

# Questions & Answers

## Environmental benefits (%)

	BD100*	BD20†
Smoke	-75	-24
Particulate matter	-74	-24
Hydrocarbons	-44	-11
Carbon Dioxide	-3	-0.6
Carbon Monoxide	-38	-9
Oxides of Nitrogen	13	2.5
Fuel Consumption†	7	1
Power (at 80kph)‡	-9	-2

Source: NSW Roads and Traffic Authority.

\* 100 per cent biodiesel sourced from vegetable oils.

† 20 per cent biodiesel/80 per cent standard diesel fuel.

‡ a 60/40 blend of tallow/canola based biodiesel delivers the same power and fuel consumption as petroleum diesel (Source: ABG Independent Technology Review).

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biodiesel doesn't cost the earth

## Can biodiesel affect my diesel engine?

No, biodiesel can be used in most modern diesel engines with no modification to the engine or fuel system and can be blended in any mix with regular petro-diesel.

## What are the advantages to vehicles?

Biodiesel has many superior properties to petro-diesel fuel and has been demonstrated to enhance engine life through its lubricating qualities and cleaning properties.

## What are the environmental benefits?

Biodiesel is a fully 'renewable' or 'green' energy source. The two primary environmental benefits of biodiesel use are a reduction in carbon monoxide emissions by up to 50 per cent and total hydrocarbons by up to 60 per cent when compared to fossil fuel.

Biodiesel is also non-toxic to animal or marine life, since it biodegrades to sugars and starches within three weeks of an accidental spill.

## Is biodiesel safe?

Biodiesel is 10 times less toxic than table salt, is highly biodegradable, has a low vapour pressure, low odour, a much higher flash point than petro-diesel and is easily and safely stored.

## Is biodiesel cost competitive?

High and rising oil prices make biodiesel more competitive, especially with no excise tax in Australia, Europe, the United States and certain Canadian provinces.

## What are the economic benefits?

Biodiesel promotes growth in rural economies through its use of agricultural products and reduces the world's dependence on imported fossil fuel.

## Do I need special storage facilities?

The standard storage and handling procedures used for petro-diesel can be used for biodiesel. Older equipment may require certain additional maintenance as biodiesel is an excellent cleaning agent and solvent.

## Who blends the fuel and how is it done?

Diesel users can mix the fuel themselves or have their suppliers obtain biodiesel and blend it before delivery. It blends easily, stays mixed and requires no special handling.

## Has biodiesel been thoroughly tested?

Biodiesel has been successfully tested by government agencies, university researchers and private industry in the United States, Canada and Europe. Many transit authorities within these same countries have conducted extensive tests as well.

Finally, the biodiesel industry also has commissioned more than 40 independent studies to research benefits ranging from improved lubricity to biodegradability.