

FARM-TO-FUEL CONNECTION

From the very beginning, the U.S. ethanol industry has had a deep and lasting connection to agriculture. For farmers, ethanol represents more than just another market for their crops; it is an industry that stabilizes demand, supports prices, and creates broader economic opportunities across rural communities. Billions of dollars of investment from local farmers helped build ethanol biorefineries across the country. And today, farmers continue to own dozens of those facilities and share in their profits. In fact, of the 320,000 jobs supported by the ethanol industry in 2025, more than two-thirds were tied to agriculture.

Ethanol's ability to buoy the farm economy has never been more important. In 2025, farmers produced a record-large corn crop of 17 billion bushels and notched a record average yield of 186.5 bushels per acre. The result of that incredible productivity was a grain supply that overwhelmed demand, sending prices, farmland values, and grower profitability to painful lows.

Thankfully, a record amount of corn use for ethanol (5.6 billion bushels) helped boost an otherwise languishing farm economy, reduced volatility for farmers, and kept a floor under prices in 2025.

But to truly restore demand-driven dynamics and bring hope and prosperity back to farm country, leaders in Washington must adopt policies that expand markets for ethanol. That starts with

implementing a strong Renewable Fuel Standard and allowing year-round, nationwide E15. Indeed, a recent study by RFA and the National Corn Growers Association found nationwide adoption of E15 would create new demand for 2.4 billion bushels of corn, **adding \$4 billion** in farm income and supporting 64,000 jobs across the economy.

To be sure, the future success of our nation's farming communities depends on expanding value-added markets for corn and other crops. And the best way to do that is to truly ***unleash the power of American-made ethanol.***

One Kernel, Multiple Products

On average, 1 bushel of corn (56 pounds) processed by a dry mill ethanol biorefinery produces:

 **2.9 GALLONS**
of denatured fuel ethanol

 **14.0 POUNDS**
of distillers grains animal feed (10% moisture)

 **1.0 POUND**
of distillers corn oil

 **16.0 POUNDS**
of captured biogenic carbon dioxide (CO₂)

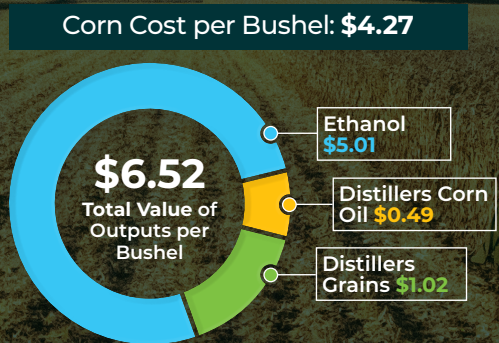
Approximately 30 percent of U.S. dry mills capture CO₂ from fermentation.

Source: RFA based on U.S. Dept. of Agriculture data.

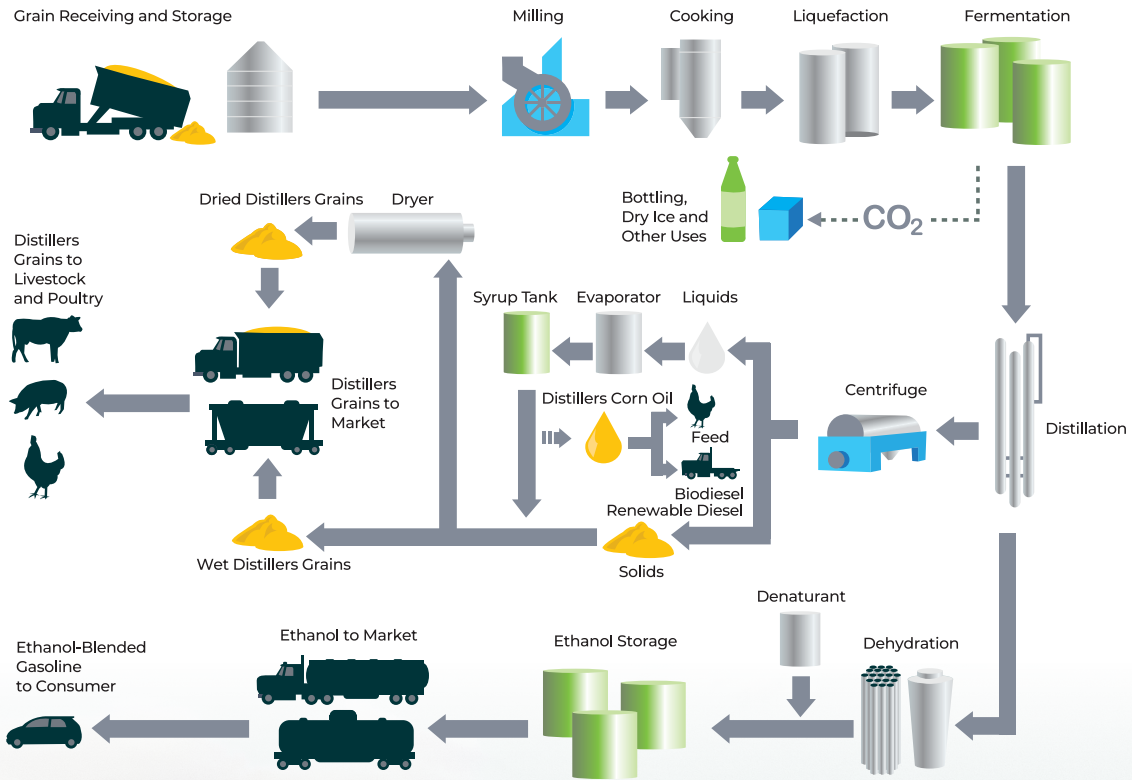
Ethanol Adds Value for Farmers

Based on average prices and product yields in 2025, a typical dry mill ethanol plant generated approximately **\$2.25** of additional value—over **50%**—to every bushel of corn processed.

Source: RFA based on U.S. Dept. of Agriculture data. Estimate based on Jan.-Nov. 2025 price data

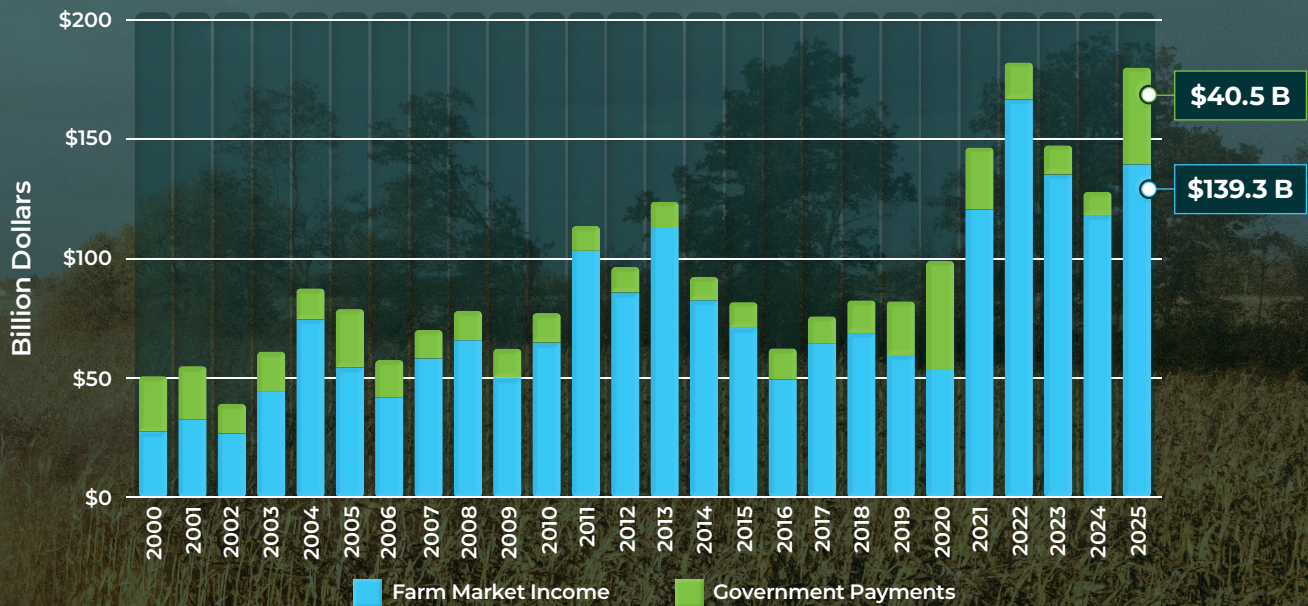


DRY MILL ETHANOL PROCESS



Source: RFA

NET FARM INCOME



Source: RFA, based on U.S. Dept. of Agriculture data