An Orchard of Trivia

September is a big month for farmers in America and Canada, as they are harvesting the crops they have worked so hard to grow since the spring season. Here are some fun facts about the harvest season:

There is a saying among farmers that can help to gauge the success of their corn crop. Can you finish the saying? Corn should be "knee high by the fourth of ______" (July) in order to be successful for the fall harvest.

Corn stalks can sometimes grow as tall as 20 feet!

One pound of corn is made up of about 1,300 kernels.

There are 4 basic types of corn: dent corn, flint corn, sweet corn and popcorn. Humans eat sweet corn and popcorn!

The state of Texas produces the most cotton in the United States - more than 30% of the crop each year.

One bale of cotton can produce more than 1,000 t-shirts.

There are different types of farm names. Can you name these types of farms?

- A farm that grows grapes is called a ______. (vineyard)
- A farm that grows fruits or nuts is called an _____. (orchard)
- A farm that grows tobacco or coffee is called a _____. (plantation)

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The Farmer's Almanac has been published yearly since 1818. It gives long-term weather projects for the U.S. and Canada.

There are plenty of wives tales that spring from the Farmer's Almanac. People have used the predictions to help them know when to paint their barn, when to wean their babies, and even when to potty train successfully!

What fruit that is harvested in September would be a delicious gift to put on your teacher's desk? (an apple)

If you care for someone, you may call them the apple of your _____. (eye)

How long do apple trees take to produce their first fruits? (4-5 years)

Apples are a member of what flower family? (the rose family, just like pears and plums)

A bushel of apples weighs about 40 pounds. If you love someone a lot, you can say you love them a bushel and a ______ (peck), and a hug around the ______ (neck).

If you want your apple to ripen, should you leave it on your table or put it in your fridge? (leave it at room temperature - it ripens 6-10 times faster there.)

How many apples does it take to make one gallon of apple cider? (approximately 35)

How many apples do you need to make a 9-inch pie? (about 2 pounds)

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Out of the 50 American states, how many grow apples? (all 50! But they are grown commercially in 36.)

List as many things as you can that are made with apples. (apple pie, apple cake, apple juice, apple cider, apple muffins, applesauce, etc.)

Twenty pounds of apples will make how many quarts of applesauce? (10-12)

Complete the saying, "an ______ (apple) a day keeps the ______ (doctor) away."

Have you ever bobbed for apples? They float because how much of their volume is made of air? (25%)

One apple contains 4.5 grams of fiber. How many servings of Metamucil would you have to take to get the same amount of fiber? (almost 2 servings! Most of the fiber is found in the apple peel.)