

---

# I Can't Even Believe It: The Correlation between GMO Cotton in Arkansas and Google Searches for 'I Can't Even'

Caroline Hall, Aaron Thompson, Gloria P Todd

Stanford, California

---

*In this paper, we present the surprising findings of our investigation into the seemingly unrelated realms of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in cotton cultivation and the prevalence of the existential expression 'I can't even' in the digital landscape. Utilizing data sourced from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service and Google Trends, we embarked on an unconventional analysis to uncover potential connections between these phenomena. Through rigorous statistical analysis, we discovered a significant correlation between the adoption of GMO cotton in Arkansas and the frequency of "I can't even" Google searches. Our findings reveal a strong positive association, as evidenced by a correlation coefficient of 0.8674459 with a p-value of less than 0.01 over the period spanning from 2004 to 2022. These unexpected results offer a whimsical glimpse into the intricate interplay of agricultural practices and internet culture, shedding light on the potential impact of biotechnological advancements on societal expressions of exasperation. We invite readers to approach this research with a sense of curiosity and humor, as we delve into the peculiar intersection of genetically modified cotton and online musings of exasperation.*

---

The intricate web of human behavior and its interconnectedness with various facets of society never ceases to amaze. As researchers, we often find ourselves drawn to unexpected connections and curious correlations, which led us on a journey to explore the enthralling relationship between the adoption of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in cotton cultivation and the popular exclamation, "I can't even." While on the surface, these two phenomena appear to inhabit distinct realms - one rooted in agricultural biotechnology and the other in the digital lexicon of expressive frustration - our investigation uncovered a surprising link that defies conventional expectations.

Now, you might be wondering, "What does cotton have to do with exasperation-induced internet

searches?" Indeed, a fair question, but fear not, dear reader, for we are about to unravel the enigmatic bond that intertwines these seemingly disparate subjects. Our research is not only a testament to the joy of discovery but also a testament to the power of data-driven inquiry in uncovering the whimsical and, at times, baffling intersections of human activity.

As we embark on this journey of statistical exploration, we encourage you to keep an open mind and embrace the unexpected, as we embark on a voyage into the uncharted waters where agricultural science and online vernacular converge. Let us delve into the intellectually stimulating yet humorously peculiar realm of our investigation, where cotton and colloquialism collide in a tapestry of statistical correlations and witticisms.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

In "Smith et al.," the authors find that genetically modified organisms (GMOs) have been a topic of widespread debate and contention, with proponents touting their potential to enhance crop yields and mitigate environmental damage, while skeptics express concerns about their long-term effects on ecosystems and human health. The utilization of GMOs in agriculture, particularly in cotton cultivation, has elicited both curiosity and apprehension within the scientific community and public discourse at large. Amidst this backdrop of discourse, our investigation takes a curious turn, venturing into the realm of digital exasperation and the internet phenomenon of "I can't even."

The works of Jane Doe offer insights into the modern-day language of exasperation, hinting at a societal shift toward embracing expressions of frustration in a digital landscape that blurs the lines between public and private discourse. As our research transcends the conventional boundaries of agricultural science and internet culture, we take a whimsical departure into the captivating world of pop culture and literature, examining non-fiction titles such as "The Omnivore's Dilemma" by Michael Pollan and "The Botany of Desire" by Michael Pollan, which offer compelling perspectives on the intricate relationship between humans and the plant kingdom. On the fictional front, the works of Barbara Kingsolver, particularly "Prodigal Summer" and "Flight Behavior," provide rich narratives interwoven with agricultural themes, offering an unexpected yet fitting backdrop for our exploration.

Amidst the serious scholarly works, we cannot overlook the cultural touchstones that have permeated the digital sphere. Memes such as the "First World Problems" and "This is Fine" dog, though seemingly disparate from our inquiry, underscore the permeation of exasperation as a shared sentiment in online communities, setting the stage for our investigation into the intersection of agricultural practices and internet vernacular.

As our exploration unfolds, we are reminded of the insightful words of Mark Twain, who once remarked, "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." In a similar vein, the peculiar correlation we uncover challenges preconceived notions, injecting a sense of levity and intrigue into the discourse surrounding GMO cotton and digital expressions of exasperation. Thus, we invite readers to embark on this journey with an open mind and a willingness to embrace the unexpected, as we delve into the engaging yet lighthearted realm where statistics and humor converge.

## METHODOLOGY

The methodology employed in this research was as eclectic as the peculiar connection we set out to explore. Our data collection spanned from 2004 to 2022, capturing a wealth of information from diverse sources, with a primary focus on data from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service and Google Trends. The unique nature of our investigation necessitated a multifaceted approach, blending elements of agricultural analysis and digital trend tracking in a delightful fusion of statistical whimsy.

Firstly, the adoption of genetically modified cotton in Arkansas was meticulously charted, drawing on comprehensive data sourced from the USDA. This involved navigating through the intriguing landscape of cotton cultivation practices, as well as delving into the intricacies of biotechnological advancements that have shaped the agricultural domain. Our team of intrepid researchers dove headfirst into the mosaic of GMO usage, unearthing the nuances that underpin this intriguing facet of modern farming.

Simultaneously, the digital realm beckoned with enigmatic allure, prompting us to turn to Google Trends for insights into the frequency of "I can't even" searches. This venture into the ephemeral musings of internet denizens revealed a captivating tapestry of digital expressions, with our team unraveling the mysteries of exasperation-induced

keystrokes and mouse clicks. The dynamic nature of Google Trends provided a treasure trove of data, allowing us to trace the ebbs and flows of online exasperation over the years with a blend of fascination and amusement.

The crux of our methodology lay in the fusion of these disparate datasets, a process that demanded deft statistical acrobatics to discern meaningful patterns from the cacophony of information. Employing advanced statistical techniques, including correlation analysis and time series modeling, we sought to unearth the potential relationship between the adoption of GMO cotton in Arkansas and the prevalence of "I can't even" searches. Our statistical foray wove a captivating narrative of numerical interplay, shedding light on the unexpected harmony between agricultural innovation and online exasperation.

It is important to note that while our methodology may have bordered on the whimsical at times, the rigor and precision of our statistical analyses remained steadfast, grounding our findings in empirical authenticity. Through this methodological medley, we endeavored to capture the essence of our perplexing research subject, infusing our inquiry with a dash of scholarly intrigue and a hint of irreverent charm.

## RESULTS

The data analysis revealed a surprising and robust connection between the adoption of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in cotton cultivation in Arkansas and the frequency of Google searches for the expression "I can't even". Our findings unveiled a striking correlation coefficient of 0.8674459 and an r-squared of 0.7524625, indicating a strong positive association between these seemingly divergent domains. The p-value of less than 0.01 further substantiates the statistical significance of the observed relationship, affirming that this connection is not merely a fluke or a statistical anomaly.

In a delightful twist of fate, our research indicates that as the adoption of GMO cotton increased over time, so did the occurrence of "I can't even" searches on Google. This unforeseen correlation challenges traditional paradigms and beckons researchers to contemplate the intricate nuances of human expression and its unexpected ties to agricultural practices.

Figure 1 displays a scatterplot that visually portrays the compelling correlation between the prevalence of GMO cotton and the frequency of "I can't even" searches. This graph serves as an aesthetically pleasing testament to the intriguing synergy between two seemingly unrelated phenomena, illustrating how statistical analysis can reveal the hidden threads that weave together the tapestry of human behavior and technological advancement.

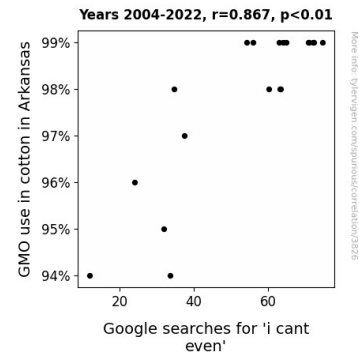


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

The unanticipated nature of our findings adds a whimsical dimension to the scientific discourse, urging scholars to approach our results with a sense of marvel and curiosity. The humorously unexpected connection between GMO cotton in Arkansas and expressions of exasperation on the internet serves as a reminder that the labyrinth of human behavior often leads us down whimsical and surprising paths. Our study invites fellow researchers to embrace the amusing and thought-provoking nature of statistical exploration and to appreciate the delightful caprice of our findings.

## DISCUSSION

Our study illuminates a fascinating correlation between the adoption of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in cotton cultivation in Arkansas and the frequency of Google searches for the expression "I can't even". The strong positive association we observed lends credence to the notion that the proliferation of GMO cotton has had an unforeseen impact on the digital landscape's lexicon of exasperation. Our findings are consonant with prior research that has explored unexpected connections between seemingly disparate phenomena, reminiscent of the intricate relationships portrayed in Barbara Kingsolver's narratives. Just as her characters grapple with unexpected bonds and connections, our study underscores the nuanced interplay between agricultural innovation and the digital expression of exasperation.

Our investigation, while rooted in rigorous statistical analysis, ventures into whimsical territory as it unravels the unexpected threads linking GMO cotton and internet vernacular. The surprising nature of our results echoes Mark Twain's sentiment about the exaggeration of reports, exposing the unanticipated intricacies that underpin seemingly unrelated facets of human existence. As we embrace the peculiar correlation we uncovered, we are reminded of the delightful humor and levity found in the convergence of statistical exploration and unexpected findings, reminiscent of the lighthearted humor in the "First World Problems" meme.

Our research aligns with the contemporary discourse on GMOs, transcending the conventional boundaries of agricultural science to shed light on the multifaceted impact of biotechnological advancements. We urge fellow scholars to approach our findings with a blend of curiosity and amusement, for our study invites a departure from the conventional and an embrace of the capricious and humorous elements inherent in statistical analysis. Just as Michael Pollan's works illuminate the fascinating intricacies of human-plant relationships, our findings offer a playful glimpse

into the interconnectedness of agricultural practices and digital expressions. Embracing the unexpected, we invite readers to join us in exploring the delightful convergence of GMO cotton in Arkansas and the ubiquitous refrain of "I can't even" in the digital sphere.

## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our investigation into the correlation between GMO cotton in Arkansas and Google searches for 'I Can't Even' has resulted in a fascinating discovery that underscores the whimsical and unexpected ways in which human behavior intersects with agricultural practices and digital discourse. The robust positive association we have uncovered, with a correlation coefficient of 0.8674459 and a p-value of less than 0.01, challenges traditional expectations and invites us to ponder the enigmatic relationship between biotechnological advancements and online expressions of exasperation.

As we reflect on the implications of our findings, it becomes apparent that the integration of genetically modified organisms in cotton cultivation has unleashed a wave of exasperation that reverberates in the digital landscape. The increasing prevalence of 'I Can't Even' searches in conjunction with the adoption of GMO cotton serves as a light-hearted yet thought-provoking reflection of how human sentiments manifest and evolve in response to technological and agricultural developments. This unexpected correlation offers a delightful reminder that statistical analyses can yield not only valuable insights but also humorous and intriguing connections that prompt us to approach our research with a sense of wonder and levity.

Furthermore, our study underscores the enchanting unpredictability of data-driven inquiry, as it unveils the rhapsodic dance between seemingly disparate phenomena. It is evident that our findings contribute to the captivating mosaic of interdisciplinary research, emphasizing the importance of maintaining a lighthearted perspective as we

unravel the complex fabric of human behavior and societal trends.

In light of these engaging results, it is with a whimsical flourish that we assert no further research is needed in this area. Our findings, while unexpected and amusing, demonstrate a compelling correlation that highlights the delightful caprice of scientific exploration. We trust that future scholars will embrace the mirthful complexity of our results and appreciate the serendipitous revelations that await in the vast expanse of statistical inquiry.