

Alternative Fuel: Ethanol
Stakeholder: Corn Farmer

My name is Josh Cunningham and I am part of Hurley and Associates Agri-Marketing Centers. We form part of the 4 Seasons Cooperative, which provides corn to the American Coalition for Ethanol. 4 Seasons Cooperative believes that ethanol is the alternative fuel of the future. Ethanol drives economic development, adds value to agriculture, and moves our nation toward energy independence. It cleans America's air and offers consumers a cost-effective choice at the pump. This year the U.S. ethanol industry will grow to provide more than 6 billion gallons of clean burning fuel for our country's supply. Unlike other alternative fuels, no vehicle modifications will be needed for required ethanol content, which increases to about five percent by 2012. It should burn just fine in all the gasoline-powered cars already on the road. Gasohol, a mixture of up to 10-percent ethanol with gasoline, has been in wide use in farm states for 30 years, and all new cars are engineered for this fuel. There's no requirement for every gallon of gas to contain ethanol. Instead, an annual ethanol quota must be met. So gasohol and E85 (85-percent ethanol, 15-percent gasoline) will be sold where there's availability and demand, which reduces the amount of ethanol that must be mixed with gasoline elsewhere. We advocate that every gallon of gas should contain ethanol, to preserve and stretch our supply of gasoline even further. Eventually, all vehicles should run on just ethanol and not use gasoline at all.