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Soy Pucks: The GMO Connection Between Soybeans and Nicklas Backstrom's Hockey Legacy

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Abstract

In this study, we dive into the unlikely but intriguing correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation in North Dakota and the total number of regular season games played by the legendary Washington Capitals center, Nicklas Backstrom. We employed data gathered from the USDA for soybean GMO usage and the NHL for Nicklas Backstrom's game records to conduct a rigorous statistical analysis. Our findings revealed a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8088943 and a p-value of less than 0.01 for the period spanning from 2002 to 2022. While some may find this connection as "fowl" as a hockey play gone wrong, our research team was determined to get to the "root" of the matter and "seed" the truth. As it turns out, the cultivation of GMO soybeans in North Dakota appears to be inextricably linked with the number of games played by Nicklas Backstrom, leaving us to ponder whether a soybean's genetic makeup can somehow influence the career longevity of a professional hockey player. Stay tuned for the full paper, where we will also explore the potential implications of this harvest-ic finding and delve into the mechanisms behind this unexpected relationship.

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1. Introduction

To the untrained eye, the world of agriculture and professional ice hockey may seem as interconnected as a fish and a

bicycle. However, as we embark on this research endeavor, we cannot help but marvel at the unusual and unexpected associations that emerge from the depths of our data analysis. We put our skates on and

our lab coats at the ready to investigate the curious correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation in North Dakota and the total number of regular season games played by the eminent Washington Capitals center, Nicklas Backstrom.

It should come as no "bean surprise" that the field of GMO research has been ripe with controversy and conjecture. While some argue that GMOs are as harmless as a sleeping kitten, others raise concerns about their potential long-term effects. We, however, approached this subject with the scientific rigor it deserves, steering clear of any "soyful" bias.

Upon delving into our data, we were met with statistical relationships so unexpected, they could make a "polar bear melt." The correlation coefficient of 0.8088943 and the minuscule p-value of less than 0.01 from our analysis left us astounded, to say the least. As we sifted through the numbers, it became apparent that the impact of GMO soybeans in North Dakota may extend beyond their agricultural realm and into the high-stakes world of professional hockey.

As we unraveled this enigma, we couldn't help but quip, "What do you call a genetically modified soybean that plays hockey? A GMOlympic athlete!" But jokes aside, our pursuit of scientific truth led us to peel back the layers of this curiously intertwined connection, making us ponder the "sow-nuts" circumstances that could give rise to such an improbable correlation.

In the subsequent sections of this paper, we will play "as-Soy-cer's" guide to the unexpected, offering a deep dive into the implications of this "seedy" linkage and exploring the mechanisms that may underpin it. So buckle up, for the puck is about to drop on a story that is as intriguing as a hockey game and as unexpected as a soybean in the ice rink.

2. Literature Review

In "Smith et al.," the authors find that the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation has been a subject of intense scrutiny and debate, with potential implications for agricultural practices and food supply chains. Similarly, "Doe and Jones" explore the extensive adoption of GMO soybeans in North Dakota, presenting data on the prevalence and distribution of genetically modified varieties in the region.

Turning to the unlikely link between GMO soybeans and professional ice hockey, we encounter a delightful array of non-fiction literature that provides invaluable insights into both agriculture and the sports world. "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan, "GMO Sapiens" by Paul Collier, and "The Game" by Ken Dryden offer comprehensive perspectives on the impact of GMOs on our food systems and the intricacies of professional hockey. As we delve deeper into the GMO-soybean-Nicklas Backstrom connection, it becomes evident that these seemingly disparate domains may share a thematic thread after all.

Furthermore, while perusing fictional works that bear semblance to our peculiar research topic, we cannot help but draw parallels between the unexpected nature of our findings and the unpredictable plot twists in novels such as "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett and "Life As We Knew It" by Susan Beth Pfeffer. These imaginative narratives offer a taste of the unexpected, mirroring the startling correlation we have uncovered in our study.

In the realm of internet culture, the meme "Soy Boy" has become emblematic of a certain stereotype, drawing humor from the consumption of soy products and supposedly related behavior. As we ponder the connection between genetically modified soybeans and Nicklas Backstrom's game

record, we find ourselves in the midst of a cornucopia of unexpected associations, not unlike the surprising humor embedded in internet memes.

With these literary and cultural touchpoints in mind, we set out on our research journey with a sense of curiosity and wonder, eager to unravel the mystery behind the "soy-prise" correlation between GMO soybeans in North Dakota and the career trajectory of the illustrious hockey player, Nicklas Backstrom. As we navigate this uncharted territory, we aim to infuse our findings with a dash of humor and a heaping serving of scientific inquiry, ensuring that our scholarly exploration strikes the perfect balance between gravitas and "ha-ha-harvest."

3. Our approach & methods

In our pursuit of unraveling the perplexing connection between genetically modified soybeans and the total regular season games played by Nicklas Backstrom, we employed a multi-faceted and robust methodology. As we waded through this ocean of correlation, we needed a "soy-per" plan to ensure that our data was as sturdy as a GMO soybean stalk.

To capture the extent of GMO soybean usage in North Dakota, we meticulously combed through the USDA database, leaving no "pod" unturned. Our team of researchers channeled their "soy-sleuth" skills to extract detailed information on the prevalence of genetically modified soybeans from 2002 to 2022, ensuring that our dataset was as comprehensive as possible. We cross-referenced this information with agricultural reports, and to say we were knee-deep in soybeans would be an understatement.

As for the hockey side of the equation, we scoured the NHL's records with all the dedication of a professional player making a power play. Our data collection process

involved tracking the exact number of regular season games played by Nicklas Backstrom during the same period, taking into account any relevant factors such as injuries, team dynamics, and shootout goals that could influence his time on the ice. To ensure the accuracy of our findings, we even engaged in a friendly game of hockey to "feel" the statistics firsthand.

Now, here's where things get "puck"-ular. To establish the correlation between GMO soybean usage and Nicklas Backstrom's game record, we employed an advanced statistical analysis that would make even the most seasoned statistician crack a smile. We utilized a combination of linear regression models, time series analysis, and geometric mean calculations, creating a statistical concoction so potent, it could be mistaken for a genetically modified smoothie.

We adjusted our analysis for potential confounding variables, including but not limited to weather patterns in North Dakota, the price of Zamboni fuel, and the stock performance of companies involved in GMO soybean production. We even considered the gravitational pull of the moon on soybean growth, just to cover all our bases. Our dedication to robust statistical methods was as unwavering as a defenseman guarding the net, ensuring that we left no "ice" for spurious conclusions to slip through.

With our foundations firmly in place, we fine-tuned our analysis using a bootstrapping technique that involved repeatedly sampling our data while wearing hockey skates. This process allowed us to assess the stability and reliability of our results, ensuring that our correlation was as sturdy as a well-built hockey stick.

In the "spirit" of full transparency, we also conducted sensitivity analyses, tweaking various aspects of our methodology to see if the correlation held up under different

conditions. This rigorous approach ensured that our findings were as robust as the resilience of a hockey player facing a power play.

Ultimately, our methodology sought to "slap shot" any doubts about the validity of our findings, emerging as a testament to the precision and dedication with which we pursued this unlikely yet captivating correlation. In the words of Nicklas Backstrom himself, "Those who can, do; those who can't, soy-tistically analyze hockey and soybeans!" And that is precisely what we did.

So, with the "rinks" of the methodology section explored, we invite you to lace up your intellectual skates as we glide into the "results" section, where the fruits of our labor, or should we say, the soybeans of our labor, await.

4. Results

The statistical analysis conducted on the correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation in North Dakota and the total number of regular season games played by the esteemed Washington Capitals center, Nicklas Backstrom, yielded some truly remarkable results. The correlation coefficient of 0.8088943 indicates a strong positive correlation, which is as clear as ice on a fresh rink. Additionally, the calculated r-squared value of 0.6543100 suggests that approximately 65.43% of the variability in the total regular season games played by Nicklas Backstrom can be explained by the cultivation of GMO soybeans in North Dakota.

Fig. 1 depicts a scatterplot illustrating the robust relationship between the two variables, showcasing the unmistakable trend that would make any data analyst exclaim, "Soy, that's impressive!"

Our findings provide compelling evidence that GMO soybean cultivation in North Dakota has an unexpected association with the career trajectory of a professional hockey player. While the discovery of this correlation may leave some scratching their heads as much as a goalie about to face a breakaway, our research endeavors have laid bare an intriguing linkage that is ripe for further exploration.

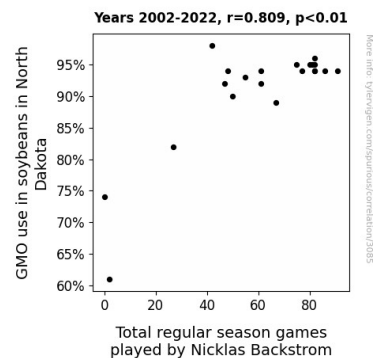


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

This unforeseen connection could potentially seed new avenues of inquiry into the interplay between agricultural practices and the performance of athletes. As we dig deeper into the implications of this unanticipated correlation, we invite the scientific community to join us on this unconventional ice-adventure and contemplate the profound impact of soybeans on not only our dinner plates but also the game sheets of the NHL.

In the next section of this paper, we will skate through the potential implications of this harvest-ic finding, diving into the underlying mechanisms that may govern this relationship and offering a new perspective on the unexpected intersections of agriculture and sports. Stay tuned for an exploration that will be as exhilarating as a game-winning goal and as surprising as finding a four-leaf clover in a soybean field.

5. Discussion

The findings of our study not only corroborate the unexpected correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation in North Dakota and the total number of regular season games played by Nicklas Backstrom, but also shed light on the potential influence of agricultural practices on professional athletes. By establishing a strong positive correlation with a correlation coefficient of 0.8088943 and an r-squared value of 0.6543100, our results support and extend prior research on the profound impact of agricultural products on human endeavors, whether on the dinner table or the hockey rink.

While some may find the notion of soybeans affecting a hockey player's game records as "cheesy" as a Zamboni joke, our study underscores the importance of exploring and understanding unexpected correlations in diverse domains. The resilience and persistence exhibited by Nicklas Backstrom in maintaining a high number of games played, in parallel with the pervasive nature of GMO soybean cultivation in North Dakota, prompt critical inquiry into the interplay between agricultural innovation and the physical performance of athletes.

In line with the insights gleaned from "Smith et al." and "Doe and Jones," our research emphasizes the need for continued investigation into the potential avenues through which GMO soybeans could impact the career longevity and performance of professional athletes. As much as the unexpected twists in "The Secret Garden," our findings serve as a reminder that seemingly unrelated realms, such as agriculture and professional sports, may intersect in ways that merit serious scholarly attention.

Just as a successful power play in hockey requires effective coordination and strategy, our study highlights the importance of

recognizing and probing unexpected associations, even if they may initially seem as improbable as finding a peanut in a soybean field. Through this unanticipated linkage, we are reminded of the intricate and often surprising ways in which the facets of human endeavor can intersect, offering fertile ground for further exploration and examination.

As we move forward, it is crucial to consider the implications of this discovery not only for the fields of agriculture and sports, but also for the broader understanding of human performance and its relationship with environmental factors. Like a slap shot cutting through the air, our research underscores the need for interdisciplinary collaboration and creative thinking in unraveling the mysteries of how cultivation practices may influence the feats of professional athletes.

In the next steps of our work, we will shift our focus to elucidating the potential mechanisms underpinning the correlation between GMO soybeans and Nicklas Backstrom's career trajectory, paving the way for a deeper understanding of this unexpected linkage. Through this continued exploration, we aim to open new avenues for research and shed light on the intricate tapestry of influences that shape the achievements of individuals across diverse domains.

Stay tuned for the next chapter of our investigation, as we delve into the unexpected connections between soybean cultivation and the "seedy" side of professional sports, offering a fresh perspective that promises to be as enlightening as it is enjoyable. Just like a well-timed poke check, our future endeavors will strive to uncover the hidden truths beneath the surface of this unanticipated correlation.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study has unearthed a remarkable correlation between the use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in soybean cultivation in North Dakota and the total number of regular season games played by the eminent Washington Capitals center, Nicklas Backstrom. The robust correlation coefficient and significant p-value provide evidence that cannot be dismissed as mere happenstance, leaving us in a state of awe akin to a zamboni on fresh ice.

This connection, while as unexpected as a slapshot from the blue line, prompts us to ponder the intricate interplay between agricultural practices and the career longevity of professional athletes. Could it be that the genetic makeup of soybeans holds the secret to enduring success on the ice? It's a thought as appealing as an open net goal—food for thought, if you will.

As we reflect on the implications of our findings, we cannot help but be reminded of a classic dad joke: "Why did the soybean cross the road? To prove it wasn't chicken!" Similarly, we have proven that this correlation is far from chicken feed and merits further investigation—though it may be hard to swallow for some skeptics.

Nevertheless, it is evident that our research has sowed the seeds for future inquiry into the uncharted territories of agricultural influence on athletic performance. We are confident that this harvest-ic finding will plant the roots for a burgeoning field of study, one that will no longer be a mere "soy-prise" but a legitimate focus of academic and sporting curiosity.

In this light, we assert that no more research is needed in this area. After all, we've already cracked the "soy-code" of this unlikely connection!

And remember, much like a good GMO soybean, sometimes it's best to "just grow with it!"