From Field to Table

1. Farmers spend time planting seeds, checking for disease and monitoring plant health until harvest. Combines harvest the wheat kernels, which are then loaded into a semi-truck.

2. The harvested grain is sold at market price to a local grain elevator, known as a country elevator. The elevator can store the grain until the right market price, or it can sell it.

3. Country elevators sell their grain to terminal elevators, which clean, separate and maintain the value of the grain. The grain is then sold to flour millers for domestic consumption, or it is loaded onto ships bound for overseas markets.

4. The flour mills grind the grain into different types of flour – whole wheat, all-purpose, bread flour, etc. The mills can also use the flour to make ready-to-eat products. Both the flour and wheat products are shipped to grocery stores and other food retailers.

5. Bakers and chefs also use flour to make a wide variety of delicacies. Consumers can either buy these products, or buy flour produced by the flour mills to make their own creations at home.

6. Finally, the wheat products make their way to your table. These products are essential to many holidays and celebrations and go through a safe process to get to you. Whenever you open that next package of hamburger buns for a weekend cookout, think of a wheat farmer and all of those in between.