

RECENT HEADLINES SHOW EXPANDING MARKET

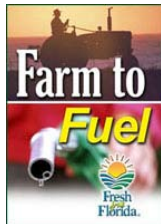
- Biofuels are a hot commodity all over, thanks largely to last fall's soaring gas prices and the lure of federal subsidies.
- The Oregon Petroleum Association surveyed heating oil customers last year and found that a majority were interested in purchasing biodiesel.
- So many Midwest farmers are opting to plant corn to supply the burgeoning demand for another biofuel, ethanol, that some experts are worried about the ramifications for food prices.
- Minnesota, a leading ethanol producer, shattered sales records last year, selling 8.2 million gallons.
- State lawmakers across the country have caught the fever. Biofuels present a perfect opportunity to please both environmentalists and farmers, and politicians know an easy win when they see it.

Virtues of ethanol look good to Florida

David Adams, St. Petersburg Times, St. Petersburg, Fla., Dec 17, 2005

Long overlooked as an important source of renewable energy, ethanol appears poised to become Florida's favored new transportation fuel as part of the state's future energy strategy. The alcohol-based fuel, which can be made from agricultural crops and wood, emerged this week as the potential big winner at the governor's state Energy Forum in Tallahassee. Rising energy costs and huge population growth in the state are leading the state to explore emerging technologies for cleaner, home-grown "biofuels."

One Tampa company, U.S. EnviroFuels, plans to build two plants in the Tampa area in 2006. The company will start by importing its biomass from the Midwest before incorporating local Florida crops when they become available. Another company, Xethanol, is building a plant in Jacksonville.



Fresh Fuel From Florida Farms

January 25, 2006

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is getting serious about making the Sunshine State a leader in domestic fuel production. Earlier this month, Agriculture Commissioner Charles Bronson held a meeting in Tallahassee with more than 50 agricultural producers and researchers to promote the production of commercial fuel-grade ethanol and bio-diesel crops.

Bio-Energy Economy Picking Up Steam

EV Blog, Wednesday | 11 January 2006

Biofuels are rapidly gaining momentum in the market. Here are five of the most recent developments:

- **Volkswagen** and **logen** just announced they are in discussions to build the first large-scale cellulosic ethanol plant, a move that **strongly suggests VW sees the future as biofuels.**
- **General Motors** has launched a public relations initiative to highlight its Flexible Fuel Vehicle (FFV) efforts. To date, the company has put 1.5 million FFVs on the road that are capable of using E85 (a blend of 15% gasoline and 85% ethanol) fuel. In Detroit, it announced that it **intends to build 400,000 FFVs annually for the North American market** into the "foreseeable future".
- **Ford** just unveiled the Ford Escape Hybrid E85, a research vehicle combining two petroleum-saving technologies - hybrid electric power and flexible-fuel capability. **This is the world's first hybrid vehicle capable of operating on blends of fuel containing as much as 85 percent ethanol. Ford will build at least 250,000 FFVs annually, starting this year.**
- The chief scientist for global **energy giant BP says it's time to "get serious" about filling our tanks with alternative fuels.** London-based Steven Koonin said in an editorial published Jan. 28 in the journal Science that biofuels could supply 30 per cent of global demand. Dr Koonin calls for governments, universities and industry worldwide to develop advanced biofuels, derived from "dedicated energy crops".
- **Fortune Magazine** featured an article in its January 24th issue that declared, "Ethanol is the answer to the energy dilemma. It's clean and green and runs in today's cars. And in a generation, it could replace gas." **Even the cautious Department of Energy predicts that ethanol could put a 30% dent in America's gasoline consumption by 2030.**