



# NEBRASKA ETHANOL BOARD

STATE OF NEBRASKA

DAVE HEINEMAN  
GOVERNOR

TODD C. SNELLER  
ADMINISTRATOR

---

## PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

February 15, 2008

**For More Information Contact:**

Todd Sneller at (402) 471-2941

### **Research shows ethanol lowers GHG emissions**

Numerous scientific studies have proved that ethanol fuels emit fewer greenhouse gas emissions than gasoline and create a net energy gain.

Several states are currently evaluating low carbon gasoline standards as a means of reducing greenhouse gases (GHG). Such standards may require that future gasoline blends reduce greenhouse gases by at least 20% over a conventional gasoline baseline. Greater use of ethanol in gasoline is considered the most economic means of reducing GHG emissions to required levels.

A recent study at the University of Nebraska found that ethanol from switchgrass has 94% lower lifecycle GHG emissions than gasoline and creates a 540% net positive energy gain.

In a recent letter to *Science* magazine, scientists Michael Wang and Zia Haq wrote that ethanol use can decrease GHG emissions as corn yields per acre increase and ethanol production becomes more energy efficient and uses fewer fossil fuels.

“On the basis of our own analyses, production of corn-based ethanol in the United States so far results in moderate GHG emissions reductions,” Wang and Haq wrote.

Corn yields per acre have increased steadily by 800 percent in the past 100 years, and more ethanol plants are using alternative sources of energy, such as the Siouxland Ethanol plant in Jackson which uses methane gas harvested from a nearby landfill, said Todd Sneller, administrator of the Nebraska Ethanol Board.

“Researchers agree that ethanol burns cleaner in your car and emits fewer greenhouse gases than gasoline,” Sneller said. “It’s an alternative fuel that creates a net gain for Nebraskans in so many ways—through cleaner air, lower fuel prices and a stronger economy.”

Established in 1971, the Ethanol Board assists ethanol producers with programs and strategies for marketing ethanol and related co-products. The Board supports organizations and policies that advocate the increased use of ethanol fuels – and administers public information, education and ethanol research projects. The Board also assists companies and organizations in the development of ethanol production facilities in Nebraska. For more information, please visit [www.ne-ethanol.org](http://www.ne-ethanol.org).