

Spring is the Taskmaster

Speaking of spring, the 2006 Spring Workshop will be Saturday April 29th 9-5 and Sunday April 30th 9-4 (tuition is \$30 per day) Location: Yoderville Bio-Diesel Coop at 4630 Orval Yoder Turnpike SW. Kalona, IA. The workshop is two days long and covers basics on the first day and advanced brewing techniques including hands on assembly of individual participant's processors. Many participants build their own processors the second day, provided they provide the parts necessary.

When the snow stops falling and the grease begins to flow, that is the favorite time of year to say "let's finally complete that huge project we were working on at the end of the season last year... remember?" Well the list is long and pricey. With headliners like spill containment and collection vehicles and 80 gallon processors, it is a list which may well take a few good seasons in the sun to reach fruition.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

"The Ester Machine" Launches in Cedar Rapids Iowa

Steve Fugate Owner of the new company Flying F Bio-Fuels unveiled his new product "The Ester Machine" A self contained complete processor for making Biodiesel at the Big Boys Toys Show at Hawkeye Downs in Cedar Rapids on Saturday March 18th. Steve will hit the road hard with the Ester Machine this spring with appearances coming up in Nebraska in late March and in July Steve will be a presenter at the Biofuels Co-op Conference in Golden, Colorado. The production of the machines continues, the unit features brass fittings and a central switch panel, plus the entire unit is mounted on a spill containment unit which is OSHA approved up to 83 gallons. The theme of Flying F Bio-Fuels is "Bringing fuels into the future" and as the tagline implies, it is Steve's intention to guide

the customer through purchase and installation process and provide personalized assistance and support throughout all phases including "brewing up a few batches with them" thus insuring that each machine produces the same high quality fuel we have come to know at the YBDC. Everyone at YBDC wishes him success.



Above: YBDC's President Steve Fugate and owner of Flying F Bio-Fuels unveiling his new product The Ester Machine at the Big Boys Toys Show.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

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Things are really moving now



Above: Troy Mayfield moving the “old” collection vehicle out of the way for the new season.

The clean up continues at the Yoderville location for the phase one of the new spill containment for the brewing area, phase two will include pads outside in front in the loading/unloading and storage areas. We also hope to gravel the driveway from the road to the barn. Many very heavy items needed to be moved to make way for the pouring. Footings/rodent barriers were also dug out mostly by Troy but some hand digging still remained in places which the bobcat could not reach or fit into. But the lion’s share was quickly done that night



Above: Steve and Troy carefully moving barrels of liquid oil “don’t spill any now”.

With all that had to be accomplished in such a short time, big thanks need to go out to all the members who pitched in and helped. With a little luck by the time you are reading this, the pad will be in place and the new processors will be pumping out clean powerful biodiesel for the tanks of the membership.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

YBDC represented at Kirkwood Community College Earth Week

The Yoderville BioDiesel Cooperative made road trips on April 17th 18th & 19th for Earth Week First on the 17th in Iowa City at the VA Hospital then at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, where we (Ethan) were hosted by Barb Dabling professor of Sociology and her merry group of helpers (students) who turned out 300 hot dogs in one hour and put on a great earth week event.



Above: Professor Barb Dabling (right) and company.

There were nearly a dozen booths from local organizations including departments within the college ranging from native grasses to adopt a highway, we were one of three alternative fuel

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vehicles represented, my F-250 (biodiesel) Prius (hybrid) and a 1981 Olds Cutlass running on veggie-oil with hydro assist (straight veggie-oil).



Above: YBDC booth at KCC Earth Week.

The coop table saw at least 35 very interested people and like 200 milled by on their way to classes so overall I would say that it was an excellent opportunity to gain exposure for the coop.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

NEW FLOOR IS READY!

Thanks to the hard work of members and hired help the new floor is ready.



This pour took about seventeen yards of concrete, loads of steel, many square feet of pond liner, and around a thousand feet of pex tubing to complete.



But now we have a very clean and safe surface to conduct our activities on.



One really cool thing is that we will use the solar panels to heat the floor. Big thanks to everyone who helped out and worked so hard to accomplish this enormous task there is no way we could have done it with out all the help from all or you.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

UPDATE! The Ester Machine sells big in Nebraska.

Steve and I took a little trip into our neighboring state of Nebraska and installed three Ester Machines. The region is truly hungry for this technology without a doubt some of the most eager renewable fuel fans around.

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Other than a slight hiccup involving “black grease” everything went very well and the new owners were more than impressed. I learned a lot (mostly about how much I don't know) and Steve learned a lot too. The pace was dizzying and the hours long, we delivered, installed, and demonstrated at each location.



This product is without a doubt a viable farm scale solution, many of the farmers were considering purchasing an oil press to accompany the Ester Machine thus enabling them to produce their own oil as well. The popular crop for producing seed stock is sunflowers at a cost of approximately one third that of soybeans to grow and a yield of five times the oil, this crop may well be the mother load everyone is looking for.

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

Yoderville BioDiesel at the Center for Energy and Environmental Education

When Pat Higby from the ICEEE asked us to give a talk on BioDiesel the original thought was to recreate the information show we did at the Iowa City Public Library. At that event Marc Franke presented the latest in his “brilliant” set of power point presentations. Steve Fugate and I (Eric Foresman) gave a plug for the spring YBDC home brew workshop and answered some home brew questions. That was the plan, but instead of just recreating what we had already done we wound up multiplying it. Steve Fugate was invited to go on tour to Nebraska, Marc Franke was booked for an event sponsored by the Iowa Energy Center and that left me heading up to ICEEE at the University of Northern Iowa on my own (travel expenses paid).

We had about 25 people in attendance and the presentation went over well (public speaking is easy when you have great material). My rendition of Marc's greatest hits will be available from the ICEEE in DVD format next week so you don't have to take my word for it you can judge for yourself. Having just received a call from Steve I can report that he brought the house down in Nebraska giving Marc's presentation. His proof is better than mine. Flying F sold all the Ester Machines on display and took some back orders. I wonder if the master power point creator will get a commission. Steve was threatening to give him a big wet kiss (fair warning Marc). With the interest generated from public speaking outreach events and

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news paper articles the April 29 workshop should be a blowout event and easily beat last springs attendance. We have also been invited to come back to ICEEE to give a workshop on building an Apple-seed processor. Earlier this month I attended a conference on global warming put on by the Union of Concerned Scientists. The effects of global warming are becoming critical as we approach nature's limits for maintaining balance. One of the biggest benefits of Biodiesel (especially home brew) is it is something regular folks can do that will really make a difference. Residential carbon production is only a small part of the problem. As individuals we can't easily change power plants (the biggest carbon producers), but transportation is the number two producer of global warming carbon and by switching to biodiesel you can cut your carbon per mile by a factor of 5. That makes a big difference.

By Eric Foresman YBDC Member



Welcome to this perpetual column reporting on the YBDC's collection activities. The coop is now collecting approximately 400 gallons of oil per week (on a good week) not including all of the cubes. The collection facilities continue to undergo developments and improvements. For example the tongue mounted luggage rack we've been using lately has proven to be more mobile and compact than the larger trailer.

Below: Steve saw this baby on eBay (wish list)



Plans are still in discussion involving a large capacity tank being mounted on the trailer along with the pump and a hose reel and a half barrel spill containment kit with sawdust and brooms and degreaser. We also constantly revisit the need for a large capacity pump truck like the ones pictured here. The reason for needing both is due to the various institutions which require the use of the 55 gallon containers only and no larger. As we expected all along, the complex logistics involved in the ongoing collection of this many restaurants and institutions has proven challenging to say the least, however the team has risen to the occasion with a little help from our friends members and volunteers.



Above: YBDC Summer collection vehicle (wish list)

By Ethan Fox YBDC Collection Master

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YBDC Memberships for 2006

For 2006 the membership guidelines have been restructured and accepted by all present at the last general meeting held in the Oasis on February 16, 2006. These new guidelines are as follows:

Friend of YBDC \$25/yr, event discount, electronic newsletter.

Corporate Friend of YBDC \$200/yr, mention in promotional materials, event discounts.

Economy Membership \$100/yr or until 100 gallons is used, 30 gal/mo.

Standard Membership \$200/yr, up to 60 gallons/mo.

Sustaining Membership \$500 one time, admiration and negotiable discounts.

Lifetime Membership \$1500 one time, up to 70gal/mo.

These new membership guidelines will increase dues and member fuel prices, while also providing increased funds for the coop operations. These funds will pay for concrete and equipment to help get us started this spring

By Ethan Fox YBDC Member

YBDC wants to hear from you!

We welcome questions and feedback from people in the community; this helps us determine our impact. Please feel free to contact us via our website at:

www.ybdc.org and click on the contact link. Or email steve@ybdc.org your input will be carefully considered.

YBDC needs

This is a list of things we need, we will publish this list in each newsletter, this way people who want to help us can see where to jump in. If you have any of the following items and don't need/use them please feel free to donate them to us:

Money! Steel or plastic barrels, Ag totes or large tanks, Pumps of any kind, Fire extinguishers, Lab items, Near Infra-Red Spectrographic equipment, Paper towels, Rags, Sawdust, Labor, Lab skills, Trash disposal, Accounting help, Secretarial skills, Grant writers, Legal assistance, Pickup truck with Tommy Lift, Sturdy trailers, Diesel generators, Construction materials, Diesel tractor, Bat houses, Gifts in kind of any sort, Love.

Grease Contributing Establishments

Featured Establishment

■ The Pit



The Pit has the best BBQ in town and excellent used oil to burn!

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So stop in to eat because they support our cause.

■ Red Lobster ■ Rick's
■ Hamburg Inn#2 ■ Shakespeare's
The Edge ■ Lou Henri ■ The
Cove ■ Chili's ■ The University
of Iowa ■ Mercy Hospital ■ The
Vine Coralville ■ Old Chicago
■ Jonesey's ■ The Oasis ■ Slims
■ China Wok ■ J's Fish & Chips
■ Verde ■ Fitzpatrick's ■

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