



## **SFRP Mission**

- "To foster collaborative relationships that provide new and revised research knowledge to enable the southeast to remain competitive in the global forestry market while enhancing the forest landscape and assuring that this natural resource will be sustained indefinitely."



## **SFRP Vision**

 The South's forests will be healthy working forests that provide societal benefits, ecosystem services, and products, both traditional and new.



## **SFRP Objectives**

- Provide a structure to respond to and address regional, landscape scale, forest resources issues
- Assemble best available team of scientists and TT specialists to address topical issues irrespective of political and organizational boundaries and structures
- Expand fiscal support for southern forest resources research and technology transfer (grants and contracts)



# **SFRP Operation**

- ◆ 501 (c)(3) with Elected Officers
- Director
- Board & Executive Committee
- Development Committee
- Science Committee



# SFRP's Current Research / TT Priorities

- Carbon Management
- Water Quality and Yield
- Southern Forest Resources
   Economics --- Includes Tourism
- Biomass / Biofuels
- Biodiversity



## Carbon Activities

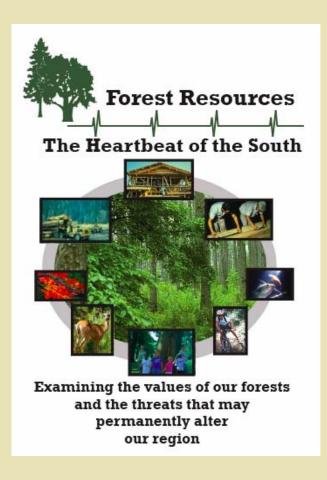
**Carbon Conference:** 

Critical Processes and Properties
Regulating Carbon Cycling in Southern
Forests

May 31 – June 2, 2006 Asheville, NC



# Economic Development Overtures



- Southern Governor's Association
- Southern Growth
   Policies Board
- Southern Economic
   Development Council
- Southern Center for Rural Development



# Biodiversity

- USDA Biodiversity (Weedy Invasive Species) --- <u>A FINALIST --- 2006</u>
  - Potential award \$500,000



# Biomass: Issues and Opportunities Facing the South

- The South provides 60% of the US timber supply
- Many rural communities are:
  - Richly endowed with forest resources
  - Heavily dependent on forestry
  - Socially and economically disadvantaged
- Recent setbacks in pulpwood markets
- Urgent need to diversify utilization of forest resources
- Potentially large resource of underutilized biomass
  - Small diameter, dense stands
  - Stands posing high fire risk
  - Harvest residues
  - Manufacturing residues
- Bioenergy and biobased products are:
  - Timely and viable option



# The Big Change: The Forest Biorefinery

- Consists of three parts:
  - 1. Sustainable Forest Productivity
  - 2. Extracting Value Prior to Pulping
  - 3. New Value Streams from Residuals and Spent Pulping Liquors
- Traditional tree growing, liberation of fibers, and recovery boilers become old technology
- Replaced by the extracting of fiber, fuel, chemicals, and power streams valued by society and the marketplace
- Evolves chemical pulp mills into forest biorefineries— preserving infrastructure, jobs, and supply chains



# The Big Change: The Forest Biorefinery (continued)

- Provides outlets for millions of tons of currently unusable forest biomass
- Helps reduce fuel loading and improves forest health and conditions
- Reduces dependency on foreign oil
- Sustainable supply of feedstocks for the production of energy and materials



# SFRP: Forest Biomass Training Grant

- \$1 million grant
- 4 phases
  - Encyclopedia: review and synthesize
     literature publish synthesized material in
     Forest Encyclopedia Network
  - Training Material (fact sheets, power points, etc. and web based learning center)
  - Conduct Train-the-Trainer Programs
  - Support and fund "end user training"



### The Process

- Forest Encyclopedia Content Development
  - Literature Review and Synthesis, Content
     Development (Synthesized material), Peer Review,
     Final Edit, Publish, Update
- Product Development
  - Content Development (Fact Sheets, Power Points),
     Peer Review, Final Edit, Publish, Update
- Delivery
- Evaluation



## The Principals

- ◆ Phase 1: TX A&M Univ.; Univ. GA; U.S. Forest Service – So. Station; So. Regional Extension Forester
- Phase 2: TX A&M; UGA, UT, SREF
- Phase 3: TX A&M; UGA, UT, SREF, USFS
- Phase 4: So. Universities; So. State Foresters;
   SREF; USFS; State Forestry Assoc.; Logger Assoc.; NRCS; RDA; etc.



#### The Audiences

- Materials targeted to:
  - State forestry, wildlife and fishery persons;
     consulting and industry foresters and biologists,
     timber harvesters, etc.
  - Community & economic development professionals
  - Energy, Transportation, Petroleum Persons, and
  - Forest landowners.
- Materials delivered through: Educators –
   conventional processes and distance learning:
  - University Extension, State and Federal Agencies,
     NGO Community, etc.



www.forestencyclopedia.net

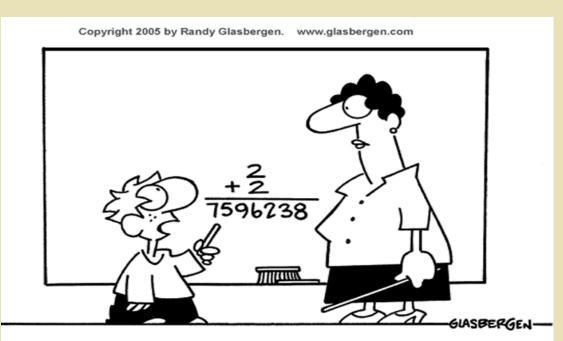
The Biomass Forest
Encyclopedia Network (FEN):
Product Development and
Delivery

Real Time Scientific Knowledge for Forest Practitioners

Southern Regional Extension Forestry



# A new approach to an old problem:



"In an increasingly complex world, sometimes old questions require new answers."



## Forest Encyclopedia





## Forest Encyclopedia Materials

- 229 Pages of Material
- 280 Images
- 416 Citations



















A TRAINING PROGRAM PRODUCED BY



SOUTHERN FOREST RESEARCH PARTNERSHII

FEBRUARY 2007



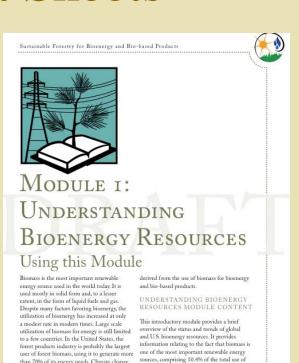
# Biomass Curriculum – Training Notebook

- Table of Contents
- History of the Project
- Module Topics
- Using the Encyclopedia of Southern Bioenergy
- Introduction to the National Web Based Learning Center for Forest Owners



### Module 1 Fact Sheets

- What is Biomass?
- Global Utilization of **Biomass**
- Benefits of Biomass Utilization



than 70% of its energy needs. Climate change,

forest health, wildfires, rural development, and

energy security are problems facing the United

States today. The increased utilization of forest

biomass can help solve these problems. Energy,

renewable energy globally. It outlines the uses

made from this biomass in both developed and

developing countries. In addition, this section

of woody biomass and the energy products



### Module 2 Fact Sheets

- Woody Biomass and the Southern United States
- Availability of Woody Biomass in the South
- Sungrant Fact Sheets

Sustainable Forestry for Bioenergy and Bio-based Products



#### Fact Sheet 2.1: Woody Bioenergy and the Southern United States



Figure 2.1.1 Forest causer in the United States

#### INTRODUCTION

Forests are among the South's most abundant resources. Over 214 million acres of forest land cover the region (Figure 2.1.1). Approximately 69% of the forest land is owned by non-industrial private forest landowners. These forest ecosystems provide a variety of resources including wildlife habitat, watershed protection, recreational areas, and timber production. Over 60% of the U.S. wood supply is found in the South along with over 1/3 of the wood products jobs in the U.S.

#### NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The influence of forest resources is most noticeable in the rural South. Over 60% of the counties and parishes in the South are considered rural. Even though the urban population is growing, more than one-quarter of the population still lives in rural areas. These rural communities tend to have economies dominated by forest industry. Recent

downturns in pulpwood markets, resulting in mill closures, job losses, and decreased wood products markets, have negatively impacted many of these rural communities. As a result, these communities want to develop alternatives to traditional wood products based economies. With the abundant forest resource, it is only natural that individuals and communities are seeking alternative sources of income from the

According to the Energy Information
Administration, the thirteen southern states
consumed over 39 quadrillion Brus of energy
in 2001. With the forecasted population
increase, the amount of energy consumed
will also increase exponentially. Total energy
consumption is expected to increase at a rate
of 1.1% per year until the year 2030. Fuel
consumption is forecasted to increase by 43%.
Fuel use for fight-duty vehicles, including
most passenger vehicles, will increase by 42
%. Current energy and fuel sources will be
unable to keep pace with the increased demand.
Therefore, alternative energy and fuel sources
need to be explored and utilized.

The forest can provide a renewable natural energy source, while continuing to provide traditional wood products. If the trees and sawmill residues in the South now being used to produce wood pulp were instead converted to ethanol, approximately 6.5 billion gallons of transportation fuel would be added to the nation's supply of transportation fuel.

Authors: Chyrel Mayfield Texas A&M University • C. D. Foster Texas A&M University





### Module 3 Fact Sheets

- Forest Mgmt. for Bioenergy Products
- Bioenergy
   Production Among
   Common Southern
   Forest Types
- Bioenergy Production in Planted Pine Forests



 $Module \ 3: \ Bioenergy \ Production \ from \ the \ Southern \ Forest:: Fact \ Sheet \ 3.3$ 

#### Fact Sheet 3.3: Bioenergy Production in Planted Pine Forests

INTRODUCTION

Pine plantations are rapidly becoming a common sight in the South-For several decades the number of planted pine acres has steadily increased and are expected to account for approximately 25% of the Southern acreage by 2040. This increase in acreage has been primarily propelled by the demand for fiber for various forest products. Sawrimber and vener quality trees are the most valuable products of these forests. However thinnings in the developmental ranges of a plantation are necessary. With pulpwood markets decreasing across the South, it is important that another market be developed for owners of pine plantation. The creation of a bisenergy market would provide an outlet for wood being displaced through the loss of pulp markets.



Highly productive bioenergy systems involve intensive management and many of these plantations are already part of an intensive management system, so harvesting for bioenergy can easily be integrated into the management operations. The most significant proportunities are associated with residue harvesting following clearcutting operations. Per-commercial thinnings and woody weed control can provide additional sources of biomas, in addition to wood that is no longer being sent to uply markets.



Image 3.3.1 - Planted pine forests are located throughout the locather

Harvestring clearcut residues can reduce streestablishment costs and reduce the risk of fire. In Sweden, research has shown that site establishment costs have been reduced by 3-706. The removal of slash and stumps, in addition to traditional harvesting techniques, increased productivity in Finland. While these examples are international in scope, similar results are feasible in the South.

Improving stand growth rates may also assist in making more bismass available from a given stand. Typical responses to intensive silvicultural practices are shown in Table 1.3.1, Direct biomass opportunities largely arise from harvesting current residues, while indirect opportunities arise from improved long-term productivity per acre. The most promising practices include using improved genetic material, good planting stuck, fertilizing to overcome deficiencies, weed control, and draining west sites. Care must be taken to ensure that the energy guined is greater than the energy required to produce the additional biomass.

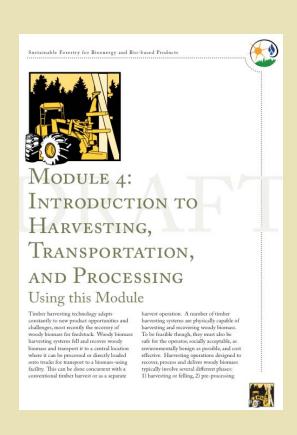


Authors: C.D. Foster Tenas A &M University . Chyrel Mayfield Tenas A&M University



### Module 4 Fact Sheets

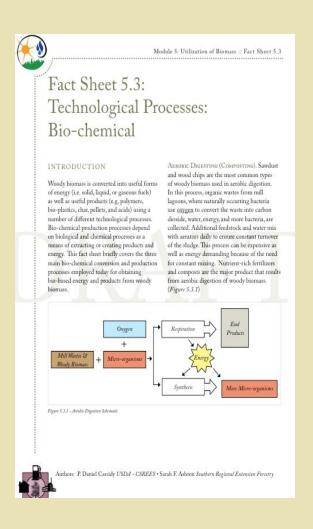
- Conventional Harvesting Systems
- Small-Scale Harvesting Systems
- Pre-Processing and Drying
- Transportation and Delivery
- Storage
- Cost Factors





### Module 5 Fact Sheets

- Wood Processing Residues
- Wood Properties
- Technology Process: Bio-chemical
- Technology Process: Thermochemical
- Bioenergy
- Ethanol
- Biodiesel
- Energy Basics
- Chemical Products
- Bio-based Products
- Ash Content.





### Module 6 Fact Sheets

- Woody Biomass Supply: Location and Availability **Factors**
- The Economics of Forest **Biomass Production and** Use
- Forest Bioenergy **Production and Rural Economic Development**
- **Bioenergy Policy Incentives**

Sustainable Forestry for Bioenergy and Bio-based Products Module 6: Economics OF FOREST BIOMASS AND BIOENERGY

on biomass and bioenergy production and consumption. This module introduces the economics and policy aspects of the production relevant policies. It contains four components and other bio-products. After completing this module, one is expected to understand how economic considerations will affect decisions on biomass and bioenergy production and to be able to incorporate economic criteria into their decision-making regarding biomass and bioenergy development.

Using this Module

ECONOMICS OF FOREST BIOMASS AND BIOENERGY MODULE CONTENT

This module addresses the socio-economic issues associated with forest biomass and bioenergy development. The information presented here is intended to aid forest

landowners and practitioners in understanding the economic potential and barriers to forest biomass and bioenergy production and and utilization of woody biomass for bioenergy supply of forest biomass, cost competitiveness, community impacts, and policy factors and incentive programs.

> It first describes factors affecting supply, sources and quantity of supply, location of supply, and uncertainty and the long-term supply. The ability for forest biomass and bioenergy to realize a greater share of energy and other products markets will largely depend on their cost competitiveness relative to their substitutes. The second part of this module delves into the production costs of forest biomass and bioenergy and their cost competitiveness with similar products on the market. The production cost of secondary





## Module 7 Fact Sheets

- Adaptive Forest Management
- Forest Bioenergy Certification
- Conserving Soils
- Water Conservation
- Biodiversity
- Environmental Sustainability

Sustainable Forestry for Bioenergy and Bio-based Products



Module 7:
Environmentally
Sustainable
Bioenergy
Production Systems
Using this Module

One of the challenges facing modern forest management is producing forest products, including bioenergy and bis-based products, from southern forests in a sustainable manner. Defining sustainablist man sustainable forest management has been difficult because of complexity in relevant scientific concepts and the state of current technical progress that might have practical application for land managers. Definitions related to sustainability

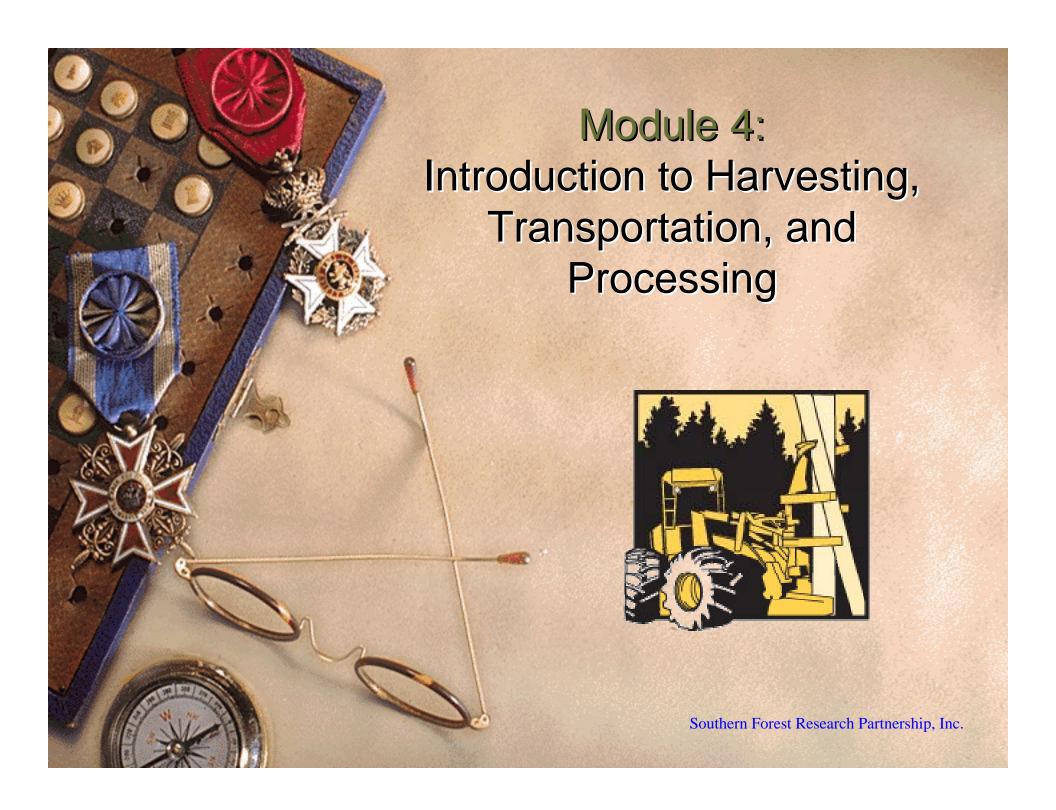
have also eduded precise clarity and consensus because of the highly politically charged atmosphere that characterizes ongoing debates about forest management practices and land tenure involving landowners, forest industry, environmental conservation organizations, abortiginal peoples, the general public, and public agencies at local to national and interestical bands.





## PowerPoint Presentations

- Complement the Encyclopedia and Fact Sheets
- One PowerPoint per Module
- Each slide has lecture notes
- Available on CD and online





# Recovering Woody Biomass

- Logging residue represents great potential
- 41 million dry tons of logging residue
- Needs to be augmented by other wood sources



Module 4: Introduction to Harvesting, Transportation, and Processing

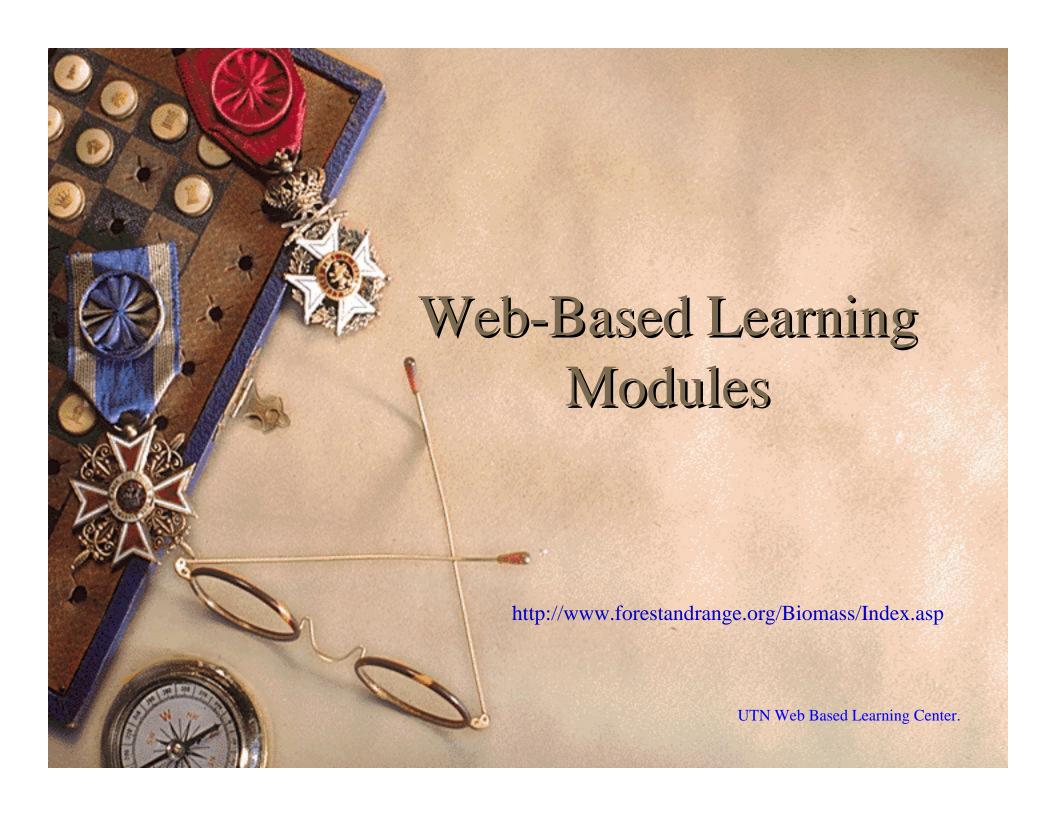


## Recovering Woody Biomass with Timber Harvesting Technology

- Similar technology
- Similar processes
  - Felling and recovery Transportation and delivery
  - Pre-processing and Storage drying



Module 4: Introduction to Harvesting, Transportation, and Processing









#### Sustainable Forestry



#### Bioenergy and Bio-products



Credits

#### icon Harvesting Biomass for Bioenergy Production

Home Glossary Modules Ext. Agent Resources SFRP Home

Credits forestandrange > SFBB > Modules > Harvesting > Unit 1 > Lesson 1

#### 1.Forms of Woody Biomass

- Unconsolidated Woody Biomass
- Comminuted Biomass Materials
- Composite Residue Logs
- 2.Conventional Biomass Harvesting Systems
- 3.Small-scale Biomass Harvesting Systems
- 4. Processing and Drying
- 5.Transport and Delivery
- 6.Storage
- 7.Costs

Additional Materials

References

#### **Unconsolidated Woody Biomass**



Unconsolidated Woody Biomass Source: Ben Jackson

Unconsolidated slash is woody biomass in its raw form after it has been removed from the bole of the tree. Historically, this material was considered unmerchantable. In most southern harvesting operations, unconsolidated slash is left in place on the logging site or concentrated at the landing. While not commonly practiced, this slash can be transported to a biomass-using facility by conventional logging trucks, log trailers, or specialized containers on trailers. Because unconsolidated material is bulky with lots of air space, efforts have been made to compress this material to allow

for more biomass to be transferred per load. In most cases, however, compression has not proven operationally feasible.

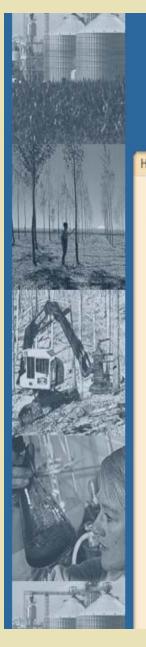
Transporting forest biomass from the woods to a utilization site is often difficult. As this figure shows, the method by which the biomass is prepared for transport makes a large difference in how much can go into one truckload. The volumes of material at right all have the same weight. When utilizing biomass, careful consideration must be taken for transport issues.



Volume differences of the same weight material by differen product types Source: USDA Forest Service Forest Product Laboratory









search

Sustaining Our Future With Renewable Resources...

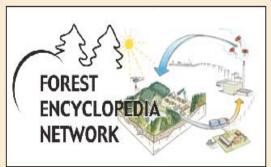
HOME NEWS EVENTS LINKS PRESENTATIONS PUBLICATIONS IMAGES TRAINING MATERIALS

#### Welcome to Southern Bioenergy



The Southern Bioenergy website is designed for information sharing among natural resource management and extension professionals as well as community planning and development professionals. It is one of several products resulting from the @Southern Forest Research Partnership bioenergy training initiative. The site is a repository of information related to biomass product use designed such that members can easily upload and the public can easily download relevant biomass-related information. The gateway includes publications, presentations, additional links, events, and images.

Future plans for the website include the addition of case studies, activities, videos, and other educational tools designed to help users of the portal better understand the subject matter themselves and better convey subject matter information to their audiences.



Information and knowledge for the bioenergy training initiative relies heavily on a relatively new technology called the online hypertext Forest Encyclopedia Network or FEN. FEN was developed by scientists and technology transfer specialists with the USDA Forest Service and Cooperative Extension Service - Southern Regional Extension Forestry office in 2001. FEN is a content management system (CMS) designed to allow the forestry and natural resources community as well as others to participate in online knowledge management and learning. Information and

knowledge generated by scientists and technology transfer specialists is incorporated into the online encyclopedia







search

Sustaining Our Future With Renewable Resources...

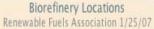
HOME NEWS EVENTS LINKS PRESENTATIONS PUBLICATIONS IMAGES TRAINING MATERIALS

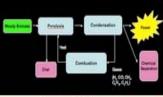
#### **Images**

Below you will find a collection of images related to biomass management, harvesting, and utilization.

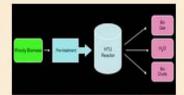
#### **New Images**







Pyrolysis Schematic



Hydrothermal Upgrading Schematic

#### Click a category below to view more images:

- Harvesting (31)
- Management (1)
- Utilization (11)



# Forest Biomass Training Program Testing

- Encyclopedia Site:
  - http://www.forestencyclopedia.net
  - February 1 2, 2006 College Station, TX
- Train-the-Trainer Pilot Program –
   Atlanta, GA, February 2007
- Train-the-Trainer Final: Summer 2007
- End User Training, Fall 2007and beyond



## **Conclusions**

- There is a substantial biofuels opportunity in the Southern U.S.
- The U.S. is the world's largest and most demanding marketplace
- The forest industry is uniquely positioned (resources and infrastructure) to provide improved and sustainable products and energy opportunities for the benefit of the Nation and Society



## Follow-Up Actions

- Add Additional Modules
  - Policy and Legislation
- Sustain the Bioenergy Encyclopedia
  - USDA has an investment in this information technology --- need to sustain the investment
- Follow-up Conferences/Workshops/Seminars
  - "Understanding Relationships Between
     Biomass/Biofuels Production and Biodiversity"



# Follow-up Actions (cont.)

- Forestry Biomass Language in Forest, Energy and Research Titles of the forthcoming Farm Bill
- Funding for Title II of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act



# Comments and Questions