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## Five Essentials To Know Before Storing Biodiesel

You say this doesn't apply to you b/c you don't have biodiesel, only regular diesel? You might be in for a surprise. Read on and find out the 5 essential things you need to know in order to make your biodiesel fuel storage a success and not a failure.

### What's the real percentage of bio in your diesel fuel?

All diesel fuel can have up to 5% biodiesel content and yet not be labelled. And it's possible yours might have more.

### What's your biodiesel made out of?

Biodiesel can be made out of virtually any kind of fat or oil. Not everyone who uses it can control what feedstock it's made out of. Producers have to take what they can get, whether it's bio made from corn or soy or even chicken fat. It's important to know what your biodiesel is made out of, as different "feedstocks" can produce biodiesel fuels with markedly different abilities to stay stable over time and to resist excessive gelling in cold weather.



### How good is your housekeeping?

Good housekeeping procedures – checking your tanks for microbes and water and corrosion – they're important for anyone who has a storage tank. It's even more important if you have a biodiesel blend, because water and microbes affect biodiesel to an even great extent than conventional petroleum fuels. So if you're planning to store biodiesel fuel, it's in your best interests to take stock of your ability to stay on top of these problems.

### How long do you plan to store it?

Because biodiesel is more prone to attack by microbes and water, it has a shorter storage life. Industry experts recommend not exceeding six months in storage life, which make it fine for regular use but less so as an emergency backup fuel. There are chemical treatments like bio-specific stabilizers and cold flow treatments that can help with this. But you need to know what your storage plans are.

### Biodiesel fuel is really good at absorbing water

Water is the enemy of fuel, but unfortunately, biodiesel seems to love it. Those who store biodiesel need to be extra vigilant to watch water levels in the tank to make sure potential problems like microbial growth don't become an issue.



### Want to know more? You're in luck.

Check out these helpful video summaries of important things to keep in mind when storing fuels.

Keeping Fuel Healthy In Storage: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MC5uVeuEb0g>

Stored Diesel Fuel Overview: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfErM6P8s1U>

Watch This If You Store Biodiesel Blends: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RBE6KVnaRE8>