An **ACRE** is a **unit of measurement** often used to express areas of land in a number of different systems, including the imperial and U.S. customary systems.

MEASUREMENT FACTS

- The most commonly used acres today are the **INTERNATIONAL** acre and, in the United States, the **SURVEY** acre.
- An **ACRE** equal to the area of land inside a square that is about 209 feet on each side (43,560 square feet).
- A square Acre = 208.71' x 208.71' = **43,560 sq ft**.
- There are 640 acres in a square mile.
- In the **metric system**, the **hectare** is commonly used for the same purpose. An acre is approximately 0.4 hectares.

LAND FACTS

- There are **33 billion acres** of land on the earth – Only less than 470 million acres are arable.
- **80% of U.S. croplands** lose an inch of topsoil every 33 years; ***twenty times*** faster than the natural rate of soil gain.
- **One acre** of natural habitat/ farmland is converted to built-up space or highway for ***each person*** added to the U.S. population.
- If present population growth and other trends continue, our arable land base of 470 million acres will diminish by 120 million acres by 2069. That is one quarter of the present total of arable land.
- Of land that is now in cultivation in the U.S., more than **1 million acres** are lost each year due to urbanization and an additional **2 million** acres of prime cropland are lost due to degradation.

MAKE AN ACRE!

“the amount of arable soil we loose every time a person is born in the U.S.”

An **acre** is the amount of area **two oxen** could plow in one day.

To see what an acre of land looks like:

Form a circle with a diameter of approx. 235.5’ by using the radius rope (117.75’)

BUSHEL OF GOODNESS

Another important measurement for the business of agriculture is the **bushel**.

- A large basket about the size of a round laundry basket is the unit used to measure yield or the amount of a crop produced.

- While a bushel container might look the same for apples, potatoes or wheat, the weight changes because of a product’s size and density.