**BOOM OR BUST?**

Economics will determine the fate of biofuels.

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**CORN GROWTH**

The increase in the production of ethanol has prompted farmers to grow record amounts of corn. In 2006, about 17 percent of the U.S. corn crop went into production of the biofuel.

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**TIGHT MARGINS**

The combination of rising corn prices and falling ethanol prices means producers of corn-derived biofuels are facing tight margins and an uncertain economic future.

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**BIOFUEL FUTURE**

Commercial production of biofuels from cellulosic biomass is at least four to five years away. But the technology has economic and environmental advantages over corn ethanol.

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*Cost of producing 120 million gallons of ethanol in a newly constructed plant  **Versus gasoline

Sources from upper left to bottom right: USDA; Vernon Eidman; Stephan Polasky/Jason Hill; Bloomberg (as of 11/13); Bloomberg (as of 11/12); Eidman; DOE; Khosla Ventures; Eidman