



Myth #1: Ethanol takes food off the dinner table

Actually, ethanol puts food on your dinner table. Ethanol does not take protein, fibre or fat from the food supply, but it does create by-products that provide valuable contributions to your diet. One bushel of corn produces more than 10 litres of ethanol and approximately 18 pounds of distillers grains, a high-protein ingredient in animal feed that puts meat on your table. The rest of the corn is turned into carbon dioxide, which is bottled and used in greenhouse production that creates quality Canadian-grown fresh vegetables year-round.



Myth #2: Creating ethanol is not environmentally efficient

Early in 2009 a groundbreaking study was released by researchers at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln that confirmed ethanol produces half the greenhouse gas emissions of gasoline. Prior studies arguing the opposite used outdated data from the early days when the ethanol plants were powered by coal instead of natural gas. Earlier studies also didn't account for updated farming practices such as no-till planting, improved technologies and new crop varieties that lessen agriculture's environmental footprint.



Myth #3: In today's economy the ethanol industry is in trouble

Unlike the United States, Canada has slowly grown its biofuel industry to meet legislated domestic demand. The federal government has made a commitment to "require five percent average renewable content in Canadian gasoline and diesel fuel, such as ethanol and biodiesel, by 2010." Construction of new ethanol and biodiesel plants in Canada will create 14,000 jobs and result in \$1.5 billion of investment. There will be 10,000 direct and indirect jobs and \$600 million of annual economic activity added to the Canadian economy when these production facilities are up and running.



Myth #4: Ethanol is causing problems for the meat sector

2005 and 2006 were the worst years on record for Ontario grain and oilseed producers, and prices for grains such as corn were at an all-time low. It was estimated that 1,250 farmers were going out of business each year because they were producing food below the cost of production. Corn prices rebounded for a short time in 2008 and 2009. That means grain and oilseed farmers will continue to stay in business, growing corn and other crops that provide the foundation of the cattle, hog, dairy, egg and poultry sectors by producing quality animal feed.



Myth #5: Corn ethanol is not a long-term solution

Corn ethanol is the foundation and experts are building upon it with cellulosic technologies. Increasingly, we'll be able to use non-recyclable municipal landfill waste, low-input dedicated energy crops on marginal land such as growing switchgrass and organic material such as corn stover. Corn ethanol is vital to the evolution of green energy. Ethanol is totally biodegradable. It reduces air pollutants, lowers harmful greenhouse gas emissions and cuts smog.