

# Bio-Fuels, Food and Feed Tradeoffs

April 12-13, 2007  
St. Louis, Missouri

## Call for Papers

*A conference sponsored by Farm Foundation and USDA*

This conference focuses on the rapid growth of bio-fuel production and its potential impacts on global markets for food grains, feed grains and resource use. In the United States, the primary inputs of the ethanol and bio-diesel industries are key feed grains used in the nation's animal agriculture, and food grains that are consumed domestically or exported for sale or as food aid. Of broad concern is how new energy markets for grain and oilseed crops will impact global markets for feed grains used as a primary source of animal feed and food grains needed to ensure food security for sub-Saharan Africa and other regions where hunger and food security problems persist. Many organizations have developed economic models to help assess the impacts of these new demands for food and feed grains on these global markets as well as their environmental consequences. This conference is a way to share information from these many modeling efforts and identify areas where work still needs to be done.

The objectives of this conferences are to (1) provide industry and government leaders with the latest research on the short- and medium-term impacts of increased biofuel production on global markets for food and feed, (2) identify gaps in our current knowledge for future research priorities and (3) foster informed discussion on future business strategies and policy initiatives related to global markets for biofuels, feed grains for animal production and food grains for human consumption and environmental consequences. Attendees will include agribusiness leaders, representatives of the bio-energy and petroleum industries, community and government leaders, researchers and farmers.

This conference focuses on global food and feed grain markets over the next ten years. Many experts assume that technologies for producing ethanol and other bio-fuels from cellulosic feed stocks will become commercially viable over the next decade. If the cellulosic industry becomes a reality, demand pressure on food and feed grain markets may lessen. This conference explores the pressures and impacts on these markets during the next decade as we move toward cellulosic-based bio-fuels.

The core of this conference will be invited reports of comprehensive/multi-sector economic models and their forecasts. A preliminary conference agenda and registration materials will be posted to the Farm Foundation web site in early January 2007.

We are seeking reports on additional research that highlight four topics of significant importance to our understanding of the bio-energy industry and its future impacts on global food and feed grain markets.

Production, distribution and logistical challenges of the current bio-fuels industry

Environmental challenges associated with the current bio-fuels industry

Challenges in utilizing co-products from ethanol and biodiesel plants

Global food supply challenges related to current and future food and feed grain markets

We invite paper submission on these four topics. Submissions are not limited to economic modeling, but can report on research that examines different facets of these four challenges faced by the bio-fuels industry. Preference will be given to papers that frame critical issues and provide research-based information on the consequences of different approaches to these challenges. Selected papers will be presented in concurrent sessions.

**Submission Guidelines:** Papers must be submitted via E-mail no later than Thursday, February 15, 2007 E-

mail should be addressed to Dr. Joe Outlaw at [energyconf@tamu.edu](mailto:energyconf@tamu.edu). **The E-mail body serves as the cover page for the proposal** and must include the name, affiliation, address, phone number and E-mail address of corresponding author, the title of the paper, the subject area (from list above), the name of the attached file containing the proposal and the attachment file type (Word or WordPerfect). **The paper must be attached to the E-mail** as a Word or WordPerfect file and follow the submission format below. Please do not include the authors' names in the attached proposal file. Papers are limited to 15 pages in total length (including the cover page) double spaced on 8 1/2" x 11" paper with 1 inch margins on all sides, 12 point font. **Authors will receive an automated E-mail confirmation of receipt of their submission.**

**Selection and Presentation:** Acceptance decisions, based on two reviewer evaluations, will be communicated to authors by **March 15, 2007**. For accepted paper papers, paper and electronic copies of your final paper must be sent to Dr. Joe Outlaw, 2124 TAMU, Department of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-2124 (phone: 979- 845-5913), with a postmark no later than **April 2, 2007**. Final manuscripts should not exceed 20 pages in total length (including figures, tables and references) and must be double spaced on 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Authors will be expected to develop a PowerPoint (or equivalent) electronic file to be used when presenting the paper at the conference. Presentations will be limited to 15 minutes. Presentation files must be submitted to the conference editor by **April 6, 2007**.

**Publication:** Material from all conference papers will provide background for a conference executive summary publication to be developed by Farm Foundation for broad public distribution.

Conference planners are negotiating several options for an academic proceedings volume/special issue of a journal. Authors of papers selected for presentation will be given the option of participating in this academic publication. However, only papers identified by the reviewers as making a substantial contribution to the literature in this area will be published in the conference proceedings volume.

**Questions** may be directed to Dr. Steve A. Halbrook (630-571-9393 or [steve@farmfoundation.org](mailto:steve@farmfoundation.org)) or Dr. Joe Outlaw (979-845-3062 or [joutlaw@tamu.edu](mailto:joutlaw@tamu.edu)).