# **Weird Things Made from Crops and Livestock**

#### COWS

- 1. Keratin, a protein made from cow hooves, is used in the manufacture of fire extinguisher foam.
- 2. A cow by-product, called stearic acid, is used to make car tires.
- 3. Glue made from beef protein is used to manufacture car bodies.
- 4. Hydraulic brake fluid is made from cow fat.
- 5. Dynamite is made using glycerin, which is derived from cow fat.
- 6. Cow intestines are used for making natural gut strings in tennis racquets.
- 7. More than 100 individual medications consist of beef by-products. This includes insulin, which is produced using cow pancreas.
- 8. Beef-based fat acts as a binding agent for asphalt used in road construction.
- 9. "Camel hair" paint brushes are actually made from the fine ear hair of cows.
- 10. Ingredients in cosmetics, hand soap, and toothpaste can be made from cows.
- 11. Many plastics, like commercial shopping bags, contain chemicals which are derived from animal fat.
- 12. A derivative of rendered cattle, sheep and horse fat is found in some brands of fabric softener in order to make clothes feel soft.

### **CORN**

- 1. Corn is used in making gas and oil (ethanol).
- 2. Cornstarch is used to make drywall boards and helps prevent mold.
- 3. When cornstarch is heated it crystalizes and is used to insulate spark plugs.
- 4. Natural school glue and plywood glues are made from corn flour and oil.
- 5. Cornstarch is a typical ingredient in match sticks.



- 6. Corn protein is used in the manufacture of wax paper and wax-coated cardboard.
- 7. Glass cleaners can be made from ingredients derived from corn.
- 8. Wood varnish gets it luster from corn oil.
- 8. Bio-engineered bone and gum tissue are currently being made from corn protein.
- 9. Ingredients in cosmetics, hand soap, and toothpaste can be made with corn.
- 10. Cornstarch is often used as an electrical conductor in batteries.

#### SOY

- 1. In recent years, soybean oil has replaced petroleum oil in making astro-turf.
- 2. Paintball ammunition can be made with soybean oil.
- 3. Soy-based hydraulic fluids have become a mainstay in hydraulic machinery.
- 4. Soy-based inks are used by almost 90% of American newspapers.
- 5. Soy is becoming increasingly popular as an ingredient in spray foam insulation for homes.
- 6. Some fire logs are made up of 50% soybean wax.
- 7. If you've ever stained wood, it's likely you have used stain with soy lecithin.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- 1. Red cochineal beetles are used as a dye in red foods like candy, ice cream, and yogurt.
- 2. The hard shell coating that covers some chocolate candies is made from the secretions of the female lac bug.
- 3. L-cysteine, a chemical in bread products, is made mostly from bird feathers with some human and hog hair mixed in.
- 4. Many companies now supplement orange juice with Omega-3 fatty acids, derived from fish.

