



Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

# GREEN Team

Grassroots Renewable Energy Network

Newsletter for renewable fuels advocates

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## IRFA in DC to Push for Biodiesel Tax Credit Extension

Earlier this week, Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA) members **Delayne Johnson of Maple River Energy** and **Kevin Ross of Western Iowa Energy** along with IRFA Executive Director **Monte Shaw** traveled to Washington, DC to meet with **Senator Chuck Grassley** as well as the staffs of **Senator Tom Harkin** and **Congressmen Leonard Boswell, Steve King** and **Bruce Braley** to



IRFA Executive Director Monte Shaw

reiterate the urgent need for the extension of the biodiesel tax incentive before Memorial Day.

While supporters had hoped the House would take up the extension last week, it was pulled from the voting calendar. Congressional leaders are still short votes for the large package of tax extenders and other expiring programs that includes the biodiesel provision. However, Iowa delegation staff remain optimistic that the package will be to garner additional support for votes this week.

“We remain confident that Congress will act to reinstate the biodiesel tax credit before Memorial Day,” said Shaw. “However, nothing is ever certain in DC until the votes are cast. House and Senate leaders must continue to work on the revenue offsets and the overall size and scope of the bill to gain more votes. We have urged them not to give up.”

Delayne Johnson added: “All of us at Maple River Energy are hopeful that our Congressional delegation will make the right decision and extend the blender’s

## USDA Projects Record Corn Crop

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently put out its first estimate of the size of this year's corn crop projecting an all-time record of 13.4 billion bushels of corn.

Nationally, soybean acres are projected at 78.1 million acres, up 1 percent from last year, while corn is expected to be at 88.8 million acres, also up one percent from 2009. USDA projects the national average soybean yield to be 42.9 bushels per acre, compared to 44 bushels per acre a year ago. Average corn yield for 2010 is projected at 163.5 bushels per acre, slightly above earlier projections, reflecting early planting, yet down from 164.6 bushels per acre last year.

Meanwhile, the USDA May 11 Supply/Demand report estimates ending stocks of soybeans at 190 million bushels, unchanged from the April report, and ending stocks of corn at 1,738 million bushels, down 1 percent from April.

**Iowa Soybean Association (ISA) President Delbert Christensen** is not surprised by the report.

“This report is pretty neutral overall and is about what we have expected,” Christensen says. “The trend has been that the USDA has been conservative regarding demand, but we have seen global demand for soybeans remain strong and we expect that to continue.”

Christensen adds that there is a long way to go in the growing season and, as always, weather will be a key factor. “After some terrific early weather, the spring has turned cool and wet, which will offset some of the earlier planting progress and may require some acres to be replanted. Many soybeans were planted much earlier

tax credit so that we do not lose more jobs or have further disruptions to the biodiesel industry in future years. Clean-burning biodiesel supports green jobs here in Iowa.”

IRFA urges GREEN Team supporters to contact Iowa’s Congressional delegation to urge their support of reinstating the biodiesel tax credit.

Sen. Chuck Grassley	202-224-3744
Sen. Tom Harkin	202-224-3254
Rep. Bruce Braley	202-225-2911
Rep. Dave Loebsack	202-225-6576
Rep. Leonard Boswell	202-225-3806
Rep. Tom Latham	202-225-5476
Rep. Steve King	202-225-4426

### Ford Announces FFV Additions to 2011 Fleet

**Ford Motor Company** recently announced that it will offer more than 12 Flex Fuel Vehicle models in its 2011 fleet.

“If we’re going to reduce emissions, clean the air, and increase our energy independence, we need to ensure that our entire vehicle fleet and fuel infrastructure are ready to use expanded U.S. ethanol production,” said **Tom Buis, CEO of Growth Energy.**

Ford will be offering the following FFVs in 2011:

*Ford:*

- 5.4L F-150
- 4.6L Crown Victoria (for fleets only)
- 4.6L and 5.4L Econoline Van
- 5.4L Expedition

*Mercury:*

- 4.6L Grand Marquis

*Lincoln:*

- 5.4L Lincoln Navigator

For a listing of all flexible fuel vehicle models by year and manufacturer, to go [www.iowarfa.org](http://www.iowarfa.org).

than normal. It will be important to watch how they progress. We need some sunny and dry days.”

While corn for ethanol use continues to grow, so do exports of both corn and DDGS. This increase in use comes simultaneously with a growth in year-end surpluses, demonstrating that there are ample supplies of corn available for feed and fuel use with nearly 2 billion bushels to spare.

Without ethanol production, rapidly growing supplies of corn would overburden the market, bottom out prices and force the federal government to spend billions in farm program payments.

### Ford B20 Capabilities

In this video clip, Mike Rowe talks about some of the advantages to the new Ford Super Duty, engineered with the option to run on 20% biodiesel fuel.

<http://www.fordvehicles.com/2011superduty/?p=features&video=b20-capable>

### Two Iowa Chevy Dealerships Partner with Iowa Corn to Promote FFVs and E85

**Holmes Chevrolet** in Norwalk and **Karl Chevrolet** in Ankeny are partnering with the **Iowa Corn Promotion Board (ICPB)** to promote **Flex Fuel Vehicles (FFV)** and the use of E85 in Iowa. Consumers who purchase a FFV at either dealership between May 15 and June 15, 2010 are eligible for \$250 in ethanol/E85 certificates from a participating fuel station.

The dealerships will receive up to forty \$250 gift certificates that consumers can use to purchase E85 for their new or used FFV. This promotion runs from May 15 through June 15, 2010.

“One out of every 10 vehicles in Iowa are flex-fuel vehicles and can use E85,” said **Shannon Textor, Iowa Corn Director of Market Development.** “Our goal is to get more FFVs on the road and to sell more ethanol blended fuel – specifically E85!”

“Iowa is the leader in corn-ethanol production and we encourage Iowans to choose the renewable fuel grown right here in Iowa. Fill up with ethanol blended fuel either E10 or E85 if you have a flexible fuel vehicle,” says Textor.

### E85 Station Customer Appreciation Day

**Riverside Sinclair**  
102 West Central Avenue  
Estherville, IA 51334

May 27<sup>th</sup> – All Day  
E85 for \$1.85  
E10 discounted for 10 cents  
Lunch from 11a.m.-1p.m.  
Also offering E30 & E50

## U.S. to Double Distillers Grains Exports as Chinese Demand Expands

According to *Bloomberg News*, the U.S. plans to double overseas sales of the co-product from ethanol distillation in the next five years because of growing demand from feed makers in China.

“Total U.S. exports of dried distillers grains with solubles, or DDGS, a high-nutrient feed used in the livestock industry, may more than double to as much as 11 million metric tons a year, from 5 million tons now,” **U.S. Grains Council President Thomas Dorr** said in a recent interview in Tokyo.

“As China has set an import quota for corn, Chinese demand for DDGS is expected to grow,” said **Ruan Wei, senior researcher at Norinchukin Research Institute Co.** in Tokyo.

“The U.S. is likely to expand corn-based ethanol production under the government’s policy of boosting renewable fuel output, raising DDGS supply,” Dorr said. China feed mills are seeking cheaper alternatives to locally produced corn as consumption of meat, milk and eggs expands in the world’s fastest-growing major economy. It’s cheaper for feed mills in southern China to buy DDGS from overseas than to buy corn from the nation’s growing area in the north.

“We all know that there is significant potential in China,” Dorr said. “Demand for high-quality protein is growing aggressively.”

U.S. sales of DDGS to China may climb to as much as 2 million tons this year from about 600,000 tons last year.

### Biodiesel Backer Award Program Ends May 28<sup>th</sup>!

IRFA is currently accepting applications for the four \$2,500 Biodiesel Backer Awards that will be presented to Iowa K-12 school districts. In order to be eligible to receive one of the grants, schools have to commit to educating their students and communities about the benefits of biodiesel. The current or pending use of biodiesel in a school’s bus fleet is also factored.

Those with questions regarding this program can contact IRFA Biofuels Manager Grant Menke at 515-252-6249 or [gmenke@iowarfa.org](mailto:gmenke@iowarfa.org). The Biodiesel Backer Award Application can be found online at [www.iowarfa.org/educators.php](http://www.iowarfa.org/educators.php)

### New E85 Station

**Kum & Go**  
1025 East 1<sup>st</sup> St  
Ankeny, IA 50021

## SWCC Researches Use of Miscanthus as Biodiesel Feedstock

Recently, about a dozen people near the **Southwestern Community College (SWCC)** livestock facilities planted 15-foot by 20-foot plots numbering nearly 50. This marked the beginning of a study researchers hope will shed some light on a plant that could be the future of bioenergy in southern Iowa—miscanthus.

As part of a partnership between **Iowa State University, Natural Resources**



**Conservation Service (NRCS), Southern Iowa Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D), Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, SWCC** and local farmers, the group, formally known as **Southern Iowa Renewable Energy Crop Coalition**, planted southern Iowa’s first miscanthus plots.

The goal is to study miscanthus’ biomass qualities compared to the other perennial, warm-season grasses inserted alongside it, which include two types of switchgrass (Kanlow and Alamo), Rumsey Indian grass and roundtree big bluestem.

## 2010 International Fuel Ethanol Workshop & Expo

*FEW provides the global ethanol industry with cutting-edge content and unparalleled networking opportunities in a dynamic business-to-business environment.*

FREE Registrations for Ethanol Producers:  
Two free registrations for each ethanol production facility  
Additional registrations available for \$375

### Register at

<http://www.fuelethanolworkshop.com/RegistrationRates>

**Featuring more than 120 speakers and 350 exhibitors all focused around you, the producer**

### Industry Tours

National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center (NCERC)  
Monsanto Company – Creve Coeur Campus  
Anheuser-Busch Brewery

## New IRFA Member: EcoEngineers

**EcoEngineers** is an independent engineering and software company, headquartered in Des Moines. They provide a broad range of services in the renewable fuel sector including engineering reviews, compliance consultations, on-site verifications and certifications. In order to differentiate themselves from the competition, they are automating the compliance work required under the new

**Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS2).**



The new **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Moderated Transaction System (EMTS)** requires renewable fuel producers to generate **Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs)** and submit “sell” transactions into EMTS with every sale. Manually entering this information can be extremely time-consuming along with the additional required tasks of record-keeping and quarterly and annual reporting.

EcoEngineers’ founders, **Jim Ramm** and **Shashi Menon** worked with local IT groups to develop software that collects and aggregates data from producers and automatically submits, generates, tracks and retires RINs. The web-based application also stores the information, so subscribers have customized reports accessible at all times, and, at the end of each quarter, the system automatically generates reports for required filings.

EcoEngineers is deeply committed to serving industries such as the American renewable fuel sector, which leads the world in responsible environmental stewardship and energy independence from fossil fuels. For more information, please visit [www.EcoEngineers.us](http://www.EcoEngineers.us).

### IRFA Welcomes New Intern

Nichole Hafer, originally from Orange, CA, is a junior at Drake University pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Marketing and Management with a minor in English.

Andrea Stoos, after 18 months of service to IRFA, graduated from Drake University with a Bachelors Degree in Journalism and Mass Communications. She is going to Europe for a month and hopes to find a job upon her return.



Nichole & Andrea

We are excited to welcome Nichole to the IRFA team, but sad to see Andrea go.

## Biodiesel Delivers Sweet Treats

**The Essential Baking Company** is committed to the environment and shows this in part by using 99 percent biodiesel in its delivery fleet of nine Dodge Sprinters and three Ford F-350 pickups.

**Steve Cavanaugh, the company’s distribution manager**, says switching to a biodiesel delivery fleet in 2005 stemmed primarily from the company's socially responsible and ecologically friendly philosophies.

“I was a delivery driver for many years myself, and I know what it’s like. Doing something good along the way, like using biodiesel, makes the feeling about doing your job a lot better,” Cavanaugh said. He says the vehicles run great on the biodiesel, with comparable mileage and performance. The company has used a variety of blends and types of biodiesel over the years, including biodiesel made from canola oil, a local Washington resource.

He added that the drivers love it, especially the pleasant smell when they start the trucks up on the loading dock.

## New IRFA Members

### Clean Fuels Clearinghouse/RINSTAR

Clean Fuels Clearinghouse (CFCH) is best known as the home of RINSTAR®, the nation’s only private sector registry for renewable fuels and the associated credits known as Renewable Identification Numbers, or RINs.

### Davis Brown Law Firm

Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts takes pride in offering a broad range of legal services to a diverse client base. The firm's clients conduct business on a local, state, national and international basis.

### Olsson Associates

Olsson Associates is a successful engineering and design firm that has been creating public and private projects throughout the United States for more than 50 years.

### Stanley Consultants

Stanley Consultants’ teams of professionals provide engineering, environmental and construction services worldwide by focusing on maintaining relationships with their clients.