

IL Corn – Trade 2026



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Overview:

Congress must act to help farmers compete in the global marketplace by allowing farmers to access critical inputs and supporting a positive trade policy agenda that is mutually beneficial to farmers and their end customers.

Main Points:

- Importance of Exports
- Critical Imports
- Competitive Landscape

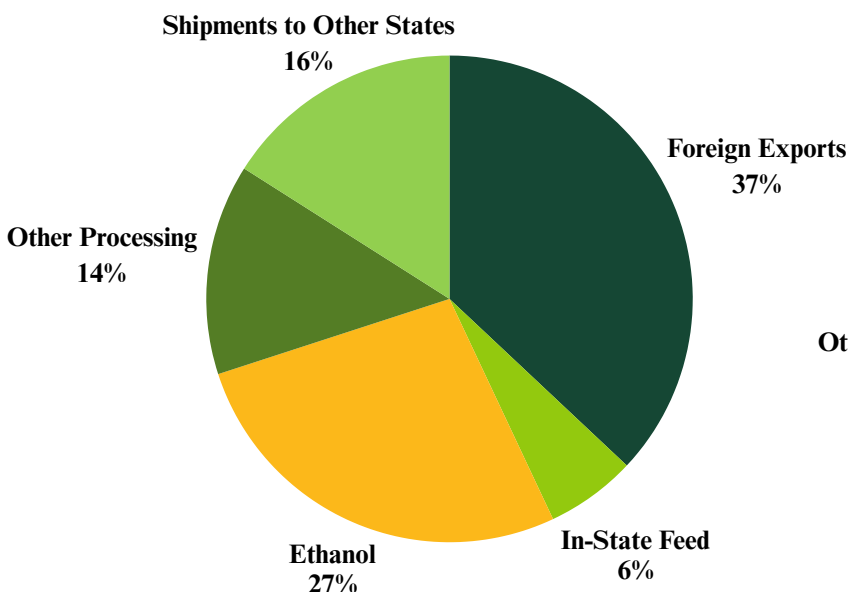
Action Needed

- Codify the allocation of new funding for USDA export development programs such as the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market Development Cooperator Program (FMD)
- Encourage U.S. leadership within the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to guide the development of corn ethanol use in maritime applications

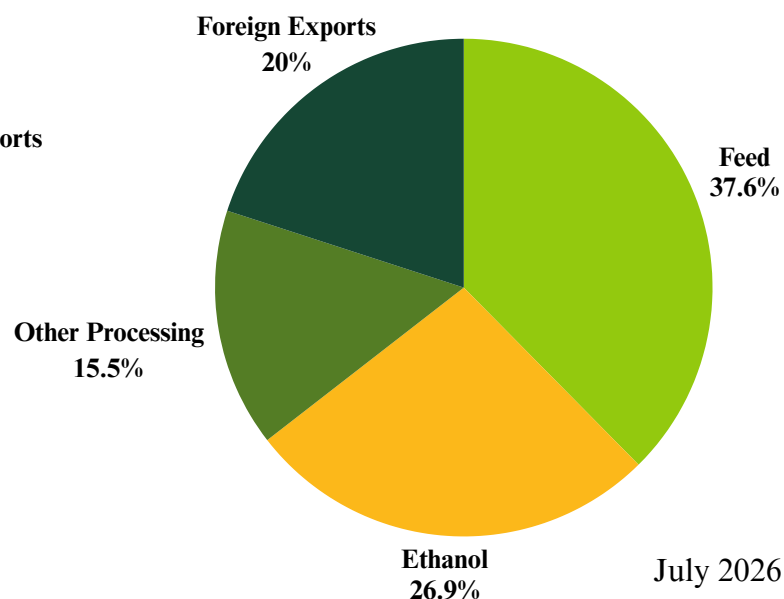
Importance of Exports

- U.S. corn farmers produce 30% of the world's traded corn
- Illinois has access to highly productive land, efficient transportation systems (rail and waterborne), expert know-how, and innovative technology
- Global demand helps reduce burdensome domestic supply and secure better prices
- Importance of exports for corn and corn products
 - Between 15-20% of U.S. corn grain is exported
 - About 10% of U.S. ethanol is exported
 - 25-30% of U.S. distillers' grains are exported
- Growing populations and rising purchasing power around the world have led to increased demand for corn, ethanol and other corn products

IL Corn Utilization (2019-2025)



U.S. Corn Utilization (2019-2025)



Critical Imports

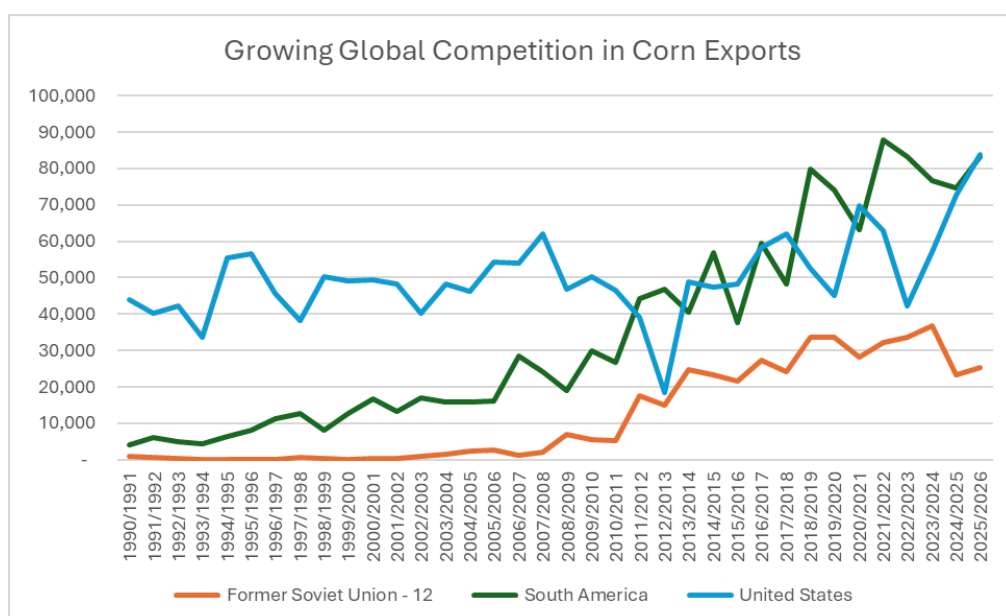
- U.S. corn farmers rely on fertilizers (nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium) to grow crops
- The U.S. produces much of its own nitrogen and phosphorus but imports a significant amount of potassium, primarily from Canada
- Other major fertilizer origins are less friendly to the U.S. For example, Russia is a major nitrogen and potassium exporter

2025 U.S. Fertilizer Imports- Top Five Origins

Potassium			Phosphorous			Nitrogen		
Country	Value	Share of Imports	Country	Value	Share of Imports	Country	Value	Share of Imports
Canada	\$ 2,889,050,018	85%	Israel	\$ 144,388,430	48%	Russia	\$ 1,169,046,044	35%
Russia	\$ 309,787,616	9%	Russia	\$ 65,516,023	22%	Canada	\$ 639,562,576	19%
Israel	\$ 100,829,074	3%	Lebanon	\$ 47,515,241	16%	Qatar	\$ 430,283,960	13%
Germany	\$ 51,653,878	2%	Egypt	\$ 40,302,661	13%	Trinidad and Tobago	\$ 202,054,089	6%
Belgium	\$ 12,591,534	0%	Morocco	\$ 1,455,873	0%	Nigeria	\$ 155,775,292	5%
ROW	\$ 26,799,947	1%	ROW	\$ 591,417	0%	ROW	\$ 734,043,672	22%

Competitive Landscape

- The U.S. was historically the top corn exporter but was surpassed by Brazil two years ago
- The U.S. has regained its position, but **the world marketplace is becoming more competitive every year**
- Argentina could easily reclaim its position as a top corn exporter due to changing trade policies
- Black Sea exporters and Ukraine will continue their efforts to improve production and export efficiencies – even in the midst of war



South American corn exporters like Brazil, Argentina and Paraguay continue to dramatically increase their export potential, while Black Sea exporters like Ukraine, Russia, and Moldova have plateaued due primarily to geopolitical realities.