The Threat Posed on Americans by the Expansion of Chinese Agriculture
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Introduction
The expansion of the Chinese agricultural business has become a threat to Americans in more ways than one. Not only does it pose a risk to our economy, but also our health and even our legislative process on a local level. This threat gained momentum largely with the purchase of Smithfield Farms by the Chinese Shanghui Group. Under this transaction, the United States handed China the largest pork producing company in the world (Gooch, 2018).

Many American consumers are not aware of the present threat posed by companies like the Shanghui Group and others like it that are growing domains in the American economy.

This study stakes a closer look at the significance of these given threats, and examines whether or not the consumers of these pork products are aware of the problems associated with the companies they buy from.

Aim
The aim of this study was to find out more about the imposed threat from Chinese agricultural expansion and how American consumers are impacted by the process. Things taken into consideration were:

- Economic significance
- Encoachment on US territory
- Health implications
- Political implications
- Impact on local legislation

This information was sought out to bring light and awareness to this matter that resonates close to home for those living in the Carolinas. All factors considered would directly impact consumers of the pork products owned by these Chinese entities.

The main question behind this study was "How aware are consumers of the threats posed by Chinese agricultural expansion?"

Method
The method used to collect data on this study was a survey given to a convenience group using quantitative measures.

The numbers that came out of this would indicate exactly how many people were aware of what was happening in the pork industry, as far as China being a threat.

The survey included seven questions. It took the users about two minutes to complete the task. They were given informed consent and had the opportunity to back out of the survey at any time. The survey was anonymous.

Responses showed that consumers:
- Did not know about the community where the product came from
- Were not aware of the threat coming from Chinese agricultural expansion
- Did not think pork purchasing is associated with political corruption
- Were aware of a threat from China on a local policy level
- Were aware that the purchase of pork products impacted people outside of themselves as far as health is concerned

Results
The results from this research and study proved showed that consumers had a range of knowledge regarding how pork purchasing and China is impacting them at home.

Conclusions
Overall, this study showed that consumers were aware of China being a threat to Americans but they had little knowledge of how that is a result of consumer behavior and purchasing power. Awareness about the negative impacts stemming from the expansion of Chinese agricultural business should be raised amongst consumers and taken into consideration in their purchasing process.

References
