

# INGENIOUS IDEAS

## DEPARTMENT

### Corn's New Place at the Table

(NAPSA)—The next casual meal you eat may be “cornier” than you think. Besides savoring such staples as corn-on-the-cob and corn dogs on the picnic menu, the disposable plates, cups and utensils you eat these treats from may also be made from corn.

There’s nothing “corny” about this concept, since eat-on-the-go Americans now use more than \$11 billion worth of cups, dinnerware, utensils and other disposables each year—most of which are made from petroleum. Market research shows a large segment of U.S. consumers are looking for more natural alternatives to traditional plastic packaging—and made-from-corn convenience items exactly fit the bill.

Tableware made from NatureWorks PLA—a plastic that is made from 100 percent field corn—is a wholesome, natural choice for the fresh foods you eat. Like regular plasticware, count on the corn serviceware to meet the demands of today’s modern lifestyles: it’s sturdy and strong and just as convenient and economical to use. But, you can feel good about putting it on the family table, because it is more sustainable since it is made from a resource that can be regrown every year,



**New technology uses a favorite renewable resource, to make compostable plastic plates.**

and it can even be commercially composted.

The technology used to produce this nature-based plastic breaks down the plant starches in the corn into natural plant sugars. These sugars are used to make a plastic called polylactide (PLA) that is shaped into a variety of cups, containers, films and other packaging.

In addition to its natural source benefit, the production of NatureWorks PLA uses less petroleum and thus generates less greenhouse gas to the atmosphere than traditional plastics.

So, the next time you dish up a quick and casual meal—serve it on corn. For more information and to purchase these products, visit [www.natureworkspla.com](http://www.natureworkspla.com).