
Renewable fuel prospects

A CSIRO team has prepared a detailed assessment of the potential, over the next 20–40 years, for the production of liquid fuels from products of agriculture and forestry in Australia. It examines the likely sustainable levels of ethanol and methanol production from different plant materials, and the probable costs of the fuels. Raw materials considered include wheat, barley, sorghum, pine trees, eucalypts, sugar cane, and cassava.

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Chemical Technology, Dr Roger Gifford from the Division of Plant Industry, Mr Henry Nix from the Division of Land Use Research, and Mr Jim Siemon from the Division of Mineral Engineering pre-

pared the assessment. They looked at the prospects for fuel production from residues created by current agricultural and forestry activities and from new crops and plantations established specifically as sources of liquid fuels.

Their 150-page report, 'The potential for liquid fuels from agriculture and forestry in Australia', is available from booksellers or by sending a cheque or money order for \$5 to CSIRO Editorial and Publications Service, 9 Queens Road, Melbourne, Vic. 3004.
