



Mint Worksheet

Objective(s):

Students will be able to research and generate their own ideas for running an agriculture operation. They will be able to consider what is needed on a farming operation.

Indiana Academic Standards:

English Language Arts: Grades 9-10

9-10.W.3.2: Write informative compositions on a variety of topics.

National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes

Plants and Animals for Food, Fiber & Energy Outcomes

T2.9-12.a: Compare and contrast the differences between nature's plant and animal lifecycles with agricultural systems (e.g., producers manage the lifecycle of plants and animals to produce a product for consumption).

Materials:

- Writing utensil
- Student worksheet



Name: _____



You and your group are responsible for developing a strategy to raise and sell mint to your community. A simple marketing plan always includes: **product, price, promotion, place and people.**

Research mint production in Indiana and use the back of this sheet or another sheet of paper to list what you will need to make your mint operation successful.

Things to include:

- What resources are you going to need for growing mint?
- What equipment will you need for the operation?
- How will you promote the products to your community and make sure it is well known?
- Is there a way to make sure that the mint crop you grow is utilized in your own community? Think about school cafeterias, community farmer's markets, etc.
- What forms of renewable energy could you use to help on your farm?



Teacher Answer Key

Make sure that the students research marketing tactics and highlight those in their plan. Students should show that they are able to think about using natural resources and promoting their crop yield in their own communities.

Supplemental Information

- Explain to students that Indiana is an important mint producing state. Every year there are over 25,000 acres of mint planted in Indiana.
- Northwest Indiana produces the most mint in the state. St. Joseph and Starke counties have the largest productions.
- Give some examples of what Indiana mint could be used for, including mint gum, mint candies, toothpaste and mint chocolate chip ice cream.
- Mint is a perennial plant, meaning it lives more than one life cycle.
- Harvest between mid-June and late September.
- When mint is harvested it is piled into "windrow," which are lines of piled mint laid out to dry in the wind.
- One acre of mint = 76 pounds of mint oil.
- The mint industry contributes about \$69.7 million in production to the economy.
- **Careers: Farmer, food scientist, agronomist and crop inspector**