# **BOOM OR BUST?**

Economics will determine the fate of biofuels.



... but ethanol prices remain low ...

# **TIGHT MARGINS**

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



\$4.00 per gallon \$2.50 Cost to produce ethanol 3.50 2.00 3.00 2.50 1.50 2.00 1.00 2.00 1.00 04 05 06 07

## ... making it difficult to produce profitably.



# **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.

#### Commercial cellulosic facilities are being built ...



#### ... and may be the primary source ...



### ... of cleaner, more efficient ethanol.



\*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