

Wasting Propane, Wasting Grain, Wasting Nature

The “Tragedy of the Commons” comes to Iowa agriculture. The conspiracy of weather together with corn-crop monoculturing is a costly problem for farmers and nature. Late-maturing corn grain, especially this year, is with high risk of spoilage. The lack of on-farm grain storage and expertise in managing spoilage-prone grain is a serious and repeating economic problem also in terms of wasting propane gas and polluting the environment. Pressure to supply propane gas to dry corn drives up consumer prices, compromises weight and nutritional values of grain, and pumps combustion contaminants into grain and the atmosphere.

There is a well developed and proven technology for “cure-drying” wet and immature corn in storage bins; it preserves seed-life and market values as it uses the free heat of natural air to safely remove moisture from the stored grain as it is cooled to wet-bulb (evaporative cooling) temperatures. <http://wapedia.mobi/en/Chillcuring> “Chillcuring” is an all-electric process of ventilating corn grain with least energy-usage. The invention is now an open technology. <http://www.evolution101.org/RIGHT%20as%20GRAIN.pdf>

Rural Electric Cooperatives are informed in this seed-science technology and are in a position to facilitate farmers and put the *grain chillcuring* technology in immediate use. In the early 1980s the U.S. Department of Agriculture terminated the storage facility loan program that loaned money to farmers to encourage on-farm storage and drying of grain, which put many companies out of business. Land Grant Universities, the County Extension Service and the USDA seem yet to be in the pockets of the propane-gas industry and do not encourage or advance on-farm seed-science grain-care and energy-reduction. This neglect needs correcting. More than ever, farmer interest and the public interest are together at risk.

If “eucharist” is also a natural phenomenon, and it is, then we owe it in conscience not to waste grain, nature and propane. I enjoy no personal benefit from public use of this technology beyond that enjoyed by the public. What is conscionable is “right as grain.”

<http://www.evolution101.org/PRINTBKXa.pdf>

<http://www.secondenlightenment.org/rightasgrain.pdf>

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