

## Farm Service Agency Bioenergy Program

**Key Words:** Bioenergy, ethanol, biodiesel, commodities, program payments

**Success stories:** Since its inception, the Bioenergy Program has been the main driver of the biodiesel industry as its program payments jumpstarted an “infant” industry. Prior to the program start in 2001, biodiesel production was 1-2 million gallons per year. By 2005, it had increased to 91 million gallons. By 2006, 54 biodiesel producers received payments, compared with five in the first year. This program provided a critical foundation to support biodiesel before other supply incentives such as tax credits were available. While helpful to the ethanol industry, the Bioenergy Program was less critical for ethanol expansion, given a myriad of other incentives and mandates.

**Link to program web site** (This site has data and background, but does not provide any explicit success stories.)

[http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/bio\\_daco.htm](http://www.fsa.usda.gov/daco/bio_daco.htm)