# Facets of the Bioeconomy Affecting the Small Towns of Iowa

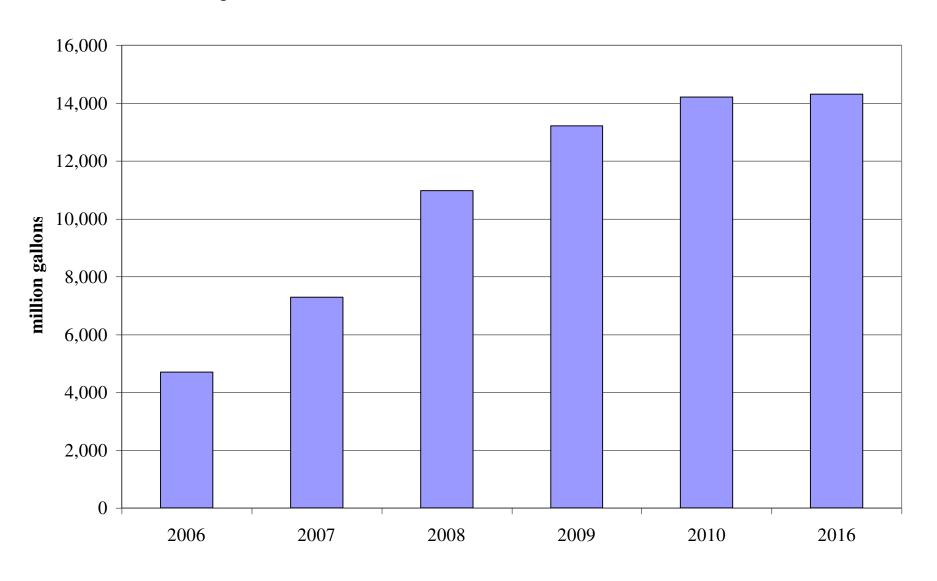
Bruce A. Babcock

Center for Agricultural and Rural Development Iowa State University

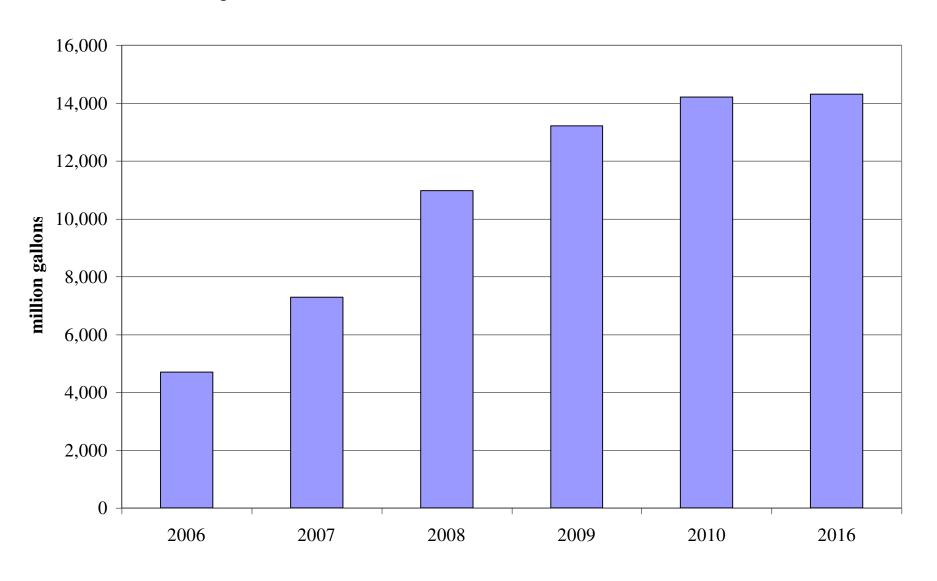
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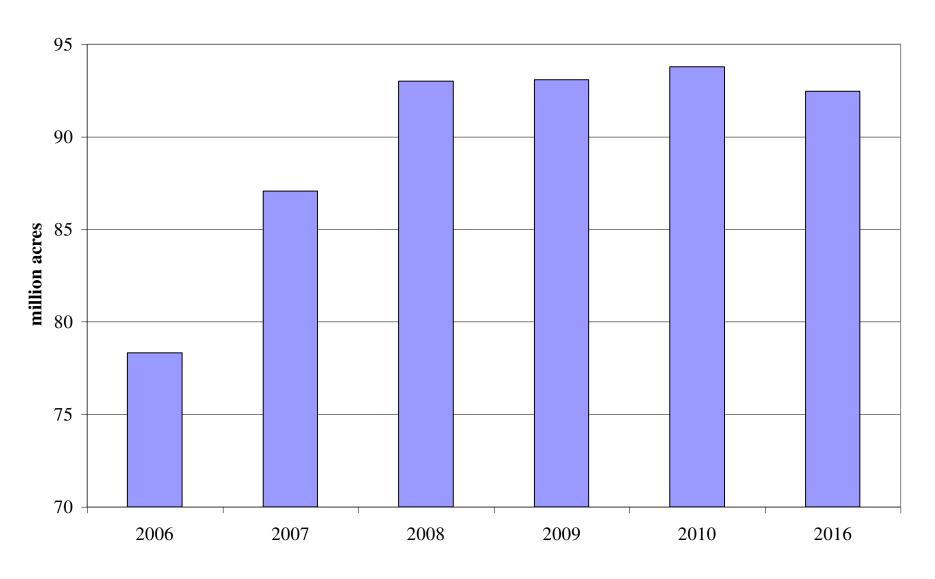
#### Projected U.S. Ethanol Production from Corn



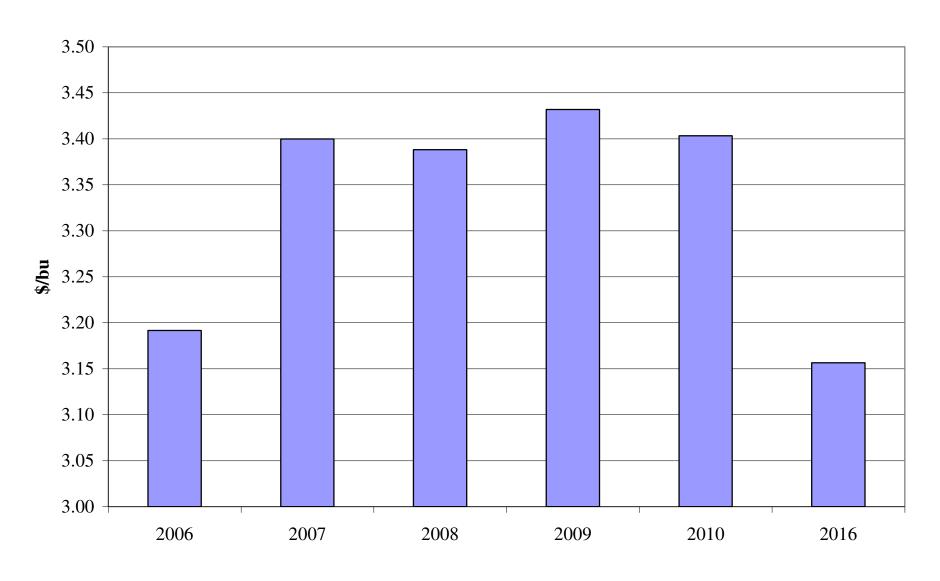
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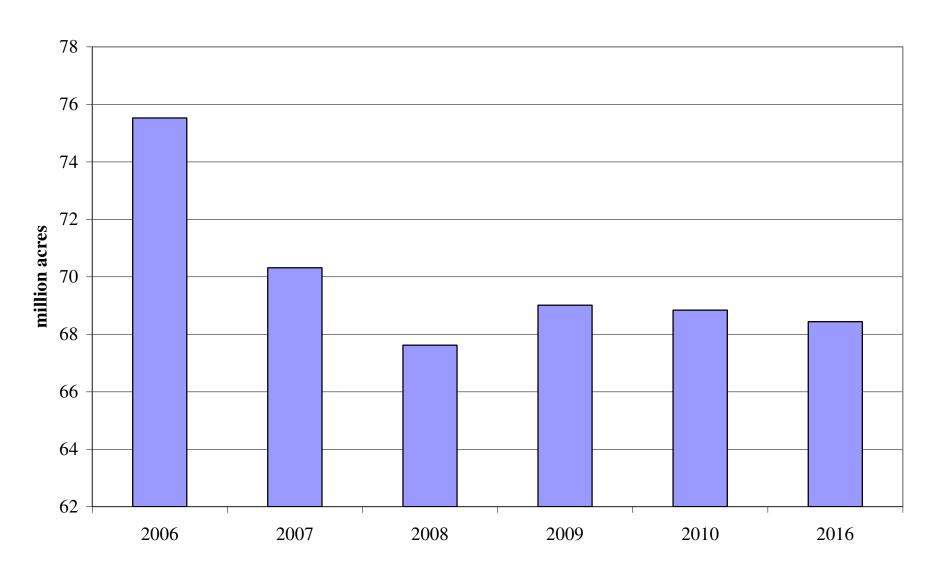
#### Projected U.S. Corn Planted Acreage



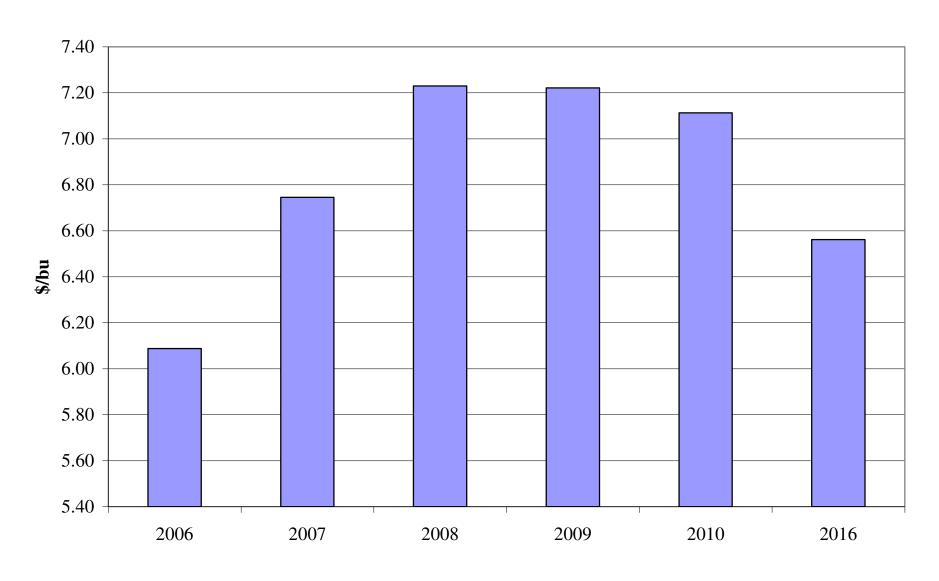
#### **Projected Corn Prices**



#### **Projected Soybean Planted Acreage**



#### **Projected Soybean Prices**



## Community Impacts

- Farm operators
- Land owners
- Ethanol investors
- Infrastructure
- Environment
- Livestock industry
- Economic activity

#### **Land Rent Determination**

- Rent = Maximum willingness to pay for an additional crop ground
  - Higher crop prices have increased market returns over costs by about \$155 per acre
  - Government payments reduced by about \$35 per acre
- ➤ Land rents should jump by about \$120 per acre

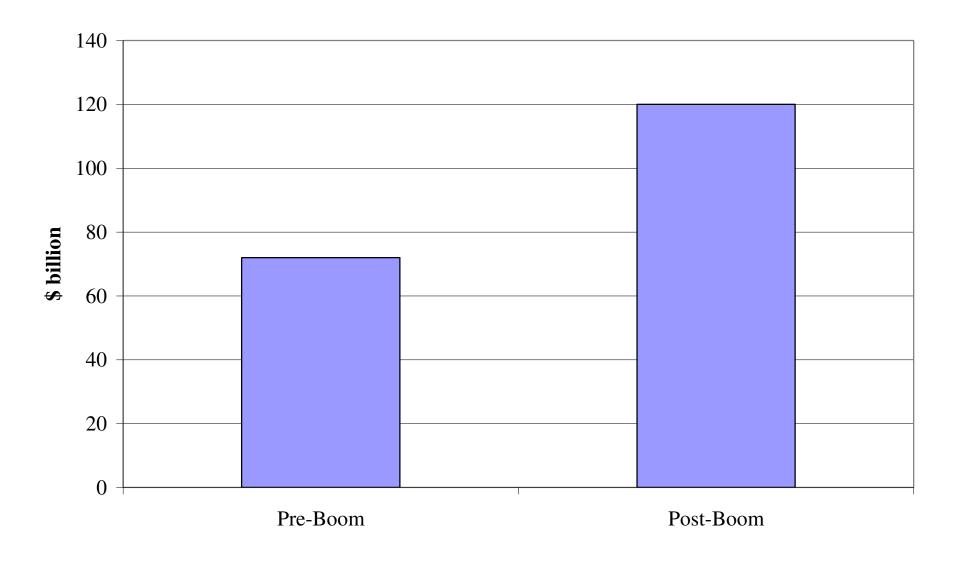
## Agricultural Land Price Determination

 Change in land price = change in land rent \* capitalization factor

\$3,000/ac pre-boom (2005) land prices

67% increase in value of Iowa cropland

#### Total Value of Iowa Cropland



#### Impact on Farm Operator Returns

- Money in
  - Crop revenue plus government payments
- Money out
  - Production costs, machinery payments, land rent

 If changes in land rent fully reflect changes in revenue and costs, then farm operators are unaffected

#### Impact on Land Owners

- Increased asset values increases wealth levels of many lowans
- A significant portion of this increased wealth accrues to lowa farmers and other rural residents
- Increased wealth is associated with increased investment and consumption.

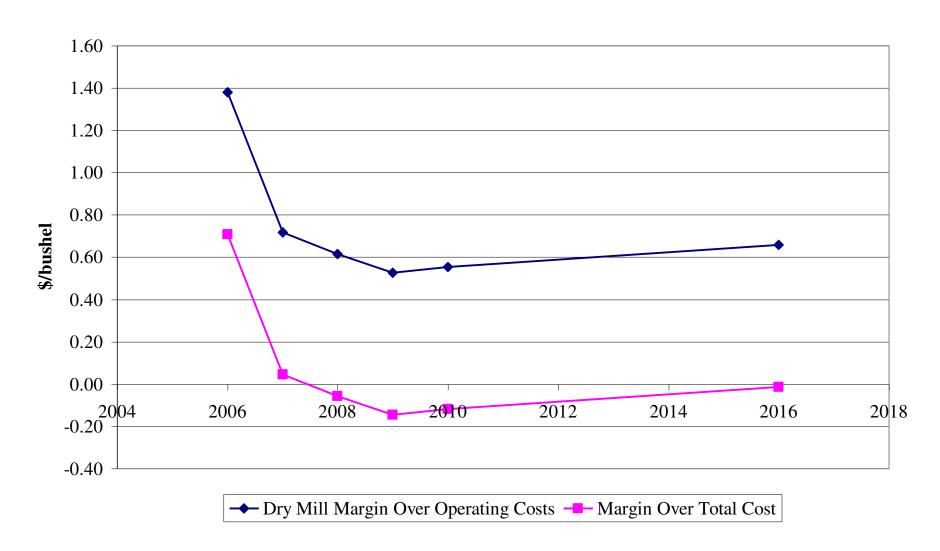
### Impact on Ethanol Plant Owners

- Economics of commodities
  - High prices lead to high profits
  - High profits leads to expansion of supply
  - Expansion of supply leads to lower prices
  - Lower prices reduce profits
  - Contraction of supply increases prices .....

#### Difference with Biofuels

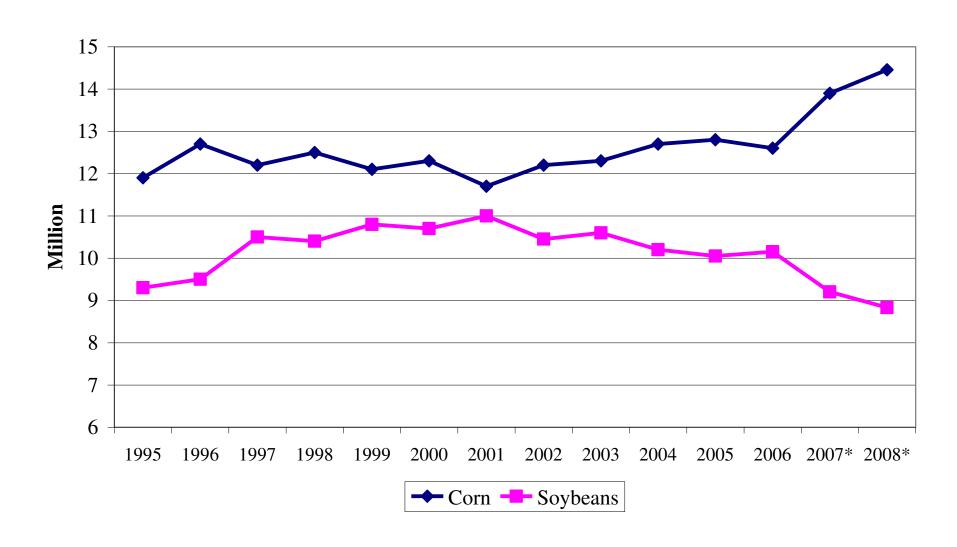
- Economics of ethanol
  - High prices lead to high profits
  - High profits lead to expansion of supply
  - Expansion of supply lead to higher feedstock (corn) prices
  - Higher costs reduce profits, until...
  - No more incentive to invest in more ethanol plants

## Projected U.S. Dry Mill Margins Over Operating Costs and Over Total Costs



#### Infrastructure

## Acres Planted to Corn and Soybeans in Iowa since 1995



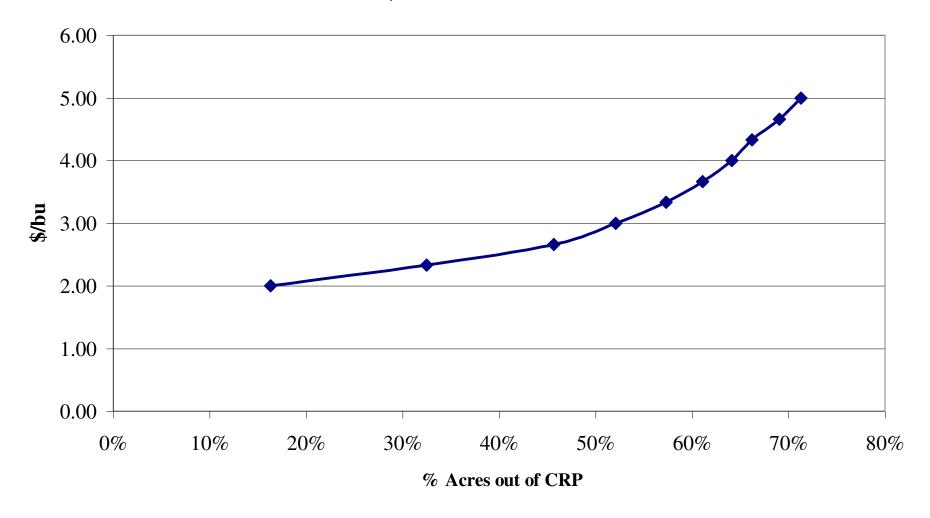
#### Infrastructure

- Greater investment in
  - storage
  - tillage equipment
  - fertilizer import, handling, manufacture
  - biorefineries (at least until 2009)
  - in-state grain transportation
- Less investment in
  - grain export facilities

## **Environmental Impacts**

Less CRP land

## Percentage of Iowa CRP Acres to be Cropped at Different Corn Prices, from a Total of 1.9 Million Acres



## **Environmental Impacts**

- Less CRP land
  - increased soil loss
  - increased nutrient runoff
  - loss of wildlife habitat
- Less conservation tillage as corn on corn acreage increases

### Livestock Industry

- Higher feed costs reduce livestock feeder profits
- Lower profits leads to supply contraction
- Supply contraction leads to higher poultry, egg, hog, milk, and cattle prices

Does this mean hard times for a large lowa industry?

## Impact of the Move from Cheap to Expensive Corn on Beef

- Nebraska steer prices increase by 8.8%
- Retail beef prices increase by 4%

- Beef exports fall by 8%
- Beef Production falls by 1.6%

## Impact of the Move from Cheap to Expensive Corn on Pork

- Hog cost of production increases 18%
- Pork production falls 4.6%
- Retail price of pork rises 4.2%
- Exports fall by 17% from baseline levels

## Impact of the Move from Cheap to Expensive Corn on Broilers

- Wholesale broiler prices increase by 15%
- Retail prices go up by 5%
- Exports fall by 16%
- Domestic consumption falls by 4%
- Production falls by 6%

## Health of the Livestock Industry

- Livestock will be marginally smaller
- lowa impacted more by regulatory environment than by economic environment
- Future health could be enhanced by colocating dairies and beef cattle operations with ethanol plants

## **Economic Activity**

- On the positive side
  - New investments in physical plant and processing capacity
  - High crop prices and expanded crop production
  - More value added
- On the negative side
  - Marginally smaller livestock industry
  - Some negative feedback from environment?