

# **Ecological Footprint of Row Crop Production in Iowa. (A08-kelly105911-Poster)**

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## **Abstract:**

Agricultural productivity is generally expressed as biomass production per unit of land area (acres, hectares). This method of analysis does not fully reflect the energy intensity or natural resource requirements of current row crop production systems. Externalization of these energy and resource requirements results in inflated productivity measurements. Ecological Footprint accounting calculates the land area appropriated to support a given system beyond the land directly occupied by the system. Corn and soybean production in Iowa is analyzed at a state level as an example of applying Ecological Footprint accounting to agricultural systems.

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## **Presentation Information:**

Presentation Date: Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Presentation Time: 1:30-3:30 pm

Poster Board Number: 436

## **Keywords:**

embodied energy, carry capacity, sustainable agriculture