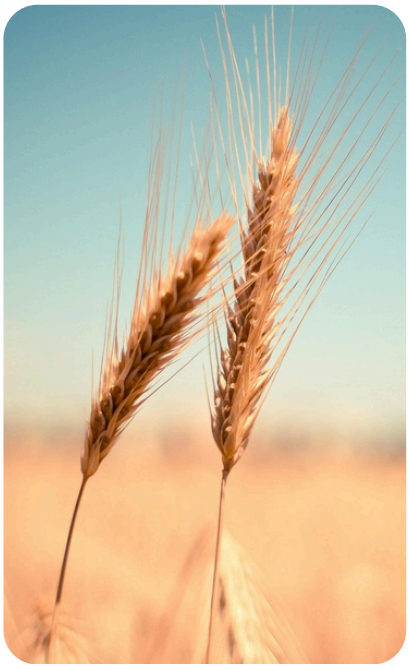
NEWS REVIEW

February 2026

Biofuels

Each month we review the latest news and select key announcements and commentary from across the biofuels sector.

Announcements & Commentary



Research & Development

Providing clients with a strategic view of feedstock, technology, policy and marketing opportunity across the bioeconomy.

FOREWORD

Welcome readers, to this month's Biofuels News Review.

This month's headlines reflect a biofuel sector that is simultaneously wrestling with legislative hurdles and breaking ground on the infrastructure of tomorrow.

In the United States, the regulatory path for biofuels remains a complex battlefield. Following the collapse of the year-round E15 deal, Republican lawmakers have launched the E-15 Rural Domestic Energy Council, a task force to study year-round sales of higher-ethanol E15 gasoline blends. This initiative, set to deliver recommendations by mid-February, addresses refining capacity, blending credits, market access and to recommend legislation by mid-February. Farm groups and Midwest ethanol advocates as well as the Renewable Fuels Association trade group expressed frustration over the delay and called this development a blow to American farmers already facing low prices, uncertain global trade, and obscurity over U.S. biofuels policies.

Complementing this, the U.S. Treasury and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued a proposed rule for the 45Z clean fuel production tax credit, offering up to $1 per gallon tax credit for low-carbon transportation fuels like bioethanol, biodiesel, and sustainable aviation fuel (SAF). The American Renewable Fuels Association have welcomed the guidance, which apparently provides much-needed certainty for producers. Likewise, the American Soybean Association has also welcomed the update and congratulated Treasury for assisting domestic soybean producers. Building on the Inflation Reduction Act and recent amendments, this rule - open for public comment until May - aims to incentivise cleaner fuels, aligning with national goals for energy independence and environmental stewardship.

Here in the UK, US-based LanzaTech plans to invest £600m in a new green fuel plant at Saltend Chemicals Park near Hull, producing SAF and renewable diesel using its carbon-recycling technology, as part of its DRAGON (Decarbonizing and Reimagining Aviation for the Goal Of Netzero) II project. LanzaTech's decision to locate DRAGON II at Saltend is especially significant in a bioethanol context. The plant will use waste carbon dioxide and green hydrogen to produce 50k tonnes of ethanol annually which will be processed at Milford Haven and Saltend to output Power-to-Liquid (PtL) SAF using LanzaTech's gas fermentation technology. DRAGON II is expected to create about 150 long-term jobs and 300 construction roles, contribute roughly 1% of UK jet fuel demand once operational around 2030, and deliver around 80,000 tonnes of SAF as well as 8,000 tonnes of renewable diesel annually. These are news which add hope to the British bioethanol market, following Vivergo Fuels closure in 2025, which had been expected to supply bioethanol feedstock to a now-stalled SAF project at Saltend.

FOREWORD

Brazil's aggressive expansion of second-generation ethanol (E2G) production through Raízen's multi-plant development program demonstrates Brazil's successful bioethanol market with forty years of sugarcane ethanol infrastructure. Four new E2G facilities commissioned across São Paulo state between 2023 and 2025 - each producing approximately 71k tonnes annually from sugarcane bagasse and straw - represent a combined investment surpassing £572 million. Standardised plant designs reduce construction costs and timelines while accelerating Raízen's ambitious target of operating 20 E2G facilities by 2031, yielding approximately 1.4 million tonnes per year.

Read on for the latest news

Policy

US Congress to create ethanol task force after E15 deal falls through

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Republican U.S. lawmakers plan to create a task force to study potential year-round sales of higher-ethanol E15 gasoline blends in the U.S., after an attempt to pass such legislation in a funding bill this week fell through.

Farm groups and Midwest ethanol advocates blasted the decision to form a task force instead of passing legislation, calling it a blow to American farmers already stung by low prices, uncertain global trade, and a lack of clarity over U.S. biofuels policies.

Click here for more information.

Trump revokes landmark ruling that greenhouse gases endanger public health

US President Donald Trump has reversed a key Obama-era scientific ruling that underpins all federal actions on curbing planet-warming gases.
The so-called 2009 "endangerment finding" concluded that a range of greenhouse gases were a threat to public health. It's become the legal bedrock of federal efforts to rein in emissions, especially in vehicles. The White House called the reversal the "largest deregulation in American history", saying it would make cars cheaper, bringing down costs for automakers by $2,400 per vehicle.

Click here for more information.

Growth Energy urges immediate action on E15 policy

Growth Energy, the National Corn Growers Association, and the Renewable Fuels Association (RFA) released a joint statement regarding the lack of progress toward a permanent, legislative fix offering consumers year-round access to E15. After reaching an impasse in January, House leaders agreed to establish an E15 Rural Domestic Energy Council, which was charged with reaching a deal on consensus legislation no later than February 15, 2026. No such deal has been announced.

Click here for more information.

EPA expected to send 2026 biofuel blending quotas to White House this week

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to submit proposed biofuel blending quotas for 2026 to the White House this week for final review, according to two sources familiar with the matter. President Donald Trump's administration is racing to meet a self-imposed deadline to finalize delayed new U.S. biofuel blending mandates by the end of March. The White House typically takes roughly 30 days to review the proposal before it becomes public.

Click here for more information.

Biodiesel

Approved Oil Confirms Renewable Diesel Reliability During One of NYC's Coldest Winters in Over Six Decades

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Approved Oil Company of Brooklyn, Inc. today reported the successful performance of renewable diesel (RD) supplied to New York City agencies throughout one of the most severe winter periods the region has experienced in more than 65 years, including RD-powered operations of the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY).

The update follows Approved's initial announcement several years ago supporting New York City's adoption of renewable diesel as a lower-carbon alternative to ultra-low sulfur diesel (ULSD) under City procurement and climate initiatives. This winter's sustained sub-freezing temperatures provided an unprecedented real-world operational test of RD-powered municipal fleets and equipment at scale.

Despite prolonged cold weather, elevated demand, and challenging logistics conditions, renewable diesel supplied by Approved powered DSNY snow response, collection vehicles, and critical sanitation equipment without interruption, with no weather-related fuel disruptions reported.

Click here for more information.

Buffalo Biodiesel Inc. Submits Part 360 Application to DEC, Completes more than $2 Million in Upgrades to Tonawanda Facility

Buffalo Biodiesel Inc. ("BBD"), a leading recycler of waste vegetable used cooking oil (WVUCO) and producer of renewable feedstocks, announced that they have officially met all criteria and submitted their Part 360 application to the Department of Environmental Conservation ("DEC").

As part of the Part 360 permitting process, BBD originally budgeted $1 million in upgrades to their Tonawanda facility. To date, implemented improvements have exceeded $2 million and are expected to approach $3 million.

Through the course of applying for the permit, BBD hired four engineers, two mechanical and two chemical, and all graduates of the University at Buffalo School of Engineering, with an expectation of hiring an additional six over the coming months in addition to outside consultants as a result of the Part 360 burden.

The announcement comes on the heels of BBD's announcement that they renewed their Part 364 Waste Transporter Permit from the DEC, allowing the company to transport used cooking oil across New York State to be processed at its Tonawanda facility.

Click here for more information.

Cleaner air for Crawley as waste trucks move to HVO fuel

Crawley Borough Council is about to go even greener by replacing diesel in its waste trucks with Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO).
The introduction of HVO can be used in the existing diesel vehicles with no modifications needed, meaning there will be no disruption to waste collections.

HVO burns cleaner than conventional diesel so it cuts harmful exhaust pollutants and will significantly contribute to improving air quality in Crawley. Good air quality can improve health by reducing cases of asthma and other respiratory diseases. It is estimated that 30 to 50 deaths per year in Crawley are caused by poor outside air quality.

HVO is made from waste cooking oils or other vegetable oils and can reduce carbon emissions by up to 90%. For the council, this means a saving of up to 414 tonnes CO2, which is around 10 per cent of its direct carbon footprint.

The council will work with its supplier to make sure the fuel comes from ethical and sustainable sources.

Click here for more information.

Anaergia, Eni and CREvolution launch breakthrough platform to boost biodiesel and SAF demand

Anaergia Inc. through its subsidiary Anaergia S.r.l., has entered into a contract with Circular Renewable Evolution S.r.l. (CREvolution) to supply its proprietary anaerobic digestion technology as part of a €50 million initiative at Eni's Gela biorefinery. The agreement includes approximately C$13 million of Anaergia equipment and systems.

This initiative represents a breakthrough in the sustainable production of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO; Biodiesel, Biojet (Sustainable Aviation Fuel or SAF), Bionafta and BioLPG). These renewable fuels are in exceptionally high global demand, yet few competitors have built scaled, commercially proven solutions. By developing a system designed for replication across global biorefineries, the partnership establishes a clear runway for large-scale rollout in a fast-expanding HVO market.

Click here for more information.

Bioethanol

Brazil expands biofuels industry with new E2G ethanol plants and advanced concrete protection

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Brazil is strengthening its position in renewable energy by expanding second-generation ethanol (E2G) production, with several advanced biofuel plants being developed across the country, biofuels international reported.

These plants convert sugarcane bagasse and agricultural residues into low-carbon ethanol, helping increase fuel production while lowering greenhouse gas emissions and reducing the need for additional land.

As the country expands its E2G infrastructure, ensuring durable and sustainable industrial construction has become a major focus. Ethanol plants operate in challenging conditions, including exposure to organic acids, moisture, and chemical byproducts that can gradually damage conventional concrete structures.

Click here for more information.

NASCAR names POET Official Bioethanol Partner, becomes first major motorsports series to utilize zero-carbon bioethanol

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NASCAR today announced a landmark partnership with POET, the world's largest producer of biofuels, naming the company the Official Bioethanol Partner of NASCAR. As part of the agreement, NASCAR will become the first major motorsports series to utilize zero-carbon bioethanol in combination with its existing fuel partner Sunoco, reinforcing the sport's commitment to innovation, performance and healthy environments in accordance with its NASCAR IMPACT goals. The partnership also delivers two highly visible integrations across NASCAR.

Beginning this season, POET will serve as the sponsor of the "POET Restart Zone" at all NASCAR-owned tracks, bringing the brand into one of the most intense and action-packed moments of each race. Additionally, POET branding will appear on all NASCAR fuel cans, alongside long-time Official NASCAR Fuel Partner Sunoco, further embedding bioethanol into the sport's competitive fabric.

"The partnership with POET reflects our commitment to leverage our platform as a real-world proving ground for innovation," said Eric Nyquist, Chief Impact Officer, NASCAR. "As the world's largest biofuel producer, POET's industry-leading technology will bring zero-carbon bioethanol to our Sunoco race fuel blend, helping to drive performance on and off the track for NASCAR."

Click here for more information.

Maritime Biofuels

Singapore marine fuel sales maintain strong start in early 2026

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Marine fuel sales at the world's largest bunker hub of Singapore posted a strong start to 2026, driven by healthy demand and higher price premiums, based on port data and trade sources.

January 2026 volumes totalled 5.23 million tonnes, up 16.5 per cent year-on-year, though easing from the record monthly highs of 5.51 million tonnes in December, data from the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) showed.

Container throughput at Singapore dipped 0.7 per cent from the prior month to 3.89 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU) in January, while vessel calls for bunkering held firm, climbing 1.5 per cent to 3,778 calls, per MPA data.

Click here for more information.

MOL, China's Largest Fuel Supplier SINOPEC, Marubeni Sign MOU to Establish Long-term Supply System for Marine Biodiesel Fuel

TOKYO-Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. (MOL; President & CEO: Takeshi Hashimoto) today announced that MOL, China's largest fuel supplier SINOPEC Zhejiang Zhoushan Petroleum Co., Ltd. (SINOPEC; Executive Director: Jiang Yongzhuo, Headquarters: Zhoushan

, People's Republic of China), and Marubeni Corporation (President & CEO: Masayuki Omoto, Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo), which holds the top share in the marine fuel sales market for Japanese shipowners in China, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the establishment of a long-term supply system for marine biodiesel fuel.

Click here for more information.

Aviation Fuels

Neste extends relationship with World Fuel Services ensuring the availability of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) at over 100 airports in Europe

Neste and World Fuel Services (World Fuel) have extended their existing relationship with a five-year agreement that will expand the availability of Neste-supplied sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) at more than 100 airports across World Fuel's UK and European network.

The extended agreement helps support World Fuel's ability to secure SAF supply and comply with regulatory requirements, including the ReFuelEU Aviation Regulation and the UK SAF mandate. Through World Fuel's European network, SAF will be available to its commercial, business and general aviation customers, ensuring a reliable supply of SAF for these customers.

The agreement builds on a long-standing collaboration between the two companies, combining World Fuel's established aviation fuel supply distribution and infrastructure capabilities with Neste's established SAF production and supply capabilities. This includes Neste's renewable fuels refinery in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, currently capable of producing up to 500,000 tons of SAF annually.

Click here for more information.

Heathrow boosts 2026 Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) incentive to fly 2% above Government mandate

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Heathrow is stepping up its industry-leading carbon-cutting programme for a fifth consecutive year with an ambitious target to go 2% beyond the UK's 3.6% SAF mandate in 2026. Combined, this would see up to 5.6% of all aviation fuel used at Heathrow to be SAF, equating to around 350,000 tonnes[1], backed by over £80 million of support for airlines in 2026.

SAF, a fuel alternative to traditional fossil-based kerosene, can be made from a variety of sources and can cut lifecycle carbon emissions by 70%[2] on average.

The scheme encourages airlines to switch to SAF by approximately halving the price gap between kerosene and its cleaner alternative, making SAF more commercially viable for airlines. In 2026, the SAF uplifted at Heathrow has the potential to reduce carbon emissions by around 600,000 tonnes, the equivalent of more than 950,000 economy class passengers round trips from Heathrow to JFK

Click here for more information.

Made possible by KLM: construction begins on the Netherlands' first SAF factory

KLM has been investing in cleaner, quieter, and more fuel-efficient flight for years. As a co-founder and shareholder of SkyNRG, KLM has played an active role in the development of the SAF market and this project since its inception in 2009, with the Delfzijl facility announced in 2019. We were the first airline in the world to provide a long-term offtake guarantee, which was instrumental in securing the financing and construction of this plant.
Alongside fleet renewal, SAF is one of the most effective measures for substantially reducing our CO_2 emissions. And while SAF emits a similar amount of CO_2 during flight as conventional fuel, its overall lifecycle CO_2 impact, from production to combustion, is at least 65% lower than that of kerosene.

Click here for more information

US firm plans £600m green fuel plant

A US firm has announced plans to invest £600m to produce sustainable fuel at a site near Hull.

LanzaTech said its DRAGON II project would produce sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and renewable diesel, creating 150 long-term jobs and 300 more during construction at the Saltend Chemicals Park.

Construction work is expected to start in 2027 and the site will be operational in 2030, the company said.

Jim Woodger, the company's managing director for Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Americas, said it selected the Saltend site because it offered "exceptional infrastructure for SAF production".

Click here for more information.

Kent collaborates on Pre-FEED study for Eq.flight demonstration plant

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Kent, a global integrated energy services partner, collaborated with Equilibrion during the successful bid for funding from the UK Department for Transport's Advanced Fuels Fund (AFF). With funding now secured for the Equilibrion and its partners,

Kent is delivering the Pre-Front-End Engineering Design (Pre-FEED) for Eq.flight, an advanced power-to-liquids (PtL) Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) demonstration plant.

Eq.flight aims to demonstrate a UK-based, highly integrated PtL SAF pathway using local electricity and heat inputs providing secure and stable production. While the design represents a nuclear-enabled production route, the demonstration plant will simulate these energy inputs to validate system performance and operational integration ahead of future commercial projects. The project forms a central part of industry efforts to support the PtL sub-target under the UK's SAF Mandate.

Click here for more information.

Research & Development

From bread scraps to sustainable fuel. Unipi's research opens up new prospects for biofuel production

A study conducted at the University of Pisa has come up with an innovative circular economy approach that addresses two of today's most pressing global challenges: the urgent need for an energy transition to renewable sources, and the growing issue of food waste. The research, published in the "Journal of Environmental Chemical Engineering", aims to transform one of the most abundant food wastes in the world — bread waste, at almost one million tonnes per year — into a sustainable biofuel. Funded as part of the PNRR NEST project, the study is the result of a collaboration between the Department of Chemistry and Industrial Chemistry (Professor Anna Maria Raspolli Galletti, Dr Sara Fulignati, and Dr Lorenzo Bonaldi) and the Department of Energy, Systems, Territory and Construction Engineering (Professor Stefano Frigo, Dr Marco Francesconi, and Dr Luca Miglino).

This study addresses the sustainable synthesis of ethyl levulinate from waste bread for the first time. Ethyl levulinate is a high-value compound of biological origin that is already known for its applications in the chemical industry and as an oxygenated additive for fuels. The researchers have developed a simple, economical, and easily transferable industrial-scale process using a low-cost catalyst and diluted sulphuric acid while adopting high initial concentrations of biomass. This approach enables more concentrated product streams, reducing separation costs and enhancing the process's overall efficiency. By optimising parameters such as temperature, reaction time and catalyst quantity, the team achieved a maximum yield of 57% ethyl levulinate, which is a particularly significant result given the waste origin of the raw material.

Click here for more information.

A multi-fold increase in advanced biofuel industrial capacity possible by 2030

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A new report examines how advanced biofuels can contribute to reducing emissions in EU transport as part of the EU's industrial competitiveness and decarbonisation policy.

Advanced biofuels can be sustainably produced domestically, the report concludes, without dependencies for technologies and feedstock. EU-coordinated financial support for capacity development of essential industrial value chains would be necessary. It should cover industrial production development and feedstock supply mobilisation by farmers and feedstock aggregators.

According to the report, achieving EU targets will require a portfolio of complementary solutions for 2030-2040, made up from a diverse mix of technologies. This is needed so that the full range of eligible feedstocks can be used to produce the complete spectrum of necessary fuels.

Click here for more information.

Events

28th - 30th April 2026
Argus Green Marine Fuels Europe Conference
Antwerp, Belgium

CONFERENCE

Click here for more information

5th - 7th May 2026
Global Maritime Decarbonisation 2026
Amsterdam, Netherlands

CONFERENCE

Click here for more information

22nd - 23th September 2026
SAF Global Summit 2026
London, UK

CONFERENCE

Click here for more information

20th - 22nd October 2026
Argus Biofuels Europe
London, UK

CONFERENCE EXHIBITION

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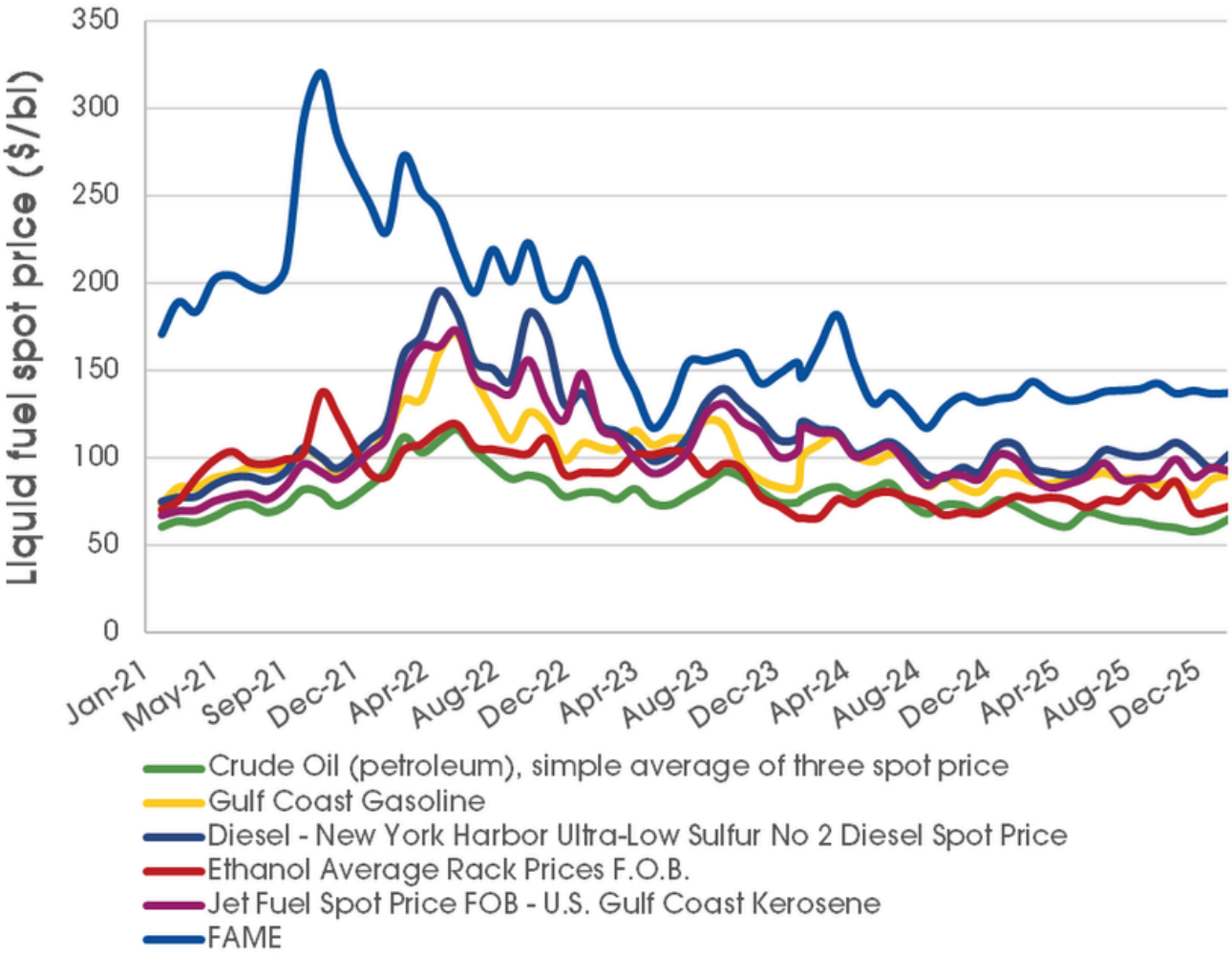
Price Information

Historical spot prices of liquid fossil fuels and liquid biofuels. Five years of pricing up to February 2026 are given in $ per barrel.



Prices of Crude oil, diesel, jet fuel, gasoline and ethanol are recorded from Trading Economics Prices for FAME from Neste (NB: Prices for June to August 2024 and January 2025 to present refer to UCOME only)

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Alder BioInsights is a leading international consultancy with expertise on the conversion of biomass to bioenergy, biofuels and biobased products.

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