

Ethanol Fact Sheet

1. Costs and Bureaucracy

- a) Corn subsidies are already spending billions in tax money, some farmers paid not to grow anything at all
- b) Subsidized ethanol adds \$0.51 to every gallon of gasoline, but this is hidden being a subsidy, so ethanol actually looks cheaper at the pumps, totaling to \$3 billion in subsidies per year
- c) The cost to produce a gallon of ethanol is \$1.75, while the cost to produce a gallon of gasoline is \$0.95
- d) Ethanol is a great example of politicians taking their own interests first, by subsidizing companies in which they have interests

2. Frivolousness

- a) If the U.S. Used all of the nation's cornfields for ethanol production, only 3.5% of our fuel needs would be covered, the same amount that would be saved if all drivers had correct tire pressure

3. Food Supply

- a) Between corn subsidization and ethanol's promotion, U.S. Food costs are going up
- b) This does not hurt the U.S. Alone, as many nations are demanding more grain than we can actually produce
- c) We have gone from using 54 million tons of grain for ethanol to 81 million tons of grain for ethanol in 2007
- d) World grain demand has doubled, thus starving millions

4. Environmental Costs

- a) Diesel fuel is used between trains and tankers to truck grain and ethanol all over the country, thus polluting a great deal initially
- b) Corn is processed into ethanol using gasoline to produce the heat, as ethanol does not burn hot enough. Ethanol contains less energy, as well, so we are putting considerably more energy and effort into it versus going the gasoline route
- c) Many thousands of gallons of water is used, and much of it is polluted and superheated
- d) In the production of one pound of ethanol, one pound of carbon dioxide is produced
- e) Ethanol can't be shipped via pipe due to it's corrosive properties

5. The Science

- a) Gasoline has an energy value of 125,000 BTU per gallon, while ethanol has 76,000 BTU per gallon
- b) Gasoline will propel a vehicle nearly 25% further than ethanol
- c) Gas/ethanol mixes are mandatory in Missouri, 10% of all gasoline is ethanol, which in essence waters down our gasoline

Hydrogen looks more promising, as one gallon of water can produce nearly 1800 liters of HHO, which is hydrogen and oxygen gas. Both are flammable, and put out even more energy than gasoline. It is also easy to retrofit current engines to run on HHO/gasoline mixes, which can increase fuel economy by as much as 50%. Garage modified cars can achieve over 100 miles per gallon on 4 cylinder engines. More information regarding hydrogen modification can be found at [Water Powered Car](#). For general fuel saving modifications and advice, please see [MPGResearch](#).

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