

Corn Wet Milling Market Report: Trends, Forecast and Competitive Analysis to 2031

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Abstracts

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Corn Wet Milling Trends and Forecast

The future of the global corn wet milling market looks promising with opportunities in the feed, food, and industrial markets. The global corn wet milling market is expected to grow with a CAGR of 4.8% from 2025 to 2031. The major drivers for this market are the rising demand for corn-based products, the growing utilization of feed products based on corn gluten meal, and the expansion of the global food and beverage industry.

Lucintel forecasts that, within the equipment category, the centrifuge system is expected to witness the highest growth over the forecast period.

Within the application category, feed is expected to witness the highest growth.

In terms of regions, North America is expected to witness the highest growth over the forecast period.

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Emerging Trends in the Corn Wet Milling Market

The corn wet milling market is undergoing significant transformation as it adapts to evolving consumer demands and environmental pressures. One of the key shifts is the



industry's move toward more sustainable production practices, with companies investing in energy-efficient milling processes, reducing water usage, and minimizing waste to align with both consumer expectations and government regulations aimed at reducing carbon footprints. At the same time, there is a rising demand for high-value corn products, such as high fructose corn syrup, ethanol, and bioplastics, driven by their increasing applications in industries ranging from food to pharmaceuticals and packaging. Advancements in milling technology are further enhancing the market, with innovations improving efficiency, product quality, and production costs through automation and digital technologies. Additionally, the expanding use of corn in biofuel production, particularly ethanol, reflects the global push for renewable energy sources. Finally, the growing popularity of plant-based diets has led to an increased demand for corn-based ingredients, such as corn protein and starch, which are being used as substitutes for animal-derived components in food products like meat and dairy alternatives. These trends underscore the dynamic nature of the corn wet milling market, which is evolving to meet the challenges and opportunities of a more sustainable and health-conscious future.

Shift Toward Sustainable Practices: The corn wet milling market is moving toward more sustainable production practices. Companies are investing in energy-efficient milling processes and seeking to minimize water consumption and waste. This trend reflects consumer demand for environmentally friendly products and government regulations aimed at reducing the carbon footprint of manufacturing.

Increased Demand for High-Value Corn Products: As demand grows for food and industrial products, there is a shift toward producing high-value products such as high fructose corn syrup, ethanol, and bioplastics. This trend is driven by the increasing applications of corn-based products in diverse industries such as food, pharmaceuticals, and biodegradable packaging.

Advancements in Corn Milling Technology: The development of more advanced milling technologies is allowing for higher efficiency and improved yields. Innovations in processing methods are leading to more refined products and lower production costs. Automation and digital technologies are also improving plant operations, enabling producers to meet the growing demand for cornbased products.

Expanding Use of Corn in Biofuels: Corn is increasingly being used in biofuel production, particularly ethanol. With the growing demand for renewable energy,



corn wet milling companies are focusing more on ethanol production. This trend is being driven by both government subsidies and a global push toward reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Rising Popularity of Plant-Based Ingredients: With the growing trend of plantbased diets, the use of corn-based products in plant-based food formulations is increasing. Products like corn protein and starch are gaining traction as substitutes for animal-derived ingredients in food products, particularly in meat alternatives and dairy substitutes.

The emerging trends of sustainability, high-value product demand, technological advancements, biofuel usage, and plant-based ingredient popularity are transforming the corn wet milling market. These trends reflect a broader shift in consumer and industrial preferences, emphasizing efficiency, environmental responsibility, and product innovation. The market will continue to evolve in response to these factors.

Recent Developments in the Corn Wet Milling Market

Recent developments in the corn wet milling market have been driven by technological advancements, the rising demand for biofuels, sustainability efforts, product diversification, and increasing applications across industries. These developments are enhancing operational efficiency, reducing environmental impacts, and expanding the market's reach in global sectors such as food production, bioenergy, and bioplastics.

Technological Advancements in Milling Processes: Recent innovations in milling technologies have increased processing efficiency and product yield, minimizing waste and energy consumption. Automation, precision control, and continuous-flow systems are now commonly implemented, optimizing production processes. This has led to cost reductions and higher throughput, enabling companies to meet the growing demand for corn-based products while maintaining sustainability.

Expansion in Biofuel Production: The growing demand for renewable energy has pushed the corn wet milling market toward biofuel production, particularly ethanol. With the rise in government subsidies and global efforts to reduce fossil fuel reliance, companies are investing more in ethanol plants. This trend boosts the demand for corn as a biofuel feedstock, helping to increase market growth and production capacity.



Sustainability and Green Production Efforts: Sustainability is becoming a key priority for Corn Wet Milling companies. Manufacturers are adopting energy-efficient technologies, recycling water, and reducing CO2 emissions. Investments in renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar power, are also being explored to minimize environmental impacts. This shift aligns with consumer preferences for eco-friendly products and government regulations focused on reducing carbon footprints.

Product Diversification and High-Value Corn Derivatives: Companies are focusing on developing new, high-value corn-based products such as bioplastics, specialty starches, and corn-based proteins. These products cater to a growing demand in various industries like food, pharmaceuticals, and packaging. As the demand for sustainable, renewable alternatives rises, the corn wet milling sector is diversifying its product offerings to meet these evolving needs.

Expansion of Plant-Based Food Products: The growing trend toward plantbased foods is positively impacting the corn wet milling market. Corn-based ingredients such as starch, protein, and fibers are increasingly used in plantbased meat alternatives and dairy substitutes. This shift is driven by consumer demand for healthier, more sustainable food options, contributing to the growth of the corn wet milling sector.

These recent developments, from technological advancements to sustainability initiatives and product diversification, are shaping the future of the corn wet milling market. The increasing demand for biofuels, plant-based products, and eco-friendly production methods is driving growth, improving market efficiency, and opening up new opportunities across various sectors.

Strategic Growth Opportunities for Corn Wet Milling Market

The corn wet milling market offers significant growth opportunities across various applications, including biofuels, food ingredients, and bioplastics. As consumer preferences shift toward sustainability and healthier options, manufacturers are exploring new ways to leverage corn for a range of uses. These opportunities reflect the sector's potential for expansion in response to global market trends and technological advancements.



Biofuel Production (Ethanol): The increasing demand for biofuels, especially ethanol, presents a major growth opportunity for the corn wet milling market. As governments globally prioritize renewable energy and reduce reliance on fossil fuels, ethanol production is expected to increase. This growth opens up opportunities for corn milling companies to expand their production facilities and invest in cutting-edge technologies to improve biofuel yield.

Food and Beverage Industry Expansion: The demand for corn-based ingredients in food and beverages, such as high fructose corn syrup, starch, and sweeteners, continues to grow. As health-conscious consumers demand more natural and sustainable food products, corn-based alternatives are becoming increasingly popular. Companies can leverage this trend to develop new product lines and strengthen their market presence in the food sector.

Bioplastics and Sustainable Packaging: With the rise in environmental concerns, the demand for sustainable packaging solutions has increased. Corn-based bioplastics are becoming a viable alternative to petroleum-based plastics. Manufacturers in the corn wet milling market can seize this opportunity by developing bioplastics, tapping into the growing demand for eco-friendly packaging solutions in various industries such as food and consumer goods.

Plant-Based Food Production: The plant-based food sector is booming, driven by the growing consumer preference for vegan and vegetarian options. Corn ingredients, such as protein, starch, and fiber, play a vital role in plant-based meat and dairy alternatives. This provides a growth opportunity for corn wet milling companies to supply plant-based food producers with essential raw materials for these products.

Pharmaceuticals and Health Products: Corn is increasingly being used in pharmaceuticals and health-related products due to its versatility and health benefits. Corn-derived ingredients such as starches, dextrins, and proteins are utilized in tablets, capsules, and other health supplements. This growing trend in the pharmaceutical sector offers significant expansion potential for the corn wet milling market, especially as the demand for functional foods and supplements rises.

The corn wet milling market's growth potential lies in its ability to expand across diverse applications such as biofuels, food production, bioplastics, and pharmaceuticals. These



strategic growth opportunities, driven by sustainability and consumer demand for healthier, plant-based products, present an exciting future for the sector. Manufacturers who capitalize on these trends will benefit from increased market share and innovation.

Corn Wet Milling Market Driver and Challenges

The corn-wet milling market is influenced by a range of factors, including technological advancements, economic conditions, and regulatory challenges. While these drivers promote market growth, various challenges such as raw material supply fluctuations, environmental concerns, and changing policies also affect market dynamics. Understanding these drivers and challenges is crucial for navigating the future of the sector.

The factors responsible for driving the corn wet milling market include:

1. Technological Advancements: The adoption of advanced milling technologies, such as continuous-flow systems and automation, has significantly increased production efficiency. These innovations reduce costs, improve yields, and enable the production of higher-quality products. Technological developments in processing are also enabling companies to meet consumer demand for more sustainable and eco-friendly products.

2. Government Regulations and Sustainability Initiatives: Stringent regulations related to food safety, environmental standards, and renewable energy are driving the corn wet milling market toward more sustainable practices. Governments are increasingly implementing policies that encourage the use of renewable energy, waste reduction, and the adoption of eco-friendly production processes. These regulations are fostering innovation while challenging companies to comply with evolving standards.

3. Rising Demand for Biofuels: The global push for renewable energy sources is driving demand for biofuels, particularly ethanol, made from corn. As governments introduce policies promoting cleaner energy alternatives, the demand for corn-based biofuels is expected to rise. This is beneficial for the corn wet milling market, offering a new revenue stream while supporting environmental sustainability goals.

Challenges

1. Volatility in Raw Material Prices: The corn wet milling industry is heavily dependent on corn as its primary raw material. Fluctuations in corn prices due to weather conditions, geopolitical factors, or supply chain disruptions can impact production costs.



Manufacturers must find ways to mitigate the risks associated with price volatility to maintain profitability.

2. Environmental Concerns: Increased focus on reducing environmental impacts and carbon footprints is driving companies in the corn wet milling market to adopt more sustainable practices. The shift toward renewable energy, water conservation, and reduced waste is crucial in addressing the growing environmental concerns. Companies must continue to innovate and invest in green technologies to remain competitive.

3. Consumer Preferences and Health Trends: As consumer preferences shift toward healthier, plant-based diets, the demand for corn-based ingredients in food products like meat alternatives and dairy substitutes is rising. The trend toward healthier and more sustainable food options is encouraging corn wet milling companies to explore new product lines that cater to these evolving consumer preferences.

In conclusion, the corn wet milling market is being driven by several factors, including technological advancements, government policies, the demand for biofuels, and shifting consumer preferences. However, challenges such as raw material price fluctuations, environmental concerns, and regulatory pressures remain prominent. The ability of companies to innovate and adapt to these factors will determine their success in this dynamic market.

List of Corn Wet Milling Companies

Companies in the market compete on the basis of product quality offered. Major players in this market focus on expanding their manufacturing facilities, R&D investments, infrastructural development, and leverage integration opportunities across the value chain. Through these strategies corn wet milling companies cater increasing demand, ensure competitive effectiveness, develop innovative products & technologies, reduce production costs, and expand their customer base. Some of the corn wet milling companies profiled in this report include-

Tate & Lyle

Archer Daniels Midland

Cargill

Ingredion



Agrana Beteiligungs

The Roquette Freres

Bunge

Corn Wet Milling by Segment

The study includes a forecast for the global corn wet milling market by equipment, source, application, product, and region.

Corn Wet Milling Market by Equipment [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Milling Equipment

Steeping Equipment

Centrifuge System

Washing & Filtration System

Others

Corn Wet Milling Market by Source [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Dent Corn

Waxy Corn

Corn Wet Milling Market by Application [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Feed

Food



Industrial

Corn Wet Milling Market by Product [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Starch

Sweetener

Ethanol

Corn Gluten Meal & Gluten Feed

Others

Corn Wet Milling Market by Region [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

North America

Europe

Asia Pacific

The Rest of the World

Country Wise Outlook for the Corn Wet Milling Market

The corn wet milling market has seen various developments across key regions, including the United States, China, Germany, India, and Japan. These developments are driven by advancements in production technology, the growing demand for cornbased products, and changes in consumer preferences for healthier, sustainable options. Regulatory policies, economic factors, and technological innovations are further shaping this industry globally.

United States: The U.S. corn wet milling market continues to expand with the growing demand for high fructose corn syrup (HFCS), corn starch, and ethanol. The market is seeing increased investments in production technology, focusing



on improving efficiency and reducing waste. Additionally, the shift toward sustainable production practices, such as reducing water usage and energy consumption, is gaining momentum in response to environmental concerns.

China: In China, the corn wet milling market is witnessing rapid growth driven by the increasing demand for corn-based products like starch and glucose syrup. With rising urbanization and income levels, Chinese consumers are demanding more processed food products, which in turn is fueling the market. Investments in corn milling technology are also making the industry more efficient, with a focus on innovation and product diversification.

Germany: The corn wet milling market in Germany has been evolving with a significant focus on bio-based products such as bioplastics and ethanol. Germany's emphasis on sustainability is reflected in its increasing production of eco-friendly, renewable products derived from corn and advanced milling technologies that reduce energy use. The market is also being shaped by strict European Union regulations on food safety and environmental standards.

India: India's corn wet milling market is expanding due to increased demand for corn-based products in food processing and the growing popularity of biofuels. The rise of the middle class and urbanization has driven a greater need for processed foods, creating opportunities for corn-based ingredients. The market is also seeing an increasing focus on innovation, with new applications of corn in food, pharmaceuticals, and bioenergy.

Japan: Japan's corn wet milling market is focused on high-quality corn products for food and industrial uses. With a strong demand for corn starch and glucose syrup, Japan's market has grown in line with the expansion of processed foods. Technological advancements in milling and an emphasis on sustainable practices are contributing to the sector's growth. The demand for corn-based biodegradable plastics is also rising in response to environmental concerns.

Features of the Global Corn Wet Milling Market

Market Size Estimates: Corn wet milling market size estimation in terms of value (\$B).

Trend and Forecast Analysis: Market trends (2019 to 2024) and forecast (2025 to 2031) by various segments and regions.



Segmentation Analysis: Corn wet milling market size by various segments, such as by equipment, source, application, product, and region in terms of value (\$B).

Regional Analysis: Corn wet milling market breakdown by North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Rest of the World.

Growth Opportunities: Analysis of growth opportunities in different equipments, sources, applications, products, and regions for the corn wet milling market.

Strategic Analysis: This includes M&A, new product development, and competitive landscape of the corn wet milling market.

Analysis of competitive intensity of the industry based on Porter's Five Forces model.

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This report answers following 11 key questions:

Q.1. What are some of the most promising, high-growth opportunities for the corn wet milling market by equipment (milling equipment, steeping equipment, centrifuge system, washing & filtration system, and others), source (dent corn and waxy corn), application (feed, food, and industrial), product (starch, sweetener, ethanol, corn gluten meal & gluten feed, and others), and region (North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and the Rest of the World)?

Q.2. Which segments will grow at a faster pace and why?

Q.3. Which region will grow at a faster pace and why?

Q.4. What are the key factors affecting market dynamics? What are the key challenges and business risks in this market?

Q.5. What are the business risks and competitive threats in this market?

Q.6. What are the emerging trends in this market and the reasons behind them?



Q.7. What are some of the changing demands of customers in the market?

Q.8. What are the new developments in the market? Which companies are leading these developments?

Q.9. Who are the major players in this market? What strategic initiatives are key players pursuing for business growth?

Q.10. What are some of the competing products in this market and how big of a threat do they pose for loss of market share by material or product substitution?

Q.11. What M&A activity has occurred in the last 5 years and what has its impact been on the industry?



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