

80% of America's farmers can't be wrong



Did you know?

- If you think propane is limited to your backyard grill, your little hand-held torch or the tow motors at a factory — think again.
- Propane is used on **80 percent of the farms in the US**, for three good reasons: Propane is clean-burning, safe, and a reliable and efficient source of energy.
- America's farmers use propane to **battle weeds, manage waste, protect crops** and increasingly, **to fuel** trucks and agricultural vehicles.
- Savings from lower fuel costs and federal incentives mean that running a propane truck can save farmers around \$2,000 a year.
- The farm truck - a staple of farms big and small - **is quickly becoming the newest success story** of propane technology.



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What are we doing?

- Roush Propane Powered Vehicles has worked for the past four years with Ford Motor Company and the government-appointed Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) to develop liquid propane injection systems for a variety of Ford trucks and vans.
- The vehicles are built by Ford and have the **same horsepower, torque and towing ratings** as their gasoline-powered equivalents.
- In addition to vehicle incentives, the Farm Equipment Efficiency Demonstration programme also offers a **\$2,500 incentive** to users of propane-powered irrigation engines, \$2,500 for propane lawn mowers and \$1,000 for tankless water heaters.

What is the result?

- Unlike their gasoline-powered rivals, propane trucks offer a **significant reduction in greenhouse gases** — 24 percent less nitrogen oxide emissions and 60 percent less carbon monoxide emissions.
- Of course, the question on everyone's mind is does it make sense in terms of dollars and cents.
- The Ford F-250 propane-powered truck, a common work truck on many farms, would cost roughly \$10,000 more than a similar, gasoline-powered truck. But, coupled with a \$5,000 alternative fuel tax credit from the U.S. Department of Energy, as well as a cheaper per-gallon price and lower yearly maintenance costs, **the propane-powered truck potentially saves almost \$2,000 a year.**
- That's estimating 20,000 miles are driven annually, at a cost of about \$1.75 per gallon of propane, with an expectancy of 10 miles per gallon.
- As a factory option, the **trucks carry the same Ford warranty** with no apparent downsides to any of the vehicle's operations or performance. **The propane can usually be purchased and stored locally**, and tanks can be installed in the truck bed, or beneath the truck, if the bed space is needed.
- In addition to operating farms, the vehicles are becoming a **popular choice** among farm-related businesses, like seed and fertiliser companies, and anyone else who spends a lot of time on the road, requiring a full-size truck.
- Some people may be concerned about the safety of propane-powered vehicles. But after extensive tests and even a demonstration by the TV programme Mythbusters, not even a 9 mm bullet can pierce the tank. **The actual propane/air mixture will not ignite until heated to about 1,000 degrees.**