



FACT SHEET: *FOOD VS. FUEL VS. FREEDOM*

MUCH HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT THE FOOD VS. FUEL DEBATE. BUT WHAT ABOUT THE FUEL VS. FREEDOM DEBATE? THE USE OF MORE DOMESTICALLY-PRODUCED ETHANOL WILL PROVIDE AMERICANS MORE FREEDOM FROM FOREIGN OIL PRODUCED IN COUNTRIES WITH UNSTABLE GOVERNMENTS, DICTATORIAL RULING PARTIES AND POLITICAL UNREST. NOW IS THE TIME TO SUPPORT AMERICAN JOBS AND CHOSE AMERICAN RENEWABLE ENERGY OVER FOREIGN OIL.

- According to the Renewable Fuels Association, U.S. ethanol production eliminates the need for 445 million barrels of imported oil annually – that's **more** than the U.S. imports from Saudi Arabia each year.
- Ethanol now accounts for nearly 10% of U.S. gasoline sales.
- Ethanol production creates jobs. Last year, the U.S. ethanol industry helped support 400,000 jobs for Americans. This production added \$36 billion to household income and contributed \$7 billion to the U.S. Treasury.
- In Iowa, corn ethanol production supports nearly 49,000 jobs, generating \$2.4 billion of income for Iowans last year. Additionally, the ethanol industry generates \$588 million in tax revenue for Iowa.
- The National Defense Council Foundation estimates the U.S. spends more than \$137 billion per year on military operations securing the safe delivery of oil from the Persian Gulf.
- Oil subsidies have done little to affect domestic oil production. The U.S. still relies on imported oil for over 60% of its transportation needs, supporting jobs overseas instead of here at home. By 2030, the Energy Information Administration projects the U.S. will import 70% of its petroleum.
- In 2010, the U.S. spent \$28 billion per month on foreign oil – a massive transfer of wealth during a period of economic hardship.
- Reliance on foreign oil has cost us more than \$7 trillion over the past 30 years.
- The U.S. produces the same amount of oil today as in the 1950s despite billions in subsidies for oil production since the 1970s.
- A USDA study found that dry grind ethanol plants produce 2.3 times more energy in the form of ethanol delivered to customers than it uses for corn production, processing and transportation. This dramatic decline in energy use further minimizes ethanol's carbon footprint and lowers greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ethanol is more energy efficient to produce than gasoline. The ratio of 2.3 BTUs of ethanol for 1 BTU of energy inputs is up from the ratio of 1.76 BTUs for every 1 BTU of energy inputs in 2004, significantly improving our energy security. By comparison, gasoline yields only 0.8 BTUs for every 1 BTU input.
- No aircraft carrier has ever had to defend an Iowa cornfield.