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Bioenergy conference set for Aug. 11 in Tifton, Ga.

By Brad Haire

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No single renewable energy source, such as biofuel, solar or wind, will break the United States' fossil-fuel habits. But industry experts, scientists and policymakers will discuss how all three combined could at the 2009 Southeast Bioenergy Conference August 11-13 in Tifton, Ga.

Keynote speaker and world-renowned engineer and author Robert Zubrin will discuss his plan to break the decades-long economic grip foreign oil has had on the U.S. economy. He outlines his plan in his newest book "Energy Victory." Speaker Jack Boykin of Cello Energy will discuss his new biofuel process.

Other topics for the fourth annual conference include terrorism, new batteries, vehicles and farm equipment, conservation strategy, finance, job growth and Southeast bioenergy development.

Several entrepreneurs will host a workshop on August 13 to demonstrate how to make ethanol and biodiesel on the farm.

As part of the outdoor trade show, Tesla and Gaia Transport will display the cutting-edge renewable energy vehicles they entered in the prestigious X Prize competition.

"I believe that now is the most exciting and profitable time to take advantage of renewable energies, and the Southeast Bioenergy Conference is one of the most comprehensive and affordable ways to learn how," said Craig Kvien, a professor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and conference organizer.

Registration is \$175 before July 31, and \$225 after. College students get in free. For more information, go to the Web site [www.sebioenergy.org](http://www.sebioenergy.org). Or, call (229) 386-7274.

(Brad Haire is a news editor with the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences.)