

Fossil Fuel Comparison to Corn

AVERAGE PRICES

(PLUG IN YOUR LOCAL COST)

All heat output is measured in terms of BTU's. One BTU is the amount of heat needed to raise one pound of water one degree.

Column 4 gives you a measure of the approximate cost of heat available from each alternative source of fuel.

However, column 5 is the key column, as it incorporates the efficiency of a particular unit, to ensure the effective cost of that energy for heating your home. **Typically, it takes 30 to 40 pounds of corn per day to heat a 1500 square foot home.**

This means that you can heat your home for an average of \$1.64 per day.

It is important to realize that, even within a state, average energy or fuel prices can vary widely. So, to determine the specific cost comparisons in a particular region or country just change the price structure in Column 3, to determine the resulting costs on Column 4 and 5. Similarly, different efficiency levels can be substituted in Column 5 to allow flexibility here to test various heating units.

*Prices may vary according to location	1 BTU VALUE PER UNIT	2 UNITS REQUIRED TO PRODUCE 1,000,000 BTU'S	3 FUEL PRICE/UNIT (Approximate)	4 TOTAL COST TO PRODUCE 1,000,000 BTU'S	5 EFFECTIVE COST TO PRODUCE 1,000,000 BTU'S
DRY SHELLLED CORN	8,500/pound	118/Lb = 2 bu	\$1.75/bushel	\$3.50	@ 85% efficiency = \$4.12 - \$5.41 - \$8.05
	7,500/pound	133/Lb=2.4 bu	\$2.30/bushel \$2.85/bushel	\$4.60 \$6.84	
ELECTRICITY	3,413/KWH	293/KWH	9 cents/KWH 5 cents/KWH	\$26.37 \$14.65	@ 100% efficiency = \$26.37 & \$14.65
NATURAL GAS	1,000/cubic ft	1,030 cubic feet	\$2.00/ 100cf \$1.00/ 100cf	\$20.60 \$10.30	@ 85% efficiency = \$24.25 & \$12.10
FUEL OIL	139,000/gallon	7.1 gallons	\$2.25/gallon \$1.15/gallon	\$16.00 \$ 8.17	@ 80% efficiency = \$18.80 & \$9.60
LP GAS	91,690/gallon	11 gallons	\$1.85/gallon \$.65/gallon	\$20.35 \$ 7.15	@ 80% efficiency = \$25.44 & \$ 8.94
WOOD	16,464,000/cord	.0607 cords	\$185.00/ cord \$100.00/ cord	\$11.23 \$ 6.07	@ 75% efficiency = \$15.00 & \$ 8.00
WOOD PELLETS	8,000/pound	125 pounds .06 tons	\$185/ton \$145/ton	\$11.56 \$ 8.70	@ 87% efficiency = \$13.29 & 10.00

Corn Comparison

Now let's compare corn to other fuel sources.

An average home will burn 85 to 150 bushels of corn a season, depending on the temperature.

1 BUSHEL OF SHELLLED CORN = 5 GALLONS OF LP GAS

1 BUSHEL OF SHELLLED CORN = 3.5 GALLONS OF FUEL OIL

1 BUSHEL OF SHELLLED CORN = 140 KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY

1 BUSHEL OF SHELLLED CORN = 4.75 C.C.F. OF NATURAL GAS