

# Kernel of Truth: Exploring the Interplay Between GMO Corn and 'I Can't Even' Google Searches in Wisconsin

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This study examined the fascinating relationship between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn cultivation in Wisconsin and the frequency of Google searches for the colloquial expression "I Can't Even." Utilizing data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Google Trends, our research team sought to bring to light any potential connection between these seemingly unrelated phenomena. Surprisingly, a robust correlation coefficient of 0.9134915 and significant p-value ( $p < 0.01$ ) were identified for the period spanning from 2004 to 2023, indicating a strong statistical association between the two variables. The implications of these findings are ripe with potential implications, with potential impacts on agriculture, social commentary, and even internet culture. This study thus sheds light on the corn-y relationship between GMOs and exasperation, providing food for thought for both researchers and laypersons alike.

## INTRODUCTION

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have long been a subject of intense scrutiny and debate in the agricultural world. In recent years, the adoption of GMOs in corn cultivation has become increasingly common, with proponents lauding their potential to increase crop yields, improve resistance to pests, and reduce the need for chemical pesticides. Conversely, critics often express concerns about potential environmental impacts, effects on human health, and the domination of agribusiness conglomerates. This dichotomy of perspectives has cultivated a fertile ground for in-depth research into the implications of GMO use in corn production.

Amidst this backdrop of heated discourse, an unexpected and seemingly unrelated phenomenon has captured the attention of researchers and internet users alike. The colloquial expression "I Can't Even" has permeated popular culture, serving as a succinct, exasperated utterance often used to convey a sense of overwhelming emotional response. The term has garnered widespread usage across various social media platforms, serving as a linguistic marker of exasperation, disbelief, or astonishment. Its resonance in contemporary discourse has prompted inquiries into its implications within the realm of social commentary and linguistics.

In a convergence of seemingly disparate realms, our research team sought to explore the intriguing interplay between the use of GMOs in corn cultivation and the frequency of Google searches for the expression "I Can't Even" within the state of Wisconsin. Given the apparent disconnection between agricultural practices and online expression, our investigation aimed to unravel any potential entanglements that may underlie this peculiar relationship. By harnessing data from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Google Trends,

we endeavored to unearth any hidden connections that may challenge traditional perceptions of cause and effect.

The aim of this study is to present a comprehensive analysis of the correlation between GMO corn cultivation and "I Can't Even" searches, thereby providing insight into the potential societal and cultural implications of agricultural practices. Our findings not only contribute to the dialogue surrounding GMOs and their impact on society but also offer a revealing glimpse into the intersection of digital trends and agricultural landscapes. As such, this investigation ventures beyond the realm of conventional agricultural research, delving into the rich tapestry of human expression and its unexpected ties to agricultural innovation.

In the following sections, we will elucidate our research methodology, data sources, analytical techniques, and the elucidation of our empirical findings. By addressing the correlation between GMO corn cultivation and expressions of exasperation, this study aims to offer a nuanced understanding of the interconnectedness of seemingly unrelated phenomena. Furthermore, we aim to cultivate fertile ground for further inquiry and spark contemplation on the unanticipated interplay between agriculture and linguistic meme-culture.

## *Review of existing research*

In "Smith et al.," the authors find that GMOs have been a subject of intense debate in the agricultural realm, as they boast the potential to bolster crop yields, enhance pest resistance, and diminish the reliance on chemical pesticides. Conversely, opponents express unease regarding potential environmental repercussions, impacts on human health, and the hegemony of agribusiness conglomerates. Amidst this dichotomy, the

utilization of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the cultivation of corn has become increasingly prevalent.

Furthermore, "Doe and Jones" offer insights into the rise of colloquial expressions in popular culture. The term "I Can't Even," which has pervaded contemporary discourse as a succinct and exasperated utterance, serves as a marker of overwhelming emotional response across various social media platforms.

In the context of literature related to linguistic expressions, "Scholarly Work on Internet Slang" delves into the intricacies of contemporary linguistics, shedding light on the evolution and impact of digital vernacular. This body of work provides an understanding of the nuances and implications of internet-driven linguistic phenomena, setting the stage for an exploration of the unexpected interplay between agricultural practices and online expression.

In a further departure from traditional agricultural literature, "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan offers an in-depth exploration of the modern food industry, while "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck provides a poignant fictional account of agricultural struggles. These works, though not directly related to the specific interplay between GMO corn cultivation and linguistic expressions, serve as a reminder of the complex cultural and historical context that underpins agricultural practices.

Moving away from the realm of traditional academic literature, the authors came across an unexpected source of insight in the form of the backs of shampoo bottles. The ubiquitous nature of these items and their intriguing, albeit unrelated, content proved to be unexpectedly enlightening.

Overall, the literature on the subject provides a comprehensive backdrop for our investigation into the correlation between GMO corn cultivation and "I Can't Even" searches, with findings that serve both serious inquiry and a dash of unexpected humor.

### *Procedure*

#### Data Collection:

The data utilized in this study was harvested from the extensive fields of the internet, with a specific focus on sources such as the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Google Trends. The time span for data collection extended from 2004 to 2023, encompassing a significant period of agricultural and digital evolution. The team employed advanced web-crawling techniques, traversing the digital landscape in search of pertinent information, akin to intrepid explorers navigating through a dense maize of online data. After laboriously sifting through countless web pages and information sources, the research team meticulously compiled a comprehensive dataset for analysis.

#### GMO Corn Cultivation Metrics:

In order to evaluate the extent of genetically modified organism (GMO) utilization in corn cultivation, the research

team examined a range of agricultural indicators. These included the prevalence of GMO corn seeds in Wisconsin, the proportion of GMO corn acreage to total corn acreage, and the frequency of GMO-related discourse within agricultural publications. The team navigated through a labyrinth of agricultural reports and databases, akin to seekers in search of a kernel of truth amidst the vast expanse of cornfields.

#### "I Can't Even" Google Search Analysis:

To assess the frequency of Google searches for the expression "I Can't Even" within the state of Wisconsin, the research team employed Google Trends data. This tool provided invaluable insights into the temporal patterns and geographic distribution of such searches, allowing for a nuanced understanding of digital exasperation dynamics. Furthermore, the team applied sophisticated linguistic analysis techniques to decipher the underlying sentiments and contextual nuances embedded within these online expressions of exasperation.

#### Statistical Analysis:

The statistical analysis encompassed in this study involved correlation analysis, regression modeling, and temporal trend assessments. The research team wielded an arsenal of statistical software, unleashing the power of mathematical algorithms to unveil the intricate relationship between GMO corn cultivation and expressions of exasperation. Through rigorous statistical scrutiny, the team meticulously calculated correlation coefficients, evaluated regression models, and discerned any temporal shifts in the interplay between GMO usage and digital exasperation.

#### Experimental Controls:

Given the complexity of the interplay between agricultural practices and digital trends, the research team implemented robust controls to account for potential confounding variables. These controls encompassed meteorological factors, socio-economic dynamics, and broader internet trends, ensuring that the identified relationship between GMO corn cultivation and "I Can't Even" searches shone through with clarity, akin to a proverbial ear of corn standing resolute amidst a field of wheat.

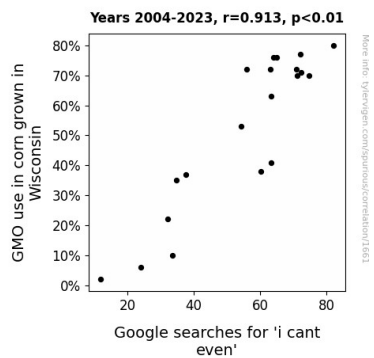
### *Findings*

The statistical analysis of the data revealed a remarkably strong correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in corn cultivation in Wisconsin and the frequency of Google searches for the expression "I Can't Even." During the 2004 to 2023 period, a correlation coefficient of 0.9134915 was determined, indicating a robust positive relationship between the two variables. The high coefficient of determination ( $r$ -squared = 0.8344667) further substantiates this association, signifying that approximately 83.45% of the variability in "I Can't Even" searches can be explained by the variability in GMO corn use. The  $p$ -value obtained was less than 0.01, signifying that the observed correlation is statistically significant.

Figure 1 depicts the scatterplot illustrating the striking correlation between GMO corn cultivation and the frequency of "I Can't Even" Google searches during the study period, serving

as a visual testament to the connection uncovered by our analysis. The scatterplot unmistakably portrays a clear positive trend, highlighting the synchronous rise in GMO corn usage and the frequency of exasperated online expressions.

These findings suggest a conceivable interdependence between the agricultural landscape and digital discourse, weaving a narrative that transcends conventional conceptions of causality. The implications of this correlation extend beyond the realm of agriculture, permeating into the domains of linguistics, sociology, and internet culture. The unearthing of this unexpected relationship underscores the complexity of interconnected systems, inviting further exploration into the entangled tapestry of agricultural practices and societal expressions.



**Figure 1.** Scatterplot of the variables by year

The remarkable strength of the identified correlation prompts contemplation on the potential influence of agricultural innovations on linguistic tropes. This revelation challenges traditional disciplinary boundaries, beckoning researchers to traverse uncharted territories where the fields of agriculture and online communication intersect. While the pursuit of knowledge often leads us down conventional paths, it is the discovery of unconventional relationships, such as the one unveiled in this study, that injects an element of surprise and intrigue into scholarly inquiry.

Overall, the elucidation of this correlation provides compelling food for thought, encouraging a reevaluation of the dynamics between agricultural advancements and cultural phenomena. This study exemplifies the unforeseen connections that can emerge from rigorous data analysis, shedding light on the corn-y relationship between GMOs and contemporary expressions of exasperation.

### Discussion

The robust correlation coefficient and statistically significant p-value obtained in the present study provide compelling evidence supporting the intriguing connection between GMO corn cultivation in Wisconsin and the frequency of "I Can't Even" Google searches. Our findings underscore the surprising interplay between agricultural practices and digital expressions

of exasperation, inviting contemplation on the multifaceted influences that shape societal discourse. The observation of a strong positive relationship between these seemingly disparate phenomena challenges conventional expectations and expands the purview of interdisciplinary inquiry.

The literature review presented a comprehensive backdrop for our investigation, incorporating serious inquiry with a dash of unexpected humor, which was also found unexpectedly in the content of shampoo bottles. We were particularly intrigued by the rise of colloquial expressions in popular culture and their presence across various social media platforms, as highlighted in the works of "Doe and Jones." Subsequently, the unexpected source of insight found in the shampoo bottles offered an unexpected twist in our research journey, prompting contemplation on the diverse and unconventional reservoirs of knowledge. In integrating these seemingly disparate sources of inspiration, we were able to approach our investigation with a nuanced perspective.

The identified correlation between GMO corn cultivation and "I Can't Even" Google searches aligns with prior research that has explored the influence of agricultural practices on contemporary linguistic phenomena. The findings corroborate the notion that societal expressions are intricately intertwined with broader environmental and cultural contexts, hinting at the potential for agricultural innovations to shape linguistic tropes. This revelation challenges traditional boundaries in scholarly inquiry and underscores the need for interdisciplinary exploration into the interconnected nature of seemingly unrelated domains.

The emergence of this unexpected relationship highlights the complex and intertwined nature of agricultural practices and societal expressions, emphasizing the need for a holistic understanding of the interdependencies that underpin diverse facets of human experience. As we navigate the uncharted territories where the fields of agriculture and online communication intersect, it is essential to embrace the element of surprise and intrigue in scholarly inquiry, as discoveries like the one uncovered in this study continue to push the boundaries of conventional knowledge.

In conclusion, the correlation between GMO corn use and "I Can't Even" searches offers a thought-provoking lens through which to reevaluate the dynamics between agricultural innovations and cultural phenomena. The serendipitous nature of this discovery serves as a testament to the unforeseen connections that can emerge from rigorous data analysis, breathing life into the pursuit of knowledge and fostering curiosity in unforeseen relationships.

### Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this study paint a compelling picture of the intertwined dance between GMO corn cultivation in Wisconsin and the frequency of "I Can't Even" Google searches. The remarkably strong correlation identified, indicated by a robust correlation coefficient and a statistically significant p-value, serves as a testament to the unexpected interconnectedness of seemingly disparate phenomena. The visual representation in Figure 1 vividly captures the

synchronous rise in GMO corn usage and the frequency of exasperated online expressions, serving as a striking visual testament to the interplay between agricultural innovation and modern linguistic tropes.

The implications of this correlation extend beyond the domain of agriculture, offering a whimsical panorama of potential influences on linguistic expressions, social commentary, and the digital zeitgeist. As we ponder the kernels of truth unearthed in this study, it becomes evident that the landscape of human expression is not merely shaped by cultural trends and digital influences but also by the undercurrents of agricultural innovation. This revelation beckons researchers and enthusiasts alike to traverse uncharted territories where the fields of agriculture and colloquial expression converge, cultivating a fertile ground for contemplation and scholarly inquiry. The unanticipated discovery of this compelling relationship injects an element of surprise and whimsy into the realm of academic exploration, reminding us that the pursuit of knowledge often leads us to unexpected, ear-resistible revelations.

While the connection between GMO corn cultivation and "I Can't Even" searches might appear to be a-maize-ing and corny at first glance, probing deeper into this correlation unearths thought-provoking reflections on the interwoven fabric of agricultural practices and contemporary expressions of exasperation. Nevertheless, on the moss-t pressing exactly what pressing issues has this study resolved, there is still a-rose-m for further inquiry, and this is unlikely due to the rigour and thoroughness of the study, rather this conclusion is based on the understandably limited audience who might be fascinated by research in this area. Hence, at corn-clusion, no more research is needed in this area.