

What's so Advanced about Advanced Biofuels?

**Part 1: What Are Advanced Biofuels?
Why Are Advanced Biofuels Important?**

**A Primer on Advanced Biofuels
With Extra Slides for Teachers**

For a Truly Sustainable Renewable Future

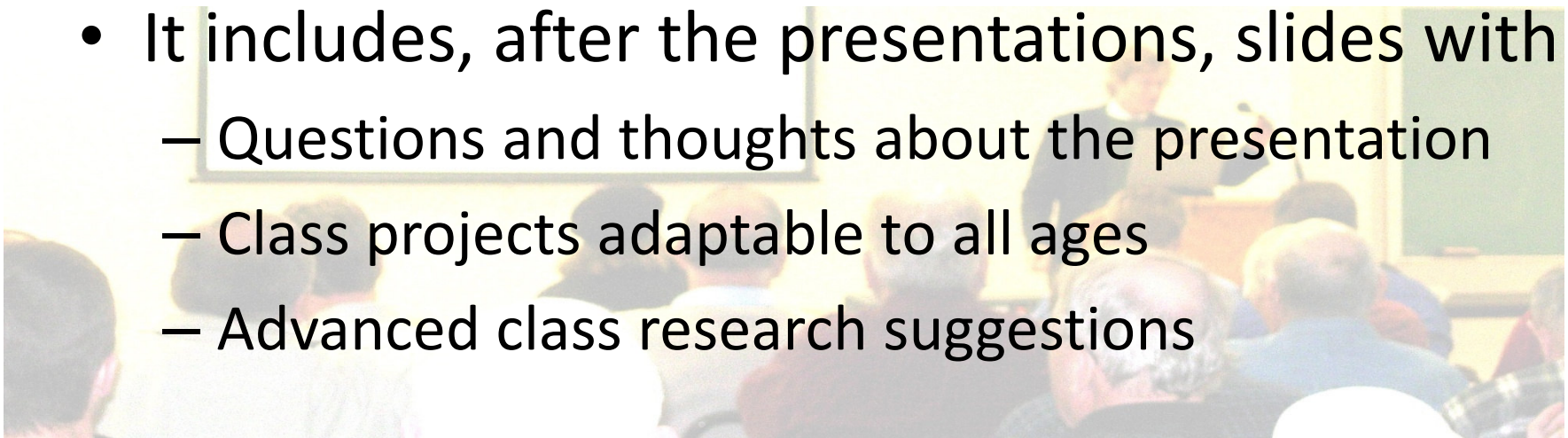
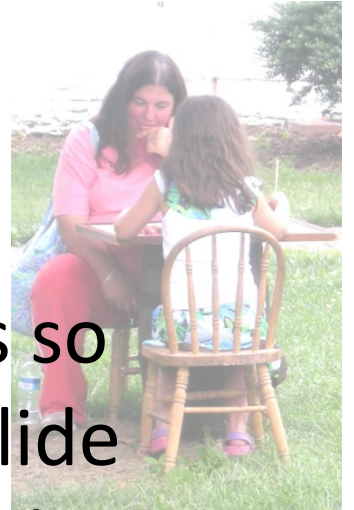
Advanced Biofuels USA
www.AdvancedBiofuelsUSA.org

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Extra Slides with “Answers”

- This teaching tool complements “What’s so Advanced about Advanced Biofuels,” a slide presentation about creating sustainable, low-input, high energy output renewable liquid fuels.

- It includes, after the presentations, slides with
 - Questions and thoughts about the presentation
 - Class projects adaptable to all ages
 - Advanced class research suggestions



What Are Advanced Biofuels?

Why are they important?

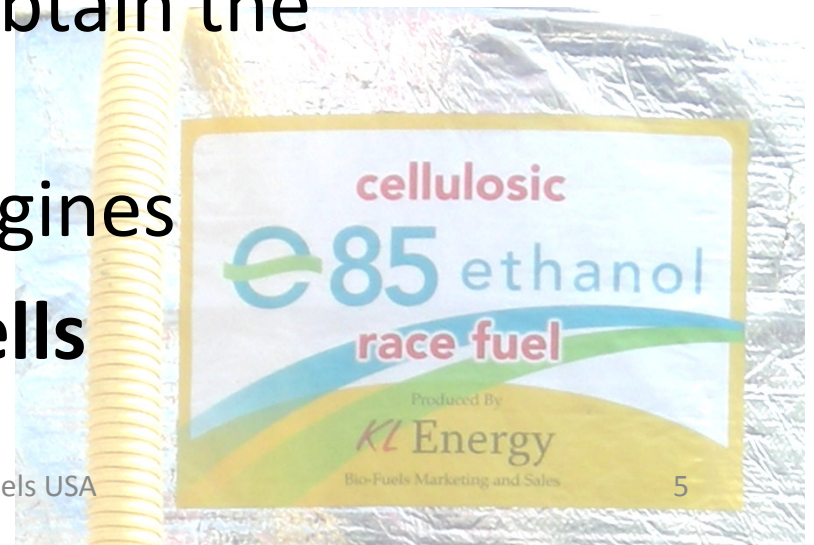
What Are Advanced Biofuels?

A Practical Definition

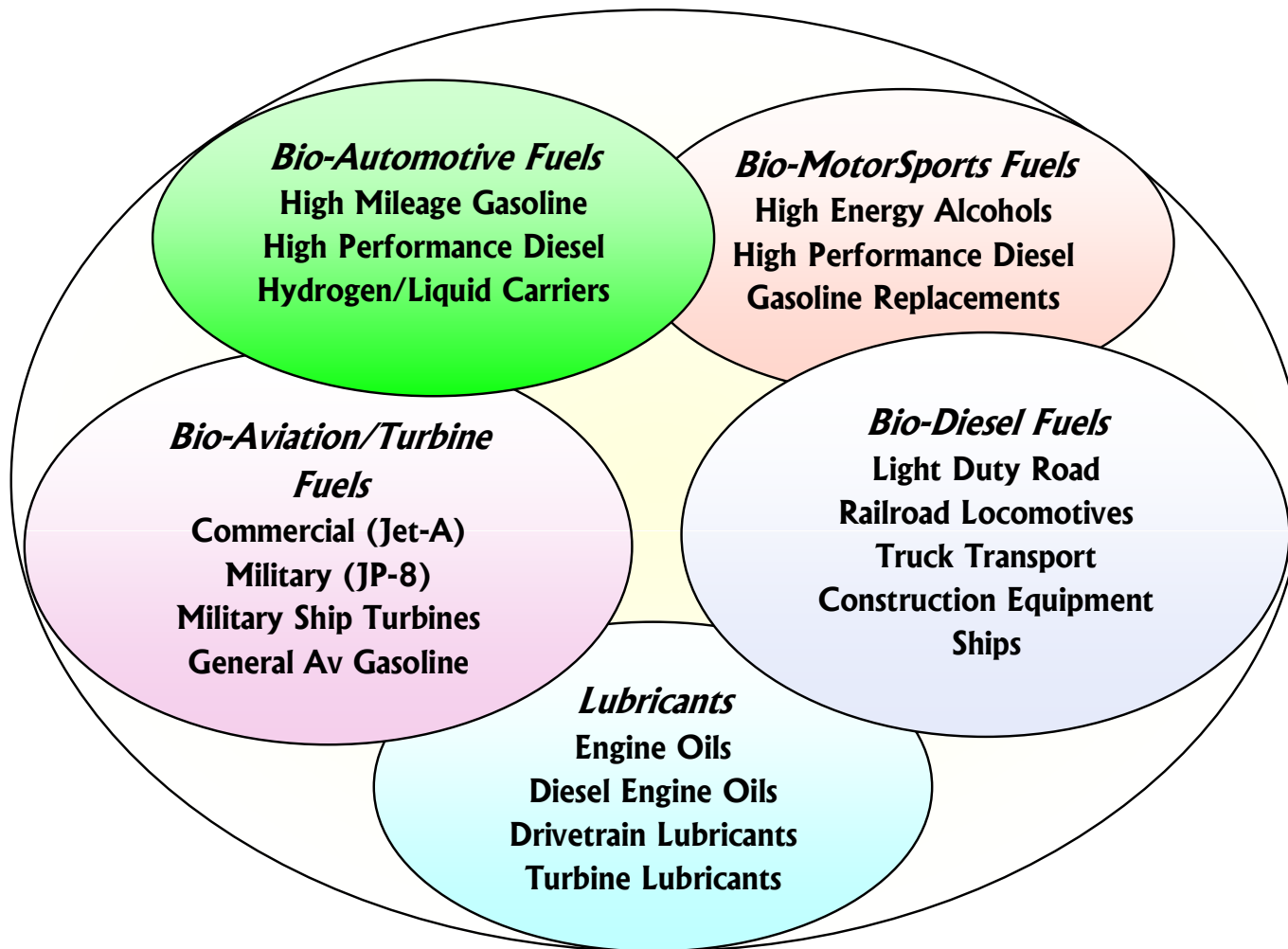
- **Advanced Biofuels are high-energy liquid fuels, usually used for transportation**
- Derived from
 - Low nutrient input
 - High-yield **crops**,
 - Agricultural or forestry **waste**, or
 - Other **sustainable** biomass feedstocks including algae

Examples of Advanced Biofuels

- **Gasoline substitutes** (Grassoline; Green Crude)
- **Bio-diesel** from non-food feedstocks
- **Jet fuel made from biomass** (JP-8; Commercial Aviation fuels)
- **“Designer” fuels** tailored to obtain the most efficient, most powerful performance from specific engines
- **Hydrogen Carriers for Fuel Cells**



The Transportation Advanced BioFuel Universe



Atlantic Biomass Conversions, Inc.

Why Replacing Foreign Oil With Advanced Biofuels is Important

- The US imports about 16 Million Barrels of Oil Each Day.
- Approximately 90% of the oil is used as transportation fuel. The rest is used to produce plastics and related products.
- Virtually no oil is used to produce electricity in the US. **Windmills and solar can produce electricity but can not power jet airplanes.**

Why Advanced Biofuels Are Important

- The **quantities** of needed US transportation fuels cannot be produced by corn starch or sugar cane because not enough additional good crop land exists.

- Advanced biofuels can directly **substitute** for all current transportation fuels without performance loss : jetfuels, gasoline, diesel.



Why Advanced Biofuels Are Important

- Advanced biofuels can be produced from **non-food crops on marginal, non food-crop lands**.
- USDA (2005 “Billion Ton” study) estimates that with current crops and advanced biofuels technologies, **over 50% of current oil use could be eliminated without affecting food costs**.
- New low nutrient/high yield perennial “energy grasses” and **improved conversion technologies** would raise this total significantly. USDA perennial grass test plots indicate that **70% of current oil consumption could be replaced**.

Examples of Potential Feedstocks or Energy Crops

Algae

Corn stover

Corn cobs

Energy cane

Sorghum

Forestry waste

Municipal waste

Sawdust

Chicken manure

Agricultural residues

Grasses such as

Switchgrass

Miscanthus

Sugar beets

Jatropha

Camelina

Coffee grounds

Paper/pulp mill waste

Jerusalem artichokes

And more...



Additional Benefits of Advanced Biofuels

Advanced Biofuel technologies and emerging energy crops:

- **Do Not Increase Food Prices or Disrupt Food Supplies**
 - May use indigenous crops world-wide
- **Create good-paying jobs**
 - Jobs in science, engineering, construction, manufacturing, transportation and agriculture
- **Revitalize forestry and agricultural communities**
 - Increase the value of marginal land
 - Add value to agricultural and forestry leftovers
 - Give rural youth new reasons to “stay on the farm”
- **Mitigate Adverse Climate Change Effects**
 - Reduce Green House Gases in the atmosphere
 - Reduce our “carbon footprint”

A Few Types of Jobs Available in Advanced Biofuels Production

- Biologists
- Biologists specializing in genetic research
- Biologists specializing in plant cells
- Chemists
- Chemical engineers
- Systems engineers
- Researchers into bioenergy crop development
- Agriculture/horticulture experts
- Farmers
- Farm workers
- Industrial engineers
- Industrial architects
- Construction workers, managers
- Truck drivers
- Plant operations managers
- Fueling station operators
- Freight railroad operators, engineers, loaders, unloaders
- Equipment operators, technicians
- Farm product purchasers/traders
- Agricultural and Forestry Supervisors
- Agricultural Inspectors
- Computer Software Engineers
- Refinery Equipment Manufacturers
- And many others

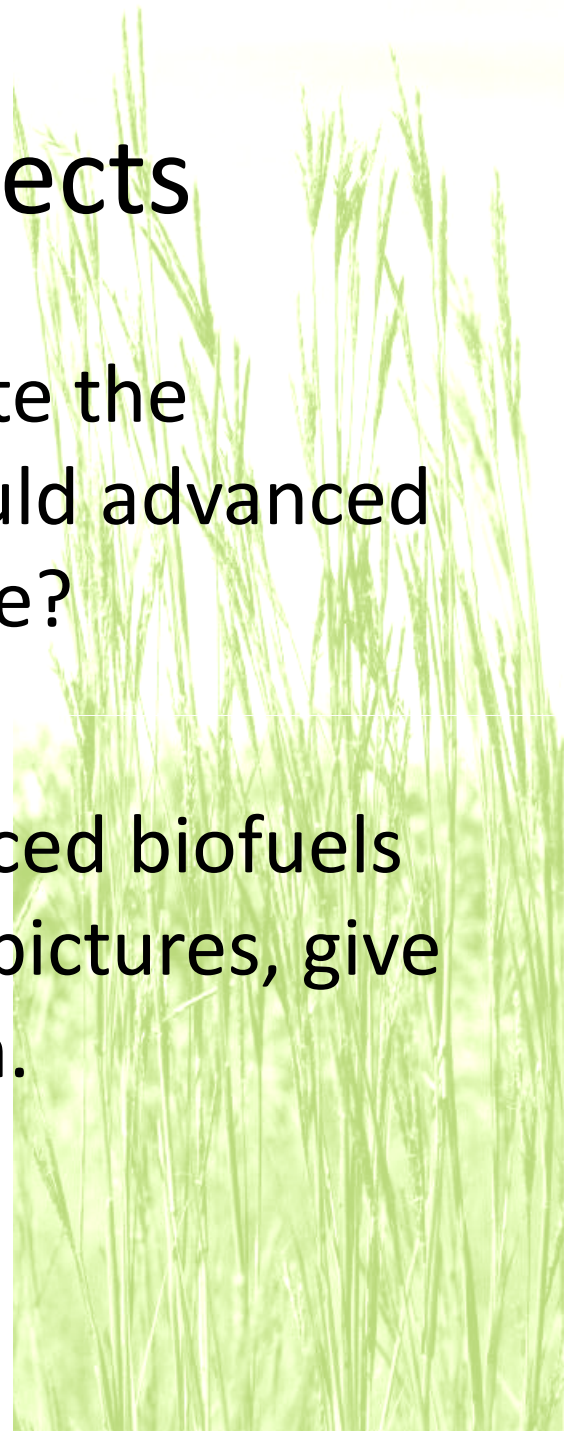
Questions and Thoughts

- How might you use advanced biofuels in your daily life?
- Why do we want to replace imported oil with advanced biofuels?
- What makes some areas good for cultivating crops for advanced biofuels rather than for food or feed?



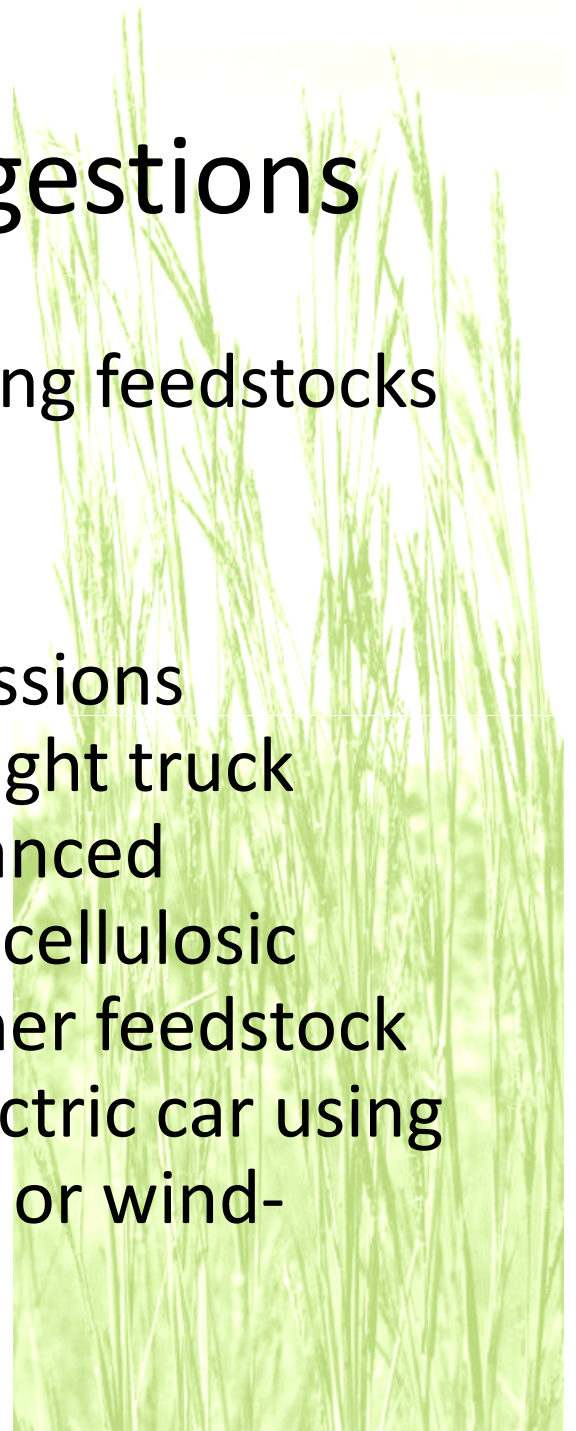
Class or Student Projects

- List items that require power. Note the current source of that power. Could advanced biofuels replace that power source?
- Review the list of potential advanced biofuels feedstocks or energy crops. Find pictures, give descriptions or definitions of each.



Advanced Research Suggestions

- What are the challenges to developing feedstocks for advanced biofuels?
- Research and discuss the **direct** emissions produced to propel a typical car or light truck with gasoline, diesel, biodiesel, advanced biodiesel, ethanol from corn starch, cellulosic ethanol, advanced biofuels from other feedstock and to propel a plug-in hybrid or electric car using coal-based, nuclear-based and solar or wind-based electricity.



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