

the energy

crop company™ Some Perspectives on Energy

UCLA

January 21, 2009



The Perfect Storm...

Demand Trends

- Consumption outpacing discovery
- · China & India

Supply Trends

- Nationalization of reserves
- High oil prices
- Peak production

Energy Security

- Little domestic supply
- Unrest in producing regions

Where will we find a significant, renewable, domestic source of transportation fuels?

Environmental

- Carbon emissions
- Drilling/mining



In the Future....

We will get most of our transportation fuels from:

- A) Electric cars
- B) Hydrogen
- C) Conventional oil and gas
- D) Biofuels
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors



Aren't "Clean Electrons" The Answer?









Solar currently 0.01%; Wind currently 0.75% of US grid. More electrons means more coal



Where Does A Barrel Of Oil Go?



















Only ~44% of a barrel is used to produce gasoline Only 48% of gasoline use is passenger cars (21% of the barrel) Of that 21%, how much can be replaced with "electrons"?





Hybrids – YES!

All Electric – Unlikely!

2010



Range: 40 miles (electric only)
Internal Combustion Engine – Yes!
4 cylinder – 1.0 liter
Increased mpg – Yes
Still needs liquid fuel? - absolutely

202?



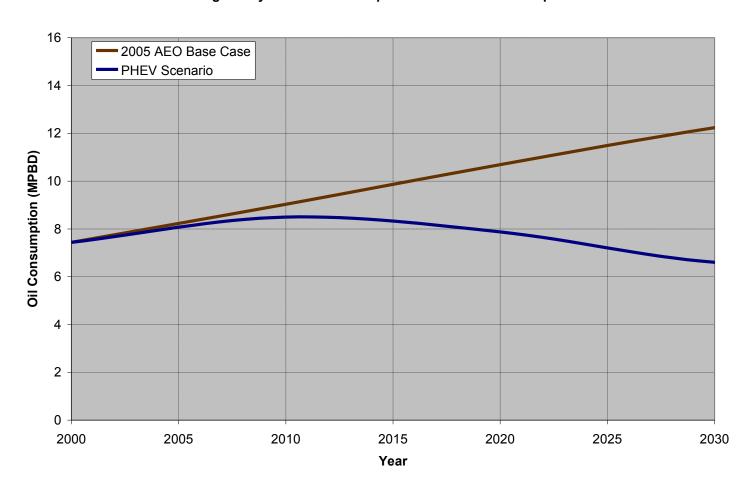
Crash test performance?
Range?
Heater?
Air conditioner?
Stuck in traffic?
DVD player?

We can significantly increase fuel efficiency, but we cannot do away with fuel



Can PHEV's Replace Oil?

Light Duty Fleet Oil Use - Impact of PHEVs on Consumption



Assumptions: 2010 new car sales are 100% hybrids; 2020 new cars are 50% PHEV



Meanwhile...





Global demand growth for low cost, internal combustion transportation is likely to outpace increases in fuel efficiency



In the Future....

We will get most of our transportation fuels from:

- A) Electric cars
- B) Hydrogen
- C) Conventional oil and gas
- D) Biofuels
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors



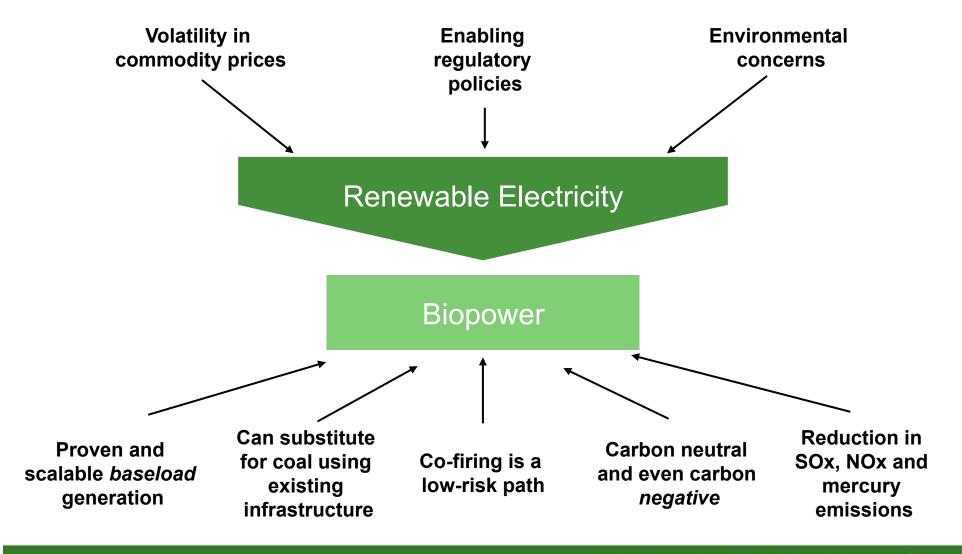
In the Future....

We will get most of our power from:

- A) Solar and wind
- B) Conventional coal and gas
- C) Nuclear
- D) Biopower
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors

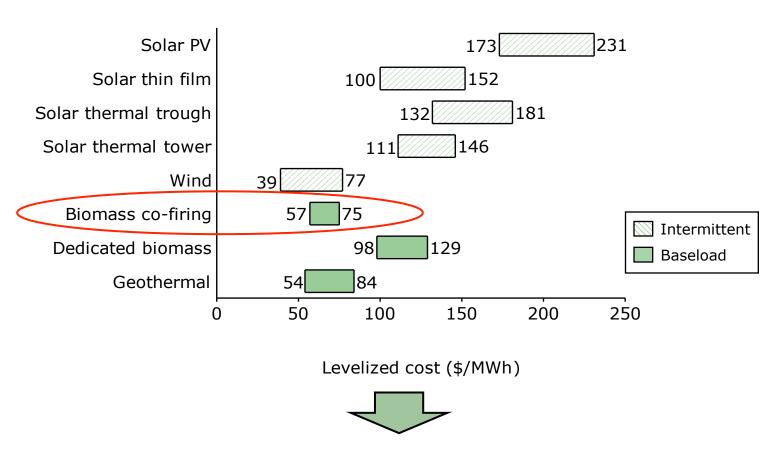


The Perfect Storm for Biopower





Co-firing is Cheaper than Solar and is Baseload Unlike Wind or Solar



Co-firing becomes even more attractive once carbon offsets from biomass and SOx and NOx reductions are considered.



In the Future....

We will get most of our power from:

- A) Solar and wind
- B) Conventional coal and gas
- C) Nuclear
- D) Biopower
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors



The Biggest Drawback of Biofuels is:



the energy crop company™

- A) They cause food prices to rise
- B) They will starve the poor
- C) They threaten the world's forests
- D) They can't scale
- E) They cause childhood obesity







The Opportunity for Biofuels

With plausible technology developments, biofuels could supply some 30% of global demand...

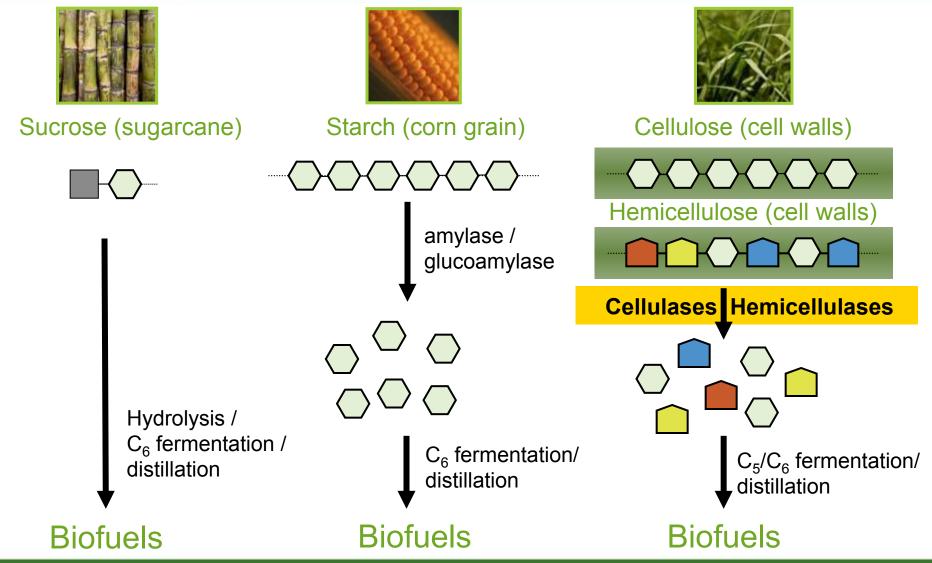
To realize that goal, so-called advanced biofuels must be developed from *dedicated energy crops*, separately and distinctly from food.

> Steven E. Koonin Chief Scientist, BP





Basic Carbohydrate Biochemistry





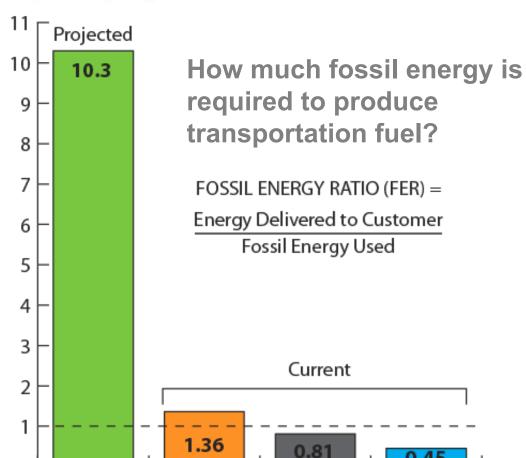
Not all sources are the same











Gasoline

Electricity

Source: Biofuels Joint Roadmap, June 2006, DOE; data derived from Brinkman et al. 2005

Corn

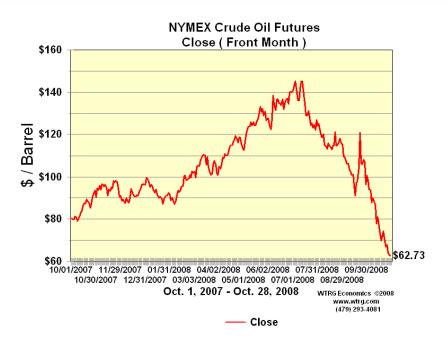
Ethanol

Cellulosic

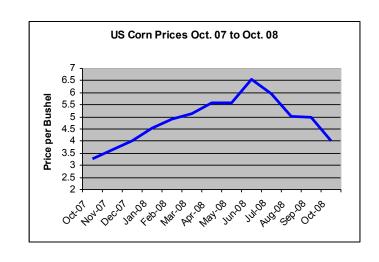
Ethanol

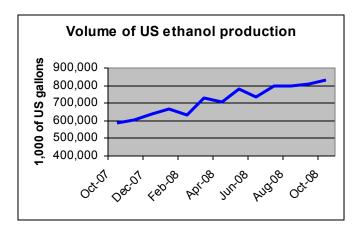


It's the OIL, not the Ethanol



Higher commodity prices (like corn) are driven by OIL prices, not ethanol production volumes!

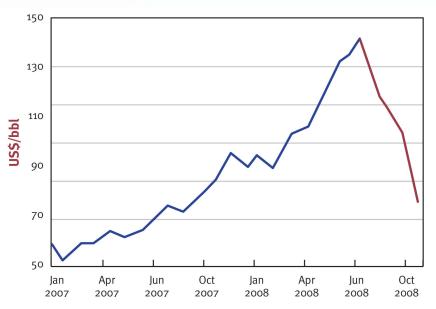




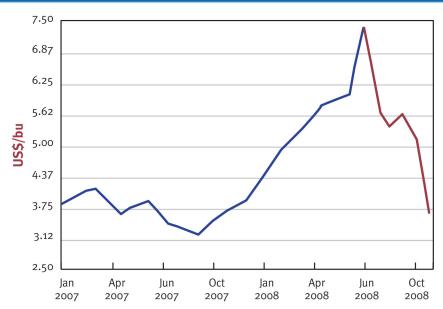
Sources: NYMEX, USDA, RFA



Why Do Corn Prices Track Oil?



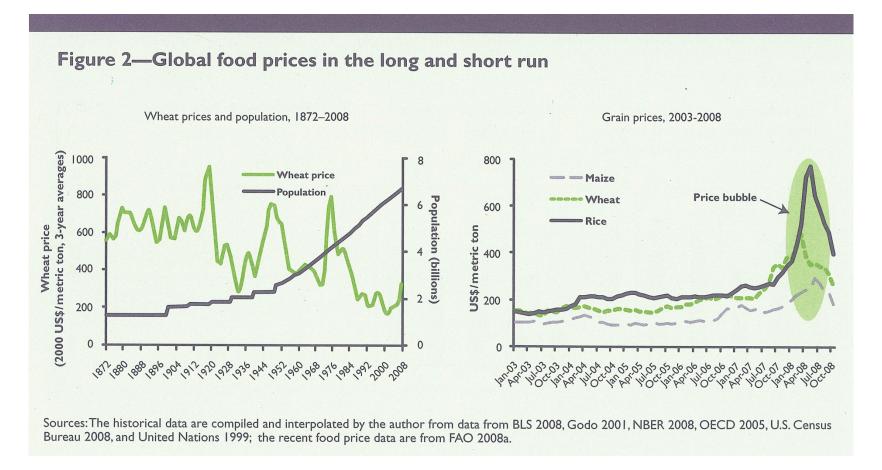
Crude Oil Price (NYMEX)
January 2007 to October 2008



Corn Price (CBOT)
January 2007 to October 2008

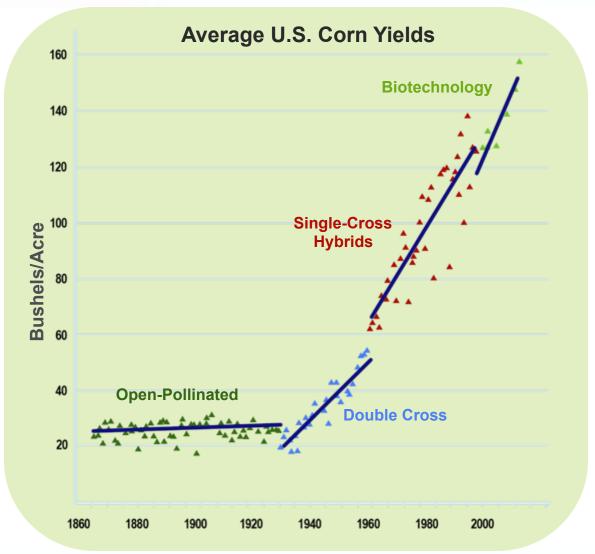








Agriculture is NOT Static...



Hybrid genetics & biotechnology have driven a five-fold increase in average U.S. corn yields since 1940.



Not Enough Food in the World?



- Clinically obese (>30%)
 outnumber malnourished by 2:1
 margin (1.6B to 0.8B)
- Only 60% of global corn acres are hybrid varieties
- Less than 50% of global rice acres are hybrid varieties
- Increased yield is the answer for both food and fuel crops

Incentives, innovation and technology can make it more sustainable



Is Food Too Expensive?





The Real "Crime Against Humanity"

the energy crop company™







Corn Yield Trends (Bushel Per Acre)				
	1990	2000	2005	
World Average	59	70	75	
USA	113	137	149	
Argentina	60	93	109	
China	74	78	80	
Brazil	33	47	54	
India	23	29	31	
Sub-Saharan Africa	22	24	25	

Source: Monsanto/Doane Forecast



A Brief History of Life...

the energy crop company™







<u>Event</u>	Years Ago
Formation of Earth	4,600,000,000
Unicellular life	3,500,000,000
Photosynthesis	3,000,000,000
Multicellular life	1,000,000,000
Cambrian explosion	600,000,000
Land plants	400,000,000
Flowering plants	150,000,000
K/T extinction	65,000,000
Hominids	7,000,000
End of last Ice Age	18,000
Agriculture	10,000
Green Revolution	40

Agriculture is not "natural", it is a distinctly human activity



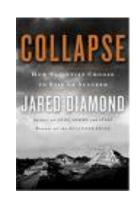
Should We Have Agriculture?



the energy crop company™



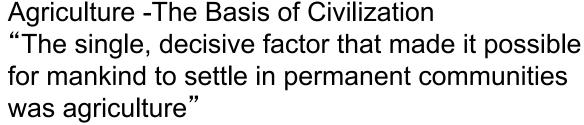
The Worst Mistake In The History of the Human Race "...a catastrophe from which we have never recovered"



-Jared Diamond



or





-Encyclopedia Britannica



















Plants Did Not Evolve To Serve Man

the energy crop company™









Figure 2. Modern corn hybrid (right), its wild relative teosinte (left), and their hybrid (cob in the center). (Photo kindly provided by John Doebley.)

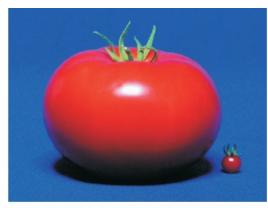


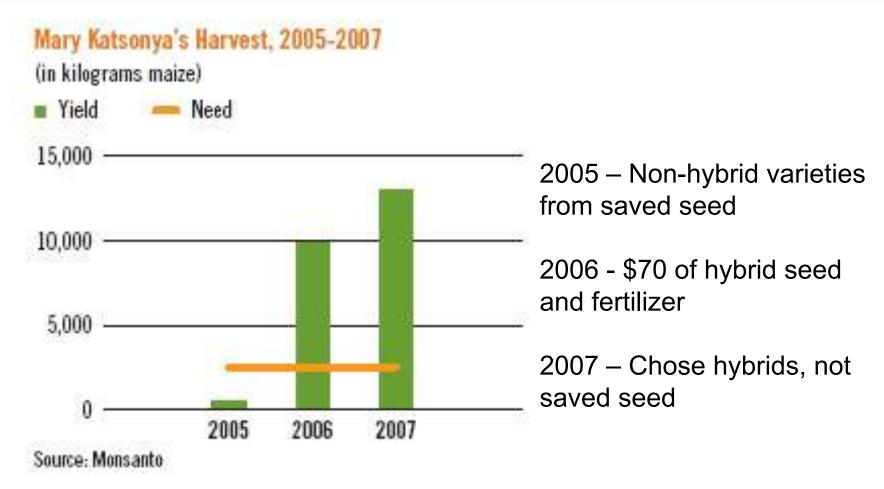
Figure 1. Cultivated tomato (left) and its wild relative Lycopersicon pimpinellifolium (right; approximate diameter of smaller tomato = 1 cm). (Photo kindly provided by Steve Tanksley.)



Genetic manipulation or "breeding" has been instrumental



A Tale Of One Malawi Farmer...



FAO STAT: Malawi maize yields average 1,200 kg/hectare vs. over 8,000 for USA



Is Food A Market Good Or Public Good?



Critics seem to think that U.S. corn farmers should feed the world by producing at or below their production costs...



Yet, no one seriously expects that the Saudis will fuel the world by selling oil at or below their production costs...



Is Food a...

- A) Market good
- B) Public good

Healthcare, higher education, home ownership?



Beware Malthusian Myths...

"For the great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie — deliberate, contrived and dishonest, but the myth, persistent, persuasive, unrealistic. We enjoy the comfort of opinion without the discomfort of thought."

- John F. Kennedy





The Biggest Drawback of Biofuels is:



the energy crop company™

- A) They cause food prices to rise
- B) They will starve the poor
- C) They threaten the world's forests
- D) They can't scale
- E) They cause childhood obesity







"Farming looks mighty easy when your plow is a pencil, and you are a thousand miles from the corn field."

- Dwight Eisenhower





Indirect Land Use Conversion (ILUC)

Are U.S. Farmers....

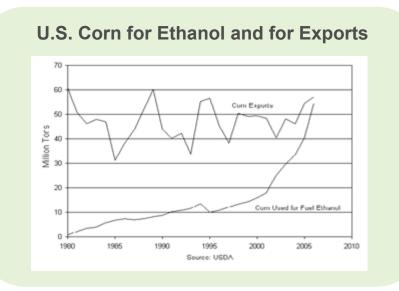




Responsible For Brazilian Deforestation?



Indirect Land Conversion?





Land use changes are NOT driven by lack of US grain exports or increased US ethanol production



A Few Problems With ILUC Models....

Conventional wisdom

 CW on biofuels has proven to be wrong. Current ethanol production volumes are not driving up food prices; oil prices drive food prices.

"The Science is settled"

 Science is generating hypotheses, testing them against the available data and choosing those that best fit the data. ILUC models (hypotheses) do NOT fit the historical data (they do not backcast) and should not be used to forecast nor referred to as "science".

Yield, yield & yield

 ILUC models dramatically underestimate potential increases in global agricultural yield and productivity e.g. 700% corn yield increases in Africa

Follow the money

 ILUC models hold U.S. producers economically responsible for foreign land owner's use decisions

Will ILUC penalties slow deforestation? – Highly unlikely

 All land use change is direct and land owners (like the Brazilian government) should be held directly responsible. Think coffee, orange juice, chicken, cattle, soybean, banana, etc. Penalize these, not U.S. biofuels producers



Indirect Land Use Impact?



Worlds largest photovoltaic installation in Waldpolenz Solar Park, Germany... Where did all the trees go? Shouldn't we be using the land to grow food?



If You Were A Bird, Would You Prefer....

the energy crop company™











The Biggest Drawback of Biofuels is:



the energy crop company™

- A) They cause food prices to rise
- B) They will starve the poor
- C) They threaten the world's forests
- D) They can't scale
- E) They cause childhood obesity







the energy

crop ___ company™ Some thoughts on Agriculture...



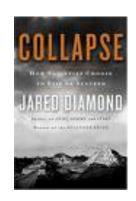
Should We Have Agriculture?



the energy crop company™

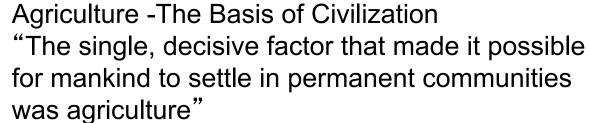


The Worst Mistake In The History of the Human Race "a catastrophe from which we have never recovered" -Jared Diamond





or

























Plants Did Not Evolve To Serve Man



Figure 2. Modern corn hybrid (right), its wild relative teosinte (left), and their hybrid (cob in the center). (Photo kindly provided by John Doebley.)

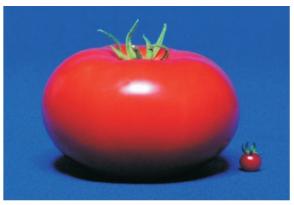


Figure 1. Cultivated tomato (left) and its wild relative Lycopersicon pimpinellifolium (right; approximate diameter of smaller tomato = 1 cm). (Photo kindly provided by Steve Tanksley.)



Genetic manipulation or "breeding" has been instrumental



What Limits Crop Yields?

Germplasm (genetics)

Biotic stress

- Weeds
- Insects
- Fungi

Abiotic stress

- Drought
- Nitrogen
- Temperature







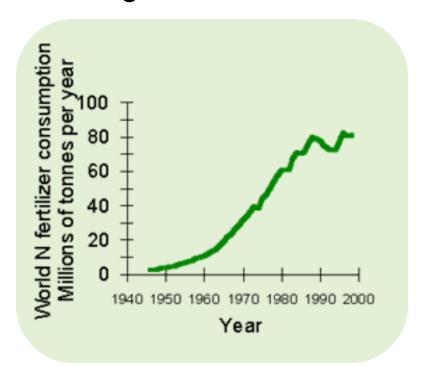






Agriculture Is Not Perfect...

- Loss of biodiversity
- Energy inputs
- Nitrogen run off















But It Can Feed Many People



the energy crop company™

One bushel of corn produces 92,797 calories One human requires 1,800 calories per day



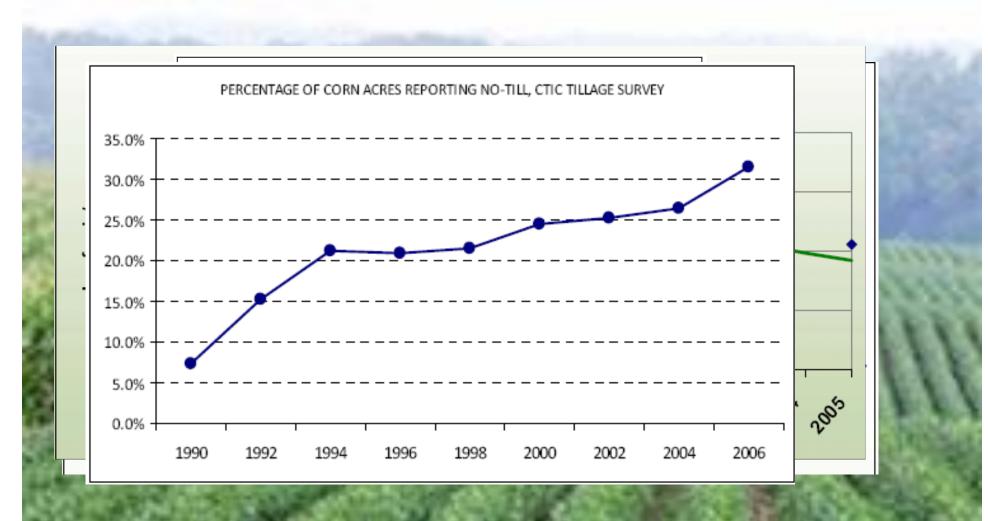
- IF only the world's corn farmers (146M hectares) achieved the US average yield (358 bu/ha) = we could feed 7.46B on corn alone
- <u>IF</u> all the world's corn farmers duplicated the top 10% of US corn yields (~700 bu/ha in 2006) = we could feed over 14B people on corn alone



Incentives, innovation and technology can make it more sustainable



Technology: More Yield / Less Impact

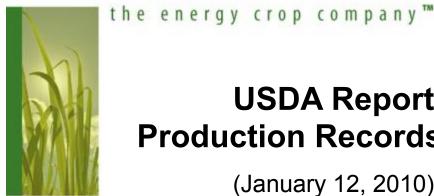


Source: NCGA

the energy crop company™



Food versus Fuel versus Corn glut...







(January 12, 2010) Washington – The final report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the 2009 corn harvest is one for the record books. Despite poor planting conditions, a cool, wet growing season, and an abysmal harvest that still sees corn standing in fields, American farmers shattered records for both yield per acre and total production.

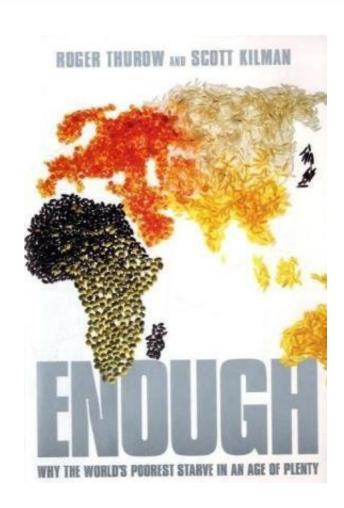


In the January Crop Production report, USDA estimates farmers averaged 165.2 bushels of corn per acres, up from its previous estimate of 162.9 and shattering the previous record of 160.4 in 2004. Notably, average yields are more than 11 bushels per acre higher (7 percent) than last year's average yield. In addition, this record yield helped produce the largest corn crop ever – 13.2 billion bushels. All of this occurred despite one of the slowest and most challenging harvests on record.



Farm Productivity and Poverty





Hunger is caused by poverty...not a lack of crop land



What Is Biotechnology?

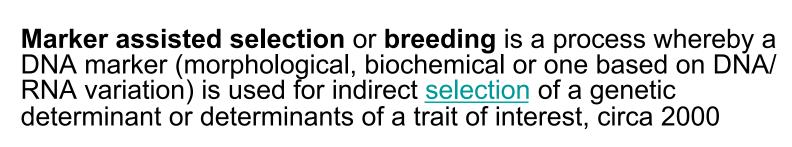


the energy crop company™



Genetic engineering or recombinant DNA technology to directly alter the structure and characteristics of genes, circa 1980's

Genomics - the study of an organism's entire genome by determining the entire DNA sequence of organisms and finescale mapping efforts, circa 1990's

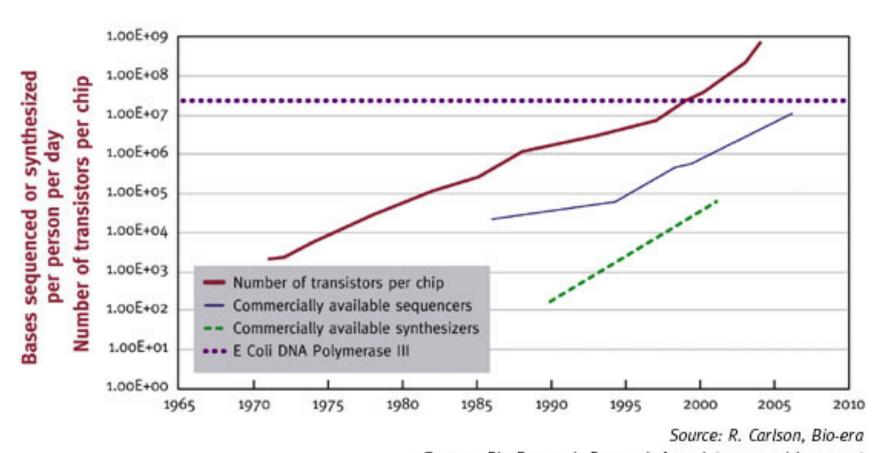




Synthetic biology – genetic engineering on an organism-level scale. Combines molecular biology and engineering principles to design and build ("synthesize") novel biological functions and systems, circa 2010

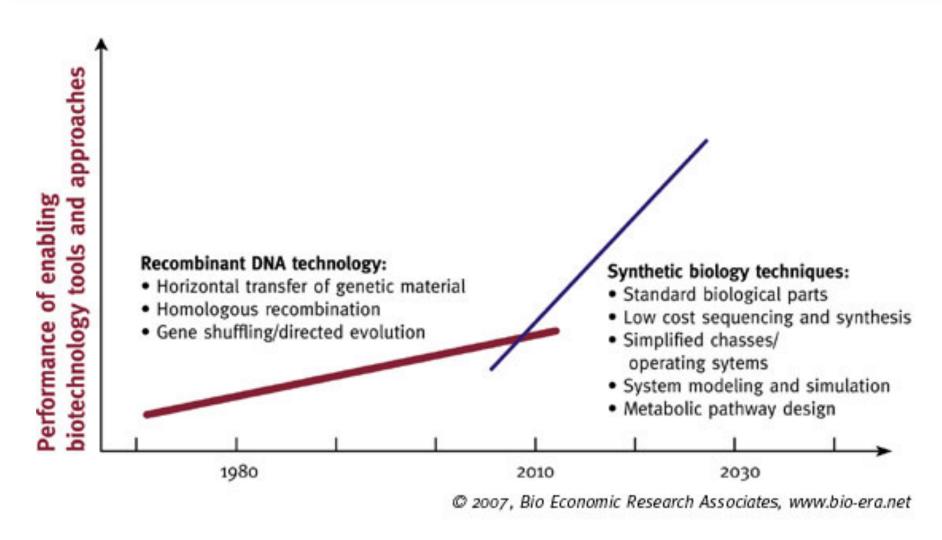


Technology Improves...





And Accelerates...





Essay On The Principle of Population

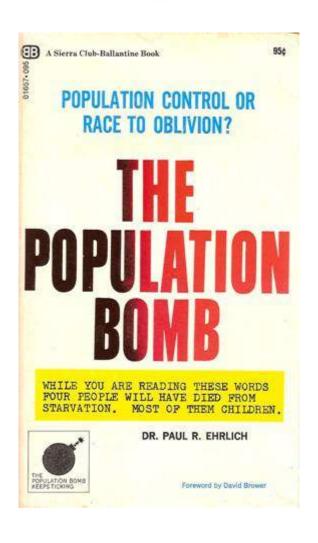


Thomas Robert Malthus 1766 - 1834

The power of population is so superior to the power of the earth to produce subsistence for man, that premature death must in some shape or other visit the human race..."



Some Predictions in 1968...



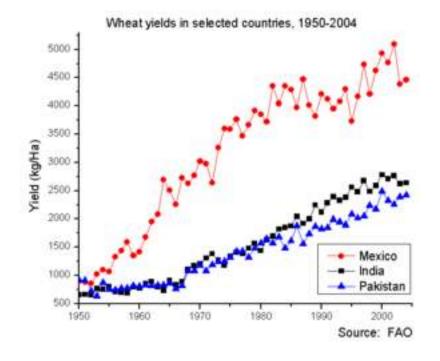
- "the battle to feed all of humanity is over"
- "In the 1970s and 1980s hundreds of millions of people will starve to death in spite of any crash programs embarked upon now."
- "India couldn't possibly feed two hundred million more people by 1980,"
- "I have yet to meet anyone familiar with the situation who thinks that India will be selfsufficient in food by 1971."



Other activities in 1968...



Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug

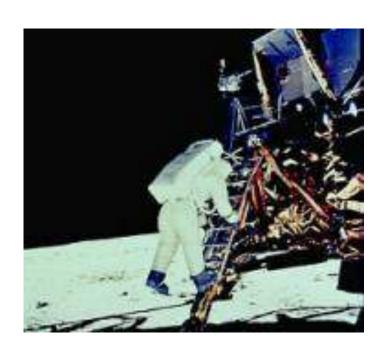


Innovation is game changing...



The Best Way to Predict the Future...





December 17, 1903

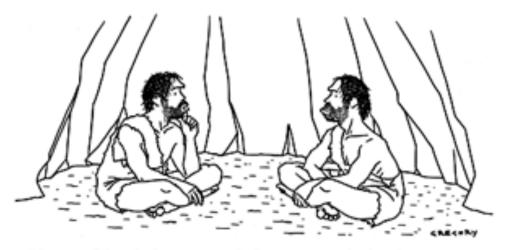
July 20, 1969

...is to create it!



Look Forward, Not Backwards

@ Cartoonbank.com



"Something's just not right—our air is clean, our water is pure, we all get plenty of exercise, everything we eat is organic and free-range, and yet nobody lives past thirty."



Some "Recent" Events...

- 1900 Rediscovery of Mendel's Laws
- 1935 Hybrid genetics
- 1953 Structure of DNA
- 1983 Biotechnology in plants
- 1995 Marker-assisted breeding
- 2001 First plant genome sequenced
- What will the next 66 years bring?



Some Predictions...by a Techno-Optimist



the energy crop company™

Near term

- Accelerated yield increases from markers
- Broader adoption of hybrids
- Drought tolerance (<5 yrs)
- Improved nitrogen use efficiency (<10 yrs)

Mid-term

- Doubling of average US corn yields by 2030
- Quadrupling of global grain yield averages by 2030
- Long Term (within the next 66 years...)
 - Nitrogen fixing grain crops
 - Perennial grain crops



 All will require genetic manipulation; breeding, markers, mapping, genomics, transgenes, cisgenes and...R&D funding, political will, positive regulatory environments



In the Future....

We will get most of our transportation fuels from:

- A) Electric cars
- B) Hydrogen
- C) Conventional oil and gas
- D) Biofuels
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors



"The history of every nation is eventually written in the way in which it cares for its soil."

- Franklin D. Roosevelt



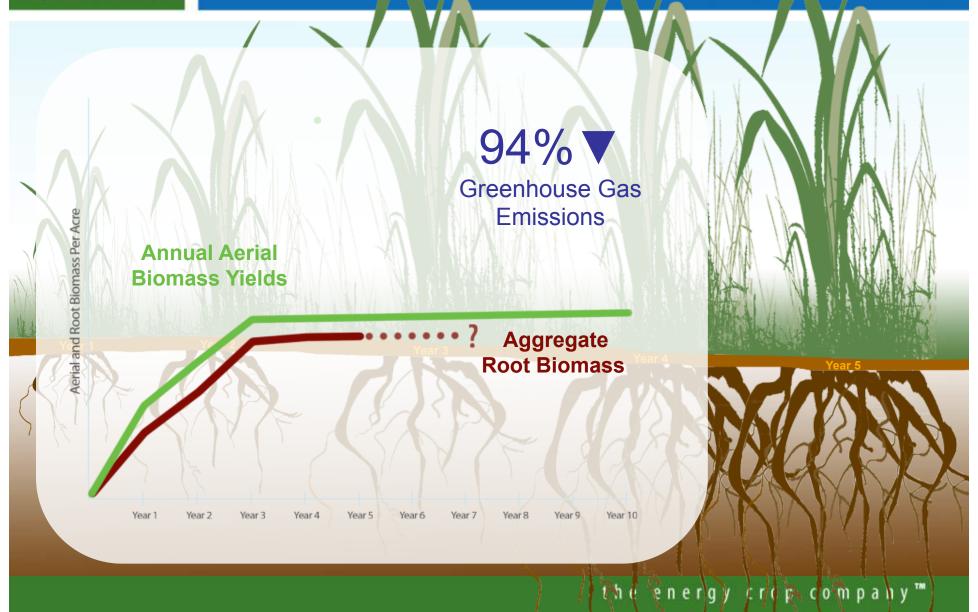


Switchgrass has a Expansive Root System



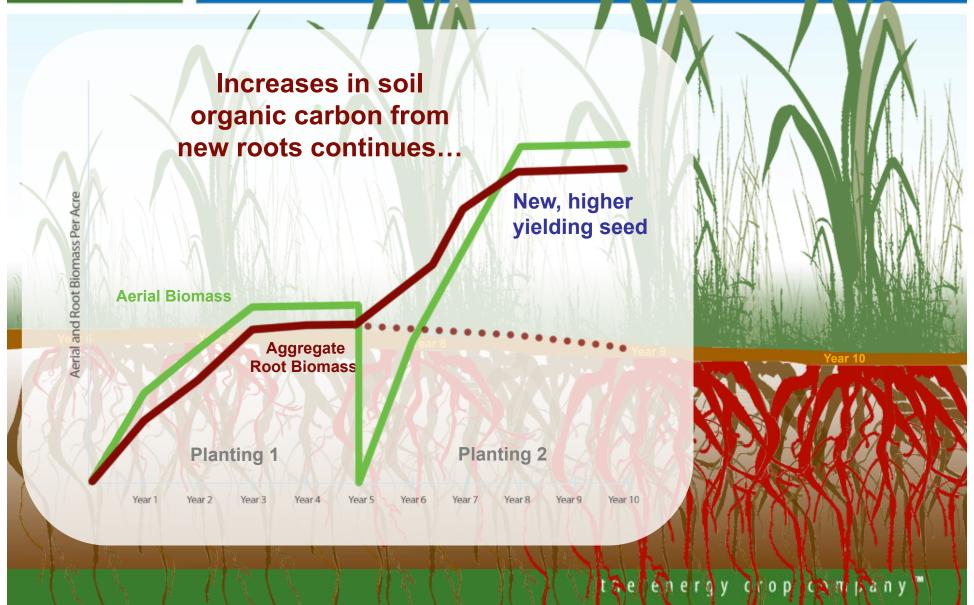


Carbon-Negative Energy Crop Systems?





Repeat No-Till Planting Over Old Roots





A Good Start...

Soil Carbon Storage by Switchgrass Grown for Bioenergy

M. A. Liebig • M. R. Schmer • K. P. Vogel • R. B. Mitchell

Abstract Life-cycle assessments (LCAs) of switchgrass (Panicum virgatum L.) grown for bioenergy production require data on soil organic carbon (SOC) change and harvested C yields to accurately estimate net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To date, nearly all information on SOC change under switchgrass has been based on modeled assumptions or small plot research, both of which do not take into account spatial variability within or across sites for an agro-ecoregion. To address this need, we measured change in SOC and harvested C yield for switchgrass fields on ten farms in the central and northern Great Plains, USA (930 km latitudinal range). Change in SOC was determined by collecting multiple soil samples in transects across the fields prior to planting switchgrass and again 5 years later after switchgrass had been grown and managed as a bioenergy crop. Harvested aboveground C averaged 2.54 0.7 Mg C ha⁻¹ over the 5 year study. Across sites SOC increased significantly at 0-30 cm (P=0.03) and 0-120 cm (P=0.07), with accrual rates of 1.1 and 2.9 Mg C ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ (4.0 and 10.6 Mg CO₂ ha⁻¹ year⁻¹), respectively. Change in SOC across sites varied considerably, however, ranging from -0.6 to 4.3 Mg C ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ for the 0-30 cm depth. Such variation in SOC change must be taken into

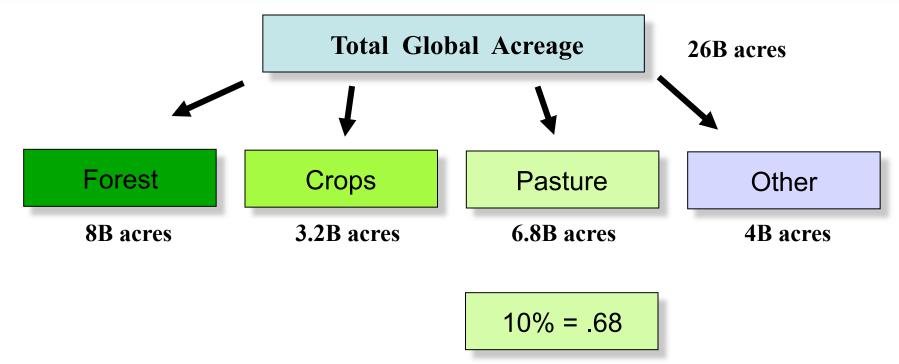
Current cultivars with existing management practices have been shown to sequester ~5 tons/acre/year

Further research is necessary to understand what is possible with improved genetics and new cultivation strategies

Bioenerg. Res. (2008) 1:215–222 DOI 10.1007/s12155-008-9019-5



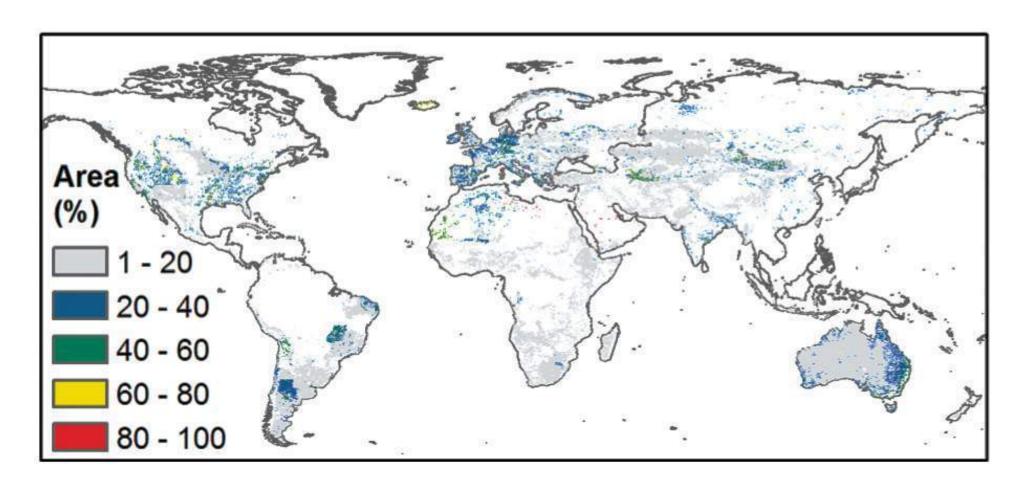
Not Enough Land For Biomass?



0.675B acres X 20t/ac X 2.38B/t = 88M barrels per day



>>A Billion Acres Of Abandoned Agricultural Land



Campbell et al., Env. Sci. Technol. (2008) ASAP Article, 10.1021/es800052w



Feedstocks Are All Fungible?

- Is there such a thing as a non-food acre?
- Does food = feed = fiber = fuel?
- Is energy production an illegitimate use of land?
- Most of the corn in the grocery store...is in the meat aisle



Cellulosic biorefineries



99% of Algae is grown for food...



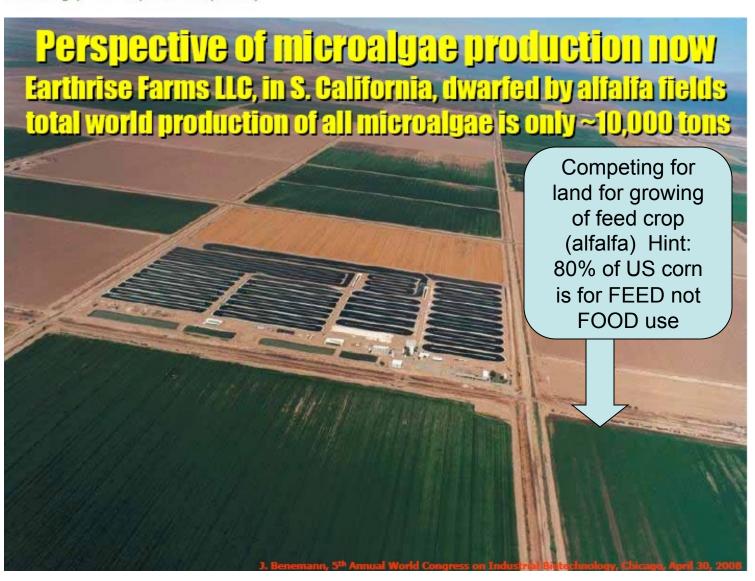
Food, Feed or Fuel?

the energy crop company™



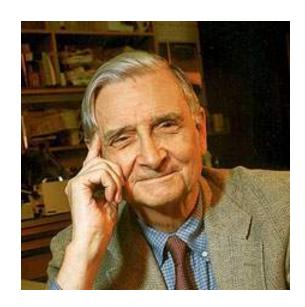




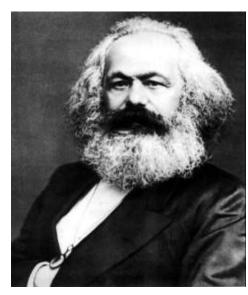




Where is Humanity Headed?



E.O. Wilson



Karl Marx

"Wonderful theory...wrong species"



Two Different Visions of the Future

- A global population of 10 billion (grandchildren)
- High protein diets (meat)
- Personal mobility (cars)
- Energy availability (power)

- A global population of ~1 billion
- Vegan diets
- Limited mobility
- Limited power

"Wonderful theory...wrong species"



Start With The End In Mind?

- If Scenario A is correct, where do we need to make investments?
 - Agricultural productivity
 - Agricultural sustainability
 - Inexpensive low-carbon power
 - Advanced biofuels (Hint: no electric jets...)
- If Scenario B is correct?
 - Massive sterilization and mandatory birth control
 - Religion-based dietary restrictions



the energy

crop __ company™

Building a Better Biofuel

www.ceres.net



The Perfect Energy Crop

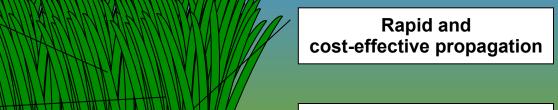
High biomass: increased growth rate, photosynthetic efficiency, delayed flowering

Improved composition & structure: higher fuel yield per ton

Disease and pest resistance

Optimized architecture: dense planting, no lodging, easier harvest

Salt, pH and Aluminum tolerance



Stand establishment: cold germination, cold growth

Perennial: multi-year crop, efficient nutrient use, high fossil energy ratio

Deep roots: drought tolerance, nutrient uptake, carbon sequestration

the energy crop company™



A Third Technological Revolution

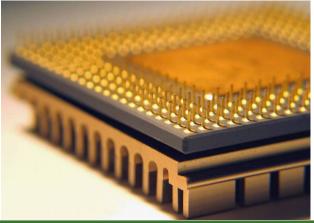
"Changes that will have effects comparable to those of the Industrial Revolution and the computer-based revolution are now beginning. The next great era, a genomics revolution, is in an early phase.

Thus far, the pharmacological potentials of genomics have been emphasized, but the greatest ultimate global impact of genomics will result from the manipulation of the DNA of plants.

Ultimately, the world will obtain most of its food, fuel, fiber, chemical feedstocks, and some of its pharmaceuticals from genetically altered vegetation and trees."

Philip H. Abelson, Editor Science, March 1998







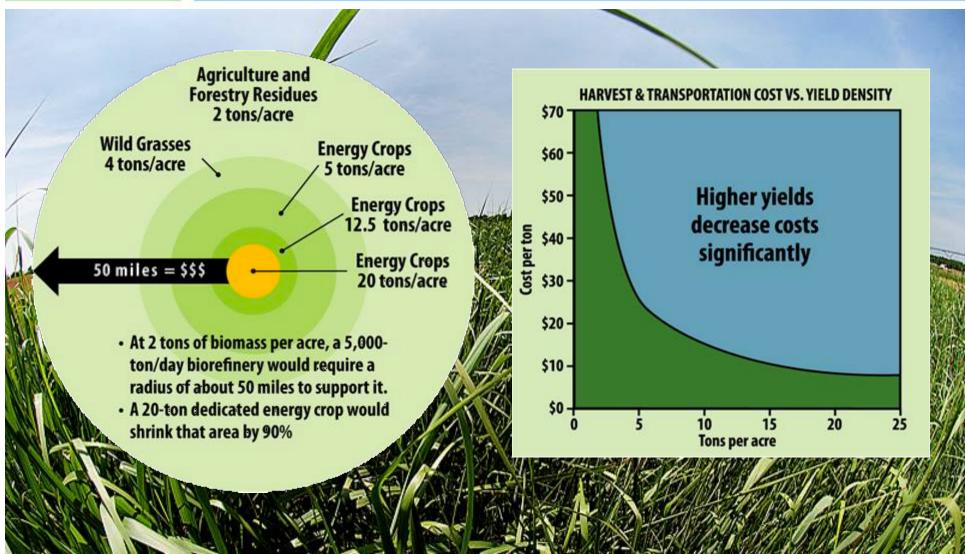


Plant Genomics is Game Changing

Parts of the Equation	Relevant Traits	Impact
Acres	Stress tolerance	Marginal acreage
Tons per acre	Increased yield	Cut production and transport costs;Increased carbon sequestration
Dollars per acre	Nutrient requirements	 Lower fertilizer costs Less N₂O emissions
Gallons per ton	Composition & structure	Increase yield of fuel per ton of biomass
Capital cost of refinery & variable cost per gallon	Composition, structure & enzyme production	Eliminate need for acid hydrolysis,Less enzymesBring yields closer to theoretical
Co-products	Metabolic engineering & sequestration	Enhance overall economics



Biomass Yield Matters





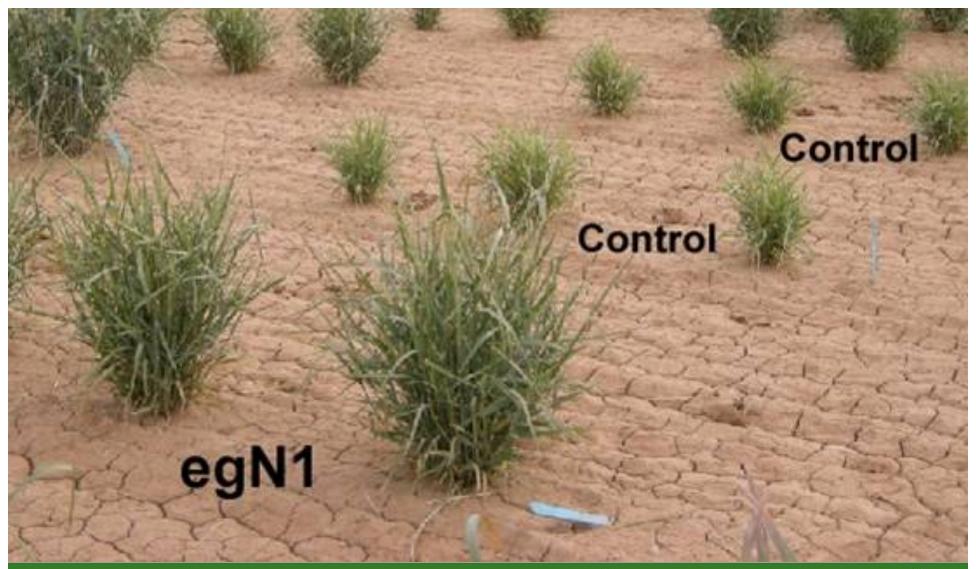
Ceres Has Applied Genomics to Dramatically Increase Plant Biomass



- Ceres has identified
 >1,000 genes that
 affect plant biomass
- Many are being field tested in rice, a grass model for energy crops
- Energy crop transformation and field testing is in progress



Nitrogen Use Efficiency and Biomass in Switchgrass





Salt-Tolerant Switchgrass (~seawater)





Trait: Drought-Tolerance in Switchgrass

Time-Lapse Photography Over Two Days

Securing
high yields
on
marginal
land



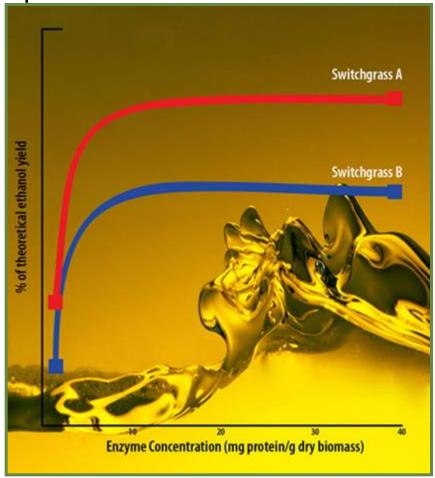
Control

Drought-Tolerance Trait



Improved Biomass Composition & Conversion

Impact of Different SWG Cultivars on Conversion



Increasing enzyme concentration does not overcome differences in biomass composition in this assay

Crop Variations

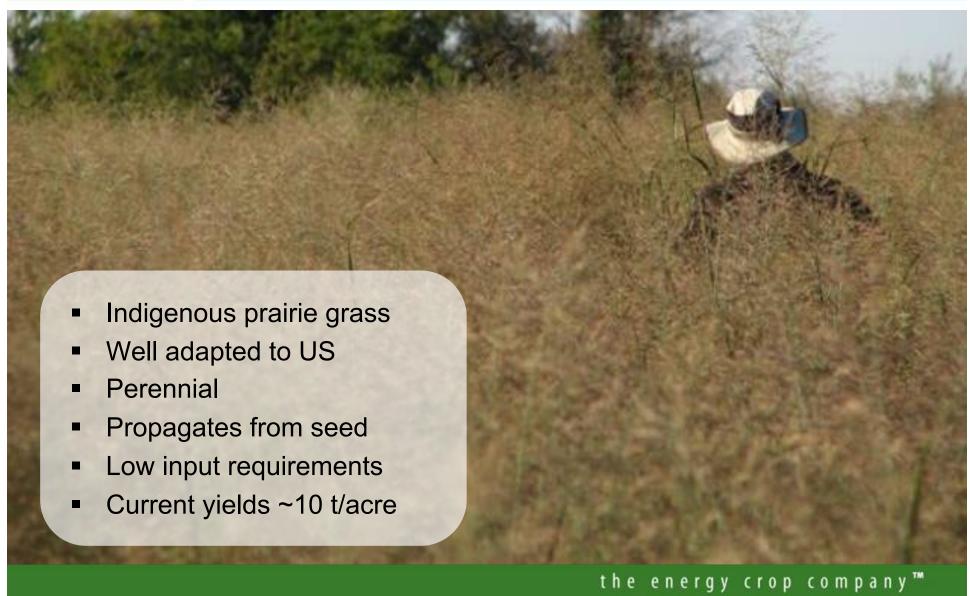
Composition,
 processing
 performance and
 energy content

Impact

- Increased productivity
- Reduced enzyme cost
- Reduced capital costs

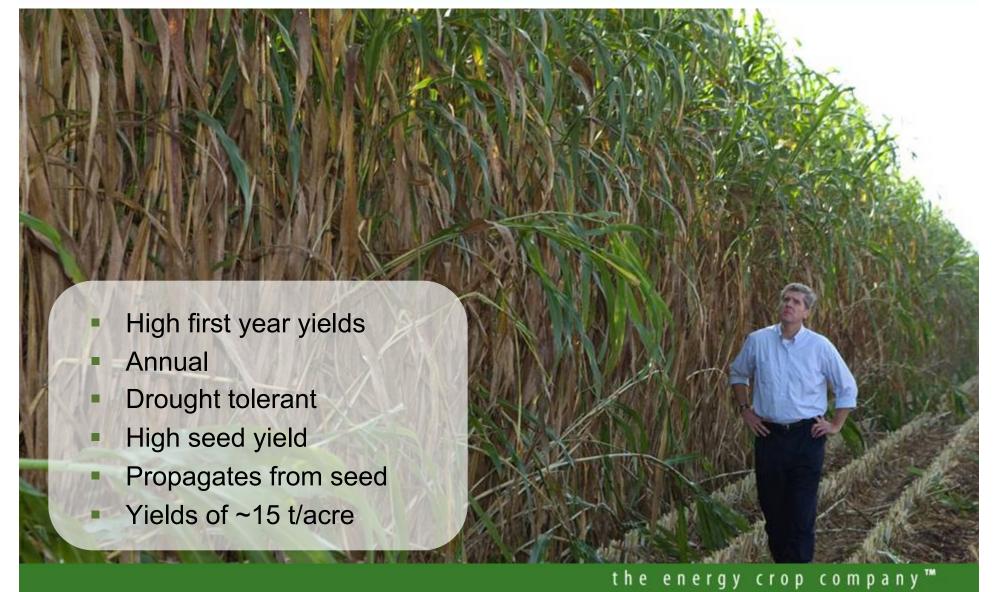


Switchgrass





High-Biomass Sorghum





Miscanthus





First Energy Crop Seed Brand





We Work with Large End-Users to Establish Closed-Loop Biomass Systems





In the Future....

We will get most of our transportation fuels from:

- A) Electric cars
- B) Hydrogen
- C) Conventional oil and gas
- D) Biofuels
- E) Hot air from UCLA professors



In the Future....

Societies should embrace the use of plant biotechnology to increase crop yields for food, feed, fiber and fuel:

- A) Yes
- B) No



the energy

crop company™

Thank You

www.ceres.net



Biomass as a Renewable Reserve

21 year contract

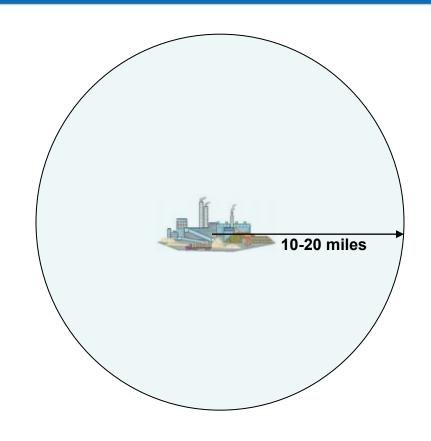
20 tons / acre

100 gallons per ton

= 4.2 X 10⁴ gallons/acre

42 gallons per barrel

= 1,000 barrels per acre



How many biorefineries, how many acres on a global basis?

Hint: >16M US corn acres currently used for biofuel production



Biomass as Renewable Reserves







1 acre

=

1,000 barrels of oil*

10M acres

=

10 billion barrels

	Proven Reserves (billion barrels)
Exxon Mobil	22.20
ВР	18.50
Royal Dutch Shell	12.98
Chevron	9.95
Conoco Phillips	7.60