***Lesson 1: Introduction to Grains and Oilseeds- Teacher’s Guide***

**Estimated Time for Completion- 45 minutes**

**Student Learning Objectives:**

* As a result of this lesson, the student will…
  + Become familiarized with different grain and oilseed crops.
  + Utilize the Market Maker application to identify local producers of grains and oilseeds.
  + Improve understanding of value-added agriculture as it applies to grains and oilseed crops.

**Purpose:** From the corn fields in Iowa to the wheat fields in Kansas to the oat fields in Maine, grains and oilseeds are a staple of American agriculture. The agricultural marketing resource center website tells us that grains are identified as cereals suitable as food for human beings and oilseeds are those grains that are also valuable for the oil content they produce. We use grains and oilseeds every day in our lives, maybe even more than we realize.

**Directions:** Access the commodities and products tab on the AgMRC website (<http://www.agmrc.org>) and find the link to grains and oilseeds. Utilize information located here to answer the questions below:

1. What are two value-added products made from flax that are not meant for human consumption?

* First, select the Commodities and Products link
* Second, select the grains and oilseeds link
* Third, select the flax link
* Fourth, use the page and the links at the bottom to answer the question

1. What are the market trends for both oil and non-oil type sunflowers?

* First, select the Commodities and Products link
* Second, select the grains and oilseeds link
* Third, select the sunflowers link
* Fourth, use the page and the links at the bottom to answer the question

1. Name three of the crops that can be used for the production of sweeteners.

* First, select the Commodities and Products link
* Second, select the grains and oilseeds link
* Third, use the various links to find the answer to the question

1. What is the difference between rapeseed and canola?

* First, select the Commodities and Products link
* Second, select the grains and oilseeds link
* Third, use the rapeseed and canola links to answer the question

1. What variety of rice represents the majority of the production in the US? What value-added products are this type of rice commonly used in?

* First, select the Commodities and Products link
* Second, select the grains and oilseeds link
* Third, select the rice link
* Fourth, use the page and the links at the bottom to answer the question

1. Using the Market Maker site find two producers of a grain or oilseed crop in your state. What crops do they grow? How do they sell them?

* First, select the FoodMarketMaker.com link
* Second, select a state.
* Third, using the Find a Business area select “Find a Farmer/Rancher”
* Fourth, select grains from the choices
* Fifth, select a grain product type from the choices
* Sixth, select a category
* Seventh, use the information given to answer the question

**Reinforcement activity: One grain = endless uses**

For this activity you will choose a grain or oilseed to research and report all of the ways that grain can be used. For an easy example if you choose field corn, you could start your list by writing livestock feed, corn oil, Ethanol etc… When you have thoroughly researched your grain or oilseed, you will create a one page pamphlet or educational poster with the grain’s uses listed for viewers to learn from.