



ethanol

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The Enterprise News (Brockton, MA)-070908-Response

“Raiding corn crops is a misguided fuel mandate”

By Toni Nuernberg, Executive Director, EPIC

A recent editorial in the Enterprise News supported the idea of biofuels and the desire for energy independence, but didn't support corn ethanol because of misconceptions about the food and fuel debate.

The USDA published data this spring stating that less than three percent of the increase in global food prices can be attributed to the production of corn ethanol in this country. The biggest factor in our rising grocery bills is the cost of fuel, which makes producing and transporting food much more costly.

Why, when fuel is costing us more at every turn, do ethanol critics support the abandonment of alternative fuels? High fuel costs serve only to underscore the need for alternatives to imported oil, and ethanol is a part of the equation.

Ethanol suppresses gas prices at the pump and is currently the only viable alternative to pure gasoline. And, the industry continues to fund research in other areas, like cellulosic ethanol. Now is not the time to be short-sighted.