; the name "4H" was adopted in 1913.						
	1902 - The Reclamation Act was passed, leading to water projects for irrigation.						
	1906 - The Pure Food and Drug Law was enacted.						
	1908 - First electric milking machine patented.						
	1914 - Establishment of the federal-state extension service was a major step in direct education for farmers.						
	1920 - Agriculture prices collapse.						