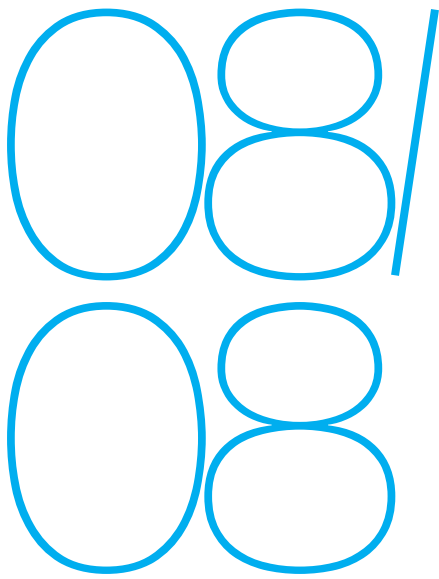


# barometer



**POET Biorefining**  
 – Coon Rapids,  
 Iowa, celebrated its  
 sixth anniversary in  
 August 2008.

A typical 65-  
 million-gallon  
 POET ethanol  
 plant creates **40**  
*full-time jobs* and  
 generates an addi-  
 tional **\$1.8 million**  
 to **\$2.1 million** in  
 payroll and benefits  
 for its community.

As the price of corn plunges approximately 50 percent from its summer record high, food prices remain elevated. It's become clear that ethanol is not the cause of the food price hike. So just what exactly are consumers paying for at the grocery store?

- FARM VALUE: 19 CENTS
- LABOR: 38 CENTS
- PACKAGING: 8 CENTS
- TRANSPORTATION: 4 CENTS
- ENERGY: 3.5 CENTS
- PROFITS: 4.5 CENTS
- ADVERTISING: 4 CENTS
- DEPRECIATION: 3.5 CENTS
- RENT: 4 CENTS
- INTEREST: 2.5 CENTS
- REPAIRS: 1.5 CENTS
- BUSINESS TAXES: 3.5 CENTS
- OTHER COSTS: 4 CENTS



Source: USAs Economic Research Service

## 20 million

Number of jobs that could be created around the world in the coming decades as a result of alternative energy development. Currently, 2.3 million people have found green energy jobs, and half of those are in biofuels.

Source: The United Nations Environment Programme's *Green Jobs: Towards Decent Work in a Sustainable, Low-Carbon World*



## 1,460

Number of days without a lost-time injury at **POET Biorefining – Big Stone, S.D.** On Aug. 24, 2008, the plant celebrated its four-year perfect record with a steak cookout for the entire team.

## FICTION

Ethanol is responsible for food price increases.

## FACT →

*Less than 12 percent of the type of corn used in the ethanol production process is used in food products like corn syrup, sweeteners, starches and cereals.* Ethanol is made from **field corn**, which is grown on more than 90 million acres across the United States. **Sweet corn**, grown on about 631,000 acres nationwide, is the type of corn people directly consume.

Source: Ethanol Across America

“Given all the advancement in agriculture, including new seeds, more durable crops and smarter farming techniques, people today in places as far as Sioux Falls and South Africa can grow more sustainable crops than ever before. For example, in the 1940s, the average American farmer produced about 40 bushels of corn per acre; today it’s 140.”

—Jeff Broin, CEO for POET, at the United Nations Millennium Development Goals and Food Sustainability Forum

## Record-Breaking Quarter

13.6  
MILLION  
GALLONS

Amount of ethanol produced during the second quarter of 2008 at **POET Biorefining – Caro, Mich.** Running 21 percent above nameplate capacity, the plant experienced its most successful quarter to date.

4.8  
MILLION  
GALLONS

Amount of ethanol produced in August 2008 at the Caro plant—the most successful production month to date—which was 28 percent above nameplate capacity.