

August 27, 2013

**GREEN Team**  
5th Annual Biofuels Tour Special Edition



The **Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA)** recently hosted the **5th Annual Biofuels: Science and Sustainability Tour**. The Tour once again brought Washington, D.C. policymakers and regulators to Iowa for a firsthand look at the Iowa renewable fuels industry and agricultural community in action. The three-day educational tour provided participants an opportunity to engage in substantive dialogue with renewable fuels experts, agriculture leaders, and state and university officials on important policy matters, regulatory concerns and technical issues facing the renewable fuels industry. In addition, the Tour gave participants a hands-on experience with some of the most exciting breakthroughs taking place in Iowa's most dynamic sector of the economy.

The Tour was hosted and sponsored by **Eco Energy, FEC Solutions, GROWMARK, Iowa Central Fuel Testing Laboratory, Iowa Corn Growers Association, Iowa EPSCoR, Iowa Renewable Fuels Association, Iowa State University Bioeconomy Institute, Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, National Biodiesel Foundation, Quad County Corn Processors, and Renewable Fuels Foundation.**

Not surprisingly, hot topics like the federal **Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS)**, E15, the so-called blendwall, the biodiesel tax incentive, and advanced and cellulosic biofuels were major areas of discussion throughout the trip. Nevertheless, other areas of focus included the Farm Bill, food and fuel, distillers grains and other co-products, crop yield trends, improved environmental practices in agriculture and renewable fuels production, biomass crops, and the the benefits of a vibrant agricultural economy to businesses and communities in rural America.

The Tour included visits to **Ag Processing's (AGP) biodiesel production facility** in Sgt. Bluff, Iowa, **Quad County Corn Processors ethanol refinery** in Galva, Iowa, **Horan Brothers Agricultural Enterprises** in Rockwell City, Iowa, **GROWMARK fuel terminal** in Duncombe, Iowa, **Iowa Central Fuel Testing Laboratory** in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, **Iowa State University's Sorenson Farm and Biocentury Research Farm** in Boone, Iowa, **DuPont Cellulosic Ethanol construction site** in Nevada, Iowa, **Couser Cattle Company** in Nevada, Iowa, **John Deere Des Moines Works** in Ankeny, Iowa, **FEC Solutions** in Des Moines, Iowa, and the **Iowa State Fair** in Des Moines, Iowa.



*Tour participants at Horan Brothers Agricultural Enterprises in Rockwell City, Iowa.*

Tour participants represented the following offices: **U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition, U.S. House Committee on Energy and Commerce; U.S. Representatives Danny Davis (IL), Bobby Rush (IL), Mike McIntyre (NC), Renee Ellmers (NC), Tom Latham (IA), Steve King (IA); Senator Chuck Grassley (IA), and the Senate Committee on Finance.**

### **Monday, August 12**



Welcome dinner and opening presentation by **IRFA Executive Director Monte Shaw.**

To view Shaw's presentation, please [click here.](#)

### **Tuesday, August 13**

**Biodiesel 101: Learning About Biodiesel Production and Biodiesel Policy**



Four Participants learned about biodiesel policy and production from **National Biodiesel Board (NBB) Director of Regulatory Affairs Lindsay Fitzgerald**

To view Fitzgerald's presentation, please [click here](#).



Tour of Ag Processing, Inc. (AGP) Biodiesel Production Facility in Sgt. Bluff, Iowa



Participants received a tour of **Ag Processing's (AGP)** 30 million gallon per year biodiesel production facility located in Sgt. Bluff,

Iowa.



Tour Participants learned about the ethanol production process from **Quad County Corn Processors General Manager Delayne Johnson** (left), and **Plant Engineer Travis Brotherson** (right) discussed the new bolt-on cellulosic ethanol process currently being constructed at Quad County.

Tour of Quad County Corn Processors in Galva, IA



Participants experienced first-hand the inner workings of ethanol production when they toured **Quad County Corn Processors**, a farmer-owned 35 million gallon per year ethanol plant in Galva, Iowa.





Tour participants learned about feed, fuel and fiber while touring Quad County's ethanol plant and Research and Development Lab.



Tour of Horan Brothers Agricultural Enterprises in Rockwell City, Iowa



Participants learned about the latest practices to increase yields, maximize efficiency, and protect the environment while raising crops in Iowa at **Horan Brothers Agricultural Enterprises** in Rockwell City, Iowa.



**Wednesday, August 14**

**Tour of GROWMARK Terminal in Duncombe, Iowa**



Participants learned about fuel distribution and the process of blending ethanol and biodiesel at **GROWMARK's** Fueling Terminal in Duncombe, Iowa.



Tour of Iowa Central Fuel Testing Laboratory in Fort Dodge, Iowa





Tour participants learned about fuel quality testing from **Dr. Don Heck** at the nation's first BQ-9000 certified lab at **Iowa Central Fuel Testing Laboratory** in Fort Dodge, Iowa.



Tour of ISU Sorenson Farm in Ames, Iowa



Tour participants received a hands-on experience at



Iowa State University's Sorenson Farm with plots of row crops, cover crops and biomass crops. Above the group is pictured standing in front of a plot of giant miscanthus.



Tour of ISU Biocentury Research Farm in Boone, Iowa



Participants toured **Iowa State University's Biocentury Research Farm** to learn about next-generation advanced

biofuel processes.



Participants also heard from Iowa State University professors regarding growth opportunities for biofuels and the latest research on carbon negative fuels.

To view **ISU Professor Mark Wright's** presentation, please [click here](#).

To view **ISU Professor David Laird's** presentation, please [click here](#).

#### Tour of Couser Cattle Company in Nevada, Iowa



Participants learned about environmental stewardship and how livestock producers benefit from renewable fuels production from **Bill Couser at Couser Cattle Company**.



**Rep. Steve King** stopped by to discuss the positive impacts renewable fuels production has had on Iowa and the nation.

**Thursday, August 15**

**Tour of John Deere Des Moines Works in Ankeny, Iowa**

Participants toured **John Deere's Des Moines Works** facility to learn about the equipment manufacturing process and the far reaching impacts increased ethanol and biodiesel production in Iowa has had on many sectors of agriculture.



**Tour of FEC Solutions in Des Moines, Iowa**





Participants explored **FEC Solutions** in Des Moines to learn about innovations that are adding value to ethanol and biodiesel coproducts like corn oil and glycerin.



Lunch at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa



Tour participants heard from **Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey** and **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Assistant Administrator of Water Quality Nancy Stoner** on the strength and resilience of Iowa agriculture and renewable fuels at the **Iowa State Fair**.



Participants also heard from **Future Farmers of America (FFA)** district officers, visited the always popular **Butter Cow**, and experienced several of the Fair's featured agriculture exhibits.



**5th Annual Biofuels: Science and Sustainability Tour  
Hosted and Sponsored by:**



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