

# *USDA Update on Advancing Biomass Projects*

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*Todd Campbell*  
*USDA Rural Development*

**Biomass TAC Q4 Meeting**  
*Nov. 12, 2012*



# USDA Biomass Updates

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- Farm Bill
- Farm Bill Section 9000's Update
  - Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)
  - Biomass Crop Assistance Program/  
Biorefinery Assistance Program
  - Biomass Research and Development Initiative
  - Bioprefered Program
- Energy Website 2.0
- Sixth Regional Biofuels System Award

# Expiration of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008

"Many programs...were authorized under the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 ("2008 Farm Bill") through September 30, 2012. These include a great number of critical programs impacting millions of Americans, including programs for farm commodity and price support, conservation, **research**, nutrition, food safety, and agricultural trade. As of today, USDA's authority or funding to deliver many of these programs has expired, leaving USDA with far fewer tools to help strengthen American agriculture and grow a rural economy that supports 1 in 12 American jobs."

**-Tom Vilsack, October 1**



# Rural Energy for America Program

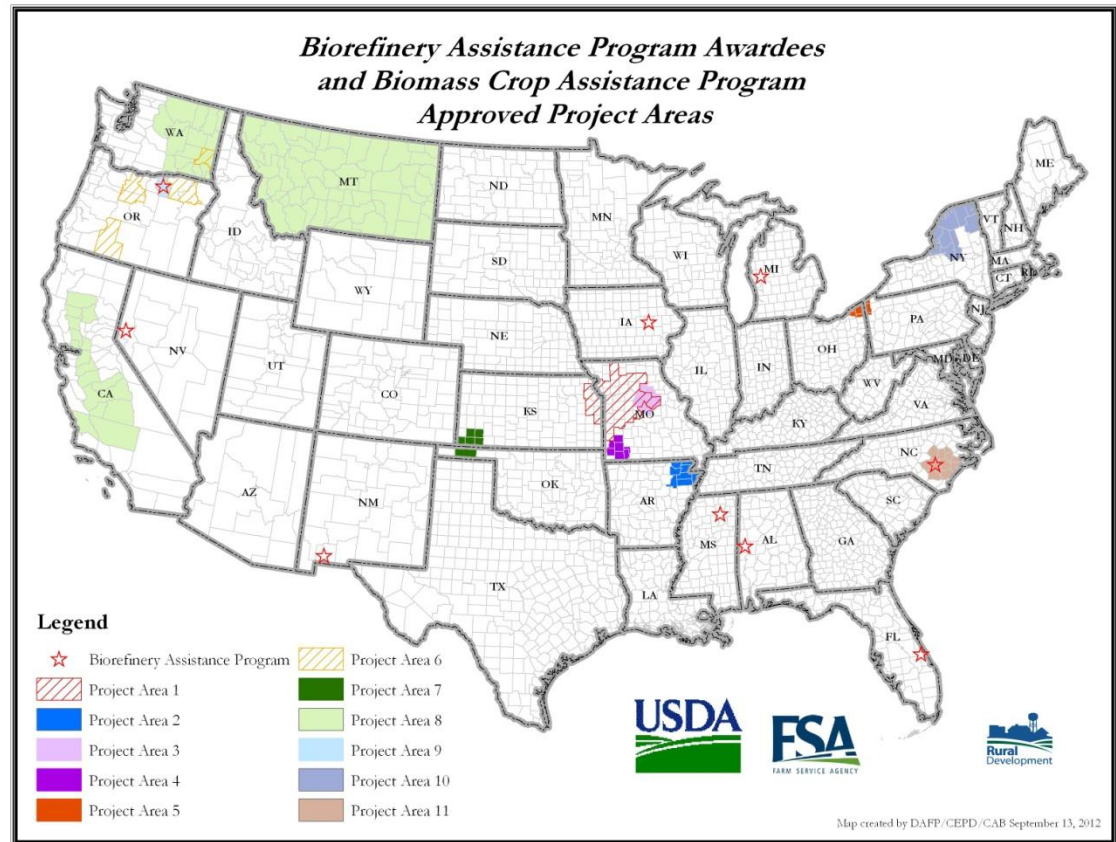
- 14 additional biomass projects awarded in Oct.
- 35 total biomass projects for FY2012
  - \$7.13M Guaranteed Loans
  - \$2.2M in Grants
  - 65% budget reduction in 2012



# Biorefinery Assistance Program

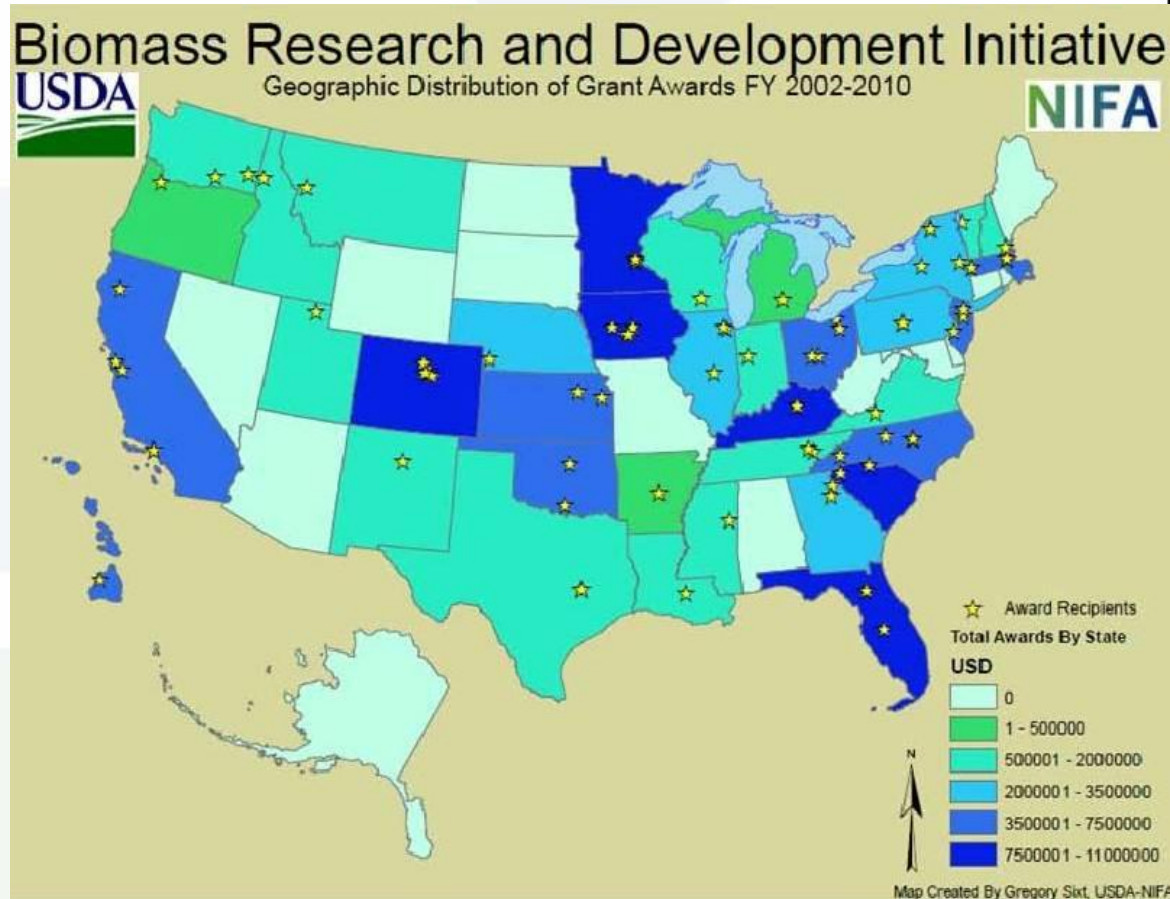
## Biomass Crop Assistance Program

- Biorefinery Assistance Program
  - 9 Active Projects
  - \$771M Guar. Loan
  - 135.3 MMG/year,
  - 14+ MW power
- Biomass Crop Assistance Program
  - 11 Approved Project Areas, 188 counties,
  - ~60,000 acres
- Reauthorization required for programs continuation



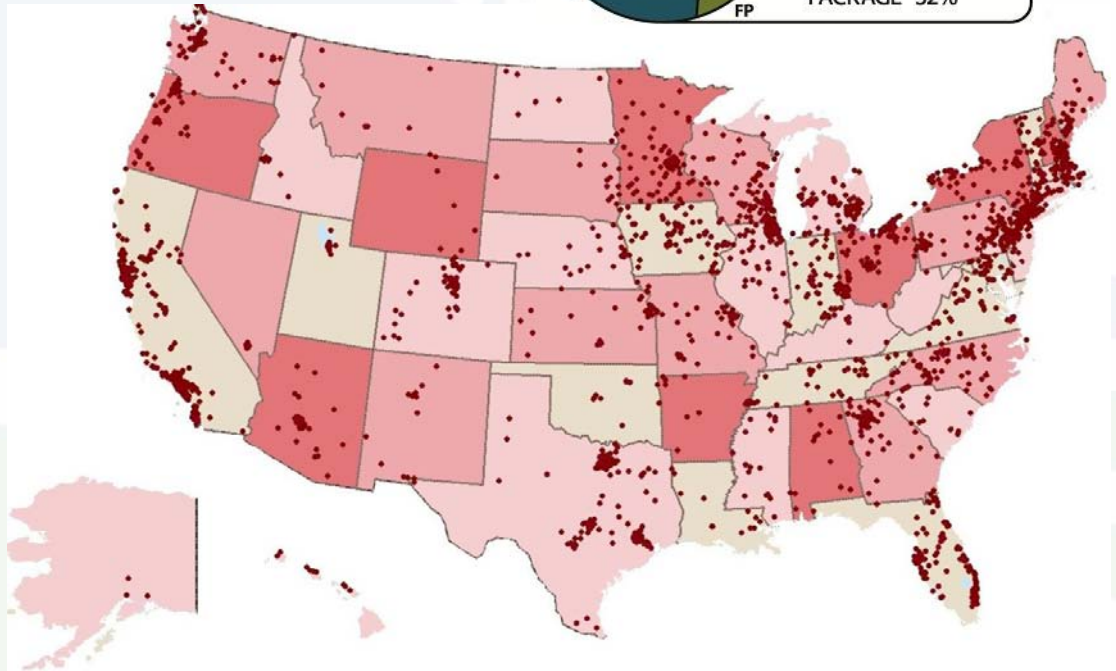
# 2012 Biomass Research and Development Initiative Grant Program

- **Quad County Corn Cooperative**  
\$4.25 M- cellulosic ethanol
- **ARS National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research**  
\$7 M- oilseed for renewable diesel and jet fuel in western U.S.
- **Cooper Tire & Rubber Co** \$6.85M- rubber-producing shrub southwest for biobased tires, jet fuel
- **University of Wisconsin** \$7 M- closed-loop systems on dairy farms for cellulosic ethanol, oilseed
- **University of Hawaii** \$6M- optimize production of grasses in Hawaii for renewable jet and diesel
- **Program needs reauthorization**



# BioPreferred- Biobased Product Marketing

- To fully implement, program needs reauthorization
- The 800 'USDA Certified Biobased Products' as of Oct. 1, 2012 are still valid
- BioPreferred Questions answered at our FAQ <http://www.biopreferred.gov/FAQ.aspx>



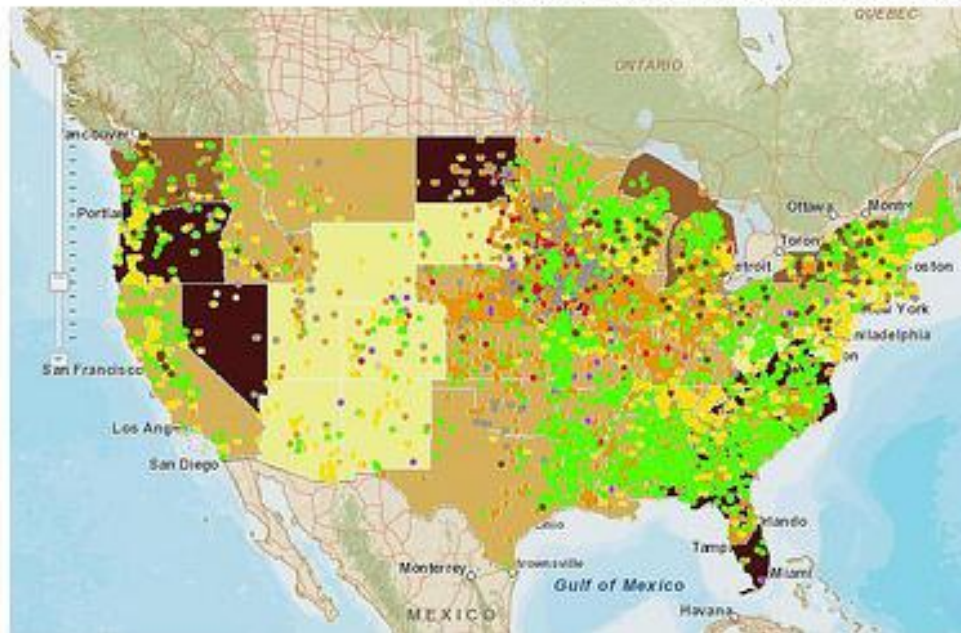
# Enhanced USDA Energy Website 2.0

## [www.usda.gov/energy](http://www.usda.gov/energy)

### Map Legend/Data Layers

- Anaerobic
- Hydroelectric
- Solar
- Hydrogen
- Biomass
- Wind
- Geothermal
- Other
- Energy Efficiency
- Total Investments by State (in millions of Dollars)
  - <= 10
  - 11 - 50
  - 51 - 100
  - 101 - 450
- Investment Totals by Congressional District (in millions of Dollars)

### Energy Investments Map



- Updated Investment Data
- Enhanced user operation, easy access links to a number of tools available across USDA agencies
- Additional data use tools for print screen reports, exporting formats



# Enhanced USDA Energy Website 2.0

## [www.usda.gov/energy](http://www.usda.gov/energy)

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- **Next year's enhancements for the mapping feature of the Renewable Energy Tool will include additional data and information, beyond transportation, such as:**
  - Land use for producing biomass and energy crops
  - Cost to produce alternative crops
  - Competition for biomass
  - Fueling stations
  - State and Federal policy
  - USDA guidelines for financial assistance
  - State and Federal office locations for agriculture, energy, environmental protection, and conservation

# USDA Sixth Regional Biofuels System

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- Five-year research grant valued at roughly \$10 million to develop biomass supply chains for the production of liquid transportation and aviation biofuels in the Northeast
- Sixth such award made through USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), aimed at developing regional, renewable energy markets, generating rural jobs, and decreasing America's dependence on foreign oil.
- Consortium will focus on the non-food biomass sources of willow, miscanthus and switchgrass, which can be grown on former strip mines and marginal floodplains

# USDA Sixth Regional Biofuels System

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- Team Lead by Dr. Richard from Penn State and include more than 20 University and Industry Partners will
  - address crop genetic development, harvesting, storage and processing techniques and sustainable production systems
  - develop sustainable production practices to improve yield by 25 percent and reduce costs by 20 percent
  - enable private-sector partners to produce advanced ready-to-use liquid transportation and aviation biofuels
  - provide business support to generate at least 100 supply contracts and support more than 50 new supply chain businesses to harvest, transport and preprocess biomass

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*Thank you!*

*For more information on USDA Energy Programs, visit: [www.usda.gov/energy](http://www.usda.gov/energy)*



Committed to the future of rural communities.