



GEORGE MORRIS CENTRE

News Release

The Downside of Ethanol for Canada

Guelph, ON (November 20, 2007) A new report from the George Morris Centre warns that Canada's current ethanol plan is not good for the agricultural sector. *Ethanol as Public Policy in Canada: Understanding the Broader Policy Context* addresses several key criticisms of grain-based ethanol and puts them into perspective for Canada.

Al Mussell, Senior Research Associate and lead author of the paper, states that "Canada is positioned strategically as a meat exporting country. Ethanol development is in direct conflict with this strategy."

Significant differences between US and Canadian policy issues also make the case for developing a unique biofuel strategy, rather than mimicking the US plan.

Larry Martin, Senior Research Fellow and co-author of the paper, doesn't believe the plan fits into the broader Canadian policy context. "The current ethanol development plan cannot be viewed as strategic, considering the significant detriment to the beef and pork industries. If you have to subsidize a program that heavily, you are detracting from, rather than adding value to, the sector as a whole" says Martin.

The complete report is available on the George Morris Centre website:

<http://www.georgemorris.org/GMC/Publications/PublicationPage.aspx?IID=295>

The George Morris Centre is Canada's independent agri-food think tank, dedicated to provoking informed dialogue on policies and issues and fostering excellence in the Agri-food sector.

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