

CB2E: Converting Cellulosic Biomass to Ethanol

Introduction, Discussion and Background Information

To the best of your ability, answer these questions individually or in small groups as directed by your teacher. Be prepared to share your answers with the class.

1. What is ethanol?
2. Describe how ethanol is made. Use words, diagrams or chemical equations to illustrate the process in as much detail as possible.
3. If you were to pump gas that contained 10% ethanol into your car, what plant or plant parts were used to make that ethanol?
4. Brainstorm a list of plants and plant parts that can be used to make ethanol.

- From this list, pick one plant or plant part that you think would be the best choice for making ethanol. Explain why.
- What are some of the benefits of using ethanol as fuel for our cars instead of gasoline?
- What are some of the drawbacks?
- Do you think ethanol is a good option to replace gasoline used for transportation? Why or why not?