

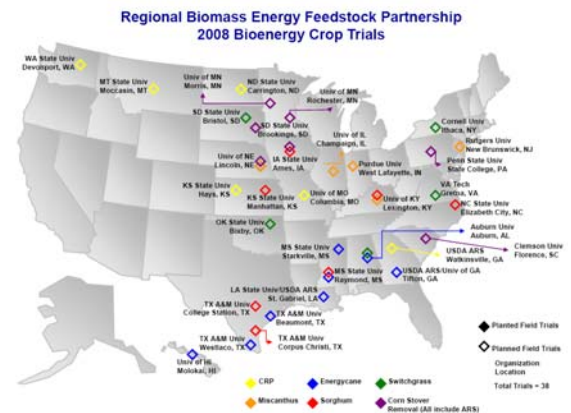
## Biomass Program Outreach and Communication

### The Bioenergy Feedstock Information Network (BFIN)

About ten years ago ORNL launched BFIN providing a gateway to a wealth of biomass feedstock information resources from the U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Idaho National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and other research organizations. The BFIN is a resource for multiple of educational tools such as reports, publications, fact sheets, economic data, and presentations on feedstock, analysis models and extensive feedstock databases readily available to the public at the BFIN website: <http://bioenergy.ornl.gov/main.aspx>. BFIN is also a resource for and about the Regional Partnerships/ Sun Grant Initiative (below). The website is constantly being improved with new and updated information from many sources and is maintained by ORNL.

### Regional partnership workshops

The Regional Biomass Energy Feedstock Partnership is comprised of five regions including the Sun Grant Initiative universities, together with DOE and USDA and private and industry stakeholders formed with the goal of annually producing biomass feedstock aimed for cost-competitive production of biomass ethanol in an economically feasible and environmentally sustainable manner. ORNL in conjunction with DOE OBP coordinates regional and national workshops that independently determined the biomass feedstocks available within a region and identified research gaps and other barriers to development of diverse variety of feedstocks. One outcome is the current bioenergy crop trials underway (see map). These workshops are a critical step toward establishing biorefineries that will process a variety of materials into fuels, power, and products.



### Visualizing Energy Resources Dynamically on Earth (VERDE)

ORNL has developed a national visualization capability, VERDE (Visualizing Energy Resources Dynamically on Earth), to provide real time -wide-area situational awareness of the status of the electric grid for DOE and electric utilities. For a compelling visual display that humans can grasp intuitively, VERDE ingests and presents information creatively on the Google Earth platform displaying multi-layered information dynamically and in four-dimensions (including the temporal dimension). VERDE concept is being modified and will be made applicable to biomass feedstock and biofuels flow infrastructure applicable to DOE and biorefinery planning for both initial sites and on-going materials flow as this new industry grows and weathers disruptions and shifting demands.

#### *Point of Contact:*

Mark Downing and Budhendra Bhaduri, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, P.O. Box 2008  
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6121