## Trade head to investigate ethanol 'loophole' charge

WASHINGTON - Responding swiftly to charges leveled by Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa), and backed by seven other midwest Senators, United States Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter has convened an investigation to determine whether foreign ethanol producers are exploiting U.S. trade laws.

Current law levies a 60-cent-pergallon import duty on all ethanol shipped to the U.S. A loophole, however, allows foreign producers to mix ethanol with a small percentage of some other chemical. thus permitting the fuel to enter this country duty-free.

Grassley had written Yeutter February 3rd, claiming Brazil was preparing some 200 million gallons of duty-free benzene-ethanol for import to this country. "Emergency action must be taken," he said, "if we are to prevent this blatant exploitation of U.S. trade law." Backing him up were farm state Senators Dole (R-Kansas), Zorinsky (D-Neb.), Boshwitz (R-Minn.), Abdnor (R-S.Dak.), Exon (D-Neb.), Durenburger (R-Minn.), Dixon (D-Ill.), and Lugar (R-Ind.).

Yeutter's call for an investigation today, Grassley said, "is just what the doctor ordered." The review process should take about five weeks, which means from a practical standpoint, little benzene-ethanol will be shipped to the U.S. until Brazil can be sure what action will be taken. "By that time," he said, "I am confident the loophole will be closed.'

This is not the first time Grassley has successfully led such Breeders for above average production. From left, Robert an effort. Brazil and other ethanol- Smyser of Smysers Richlawn Farm, York; B. Robert Charles, sought to circumvent import fees Dover; and Paul R. King, Delta. Also honored but missing by mixing ethanol with small from photo were: James and Holly McCaffree, Delta; Sinking

percentages of other duty-free chemicals

Last fall the Brazilians sought to import as much as 600 million gallons of ethanol mixed with toulene. Grassley, in turn, forged Senate passage of an amendment ensuring toulene-ethanol could not escape the 60-cent duty.

Though his provision failed to gain the full support of Congress, its success in the Senate caused enough uncertainty and confusion in Brazil that much of the touleneethanol never made it to the U.S before the Trade Commission placed a duty on it. As a result of his role in stalling those imports, which saved corn-farmers millions

York dairymen honored

York County dairymen were recently honored by Atlantic

Springs Farm, York: and Wayne B. Mummert, East Berlin.

of dollars, Grassley was later chosen by the ethanol industry as 'Ethanol Man of the Year.'

Pleased with today's announcement by Yuetter, Grassley said that "once again, quick action nas protected tarmers and the U S ethanol industry from the slick attorneys hatching these import schemes

"Yeutter's 'take-charge' attitude is essential if we are to

prevent exploitation and violation production is concerned, industry of U.S trade law," he added "Where domestic ethanol

leaders and corn-farmers deserve nothing less

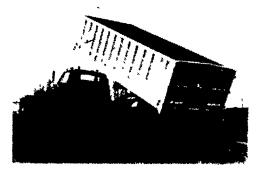


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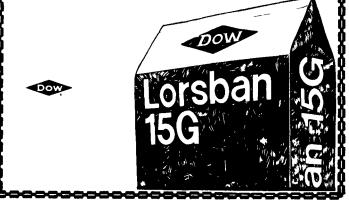
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