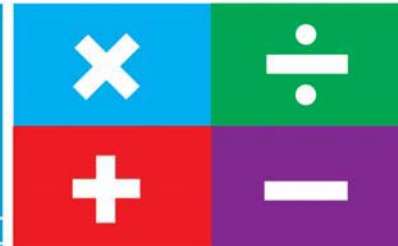


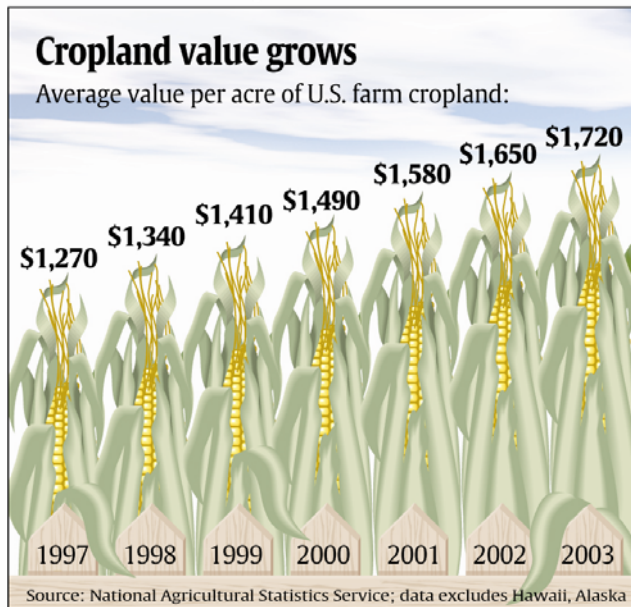
MATH TODAY™ Student Edition



Activity 5:

Cropland value grows

USA TODAY Snapshots



By Shannon Reilly and Marcy E. Mullins, USA TODAY

Focus Questions:

- Q. According to the USA TODAY Snapshot, "Cropland value grows," explain what values represent the independent and the dependent variables?
- Q. Determine the "rate of change" in average cropland value per year and interpret the meaning of this value.
- Q. Estimate the average value per acre of U.S. farm cropland in 1996 and 2004.

Activity Overview:

You will explore the data in the USA TODAY Snapshot, "Cropland value grows" to determine the rate at which the average value per acre of U.S. cropland is changing. You will determine a mathematical model for the data and use the model to predict the value of an acre for years not shown in the Snapshot. You will create a scatter plot of the given data for the years 1997 through 2003, using appropriate labels.

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