

KEY

NAME _____

THE "RIPPLE EFFECT"

When Iowa farmers grow crops and livestock, they do more than just produce food. Other things happen as a result of agriculture. That's called a "ripple effect." Agriculture creates food that must be transported, processed and sold. And many things are necessary to raise food.

It's a good estimate that one out of every 15 jobs in Iowa is directly or indirectly associated with the soybean industry. (Maybe you have a friend who works in a fast-food restaurant. How's that a "ripple effect" of agriculture?) _____

Look at the items on the left. Then try to guess the "ripple effect" (something that happened because of what the farmer did). Write the letter of the ripple effect by its matching statement.

D

1. Mary Duncanson grows corn on her farm in Ottumwa and needs to buy seed.

C

2. Dan Hunter has a dairy farm and needs someone to pick up his milk every day.

E

3. American farmers produce more food than what Americans need.

A

4. Jeff Wilson has a hog farm and needs a new software program for his computer to help market hogs.

B

5. To plant her soybean crop, Nancy Kelly needs to get a loan to buy seed.

RIPPLE EFFECT

A. A computer company develops software programs especially for the farm.

B. A city bank has a special department for handling agricultural loans.

C. A truck driver picks up farm products from the farm.

D. A new store opened in town so farmers can buy seed, feed and other supplies.

E. The United States ships food to other countries in the world.



What "ripple effect" does agriculture create in your town?