



Building a Better Future

Q&A with Corteva's CEO Jim Collins



Who is Corteva Agriscience? What is your purpose as a global agriculture company?

Corteva Agriscience is a pure-play, publicly traded agriculture company. It was created by combining the rich heritages of DuPont Pioneer, DuPont Crop Protection, and Dow AgroSciences.

We are proudly headquartered in Delaware. Our 21,000 employees around the globe provide innovative seed, crop protection and digital solutions to farmers in more than 140 countries.

We are driven by our purpose, which is to enrich the lives of those who produce and those who consume, ensuring progress for generations to come. We bring this to life through our unparalleled product portfolio, our commitment and investment in the communities where we live and operate, and our sustainability goals.

How has Corteva managed through the pandemic?

I'm proud of how our employees have met the challenges brought on by the pandemic. Our top priority has always been keeping our people

safe, and we adapted how we operate.

We transitioned a significant portion of our global business to the remote work environment and remained focused. We continued to build close connections with customers, advanced the innovation behind our superior product pipeline, and maintained a resilient global supply chain to ensure our products reached farmers.

How important is agriculture to our daily lives?

The importance of agriculture in our daily lives cannot be understated. Since the onset of the COVID-19 global pandemic, governments around the world recognized agriculture as an essential service that needs to keep operating to ensure a stable and uninterrupted food supply.

With an increasing global population expected to reach nearly 10 billion people by 2050, we're going to need to produce about 70 percent more food on the same amount of land. At Corteva, we are relentlessly innovating to help farmers produce more while using fewer natural resources.

Agriculture is also the foundation of a strong and stable economy. In 2019, American farmers contributed more than \$136 billion to our nation's gross domestic product and the industry employed about 2.6 million people.

Sustainability is a critical focus for Corteva. What actions are you taking towards reducing climate change and contributing to reducing the impact of agricultural practices on the environment?

Sustainability is central to our business. We believe that agriculture is a solution to combatting climate change, and it's why we're taking on the challenges associated with it by innovating, collaborating, and engaging.

Last year, we launched our 2030 sustainability goals focused on driving better outcomes for farmers, the land, our communities, and in our own operations. These goals will help protect the source of our food, help ag communities thrive, and provide tools for healthier lives.

Learn more at www.corteva.com/sustainability.

Many people don't realize how important the use of technology is to the agriculture industry. Tell us about some of the innovations you're seeing in the industry and how it's enriching the lives of both producers and consumers.

Agriculture is one of the most technologically advanced industries. Every aspect of agriculture has been improved through innovation. All of this has transformed agriculture to be highly productive and efficient while addressing challenges.

Green chemistry is a rapidly growing field. Corteva has been recognized for leading the way by developing solutions that have a favorable human and environmental safety profile. We're pioneering the responsible deployment of breakthrough gene editing technology to help grow food that is better for people and the environment.

Powerful digital technologies that we introduced are already disrupting the ag economy with predictive analytics and AI that improve crop insights and yields.

If you were speaking at a high school graduation, what fields of study or certificate programs would you encourage to students who aspire to become a future employee of a company like Corteva?

I would tell them to follow their passion. There are many roads that can lead to a career at Corteva and in agriculture. Our employees are the brightest minds in the industry, and they are the true success behind Corteva. They bring expertise in the sciences, agronomy, marketing, business, accounting, communications, health and safety, human resources, sales, and more. It takes a diverse group of people with expertise in a variety disciplines to make the company successful.

If a mid-career professional is looking to make a career change, what basic skills sets and updates to their knowledge sets do they need to qualify for a job with your company? What sort of jobs do you have to offer?

We're always looking for new colleagues with a variety of

experiences, talents, and backgrounds who can help contribute to our purpose and a diverse and inclusive culture. Our employees share a customer-focused mindset, excellent collaboration skills, and are reflective of our company values.

The jobs we offer span multiple disciplines, and while some positions benefit from knowledge of or experience in agriculture, many others are opportunities for experience from other industries.

You spoke in our Chamber Leadership series last winter and mentioned the five key traits for a socially intelligent leader. Tell us about this framework and how you implement this into running Corteva.

The past 18 months have brought into stark view the enormous importance of business leaders focusing on social issues across their companies and society as a whole. The goal is to ensure that they are being considered and addressed in the right way and woven into the fabric of how their businesses operate. At Corteva, we refer to this as SPACE ("S" = Situationally Aware; "P" = Present; "A" = Authentic; "C" = Clear communicators; "E" = "Empathetic"). These qualities motivate employees and engage customers.

Businesses cannot separate themselves from society; we all need to recognize that our individual success is tied to our collective success. Business leaders have a clear role to play in building that better future. ■



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