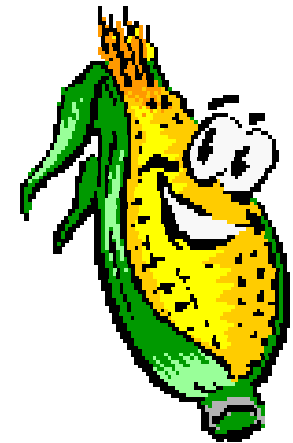


# Stump the farmer!

## Questions from our customers

### *How many ears of corn grow on one corn stalk?*

Each stalk of corn will bear only 1 tassel, but an ear could form with each of several leaves. Field corn usually only has a single ear per stalk. Most sweet corn varieties will produce 2-4 ears per stalk, and one variety, called “six-shooter”, produces six ears per stalk. (J. E. Armstrong, Botany, Illinois State University)



So what is the answer: the number of ears that grow on one stalk depends on the variety! Typically sweet corn will have 2 ears per stalk. The ear higher up on the stalk will be pollinated first from the tassel at the top of the stalk. This ear reaches maturity first and will be picked, the lower ear may not be pollinated as well and is not picked.