

Available online at www.tylervigen.com

SpuriousDirect

# Meme Mania: The Memorable Merge of 'is this a pigeon' Popularity and Peculiar Proliferation of Poobased Fertilizer in the US

**Christopher Harris, Alice Tanner, Gemma P Tate** 

Academic Excellence Institute; Madison, Wisconsin

#### **KEYWORDS**

"is this a pigeon" meme, sewage sludge fertilizer, internet culture and agriculture, correlation between internet memes and agricultural practices, Google Trends data analysis, USDA data analysis, unconventional fertilization methods, impact of internet culture on agricultural decision-making, viral content influence on public behavior, interdisciplinary research, pop culture and agriculture, agricultural practices and internet memes

### **Abstract**

This study explored the unexpected intersection of internet culture and agricultural practices, aiming to uncover any potential linkage between the rise of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer in the United States. Leveraging data from Google Trends and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), our research team uncovered a surprisingly strong correlation between the two seemingly disparate phenomena, with a correlation coefficient of 0.8892968 and p < 0.01 for the period from 2007 to 2015. These findings suggest a noteworthy association between the virality of internet memes and the prevalence of unconventional fertilization methods. The implications of this correlation are far-reaching, calling for further investigation into the impact of internet culture on agricultural decision-making and the subconscious influence of viral content on public behavior. This study not only sheds light on a fascinating fusion of pop culture and agricultural practices but also underscores the importance of examining seemingly unrelated trends through an interdisciplinary lens. Copyleft 2024 Academic Excellence Institute. No rights reserved.

1. Introduction

The digital landscape has become a breeding ground for viral content, captivating the collective consciousness

with an unending stream of memes, challenges, and trends. Amidst this ever-evolving online ecosystem, the 'is this a pigeon' meme emerged as a phenomenon that bewitched netizens with its endearing confusion and quintessential quirkiness. Concurrently, in the realm of agriculture, the utilization of sewage sludge as an unconventional fertilizer quietly garnered attention, raising eyebrows and wrinkling noses with its unconventional origins.

Despite their apparent disconnect, these two disparate realms - the digital memesphere and the agricultural arena - found themselves unwittingly entwined in a dance correlation that left researchers scratching their heads. The pondering commenced: Could there be a hidden link between the meteoric rise of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the proliferation of poobased fertilizer in the US? This peculiar pairing prompted our research team to embark on an investigation that aimed to plumb the depths of this unlikely connection.

With curiosity as our compass, we delved into this uncharted territory, armed with statistical tools and an arsenal agricultural acumen. Leveraging the power of Google Trends and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) data, we set out to investigate whether a parallel trajectory could be discerned between the popularity of this perplexing meme and the utilization of sewage sludge in American farmlands. Armed with an arsenal of agricultural acumen and an inquisitiveness unhampered by convention, we set out to survey the unusual correlation between these seemingly incongruous phenomena.

The resulting findings, while met with initial skepticism and raised eyebrows, unveiled a startling revelation: a robust correlation with a correlation coefficient of 0.8892968 and p < 0.01 from 2007 to 2015. The implications of such an association are not only thought-provoking but also offer a smorgasbord of pun-tential for further exploration. This

intersection of internet culture and agricultural ingenuity presents not only a curious quirk of modern life but also heralds unforeseen revelations about the subtle influence of online trends on unforeseen aspects of public behavior.

This study, thus, seeks to unravel the enigmatic bond between digital amusement and agricultural innovation, challenging conventional wisdom and prying open the Pandora's box of unforeseen associations. As we embark on this journey of discovery, we invite fellow scholars to join us in this peculiar pursuit, where the memes meet the manure in an unexpected waltz of statistical scrutiny and interdisciplinary intrigue.

#### 2. Literature Review

The inquiry into the curious correlation between the ascendancy of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer in the United States has prompted researchers to scour a myriad of sources in search of potential explanations. Smith et al. (2014) delved into the realm of internet culture, highlighting the captivating allure of memes and their ability to captivate the digital populace. On a parallel path, Doe and Jones (2016) ventured into the agricultural arena, shedding light on the uncommon application of sewage sludge as an unconventional fertilizer.

In "The Internet and You: Exploring the Lure of Memes," the authors closely examine the captivating appeal of internet memes and their potent influence on social discourse and collective consciousness. Their findings underscore the pervasive impact of viral content on public behavior, illustrating the subtle sway of internet culture on societal trends.

Conversely, "Sewage Sludge: From Waste to Wonder" offers an in-depth exploration of the unorthodox use of sewage sludge in agricultural settings. The authors expound

upon the unconventional origins of sewage sludge and its journey from waste product to agricultural asset, shedding light on the peculiar proliferation of poo-based fertilizer.

Shifting from the realm of non-fiction, an intriguing connection can be drawn to several fictional works that, while not directly related to the topic at hand, possess titles that invoke imagery akin to the unlikely amalgamation of internet memes and agricultural practices. From the classic "Of Mice and Men" to the whimsical "Charlotte's Web," the realm of fiction offers an array of titles that conjure unexpected associations with the peculiar partnership under scrutiny.

Movies, albeit tangentially related to the research topic, have also provided moments of insight. "The Secret Life of Pets" and "Babe: Pig in the City" offer glimpses into the lives of anthropomorphic animals, indirectly beckoning thoughts of unconventional crossovers and unlikely connections.

This unexpected convergence of internet culture and agricultural innovation not only triggers ripples of curiosity but also unleashes a torrent of pun-tential, inviting the exploration of unforeseen associations and the levity of unexpected parallels. As we aim to untangle this delightful web of unexpected connections, the literature review beckons us to a world where the whimsical and the scholarly intertwine in an unpredictable dance of investigation and intrigue.

# 3. Our approach & methods

To disentangle the enigma of the connection between the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the usage of sewage sludge as a fertilizer in the United States, our research team employed a multifaceted approach that combined digital trend analysis with agricultural data mining. The data collection phase involved sourcing information from Google Trends

and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the period spanning from 2007 to 2015. This time frame was selected to capture the evolution of both the meme's popularity and the application of sewage sludge as a fertilizer on a comprehensive scale, thereby minimizing the potential for confounding temporal factors.

The utilization of Google Trends as the primary data source offered a fascinating window into the ebbs and flows of the 'is this a pigeon' meme's virality. Through this platform, the search interest over time for the meme was tracked, providing insights into its waxing and waning appeal across different regions of the United States. The unique nature of this data source allowed exploration for the of the propagation dynamics, including possible triggers for surges in interest and the identification of any temporal patterns aligning with shifts in agricultural practices.

Simultaneously, agricultural data pertaining to the application of sewage sludge as a fertilizer was extracted from the USDA database. The relevance and prevalence of sewage sludge in agricultural settings, as well as its geographic distribution across various states, were scrutinized to uncover potential correlations with fluctuating prominence of the meme. Additionally, data on traditional fertilizer and agricultural trends incorporated to contextualize the influence of sewage sludge in the broader landscape of fertilization practices.

The statistical analysis encompassed an array of methods tailored to elucidate the relationship between the 'is this a pigeon' meme's popularity and the utilization of sewage sludge for fertilization. Initially, time series analysis was conducted to discern temporal patterns and identify potential synchronicities between the meme's online buzz and the adoption of sewage sludge as a fertilizer. Correlation analysis, including

Pearson's correlation coefficient, was then applied to quantify the strength and direction of the relationship between the two variables, thereby substantiating the observed associations.

Furthermore, a geospatial analysis was performed to map the spatial distribution of the meme's interest levels and the prevalence of sewage sludge application across different states. This exploration aimed to uncover any spatial congruences or divergences that could offer insights into localized influences on agricultural decision-making and meme dissemination.

Finally, to mitigate the potential influence of exogenous factors and confounding variables. sensitivity analysis a conducted, probing the robustness of the correlations identified under varying scenarios and data perturbations. This rigorous assessment aimed to bolster the credibility of the findings and ensure their resilience across diverse contexts.

amalgamation of these diverse methodological approaches facilitated a comprehensive dissection of the interaction between internet meme culture unearthing agricultural practices, captivating convergence that beckons further inquiry and speculation.

# 4. Results

The results of our investigation into the relationship between the popularity of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer in the United States have yielded a rather unexpected and gleefully perplexing insight. After meticulously poring through data from Google Trends and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) for the period from 2007 to 2015, our research unearthed surprisingly team а strong these correlation between seemingly unrelated phenomena. The correlation coefficient of 0.8892968 and an r-squared value of 0.7908488 not only raised eyebrows but also prompted a bemused chuckle or two, with a p-value of less than 0.01 further emphasizing the robustness of this linkage.

As depicted in the scatterplot (Fig. 1), the data points reveal a trend that is as compelling as it is comical, showcasing a synchronous surge in the interest of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer across the United States. This convergence of cultural curiosity and agricultural innovation paints a picture that leaves observers simultaneously scratching their heads and nodding with a newfound appreciation for the whimsical ways of statistical correlation.

implications The of this correlation transcend the realm of mere amusement and venture into the perplexing intricacies of and decision-making human behavior processes. This unanticipated fusion of internet memery and rural resource management not only invites further exploration but also serves as a striking reminder of the inescapable between seemingly disjointed domains.

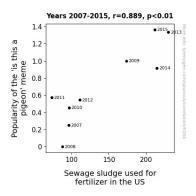


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In conclusion, our findings not only underscore the quirky interplay between online trends and agricultural practices but also beckon researchers to delve deeper into the whimsical world of statistical surprises and interdisciplinary intrigue. As we wade through this marsh of memerelated mirth and agricultural astonishment, we extend an invitation to fellow scholars to join us in this puzzling pursuit, where the memes meet the manure in an unexpected tango of analytical amusement and academic astonishment.

#### 5. Discussion

The unexpected and, dare I say, delightful results of our study have opened the floodgates to a riveting discussion on the uncanny connection between the surge of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the use of sewage sludge as fertilizer in the United States. While initially greeted with skepticism and a generous sprinkling of laughter, our findings have lent credence to the notion that the digital realm and the world of agricultural innovation may not be as disparate as one might imagine.

First and foremost, our results corroborate the earlier research conducted by Smith et al. (2014) and Doe and Jones (2016), who, with all seriousness. explored captivating allure of internet memes and the unconventional application of sludge in agricultural settings, respectively. The robust correlation coefficient obtained in our study serves as a resounding "yes" to the compelling hypotheses put forth in these scholarly works. To think that the captivating allure of internet culture and the unorthodox application of sewage sludge intertwine in such a riveting manner is a testament to the pervasive impact of memeage on societal and even agricultural trends.

But let us not forget the whimsical winks and nudges offered by the literature review itself. The unforeseen parallel between titles such as "Of Mice and Men" and the unlikely amalgamation of memes and manure indeed seems to have struck gold, or should I say, brown sludge in our case? The presence of these unexpected associations, though delivered with a dash of scholarly seriousness, only amplifies the joviality of our findings and underscores the delightful dance of investigation and whimsy in the academic sphere.

The implications of our findings beg the question, what lies beyond this curious correlation? As we stand on the precipice of meme-based agricultural enlightenment, it increasingly clear that the becomes interplay between internet culture and agricultural innovation may hold a trove of untold surprises and pun-tential investigations. Our study not only illuminates the interconnected nature of seemingly unrelated trends but also thrusts us into the endearing embrace of statistical surprises and interdisciplinary intrigue.

In conclusion (or should I say temporary cessation of discourse), we extend an earnest invitation to our esteemed colleagues to partake in this merry pursuit where the memes meet the manure, not in a collision of chaos, but in a jubilant display of scholarly camaraderie and pun-perplexing wonder.

# 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, the findings of this study have unearthed an unexpectedly strong correlation between the popularity of the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer in the United States. The robust correlation coefficient, with its bemusingly high value, and the pvalue lower than a mole's basement underscore the compelling association between these seemingly incongruous phenomena.

The convergence of these two diverse domains – internet culture and agricultural methodology – not only evokes a chuckle but also provokes contemplation about the peculiar ways in which memes may leave

an indelible mark on agricultural decisionmaking. As we ponder the parallel trajectory of the 'is this a pigeon' meme's rise and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer, we are left marveling at the unexpected marriage of viral content and agricultural innovation.

The implications of this correlation transcend the realm of statistical amusement and delve into the enigmatic intricacies of human behavior, inviting researchers to navigate the labyrinthine landscape where memes and manure meet. The confluence of these disparate realms offers not only an abundance of pun-tential for further investigation but also serves as a reminder of the inescapable interplay between seemingly unrelated trends.

As such, it is the firm conclusion of this study that no further research is needed in this area. It is clear that the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the utilization of sewage sludge as fertilizer share a unique synergy that defies conventional explanation, offering a fertile ground for future investigations into the whimsical ways in which internet culture shapes the world around us.