

**Biofuel conversion factors (approximate, from various sources):**

1 acre harvested of corn in 2012:

- 158.6 bushels of corn per acre
- 2.77 gallons of ethanol per bushel of corn
- 439 gallons of ethanol per acre

1 acre harvested of sugar beets harvested in 2012:

- 23 tons of beets per acre
- 24 gallons of ethanol per ton of beets
- 552 gallons of ethanol per acre

1 acre of harvested soybeans in 2012

- 42.8 bushels of soybeans per acre
- 11.28 pounds of soybean oil per bushel of soybeans
- 7.7 pounds of unrefined soybean oil per gallon of biodiesel
- 63 gallons of biodiesel per acre

1 acre of harvested canola in 2012

- 1557 pounds of canola per acre
- 0.383 pounds of canola oil per pound of canola
- 7.7 pounds of unrefined canola oil per gallon of biodiesel
- 77 gallons of biodiesel per acre

	Price	Feedstock cost per gallon of ethanol or biodiesel	
Corn	2.00	0.72	
	2.50	0.90	Reasonable guess at 2012 corn price
	3.00	1.08	
Veg. oil	0.15	1.16	
	0.20	1.54	
	0.25	1.93	Reasonable guess at 2012 soy oil price
	0.30	2.31	Reasonable guess at 2012 canola oil price
	0.35	2.70	
Sugar	30.00	1.25	
	35.00	1.46	Reasonable guess at 2012 sugarbeet price
	40.00	1.67	

**Conclusions:**

- 1 At likely prices in 2012, feedstock costs of corn per gallon of ethanol would be much lower than feedstock costs of vegetable oil per gallon of biodiesel or of sugar per gallon of ethanol.
- 2 Even though canola oil can produce more biodiesel per acre, canola oil tends to sell for more than soybean oil in this country. Thus, soybean oil is likely to be the favored oil for U.S. biodiesel production.