



# US-China Biofuels Cooperation

**Study Tour for the China NEA  
Tennessee • December 6, 2010**

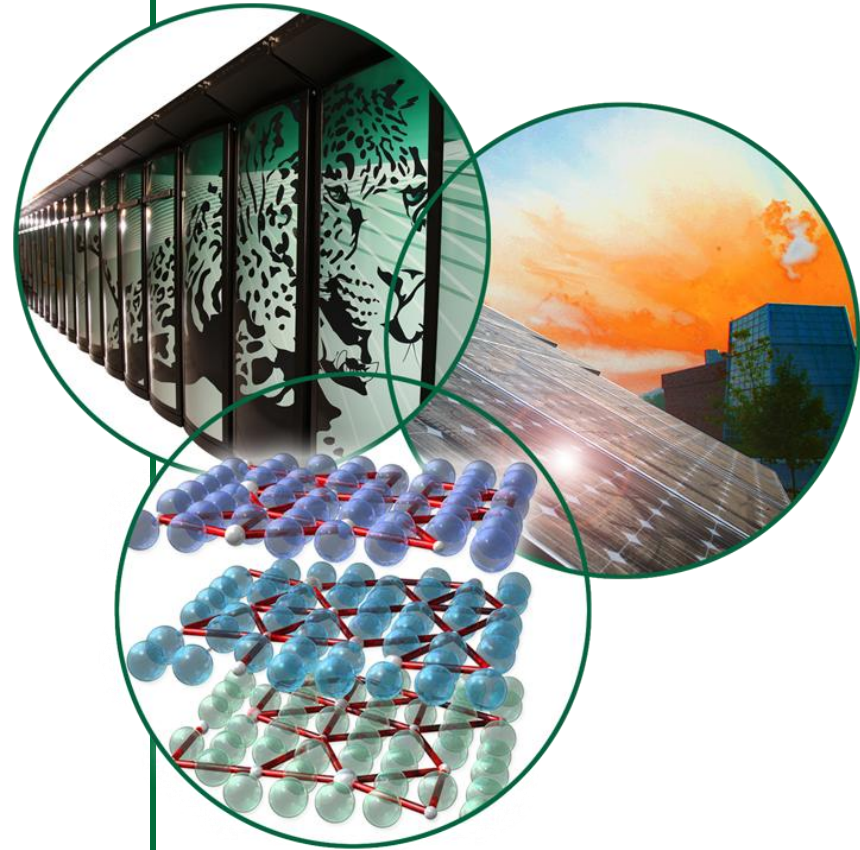
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# Oak Ridge National Laboratory: Science and Technology for the Energy Challenge

**Robin Graham**

Group leader  
Renewable Energy Systems  
Environmental Sciences Division

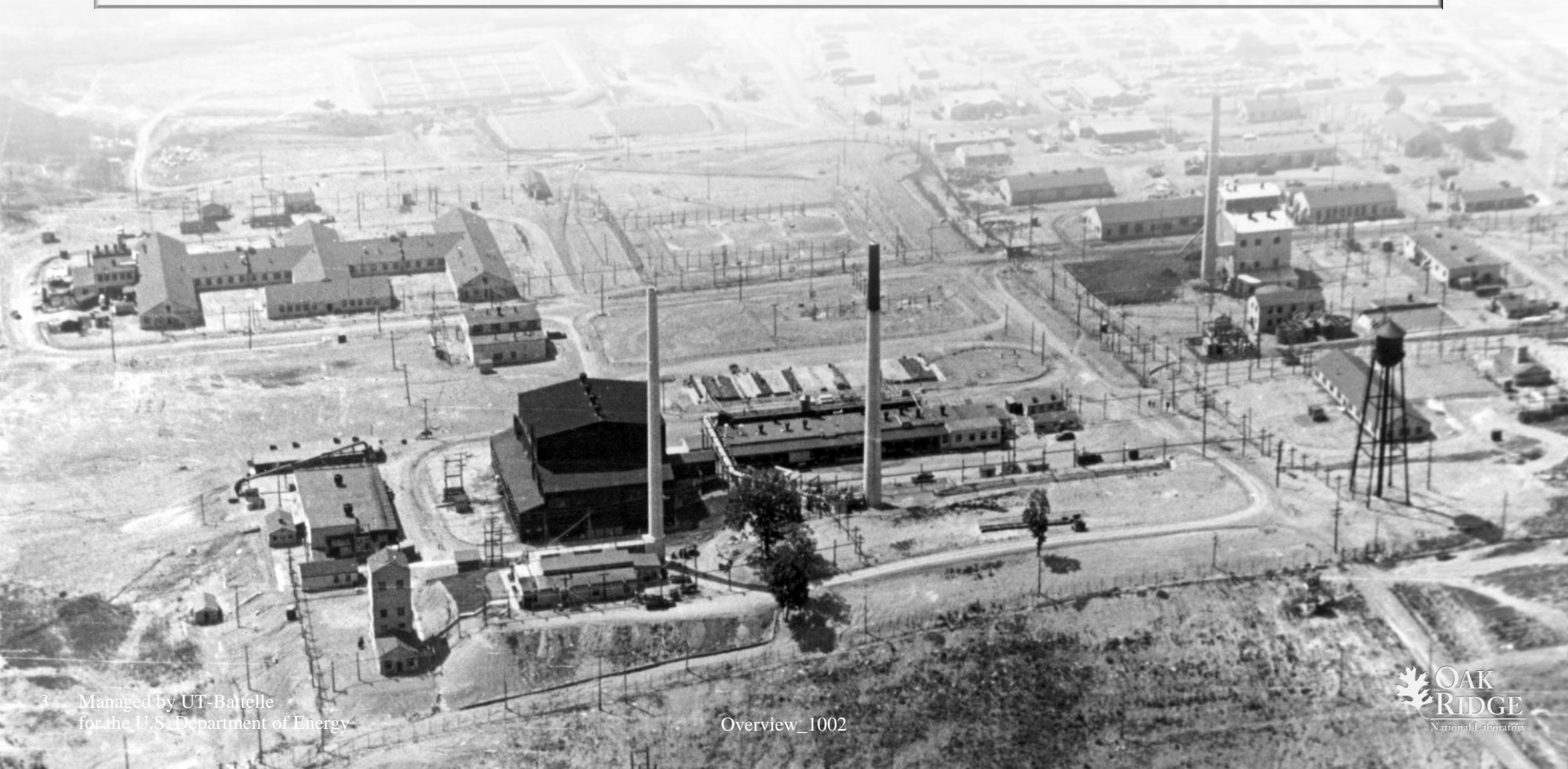
December 6, 2010



# Oak Ridge National Laboratory evolved from the Manhattan Project

## **ORNL in 1943**

The Clinton Pile was the world's first continuously operated nuclear reactor





# Today, ORNL is DOE's largest science and energy laboratory

- \$1.65B budget
- 4,500 employees
- 4,000 research guests annually
- \$500 million invested in modernization

- Nation's largest concentration of open source materials research
- World's most intense pulsed neutron source and a world-class research reactor

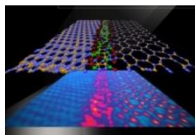
- World's most powerful open scientific computing facility
- Nation's most diverse energy portfolio
- Managing the billion-dollar U.S. ITER project





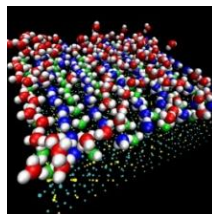
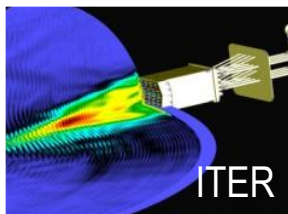
# Delivering science and technology: We lead major R&D programs for DOE and other customers

Energy technologies



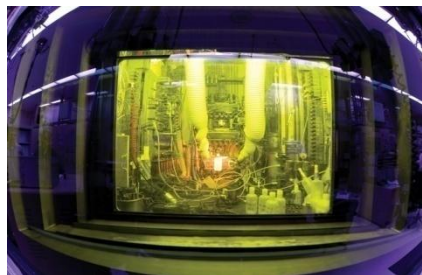
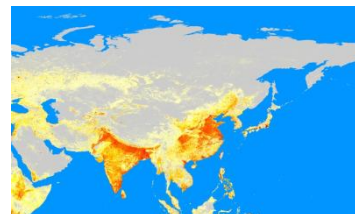
Materials at the nanoscale

Ultrascale computing



Neutron sciences

Climate



Nuclear energy

Bioenergy



National security

# Translating science and technology into sustainable energy solutions

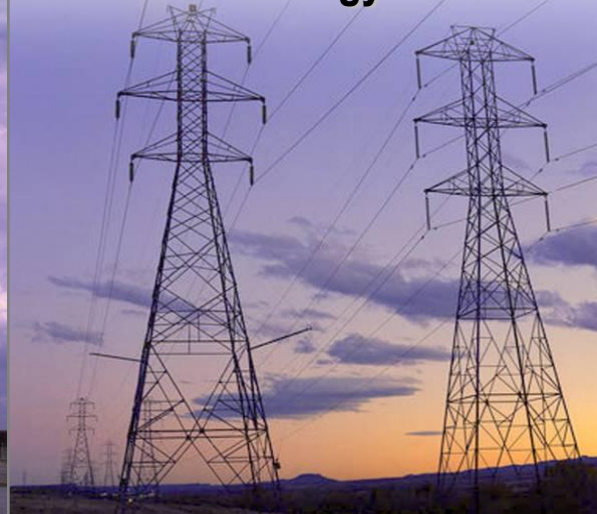
## Generation

Fossil  
Fission  
Renewables  
Fusion



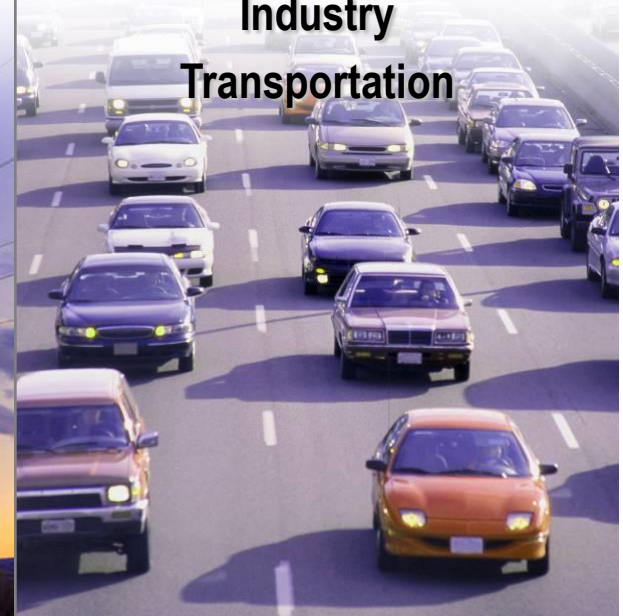
## Distribution

Transmission technology  
Hydrogen  
Distributed energy resources








## Consumption

Buildings  
Industry  
Transportation





# Strong university partnerships are critical to ORNL's success

Major projects	Collaborative research	Joint hiring	Joint institutes	Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BioEnergy Science Center</li> <li>NSF Track 2 computer</li> <li>4 SNS instruments led by university consortia</li> <li>Energy Frontier Research Centers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects with 200+ universities</li> <li>Hundreds of joint research publications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>62 joint faculty members with 8 universities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Heavy ion research</li> <li>Neutron sciences</li> <li>Biological sciences</li> <li>Computational sciences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mentor/protégé agreements with HBCUs</li> <li>Distance education with Morehouse College</li> <li>DOE SERCh poster competition</li> </ul>
				





# A variety of robust programs support these partnerships

- Collaborative research across ORNL's agenda
  - From bench-level collaborations to multinational partnerships
- Distinctive scientific user facilities
  - [http://www.ornl.gov/ornlhome/user\\_facilities.shtml](http://www.ornl.gov/ornlhome/user_facilities.shtml)
- Research and educational opportunities for faculty, students, and recent graduates
  - [jobs.ornl.gov](http://jobs.ornl.gov)



### Clifford G. Shull Fellowship

The Neutron Scattering Science Division at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) announces establishment of the Clifford G. Shull Fellowship. Co-recipient of the 1994 Nobel Prize in physics, Shull began his work in 1946 at what is now ORNL. He has been called the "Father of Neutron Scattering," and this fellowship has been established in recognition of his pioneering work in this field.


The goal of this fellowship is to attract new scientific talent to ORNL for the development of its neutron science program. We are looking for candidates with exceptional ability who are



### The Alston S. Householder Fellowship

The Alston S. Householder Fellowship honors Alston Householder, founding director of the Mathematics Division (now the Computer Science and Mathematics Division) at ORNL, and recognizes his seminal research contributions to the fields of numerical analysis and scientific computing. The purpose of the fellowship is to promote innovative research in scientific computing on advanced computer architectures and to facilitate technology transfer from academia

...which includes ...ships will be



### Eugene P. Wigner Fellowship

The Eugene P. Wigner Fellowship was established in 1975 to honor Eugene Wigner, Nobel Laureate and the first Director of Research and Development at ORNL. The Wigner Fellowship provides an opportunity for outstanding early career physical, computational, life, and social scientists and engineers to select and pursue fundamental or applied research in areas of their interest. Fellows must be exceedingly well qualified, be no more than three years beyond the doctorate, and not

...academia ...entists. The ...tational ...ale parallels ...in active ...ointed for one



### Alvin M. Weinberg Fellowship

The Alvin M. Weinberg Fellowship honors Enrico Fermi Award winner and former ORNL director (1955-1973) Alvin Weinberg. The Weinberg Fellowship is awarded to outstanding early career scientists and engineers in physical and biological sciences and engineering with an interest in energy and energy-related science and technology challenges. Our opportunities for research include basic and applied research in chemistry, materials science, biological and environmental science, computational science, nuclear science and engineering, fusion, energy efficiency and renewables, and other energy-related R&D. Weinberg fellows work at the frontiers of fundamental science and engineering fields that have the potential to transform energy technologies. Appointments are for up to two years, with possible renewal for a third.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

This position requires a Ph.D. in chemistry, materials science, biological or environmental science, computational science, nuclear science and engineering, or any other energy-related science. Candidates nearing completion of the Ph.D., but no more than three years past completion of Ph.D., will be considered.

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...thematics, or ...—but no ...onsidered. The ...and interest in

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# ORNL is an international laboratory

- Our research is enriched by ~150 international collaborations
  - In 2009, we hosted more than 6,000 visitors from 112 other nations
- Our staff annually make ~1,000 trips to other nations
- About 35% of our research staff are citizens of other nations, representing some 80 countries
- About 25% of papers by ORNL authors have a coauthor from another nation



## Research Advancing the Bioenergy Supply Chain



**Biofeedstocks**



**Feedstock Logistics**



**Biorefineries**



**Product Delivery**



**Endusers**

### Resource Analysis

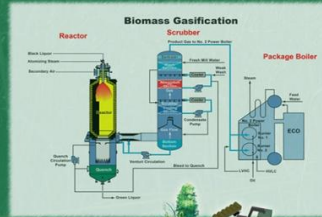
Logging Residue from U.S. Timberlands 2007



### Supply System Modeling



### Conversion

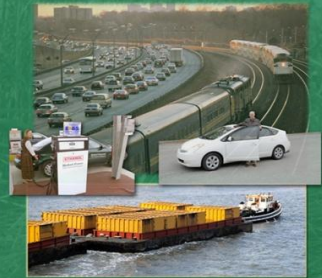


### Partnerships

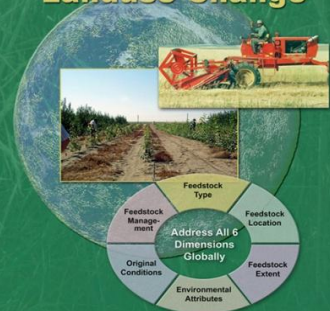
Regional Biomass Energy Feedstock Partnership 2008 Bioenergy Crop Trials



### Infrastructure



### Sustainability & Landuse Change



### Biomass Energy Data Book

Edition 2



### Information



**OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY**

MANAGED BY UT-BATTELLE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Cellulosic Biofuel



# ORNL Bioenergy research impacts the nation

## Vehicle aging and catalyst durability studies

### BIOMASS AS FEEDSTOCK FOR A BIOENERGY AND BIOPRODUCTS INDUSTRY: THE TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY OF A BILLION-TON ANNUAL SUPPLY

### Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA)

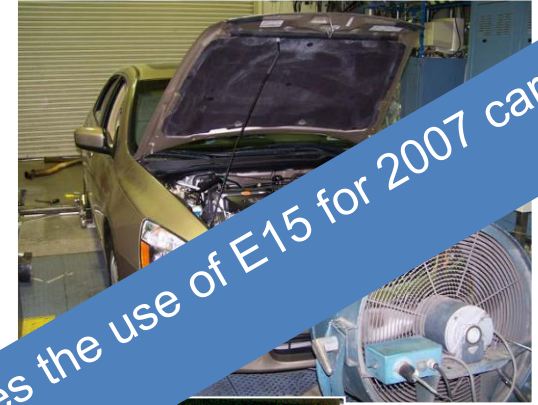
Robin L. Graham  
Environmental Sciences Division  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Bryce J. Stokes  
Forest Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Donald C. Erbach  
Agricultural Research Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

A Joint Study Sponsored by  
U.S. Department of Energy  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

OCT 2010 EPA approves the use of E15 for 2007 cars and newer.



# **Oak Ridge National Laboratory: Meeting the challenges of the 21st century**

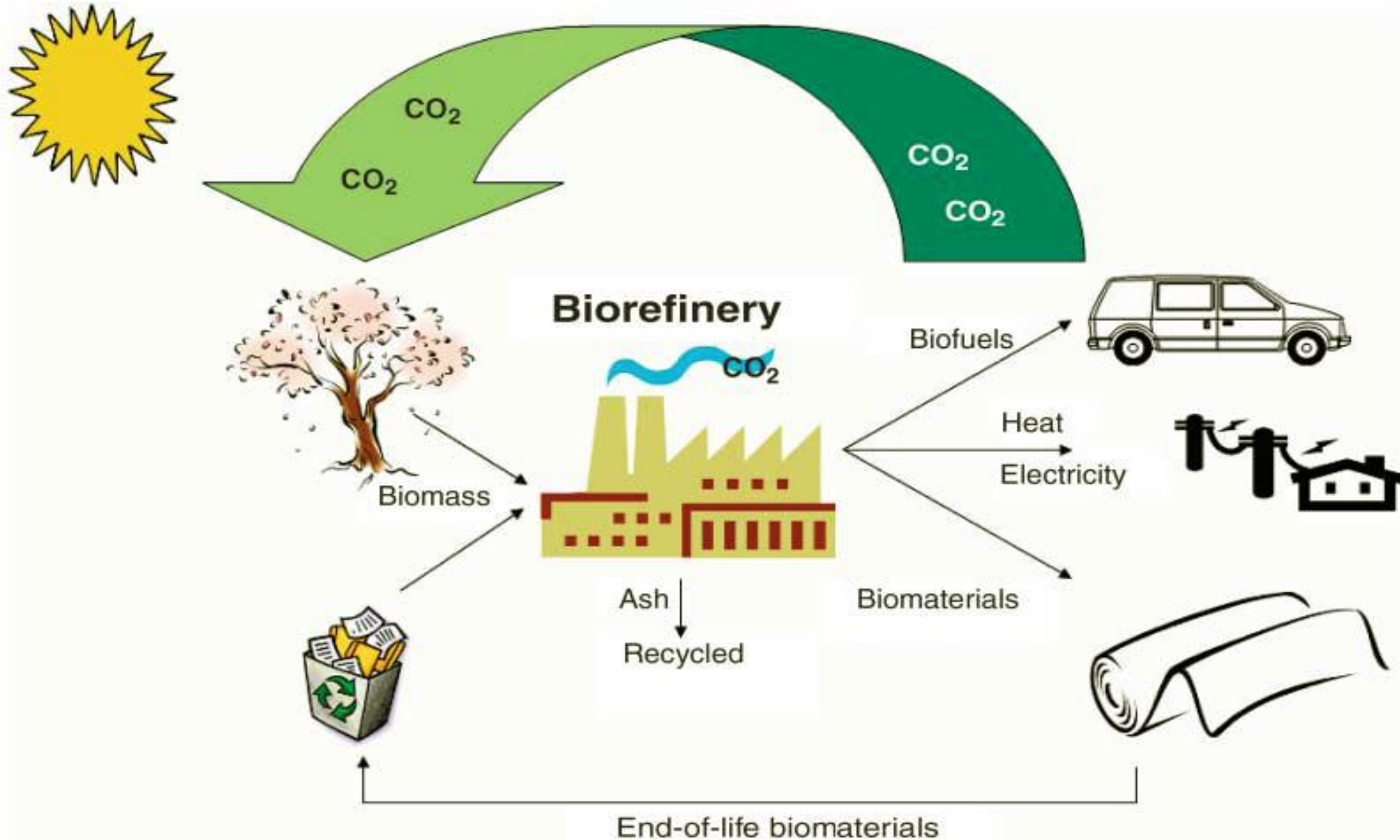


[www.ornl.gov](http://www.ornl.gov)

Brian Davison

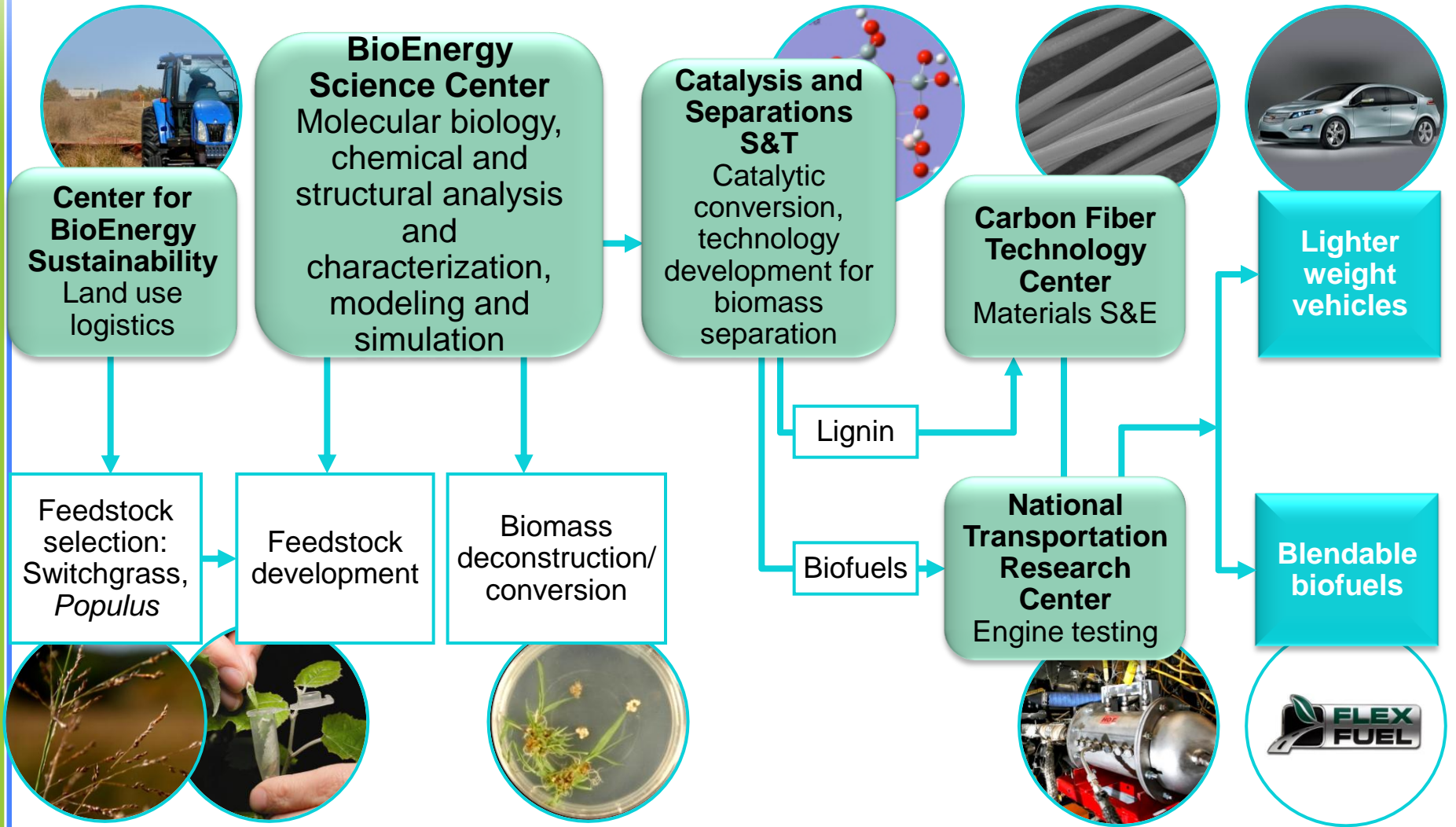


# The fully integrated agro-biofuel-biomaterial-biopower cycle for sustainable technologies.

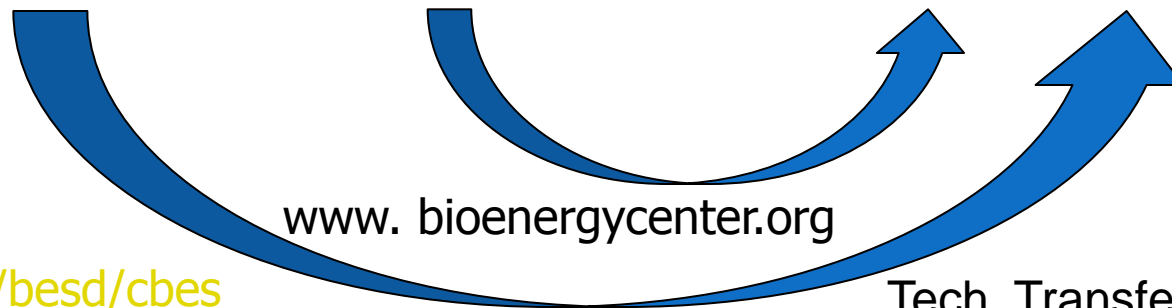
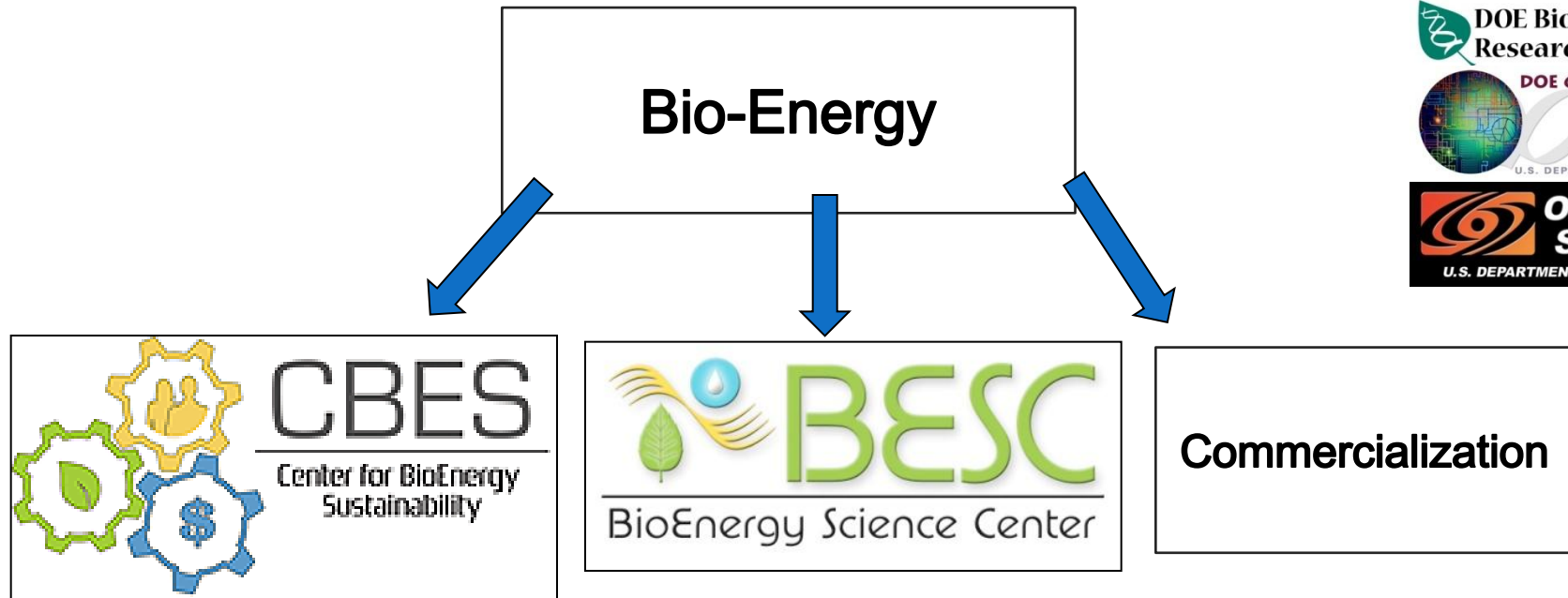


*Ragauskas et al. 2006, SCIENCE 311:484-489*

# Bioscience and biotechnology for sustainable mobility



# Bio-Energy and Bioproducts at ORNL



[www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes](http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes)

Tech. Transfer  
Nat'l Transport. Res. Center  
Bioproducts, etc.

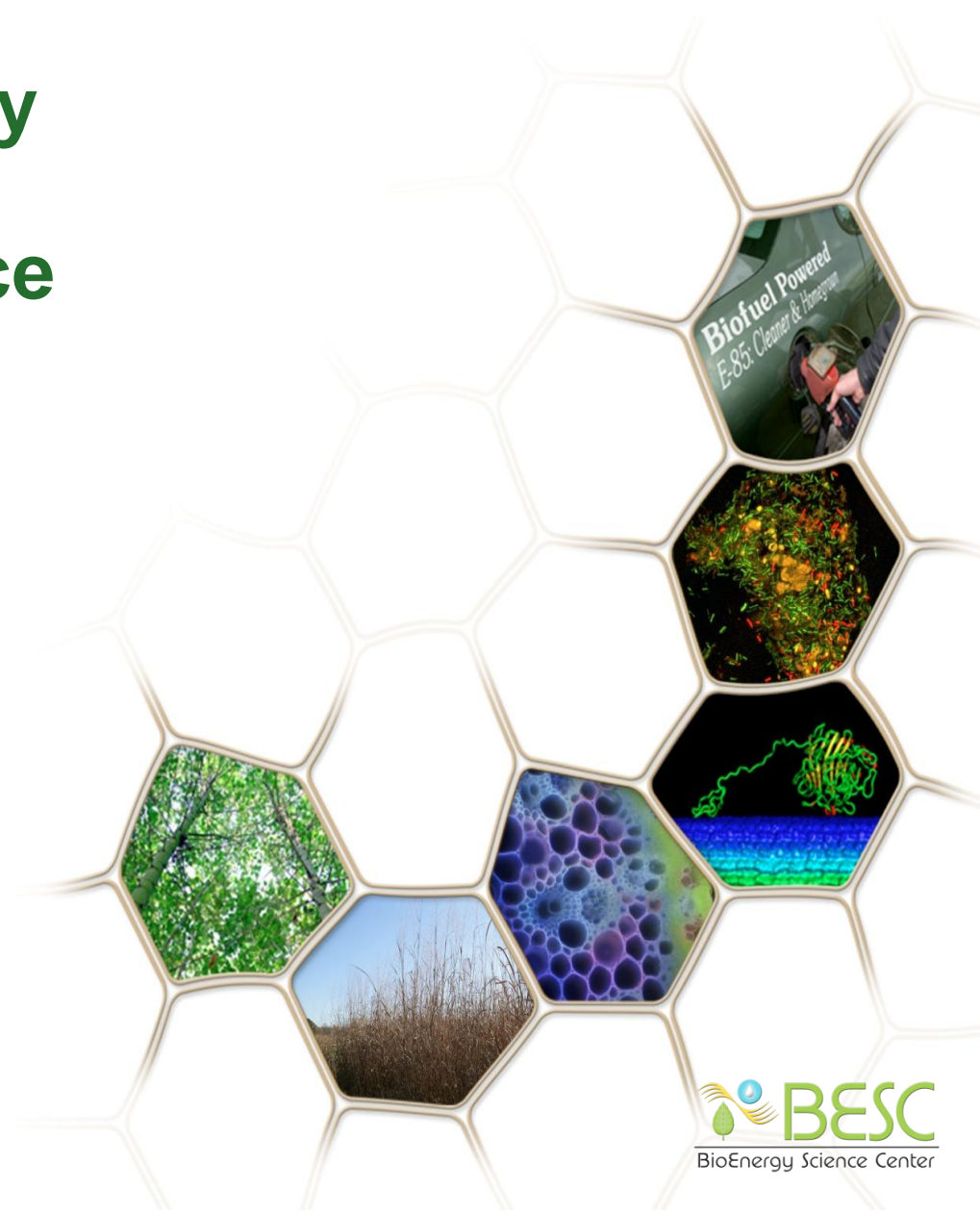


**Acknowledgements: slides from BESC, Robin Graham, Mark Downing, L. Russo (USDOE-OBP), etc.**



# BioEnergy Science Center: An Integrated Strategy to Understand Biomass Recalcitrance

**Brian H. Davison**  
BioEnergy Science Center



# The BioEnergy Science Center

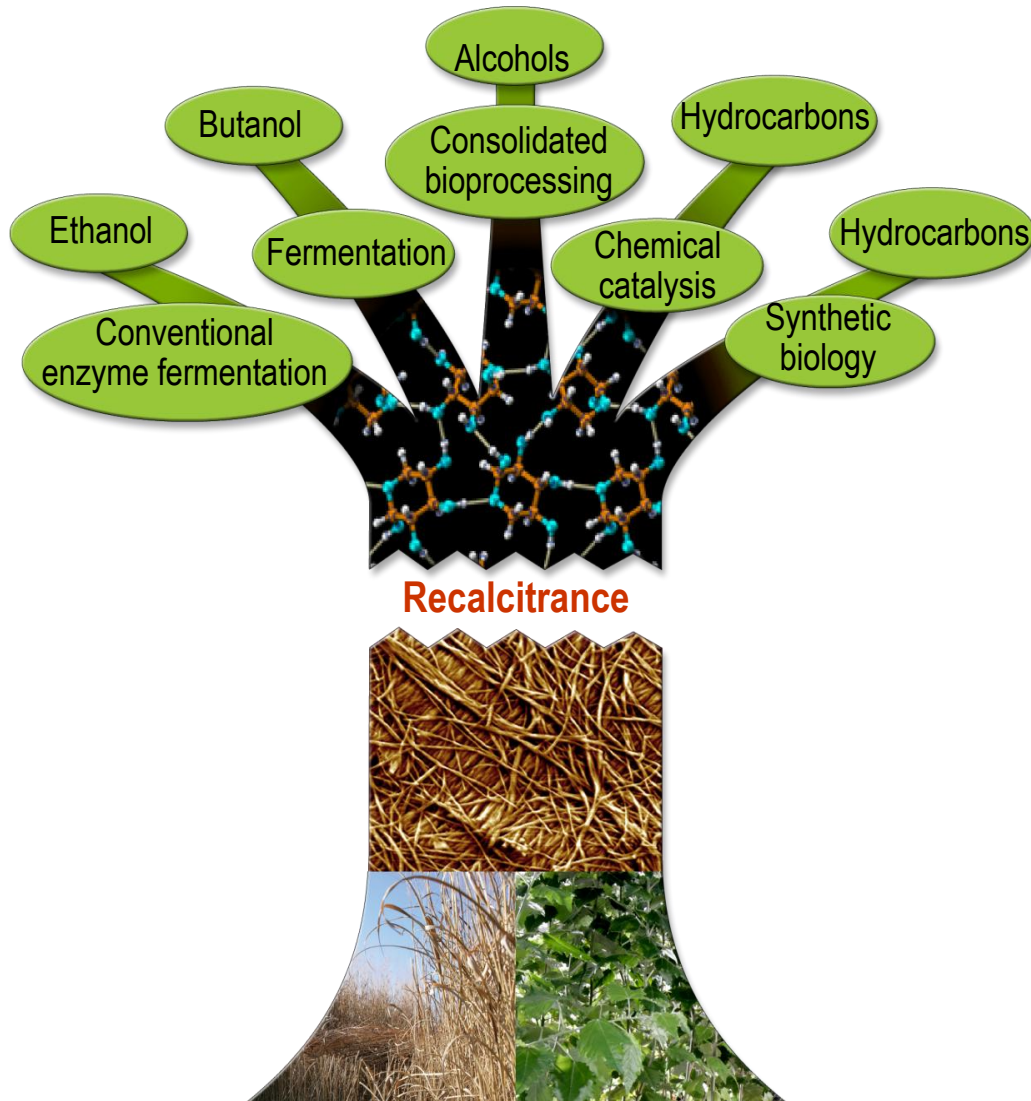


**BESC:** A multi-institutional DOE-funded center dedicated to understanding and modifying plant biomass recalcitrance



**322 People  
in 19 Institutions**

# Access to the sugars in lignocellulosic biomass is the current critical barrier

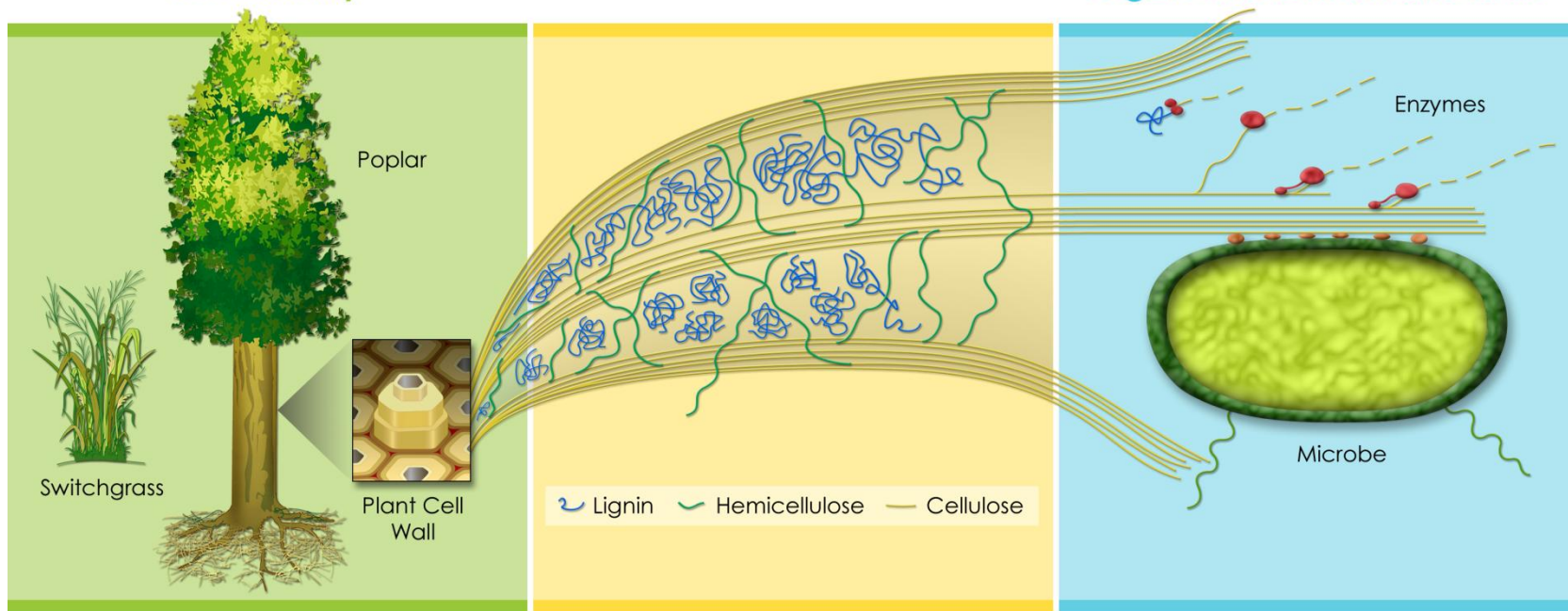


- Overcoming this barrier will cut processing costs significantly and be used in most conversion processes
- This requires an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach

# A two-pronged approach to increase the accessibility of biomass sugars

Modify the plant cell wall structure to increase accessibility

Improve combined microbial approaches that release sugars and ferment into fuels



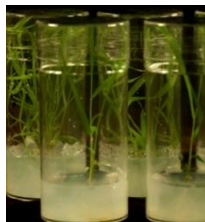
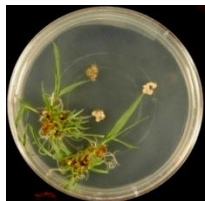
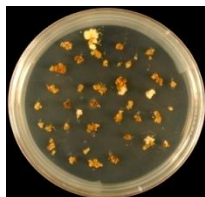
Both utilize rapid screening for relevant traits followed by detailed analysis of selected samples



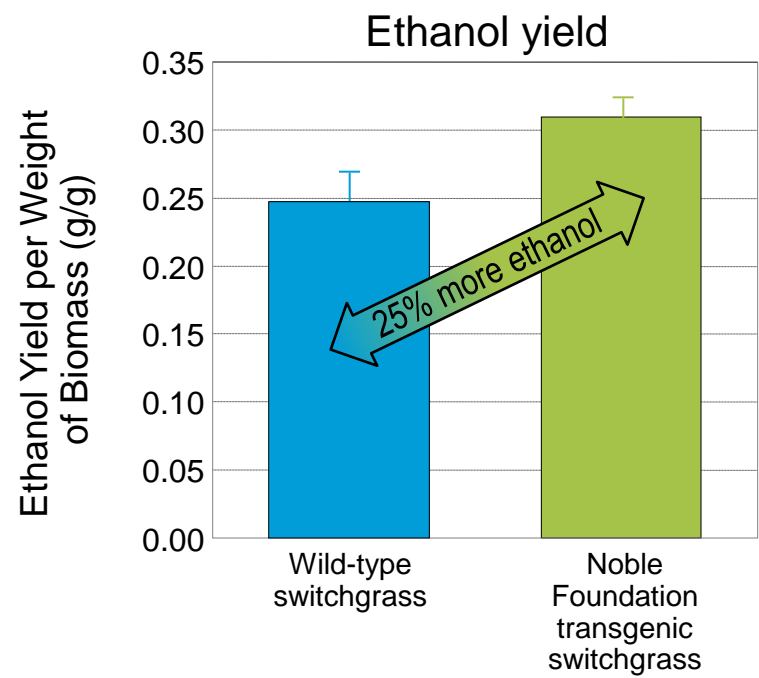
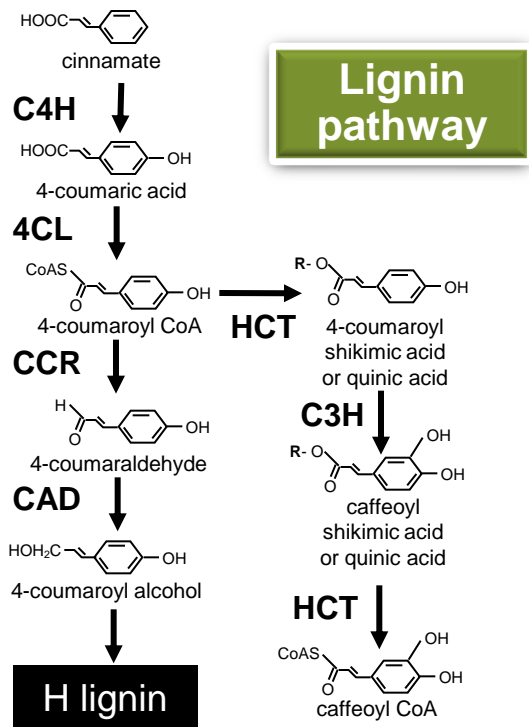
# Genetic block in lignin biosynthesis in switchgrass increases ethanol yields

Phenylalanine → PAL

Agrobacterium-mediated transformation of switchgrass



THE SAMUEL ROBERTS  
**NOBLE**  
FOUNDATION



X. Fu and Z. Wang (Noble),  
J. Mielenz (ORNL), and  
support from USDA/DOE

# Tension Stress Study: Characterization

## Spectroscopy

- MBMS
- NMR
- FTIR
  
- Sugar Release
- Glycome Profile

## LIMS

- Sample workflow
- Barcodes



## -Omics

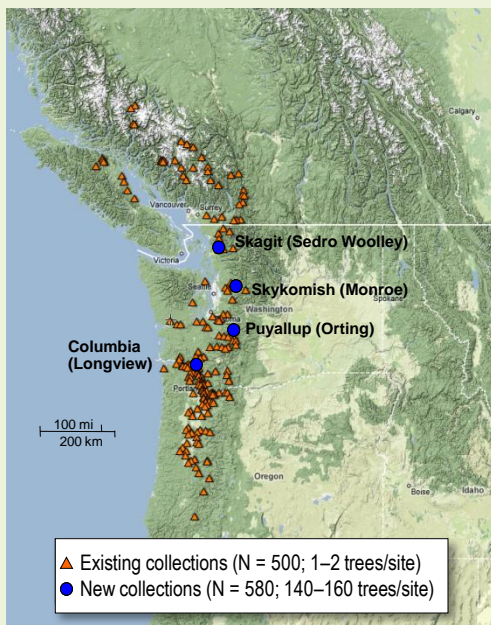
- Transcriptomics
- Proteomics
- Metabolomics
  
- qRT-PCR

## Imaging

- WoodCAT
- AFM
- Optical microscope

# Mining Variation to Identify Key Genes in Biomass Composition and Sugar Release

Collected ~1300 samples for *Populus* association and activation-tag study



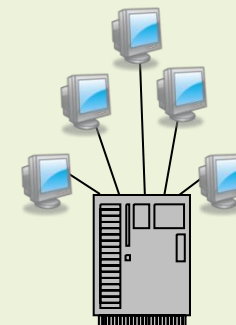
## High-throughput screening pipeline

- Create genetic marker map to identify allelic variation
- Identify marker trait association



Sugar  
release  
assay

## Cell wall biosynthesis database



## Establish common gardens for association and activation-tag populations with thousands of plants



# High-Throughput Characterization Pipeline for the Recalcitrance Phenotype

Screening thousands of samples

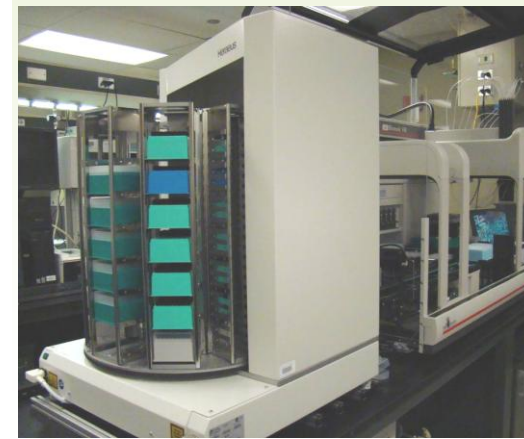
Composition analytical  
pyrolysis, IR, confirmed  
by wet chemistry



Pre-treatment  
new method with dilute  
acid and steam



Enzyme digestibility  
sugar release  
with enzyme cocktail

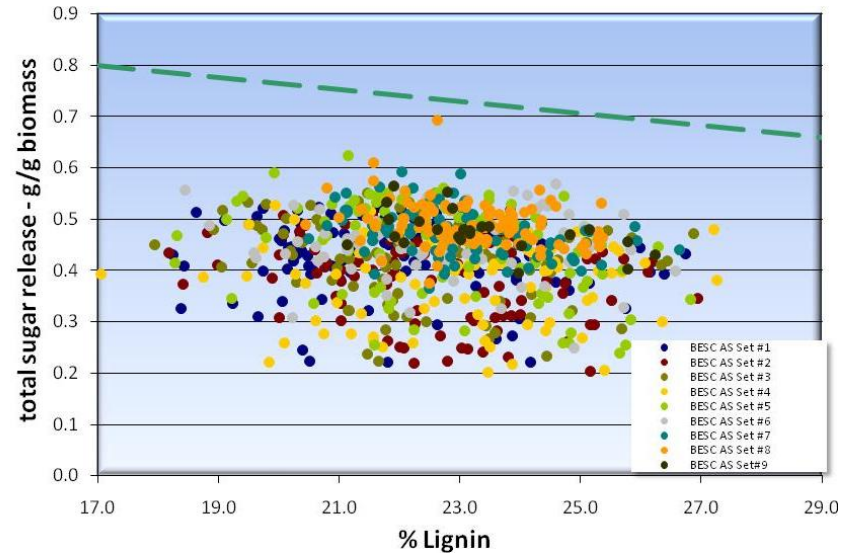
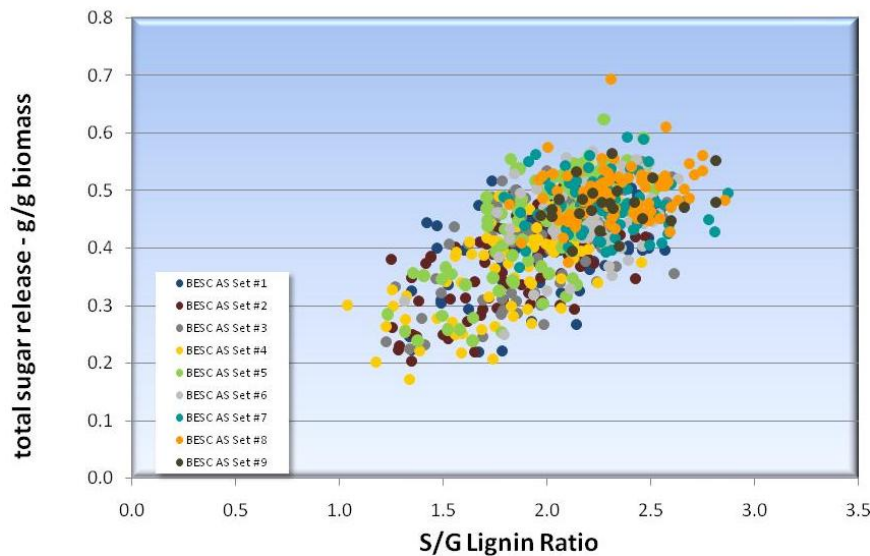


Detailed chemical and structural analyses of specific samples



# High-Throughput Screening to Analyze Natural *Populus* Trees

- Screening of 1200 natural *Populus* trees shows high natural variability in composition and digestibility
- Hot water as pretreatment only
- Sugar release varies from 25% to >90% of theoretical value



Environmental vs Genetic?

# The High-Throughput Pretreatment and Hydrolysis (HTPH) System has Analyzed >10,000 Samples in FY2010 for Composition and Digestibility



Unique BESC samples submitted and analyzed by HTP pipelines (not including replicates).

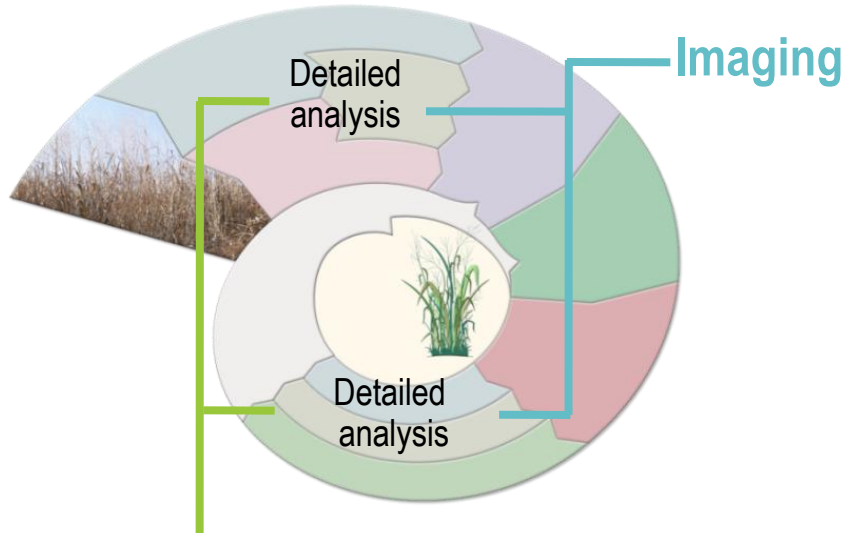
	CRCC	ORNL	UCR	Noble	U. Tennessee	Total
Analytical Pyrolysis	138	795	11	140	5248	6332
Recalcitrance	112	807		147	5248	6314

Samples from Industrial, International, and external collaborations.

	ArborGen	Purdue	U. Copenhagen	Edenspace	Total
Analytical Pyrolysis	640	3000			3640
Recalcitrance	24	731	1100	120	1975



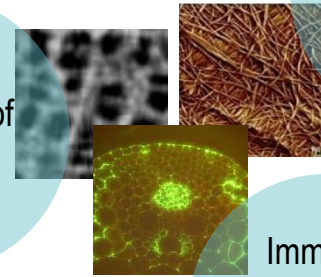
# Detailed Analysis of Specific Samples Inform Cell-wall Chemistry and Structure



AFM of switchgrass showing cellulose microfibrils



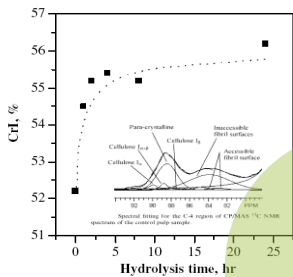
MSAFM: IR spectra of localized cell walls



Immuno-localization using wall antibodies on switchgrass

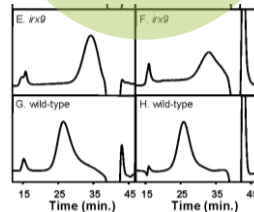


## Chemistry

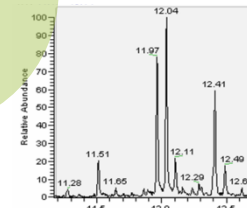


NMR for cellulose crystallinity

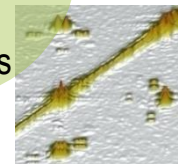
Fractionation and chromatography



Mass spectrometry for key metabolites

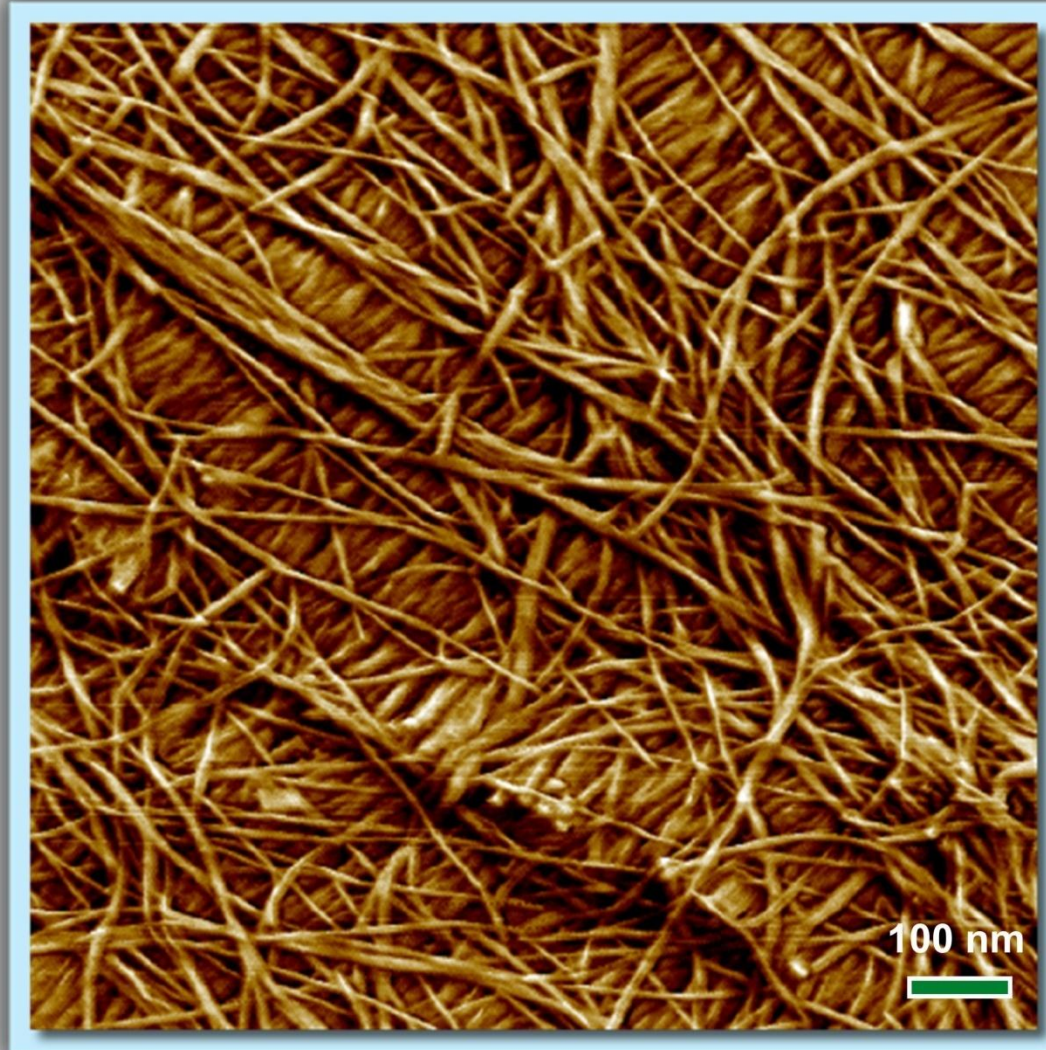


2D <sup>1</sup>H-NMR sees altered bonds in polysaccharides and lignin in biomass





# Switchgrass – Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)

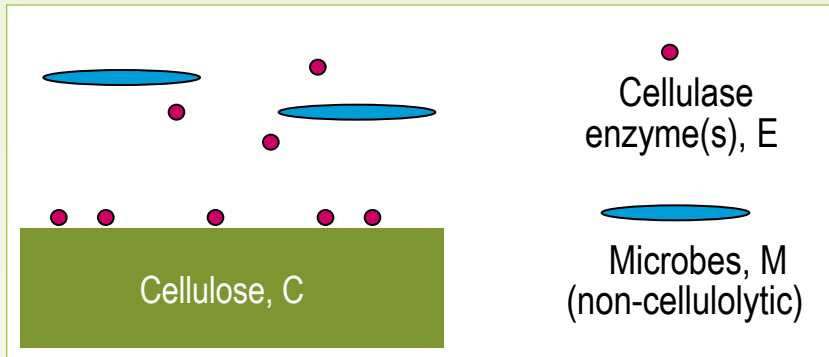


Crystalline  
cellulose  
microfibrils

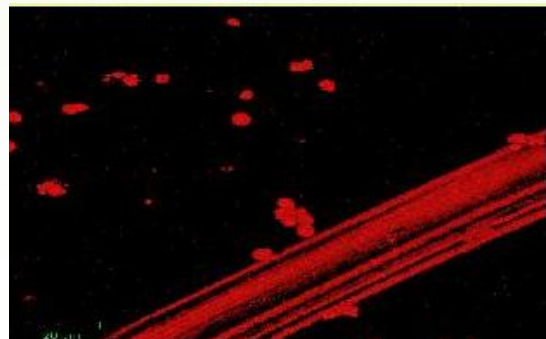
# Enzymatic and microbial hydrolysis

## A fundamentally different relationship between microbes and cellulose

### Enzymatic hydrolysis (classical approach)

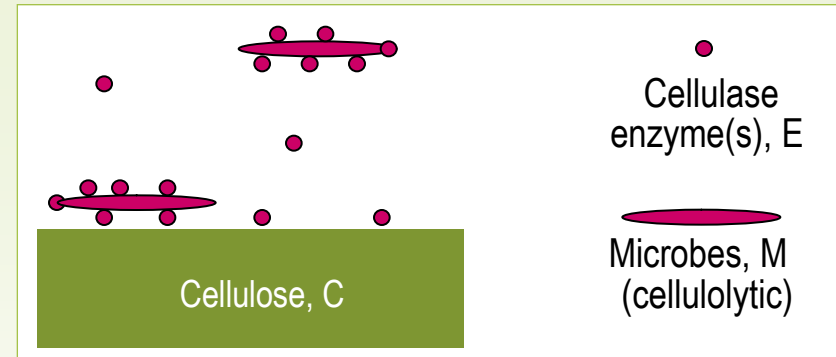


- Hydrolysis mediated by CE complexes
- Enzymes (several) both bound and free
- Cells may or may not be present

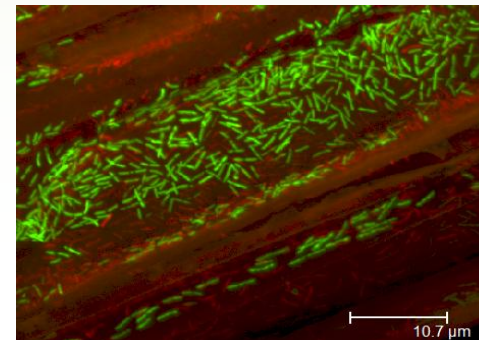


Yeast, enzymes with biomass (Dumitrache and Wolfaardt)

### Microbial hydrolysis (CBP)

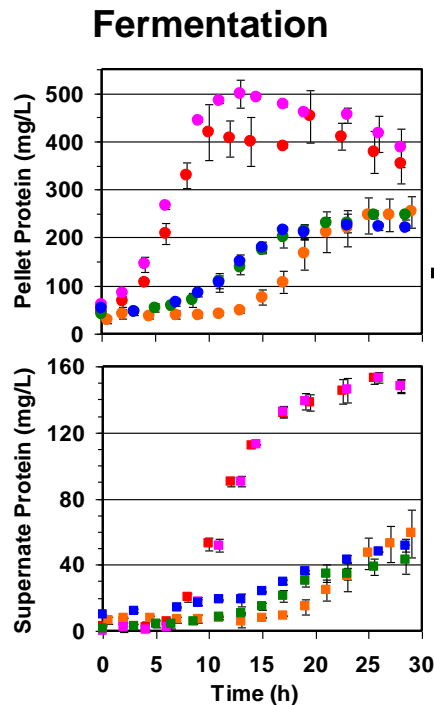


- Hydrolysis mediated mainly by CEM complexes
- Enzymes both bound and free
- Cells both bound and free

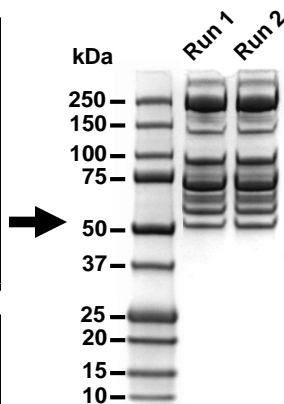


*C. thermocellum* on poplar (Morrell-Falvey and Raman, ORNL)

# Cellulosome Changes in *C. thermocellum* on Different Biomass Substrates

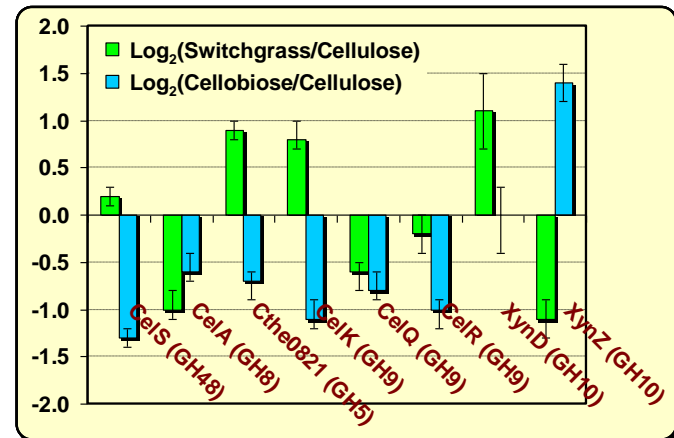


## Affinity Purification



## Shot-gun LC-MS/MS Identification

## Metabolic Labeling Quantitation



- Pretreated Switchgrass
- Cellobiose
- Amorphous Cellulose
- Avicel - <sup>14</sup>N
- Avicel - <sup>15</sup>N
- Avicel-Pectin
- Avicel-Xylan
- Avicel-Pectin-Xylan

- *C. thermocellum* alters its cellulosome catalytic composition depending upon the growth substrate
- We identified and experimentally verified 16 “new” cellulosome components
- Insights aid in constructing designer cellulosomes with tailored enzyme composition for industrial ethanol production

Citation: “Raman B, *et al.* (2009) Impact of Pretreated Switchgrass and Biomass Carbohydrates on *Clostridium thermocellum* ATCC 27405 Cellulosome Composition: A Quantitative Proteomic Analysis. PLoS ONE 4(4): e5271. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0005271”



# Biodiversity Access for New Biocatalysts

- Hypothesis: Will higher temperature anaerobic microbes be more effective?
- State-of-the-art cultivation techniques to isolate novel high-temperature microbes with powerful lignocellulolytic enzymes
  - Collect samples from thermal biotopes
  - Establish primary enrichment cultures at relevant temperatures and conditions



Sampling at  
Yellowstone  
National Park  
October 2007  
and July 2008

# New Isolates Show Enhanced Biomass Hydrolysis Rates



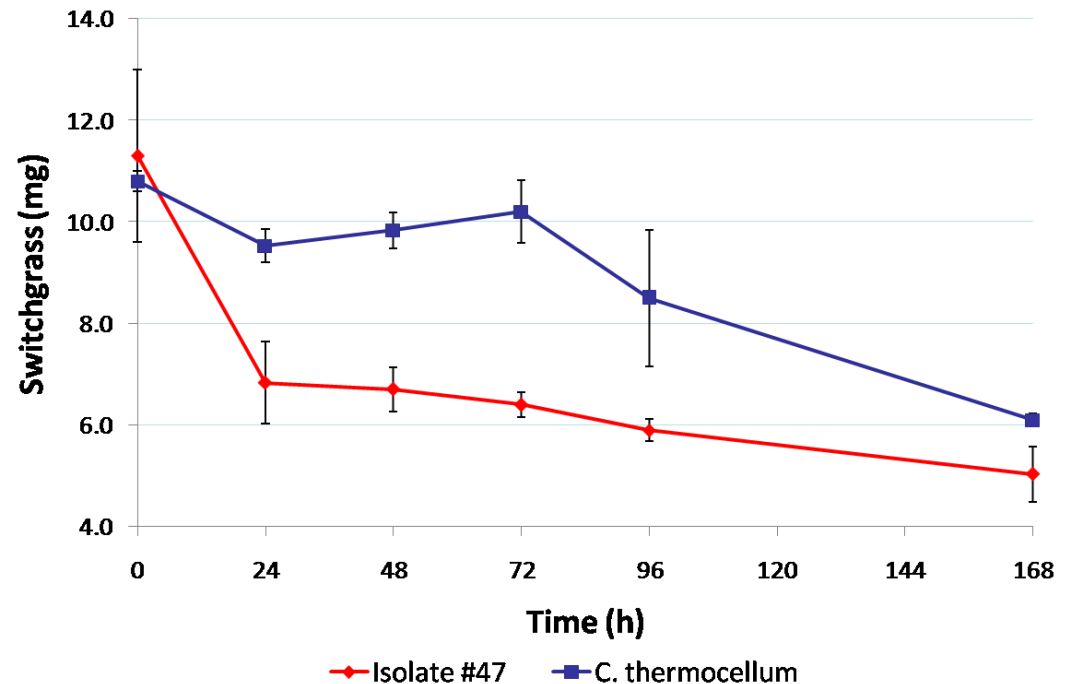
Isolate #47



Control



## Growth of Isolate #47 and *C. thermocellum* on pretreated switchgrass



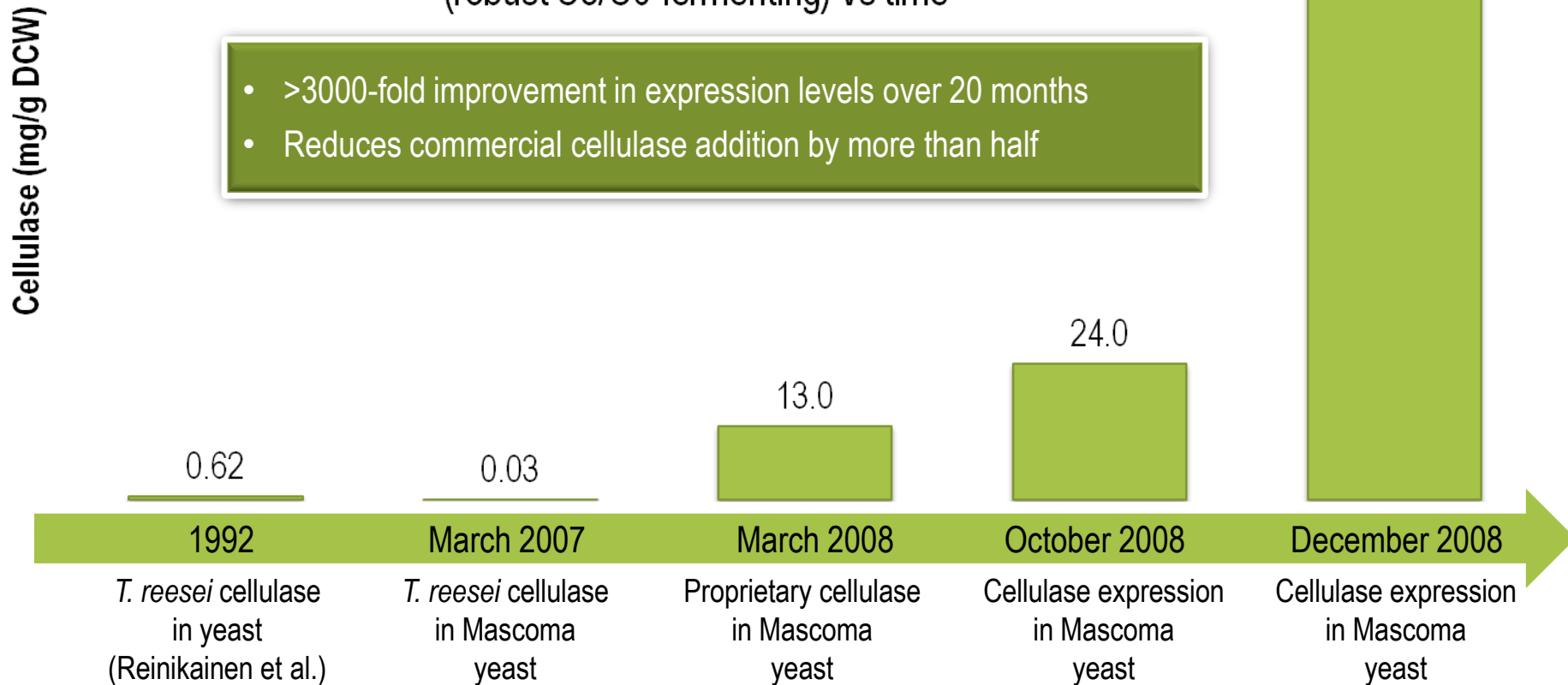
Preliminary results show visual disappearance of pretreated switchgrass solids during growth at 78°C relative to a benchmark organism

OB#47 submitted as *Caldicellulosiruptor* sp.

Elkins et al. - ORNL

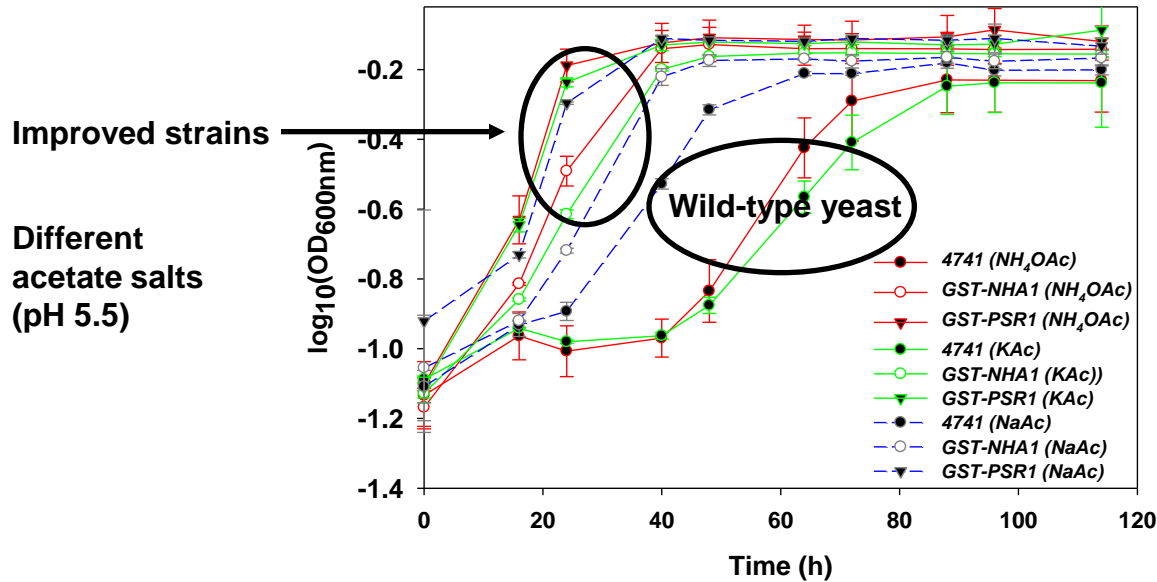
# CBP organism development yeast

Cellulase expression in Mascoma yeast  
(robust C5/C6 fermenting) vs time





# A Paradigm for Strain Improvement Down Barriers for Biofuel Production



Contact: Steven  
Brown,

[brownsd@ornl.gov](mailto:brownsd@ornl.gov)

This work is sponsored by the Laboratory Directed Research and Development Program of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

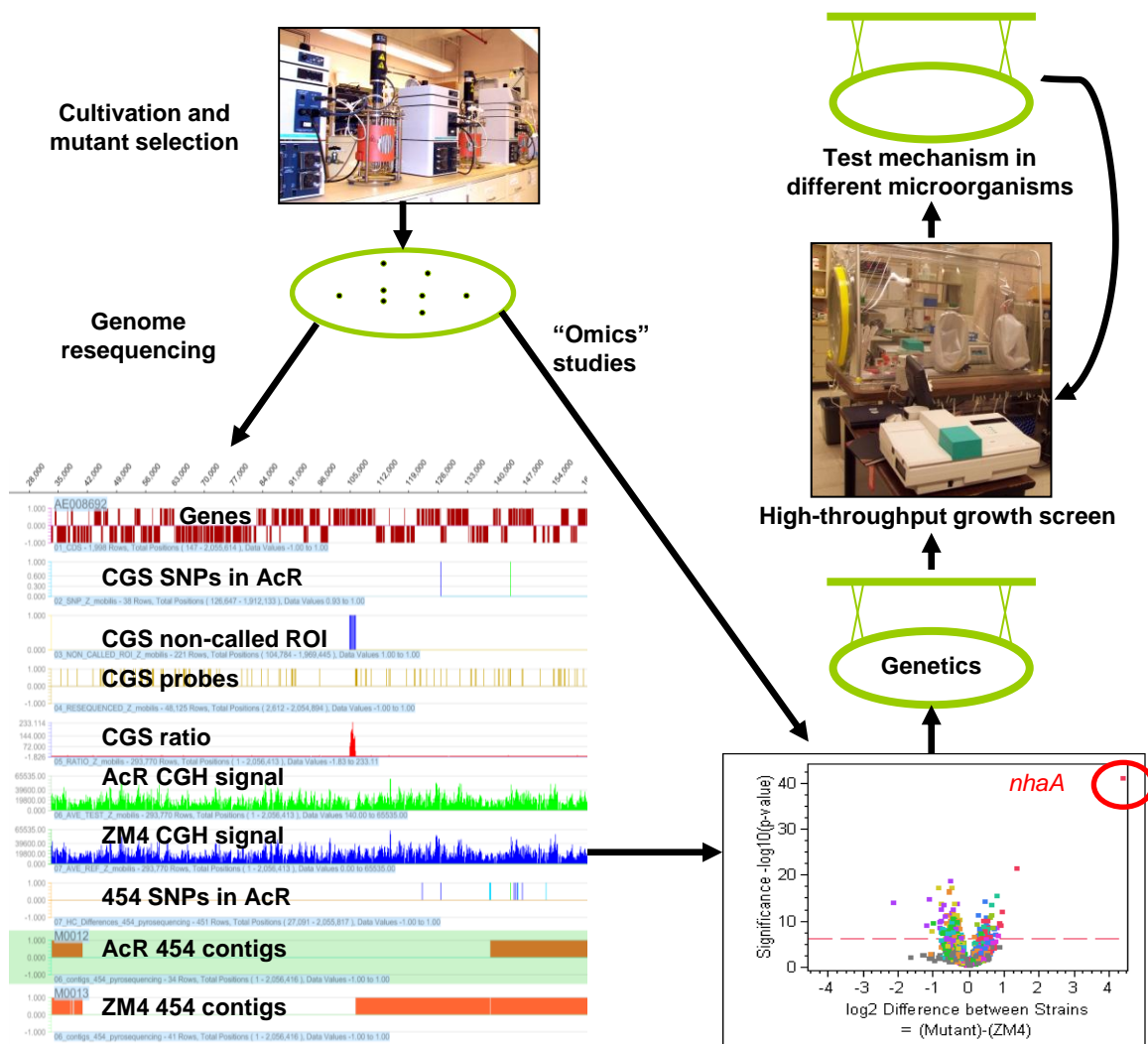
The BioEnergy Science Center is a U.S. Department of Energy Bioenergy Research Center supported by the Office of Biological and Environmental Research in the DOE Office of Science.

**Problem/Summary:** A core challenge in converting cellulosic material to biofuels such as ethanol and butanol is the recalcitrance of biomass to breakdown. Severe biomass pretreatments are required to release the sugars. These processes also generate a range of inhibitory chemicals such as acetate and can increase biofuel costs.

One approach to overcome inhibition utilizes inhibitor-tolerant microorganisms for efficient fermentation of lignocellulosic material to biofuels. Their utility is considered an industrial requirement.

**Technology Application:** This invention relates to microorganisms that display enhanced resistance to acetate as a result of increased expression of an antiporter gene, and are therefore advantageous for use in fermentation of biomass materials to produce biofuels such as ethanol.

# A Paradigm for Strain Improvement Down Barriers for Biofuel Production



**Contact: Steven Brown,**  
[brownsd@ornl.gov](mailto:brownsd@ornl.gov)

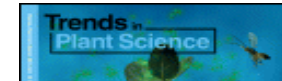
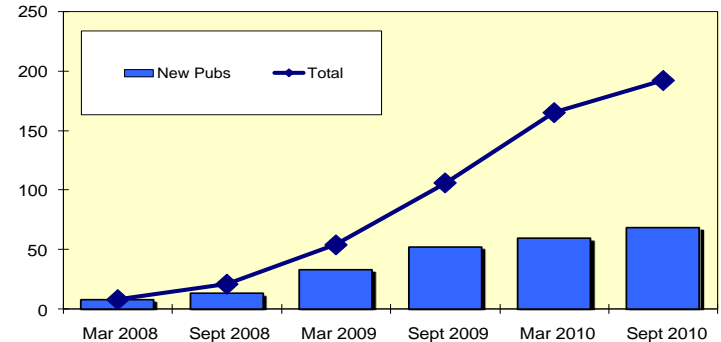
•The application of classical and systems biology tools is a paradigm for industrial strain improvement.

•Identification and overexpression of Na<sup>+</sup>/H<sup>+</sup> antiporter genes confers enhanced tolerance to acetate salts.

Patent Status: Patent Application  
 US 61/173,649  
 Licensing Status: Exclusive and non-exclusive licenses available

# Translating Discoveries to the Scientific Community

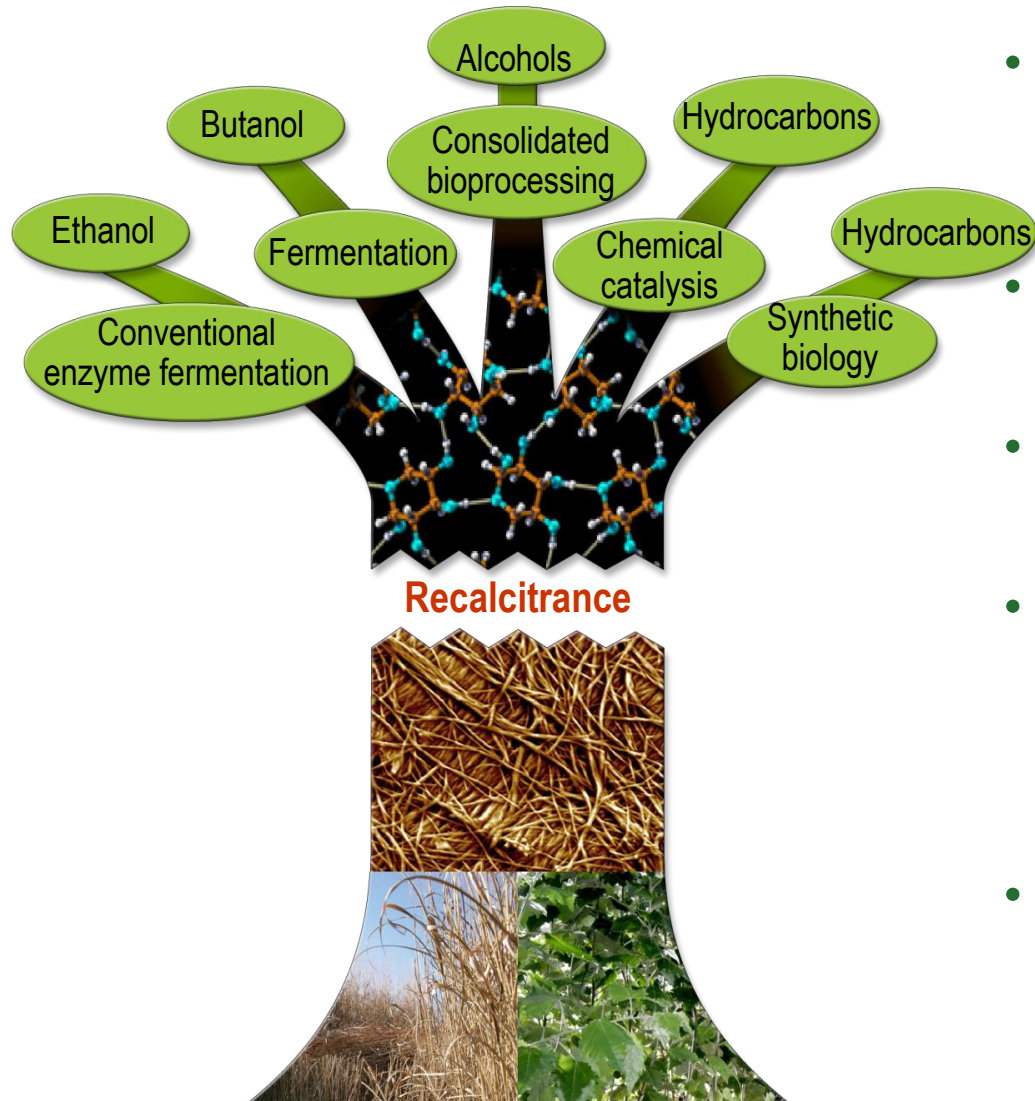
- 198 scientific publications (Sep. 2010)
  - ~33% of publications include external collaborators at non-BESC Institutions
- BESC publications have already been cited 600+ times in peer-reviewed journals
- Several publications in top-tier journals
  - *Nature Biotechnology*, 2008, Lynd *et al.*, How biotech can transform biofuels
  - *PNAS*, 2008, Shaw *et al.*, Metabolic engineering of a thermophilic bacterium to produce ethanol at high yield
  - *Nature Nanotechnology*, 2010, Tetard *et al.*, New modes of subsurface atomic force microscopy through nanomechanical coupling



- 25 inventions disclosed (under evaluation by BESC Commercialization Council)

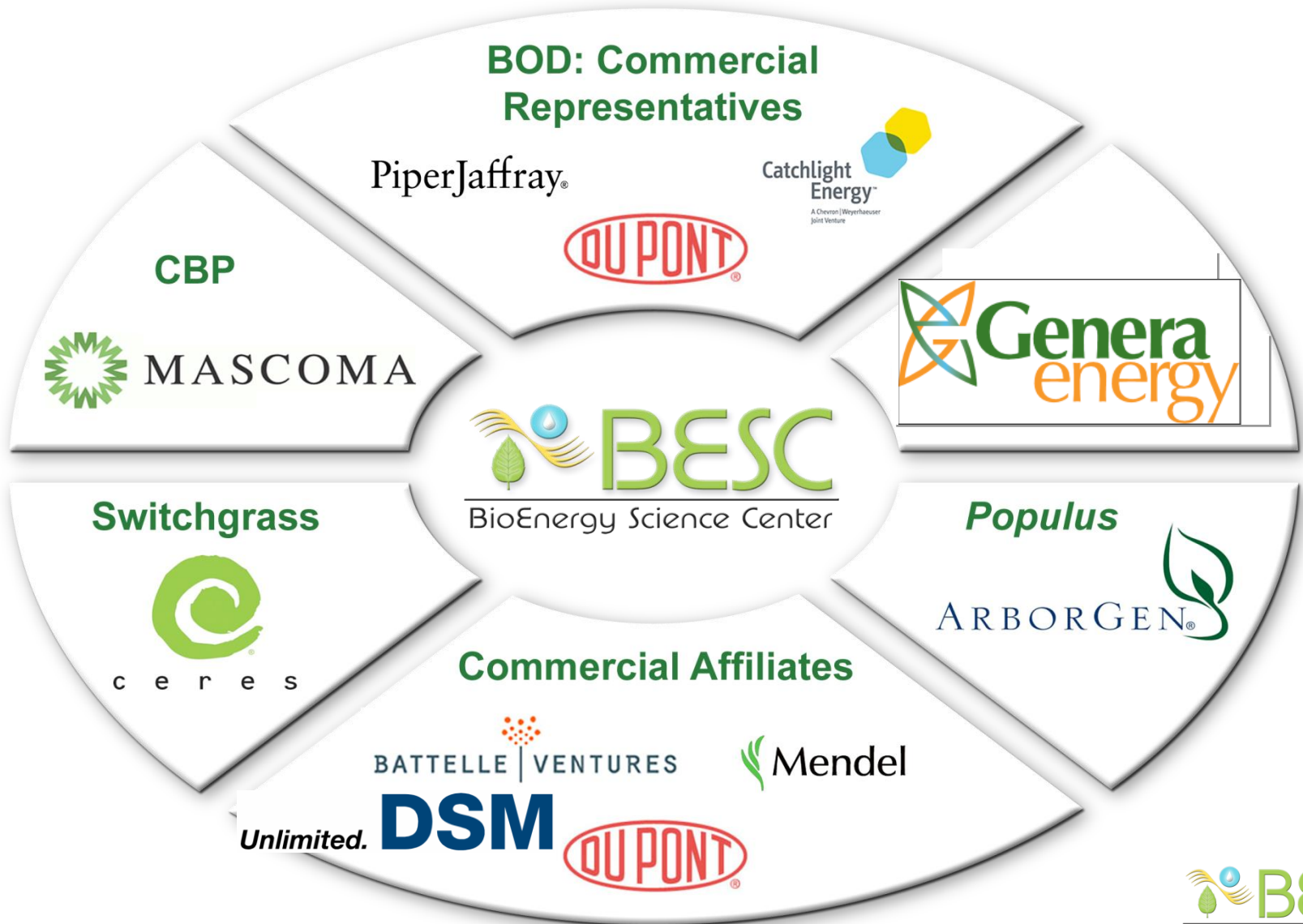


# Access to the sugars in lignocellulosic biomass is the current critical barrier



- Feedstock screening research uses enzyme and fermentation into ethanol
- Conversion research focuses on CBP
- Impacts are beyond ethanol into other fuels and products
- Preliminary results on butanol production from a modified CBP microbe (UCLA and ORNL)
- Plans to provide modified lignins to carbon fiber research

# Industrial partners facilitate strategic commercialization

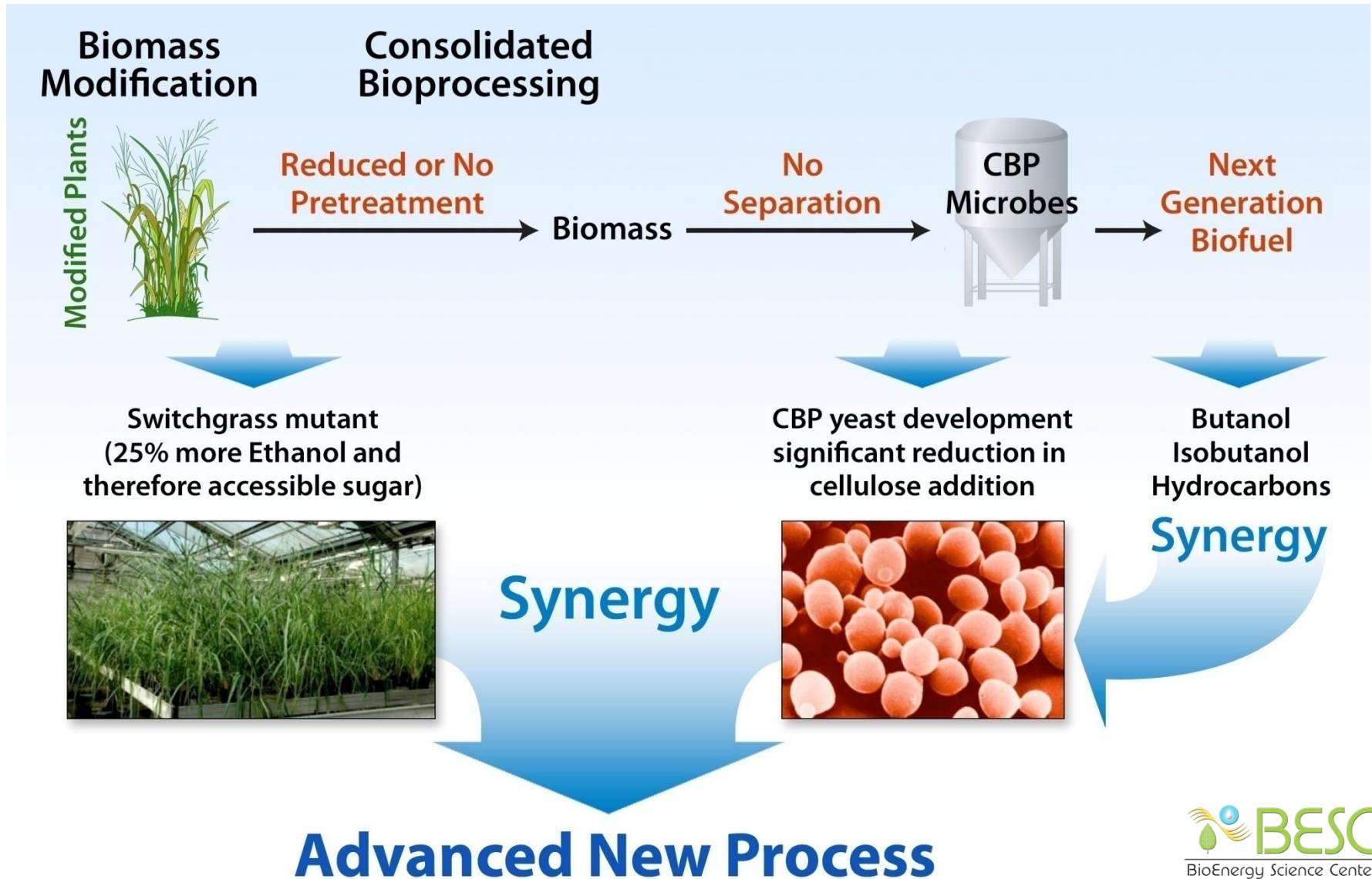


# Partnerships Expedite to Technology Transfer of Science moving into Applications

- BESC is generating 1000's of plant samples
- BESC is developing and utilizing improved genetic tools for CBP thermophiles
- BESC has access to several pilot facilities
  - Tennessee Biofuels Initiative pilot refinery in Vonore, TN with UT, Genera, and DuPont-Danisco
  - Mascoma biorefinery pilots in upstate NY and upper MI
  - Biofeedstock field trials via Arborgen, Ceres, Noble, and others
- A switchgrass field trial (a BESC transgene in BLADE) is scheduled at Ceres next spring
- Separately, ORNL is providing Systems Biology support to applied efforts at Mascoma under EERE funding
  - Resequencing improved cellulolytic yeast strains under the 10% biorefinery project
  - Transcriptomic and metabolomic analysis of improved *T. sacch.* Under the ethanologen project



# BESC Will Revolutionize How Biomass is Processed and Converted



# Thank you



SCIENCE RETREAT JUNE 2010



**BESC is a U.S. Department of Energy Bioenergy Research Center supported by the Office of Biological and Environmental Research in the DOE Office of Science**





# Bioenergy Sustainability and Land Use Research



## CBES

Center for BioEnergy  
Sustainability

Keith Kline, Gbadebo Oladosu, Virginia  
Dale, and others  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

For the China National Energy Agency  
U.S. Biofuels Study Tour

6 December, 2010

Visit the websites:

CBES: <http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>

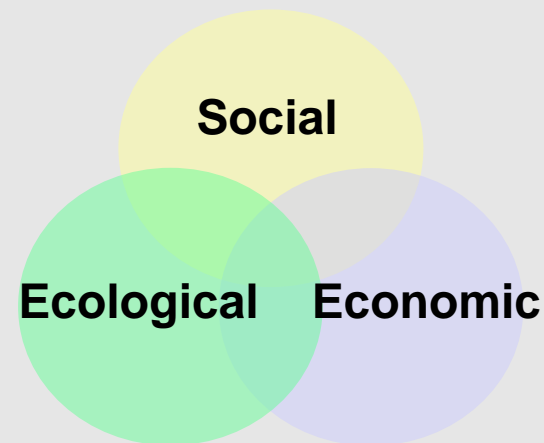
CCSI: <http://climatechangescience.ornl.gov>





## Key points

- Sustainability is contextual, relative (more/less) and process based
- Sustainability implications of biofuel choices are complex
- Opportunities to design systems to optimize socioeconomic and ecologic benefits of bioenergy merit attention
- Scales matter
- You can only manage what you can measure
- Assessment involves a suite of measures:



# Overview of talk: Examples of research and implementation related to sustainability and land use

- The Global Sustainable Bioenergy Project (GSB)
- Developing and testing indicators and metrics for sustainability of feedstock production
  - International Standards Organization (ISO) PC 248 “sustainable bioenergy criteria”
  - See CBES Forum (October 2010) - GBEP, RSB, CSBP and other standard and certification initiatives ([www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes](http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes))
- Modeling and Analysis
  - Economic models, GTAP
  - Historical data and decomposition analysis
- Publications and communications
  - CBES publication list (Science, Ecological Society of America etc.)
  - CARB [www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/workgroups/ewg/expertworkgroup.htm](http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/workgroups/ewg/expertworkgroup.htm)
  - IPCC – Bioenergy Chapter in Special Report on Renewables (in prep)

# Exploring feasibility of global sustainable bioenergy

## The Global Sustainable Bioenergy Project “GSB” initiated (June, 2009)

- Joint statement in *Issues in Science and Technology* letter supporting ORNL paper, “Biofuels Done Right”
- 2010 – web sites launched; five conventions held

### Test a working hypothesis:

It is possible to reconcile large-scale bioenergy production ( $\geq 25\%$  of global mobility or equivalent) with:

- feeding humanity
- meeting other needs from managed lands
- preserving wildlife habitat and environmental quality

For more information and full presentations see:

<http://engineering.dartmouth.edu/gsbproject/index.html>





# Feeding Humanity: Bioenergy, Food Security and Poverty

Rather than a threat, could development of biofuels be part of the solution?

## Problem

**Food Insecurity**

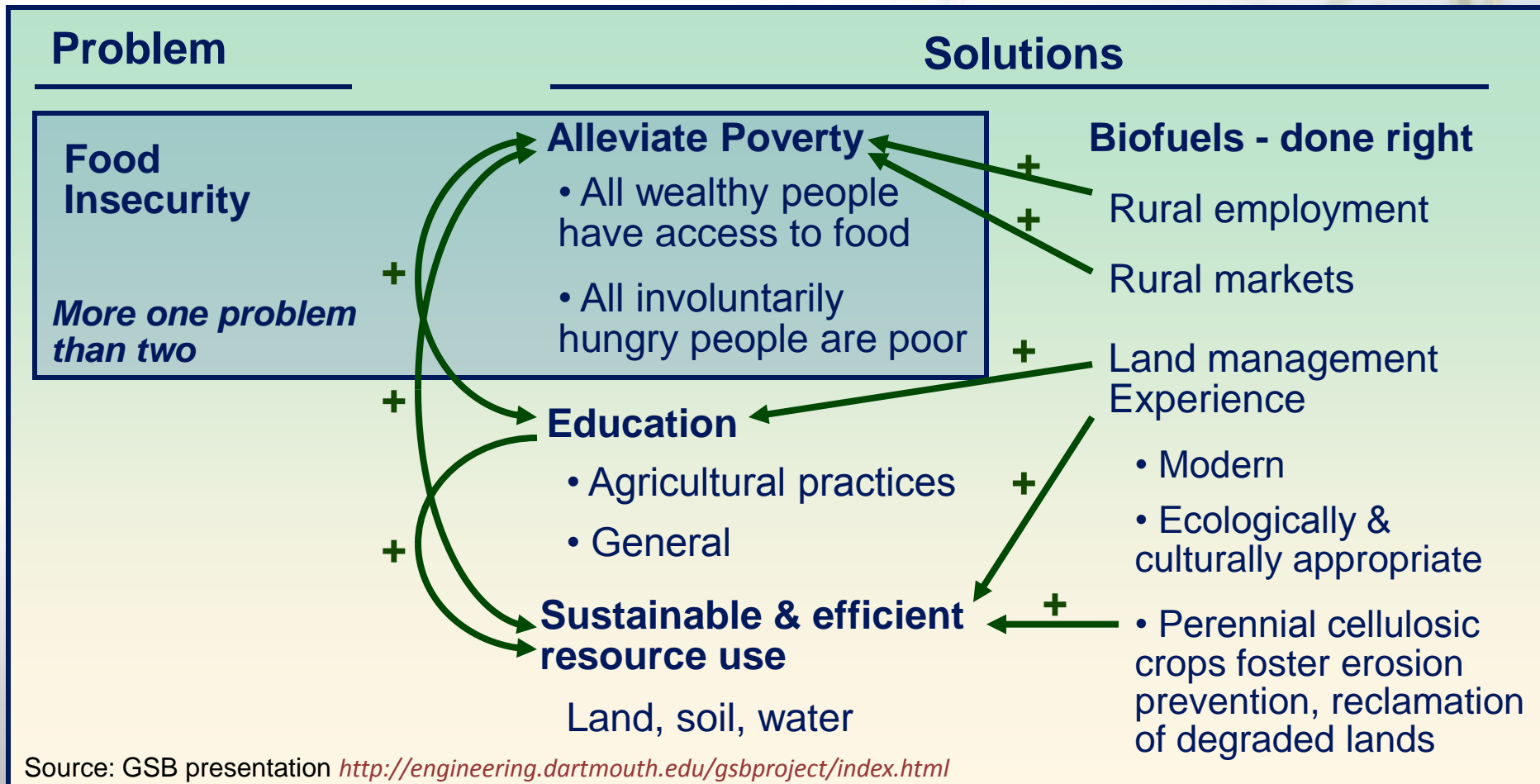
## Solutions

**Alleviate Poverty**

- All wealthy people have access to food
- All hungry people are poor

# Feeding Humanity: Bioenergy, Food Security and Poverty

Rather than a threat, could development of biofuels be part of the solution?



## Next steps – opportunities for collaborations:

- **GSB Project** – Contact Lee Lynd or other project participants [Lee.R.Lynd@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Lee.R.Lynd@Dartmouth.edu)
- **Land availability:** previously disturbed and underutilized land, land reclamation; regional and national estimates of available marginal areas and yields – Contact Keith Kline [klinekl@ornl.gov](mailto:klinekl@ornl.gov)
- **Double crops** – field based experiments and estimates of larger scale effects and importance. Contact Tom Richard, Penn State University [tlr20@engr.psu.edu](mailto:tlr20@engr.psu.edu)
- **Water and ecosystem effects:** evaluate bioenergy crops at watershed scale (eco-system services with minimum measurements for water and soils).



**Big systemic challenges – paths to a more sustainable world – require big systemic solutions and cooperation in many small steps to get there. All participation is welcome!**

# Components of Sustainability

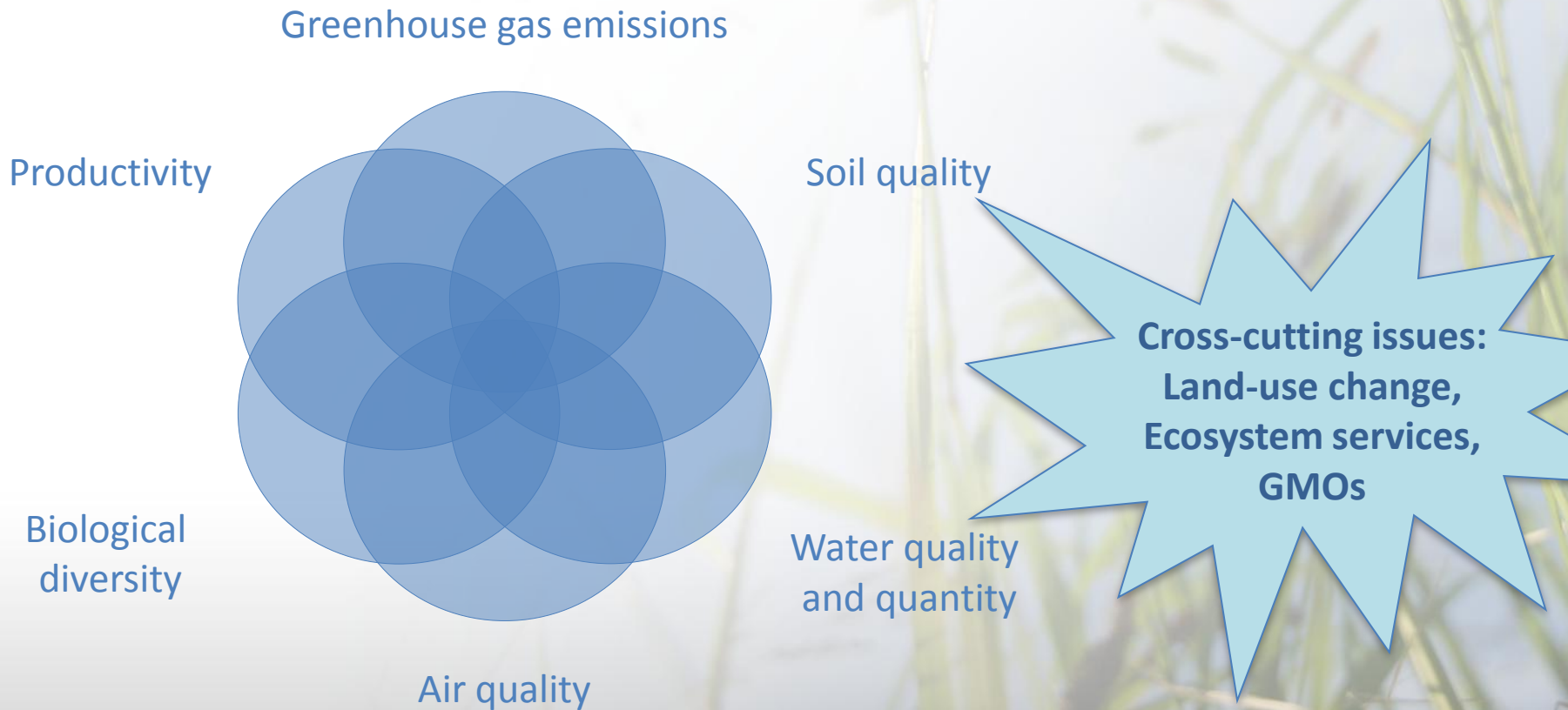


**Sustainability** is the capacity of an activity to continue while maintaining options for future generations.

For more information see:  
<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>



# Environmental Indicators of Bioenergy Feedstock Sustainability



For more information see:  
<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>

[Based on McBride, Dale, Baskaran, Downing, Eaton, Efromyson, Garten, Kline, Jager, Mulholland, Parish, Schweizer, Storey. In review. Indicators to support environmental sustainability of bioenergy systems. *Ecological Indicators*]

# Example: Productivity

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## Indicator

Aboveground net primary productivity ( $\text{gC}/\text{m}^2/\text{yr}$ )

- Management-related variables particularly important
- Important to track trends over time relative to other indicators (soil, water, etc.)



Managing land to improve soil qualities improves productivity and food security while supporting local adaptation to climate change and mitigation strategies (Lal, 2010 and others: see food-fuel references)

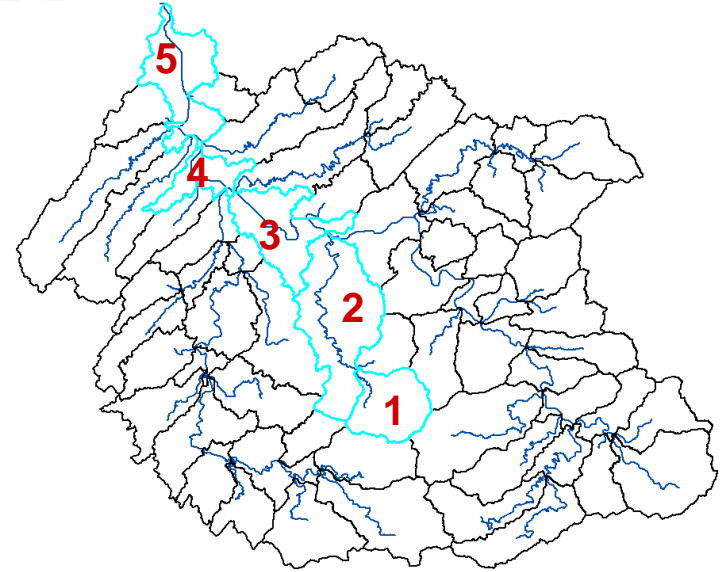
# Ecosystem services

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- Indicators of social and economic sustainability are connected to indicators of environmental sustainability through the concept of ecosystem services.
- Ecosystems provide people with provisioning, regulating, cultural, and supporting services (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).
- Bioenergy can enhance or degrade each type of service – depending on how implemented.

# Agricultural Landscape - watershed approach to bioenergy assessment

- **A systems-based approach**
  - Captures cause and effects
  - Includes feedbacks
  - Allows options to be considered
- **Landscape design**
  - Quantifies desired conditions for biofuel feedstock
  - Integrates spatial aspects of environmental & socioeconomic constraints
- **Spatial optimization**
  - Quantifies potential sustainability of bioenergy options
  - Operates at multiple scales



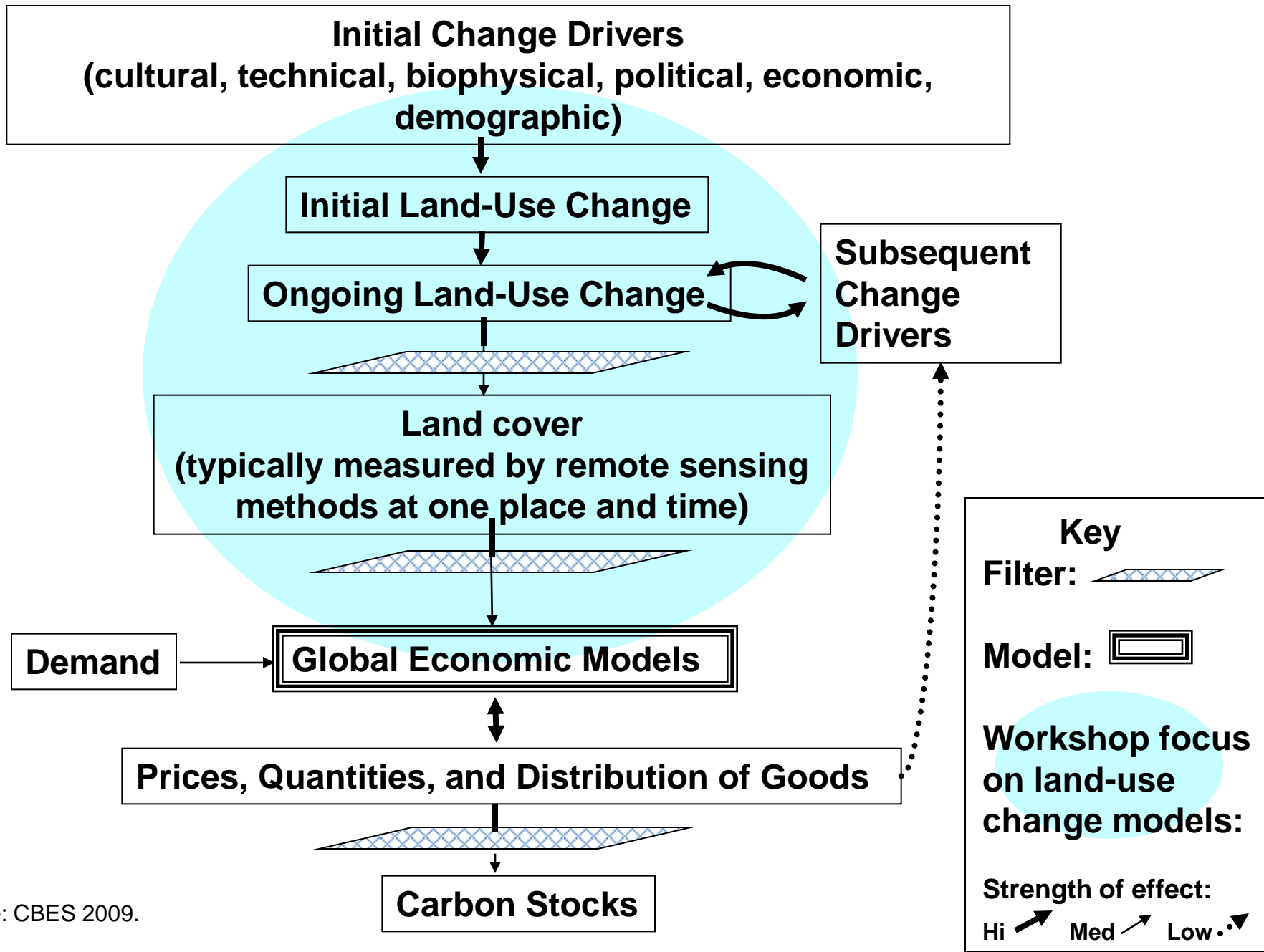


# Land-Use Change (LUC) underlies many biofuel concerns

- “Conventional wisdom”
- Regulatory initiatives
  - California (CARB)
  - NESCAUM (Northeast US)
  - EPA and EISA RFS2 requirement
- Certification initiatives (ISO PC248)



# 2009 LUC & BIOENERGY WORKSHOP



# Interactions among bioenergy, agriculture, climate change, deforestation (REDD) are complex

## Addressing deforestation in developing nations involves support for:

- Sustainable rural livelihoods – improve prices for products (increase security, land practices that reduce fire)
- Improved land tenure
- Inventory & protect key conservation areas
- Improved governance, local participation & capacity, enforcement
- LU plans & management

Source: USAID – FAA Sec. 118/119 Reports 2000-2008



# Need to Address Linkages

## Climate Change ➤ Energy

- Energy Options
- Intensity of use
- Distribution of supply and demand for energy

## Energy ➤ Climate Change

- Greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration
- Local weather and air quality

## Energy ➤ Land Use

- Energy extraction, production and distribution footprint
- Infrastructure and settlement plans

## Land Use ➤ Energy

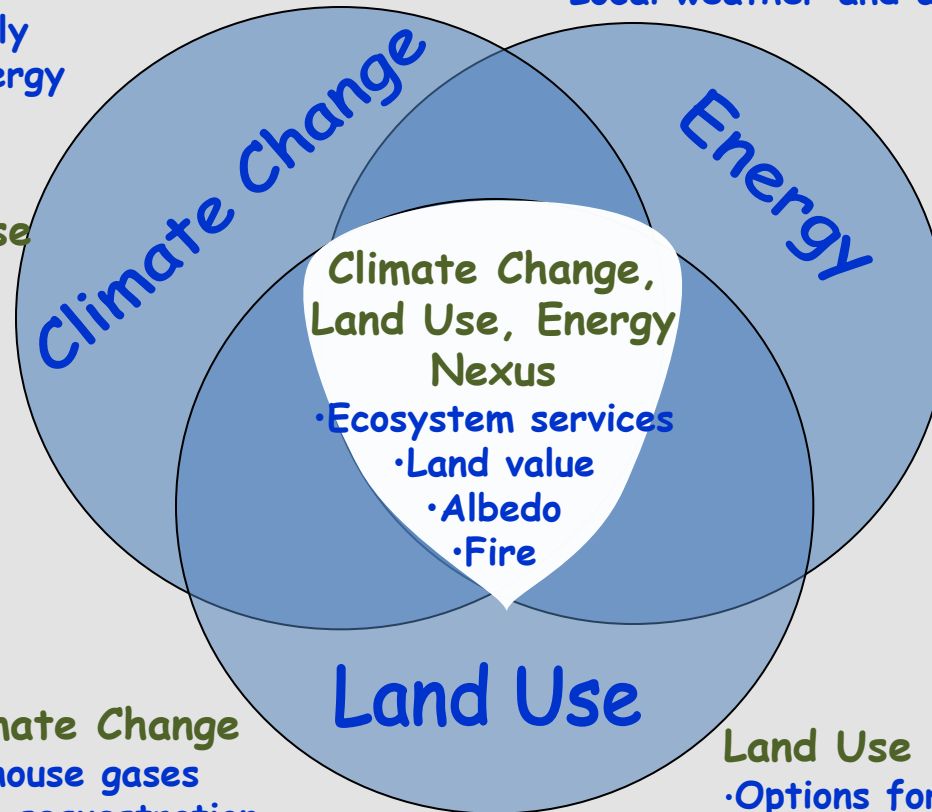
- Options for energy extraction, infrastructure, and production
- Efficiency of energy production
- Demand for energy

## Land Use ➤ Climate Change

- Release of greenhouse gases
- Amount of carbon sequestration
- Weather changes
- Vulnerability to climate change

## Climate Change ➤ Land Use

- Productivity
- Suitability for life forms and management practices
- Distribution of land uses
- Human settlement patterns



### Climate Change, Land Use, Energy Nexus

- Ecosystem services
- Land value
- Albedo
- Fire

For more information see: <http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>

[Based on Dale, Efrogmson and Kline, In review.  
The land use – climate energy nexus. *Landscape Ecology*.]



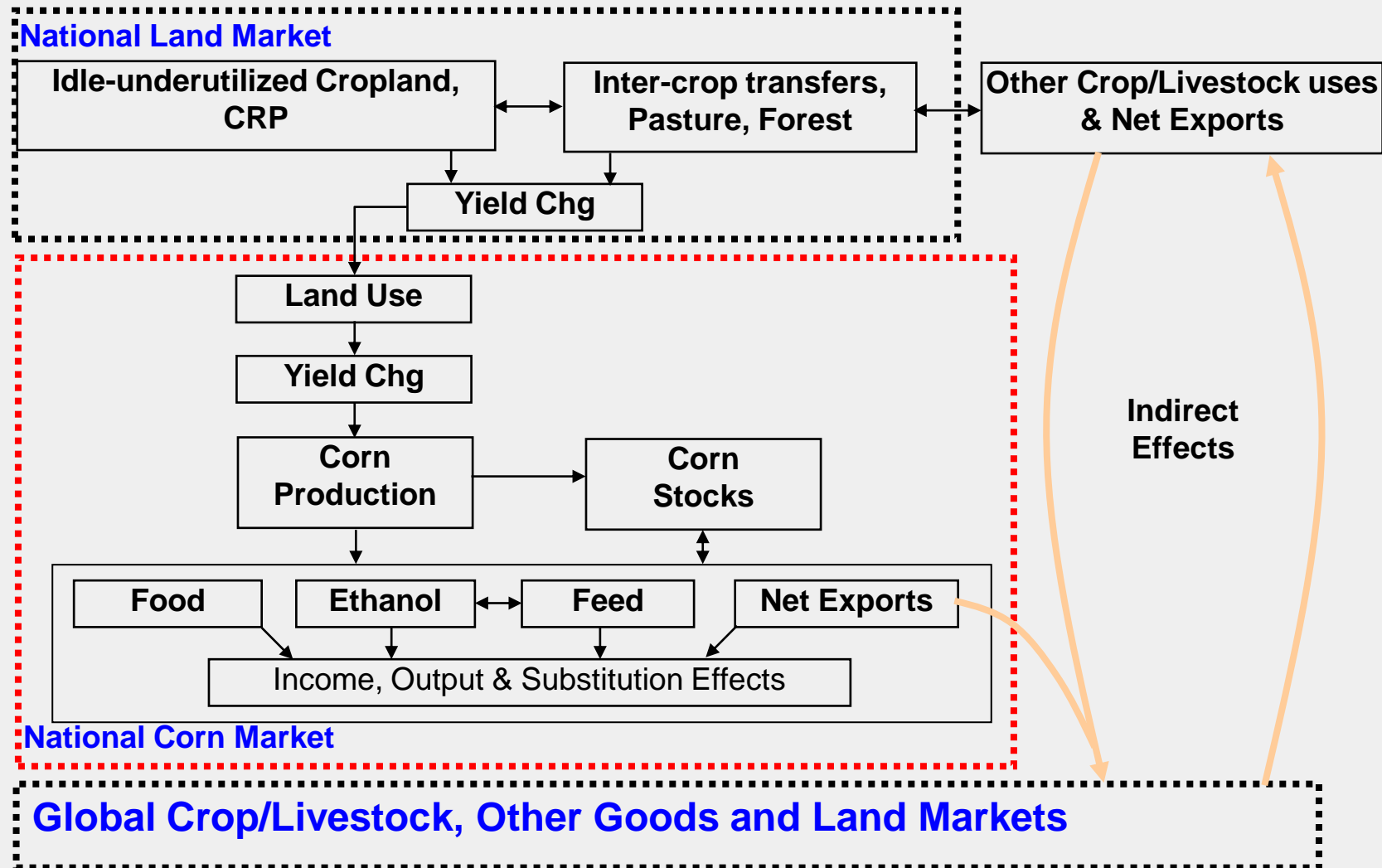
# Of Models and Science

“models ... are simplified views of the world that help us think about a complex issue, but not true representations of the complexity itself.”

-Claude Diebolt, Research Director of Economics, Universite de Strasbourg [quoted in *The Economist*, Aug 6, 2009]

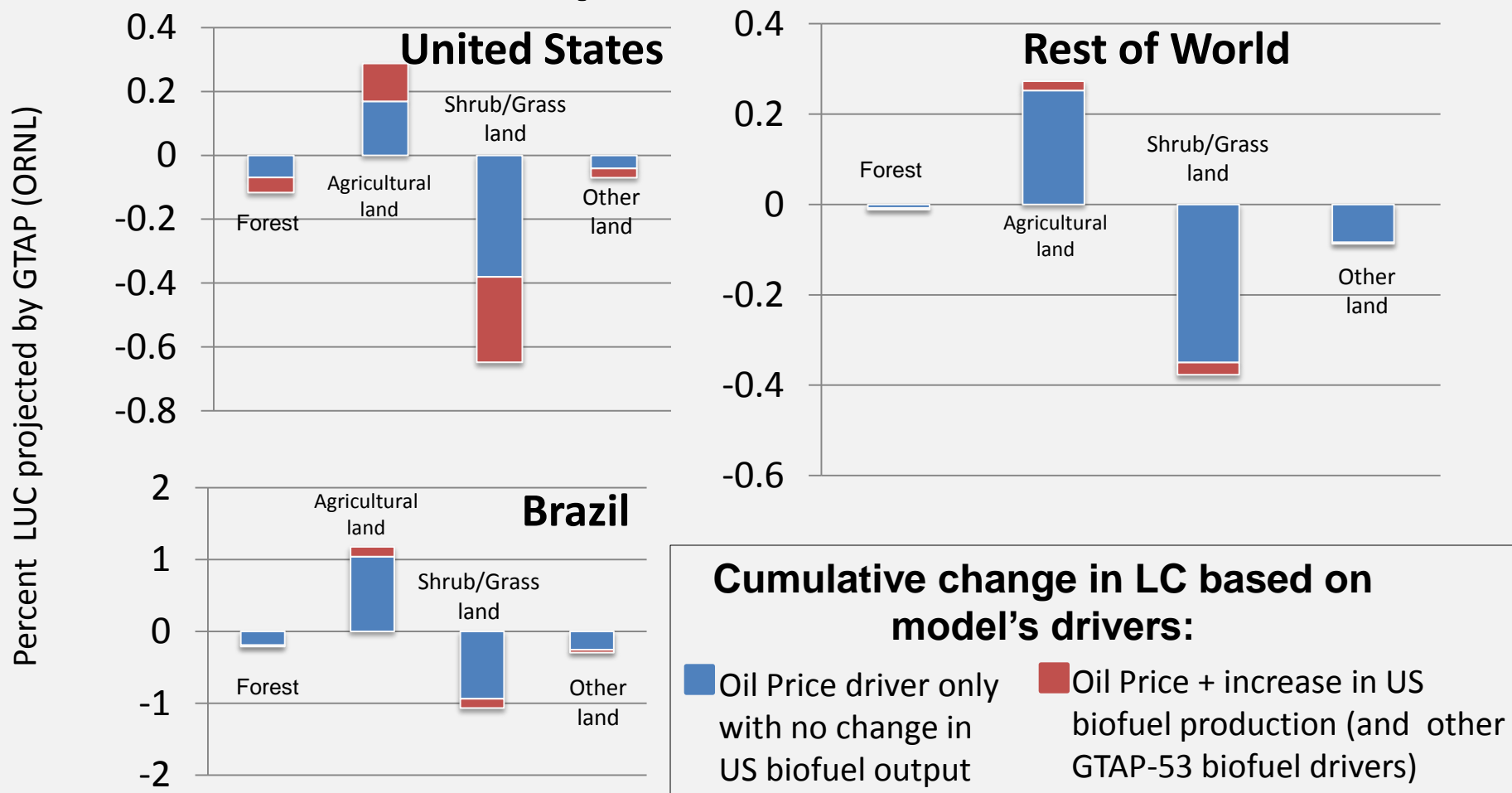


Computational General Equilibrium Models such as GTAP are needed to estimate effects of multi-market interactions



➤ ILUC cannot be observed; it is estimated by modeling

# Example of GTAP model uncertainty for LUC due to structure, assumptions and initial conditions



- LUC due to oil price driver alone ~90% of total change
- Most LUC associated with US biofuels occurs in the US

# Of Models and Science

"Science is the pursuit of knowledge and understanding of the natural and social world following a *systematic methodology based on evidence.*"

-Britain's Science Council <http://www.sciencecouncil.org/>



# Decomposition Analysis of U.S. Corn Use for Ethanol Production from 2001-2008

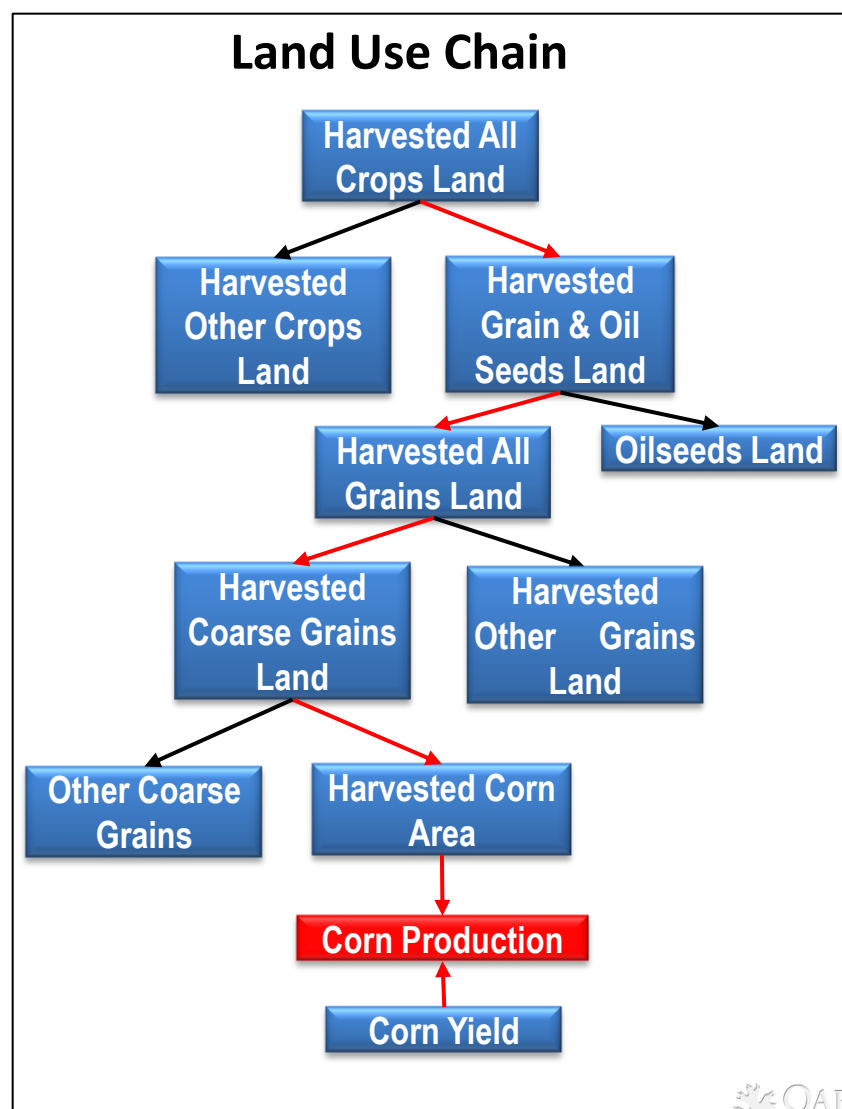
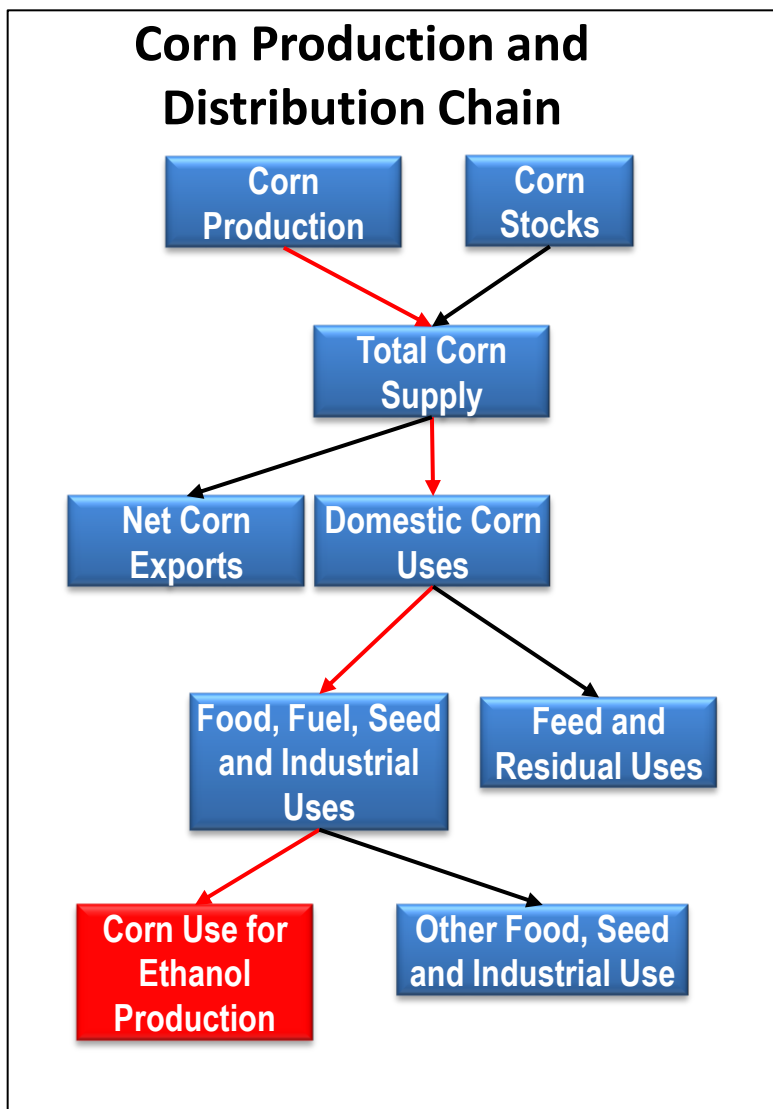
California Air Resources Board (CARB)  
Low Carbon Fuel Standard Expert  
Workgroup Meeting  
Sacramento, CA  
October 14-15, 2010

'Debo Oladosu and Keith Kline  
October 6, 2010

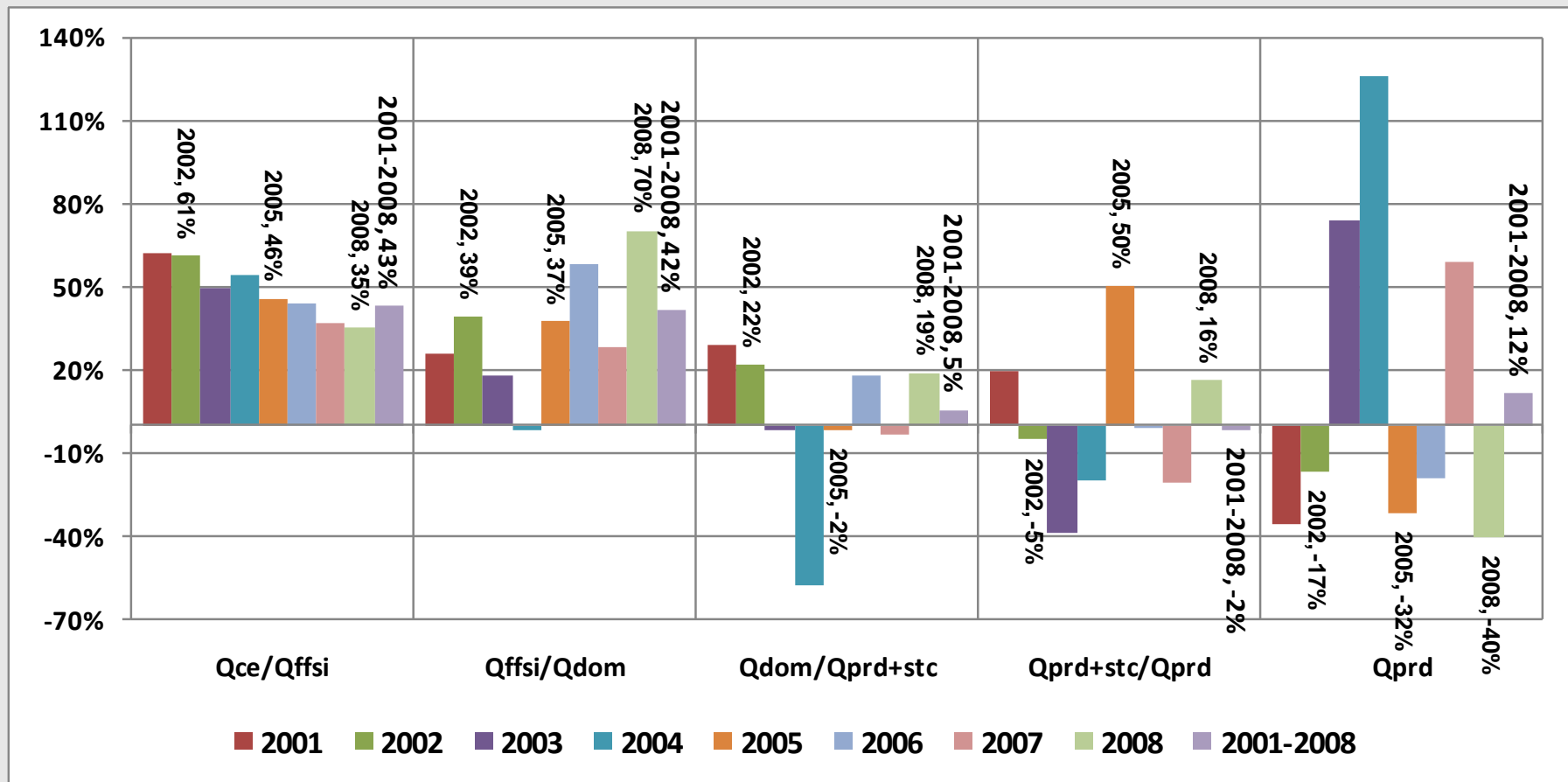
See: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/workgroups/ewg/expertworkgroup.htm>



# Decomposition Analysis of Empirical Corn Use for Ethanol Data with LMDI I: Linkages in the Chain



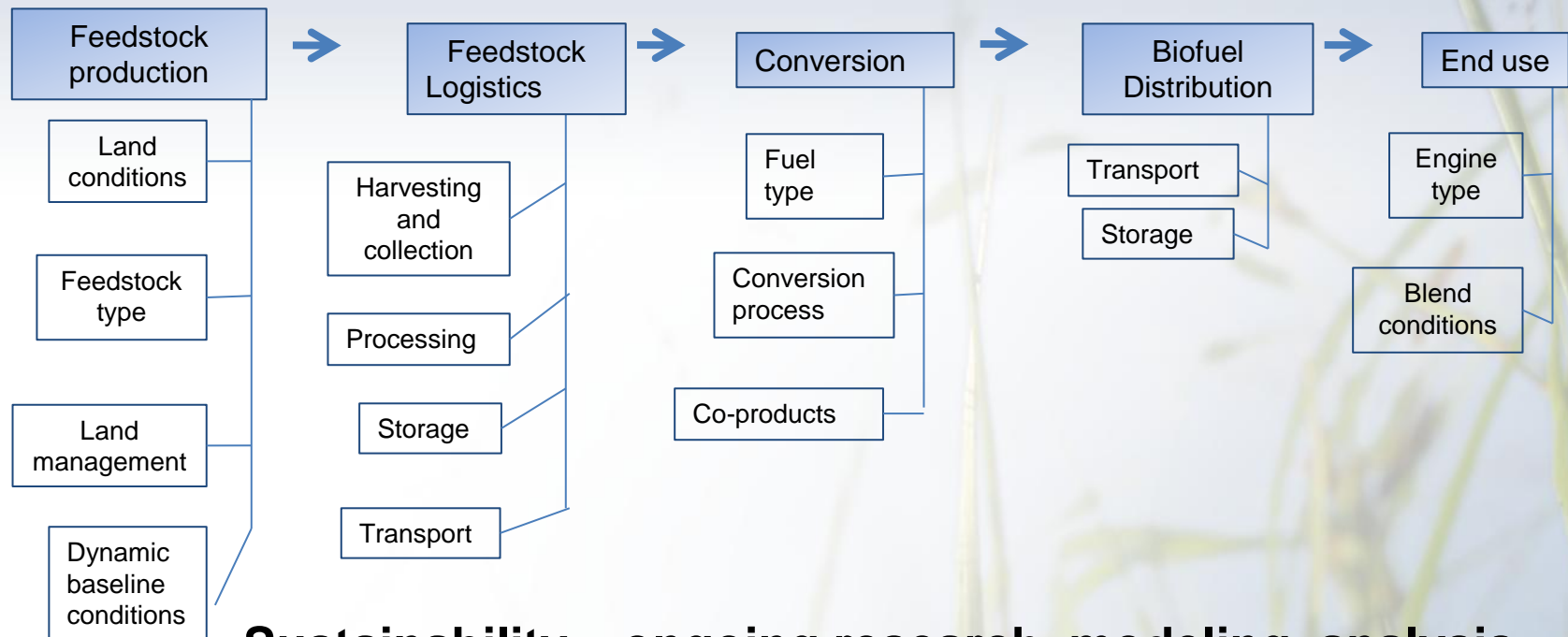
# Decomposition Results of Corn Use for Ethanol: Domestic Adjustments Account for Most Change



➤ Contribution across all years, 2001-2008

- Domestic Reallocation: 85%; Production: 12%; Domestic Corn Use Share: 5%; Corn Stock Withdrawals: -2%;

# Sustainability Issues are Important Across Supply Chains



## **Sustainability – ongoing research, modeling, analysis**

- **Context of indicator choices**
- **Scale of analysis and environmental effects (linkages, up/down)**
- **Baseline dynamics**
- **Comparative analysis of bioenergy pathways (ISO, GBEP, RSB, CSBP and others)**
- **Ecosystem services**
- **Communicating about bioenergy sustainability**
- **Enabling implementation**



# Considering sustainability within the system as an opportunity to design landscapes that add value



Thank you!

# Acknowledgements

The Center for Bioenergy Sustainability (CBES) and related research at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) are supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) under the Office of the Biomass Program and by U-T Battelle, LLC using the Lab-Directed R&D fund.

The views in this presentation are those of the authors and not necessarily those of ORNL, DOE or any other institution.

Center for Bioenergy Sustainability <http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>  
ORNL bioenergy: <http://bioenergy.ornl.gov/>

Oak Ridge National Laboratory is managed by the UT-Battelle, LLC, for DOE under contract DE-AC05-00OR22725.

The GSB is supported by multiple individuals and institutions. See <http://engineering.dartmouth.edu/gsbproject/index.html>

Contact information: Keith L Kline [klinekl@ornl.gov](mailto:klinekl@ornl.gov), Gbadebo Oladosu [oladosuga@ornl.gov](mailto:oladosuga@ornl.gov), Virginia Dale [dalevh@ornl.gov](mailto:dalevh@ornl.gov)

# References/Sources

- Global Sustainable Bioenergy Project (Note: presentations from five 2010 GSB continental conventions are posted in separate links to each convention, along with other reports and references):  
<http://engineering.dartmouth.edu/gsbproject/index.html>
- Presentations and reports on LUC issues are available on the CARB Expert Work Group web site:  
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/fuels/lcfs/workgroups/ewg/expertworkgroup.htm>
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<http://www.crcao.org/workshops/LCA%20October%202009/LCAindex.html>
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Workshop: A Watershed Perspective on Bioenergy Sustainability. Feb 3-4, 2010, ORNL. Office of the Biomass Program of the US Department of Energy, the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement (NCASI), the Center for BioEnergy Sustainability (CBES), and Oak Ridge National Laboratory: <http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes/workshop.shtml>

# Links to Information Resources

- DOE Biomass and Biofuels Program:  
[www.eere.energy.gov/biomass/](http://www.eere.energy.gov/biomass/)
- DOE Office of Science, Bioenergy Research Centers:  
<http://genomicsgtl.energy.gov/centers/>
- Alternative Fuels Data Center -  
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/afdc/fuels/ethanol.html>
- Bioenergy Feedstock Information Network:  
<http://bioenergy.ornl.gov/>
- Biomass R&D Initiative: [www.biomass.govtools.us](http://www.biomass.govtools.us)
- ORNL Center for Bioenergy Sustainability:  
<http://www.ornl.gov/sci/besd/cbes>



# US-China Biofuels Cooperation

## MORNING BREAK

# Bioenergy Resource Analysis at ORNL

Bob Perlack, **Laurence Eaton**,  
Craig Brandt, Matt Langholtz,  
Anthony Turhollow, Mark Downing,  
Robin Graham

**US Biofuels Study Tour for the  
China NEA**

**Knoxville, Tennessee**

**December 6, 2010**





# Overview

1. Introduction
2. Research objectives
3. The Billion Ton Report, resource assessment methods, capabilities
4. Conclusions

# Research team

- Interdisciplinary team of economists, ecologists, agricultural engineers, and agronomists
- Collaborate across DOE laboratories, federal agencies (e.g. USDA), academia, and private industry

# Resource Assessment at ORNL

- Identify supplies of potential current and future cellulosic bioenergy feedstocks at target prices
- Integrate “state-of-the-art” sustainability science parameters into production scenarios
- Estimate supplies that minimize disturbance to current production systems (e.g. food and livestock)
- Assess conditions under which energy mandates (e.g. biopower, EISA) can be met

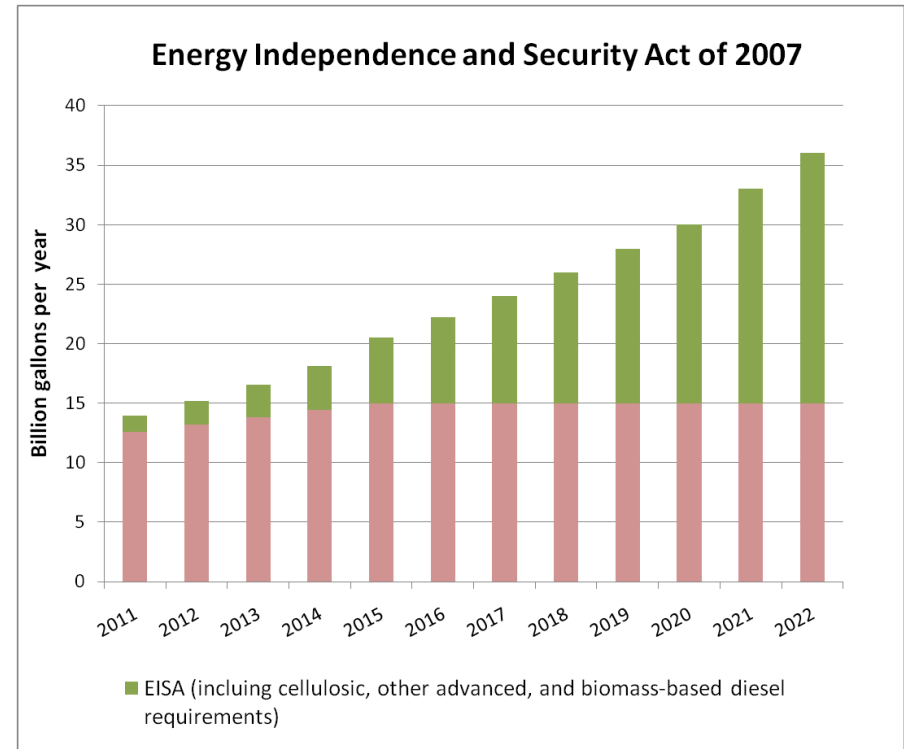
# Resource Assessment (cont'd)

- Address potential biomass resource availability at target prices and high spatial resolution
- Provide the data and analysis transparent and available to end users (government, NGO, academia, private sector)

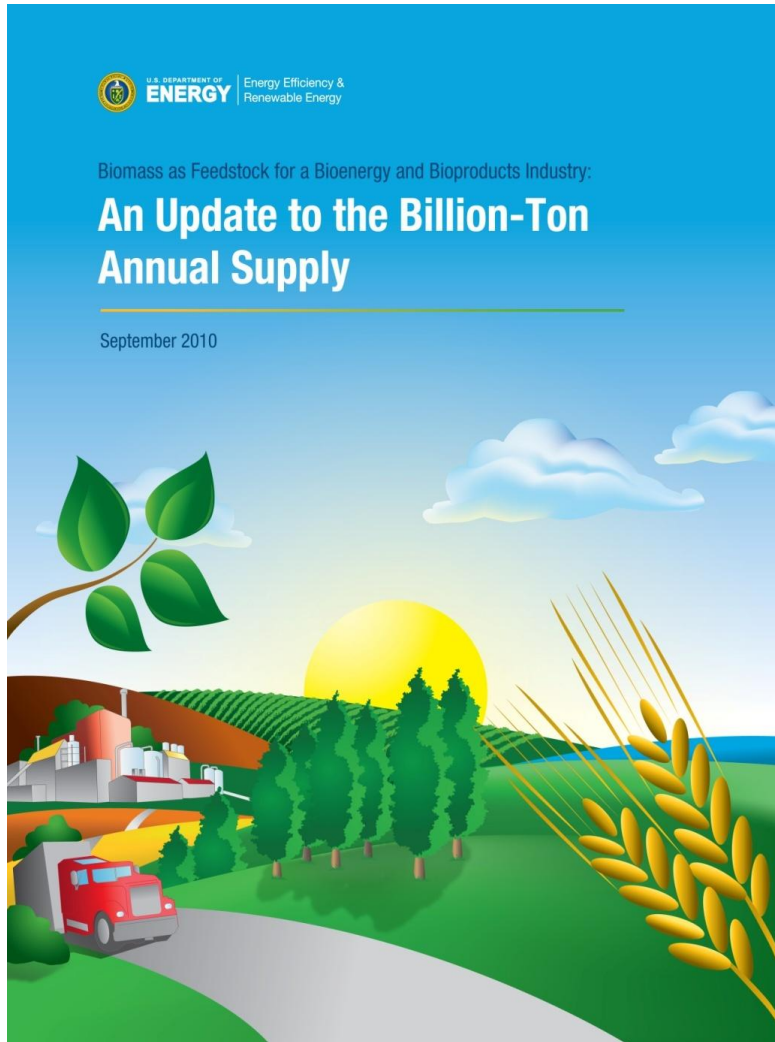


# Recent National Energy Policy Mandate

- EISA (2007) mandates 36 billion gallons of ethanol by 2022
  - Maximum of 15 billion gallons of corn ethanol
  - Remaining 21 billion gallons to come from cellulosic and advanced sources

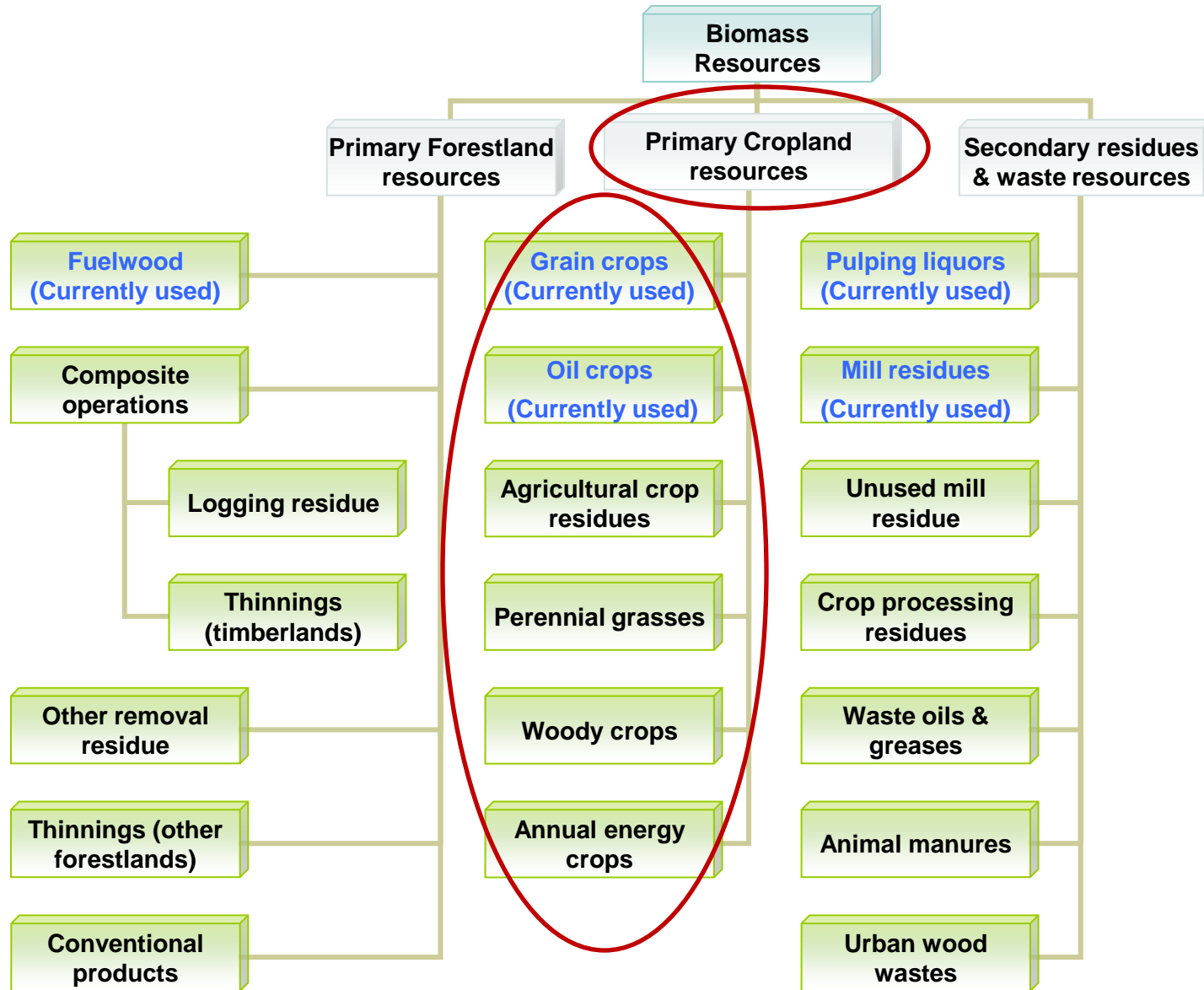


# What is the Biomass Potential?



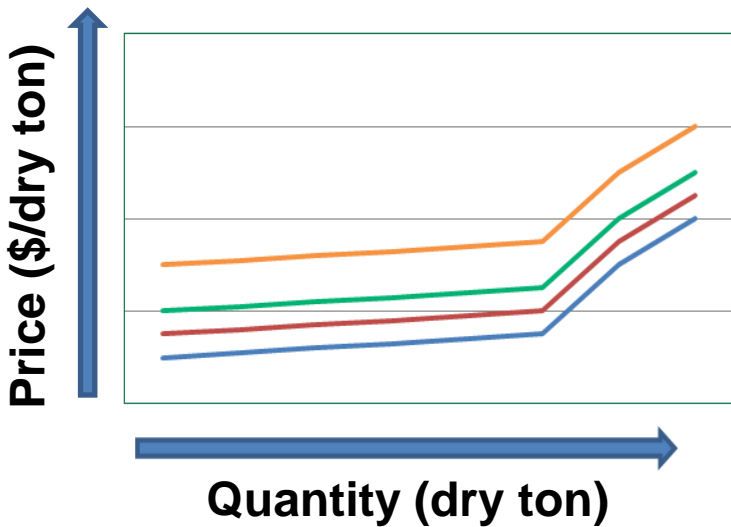
- Initially report (2005) identified between 0.6 to nearly 1 billion dry tons (~1.2 Mg) annually
- 2010 Update finds similar quantities (by 2030) depending on scenario and prices offered

# Biomass Feedstocks



# How Much Biomass is Available?

- feedstock; price, year, yield assumptions (scenarios); current use status; geography



**Feedstocks**

- Forest
- Agriculture

**Selected Prices**

- \$10-\$100 (Forest)
- \$20-\$80 (Agriculture)

**Year**

- 2010 (base)
- 2017
- 2022
- 2030

**Scenarios**

- Baseline
- High-yield
  - 2%, 3%, 4% annual growth

**Use Status**

- Currently used
- Potential

**Scale**

- National
- Regional
- State
- Multi-county
- County



# General Approach

- **Estimate economic supply curves**
  - **Price and quantity relationships of resources**
    - **Residues for annual crops**
    - **Dedicated energy crops**
    - **Forest residues and conventional wood**
  - **Prices cover collection and harvest costs**
    - **Include transportation to the farm or field gate**

# Primary Land Resource Categories

## 1. Primary agriculture resources - Residues from annual crops and energy crops

- Economic simulations POLYSYS- Policy Analysis System Model
- Based on USDA-NASS, USDA Census data, USDA Agricultural Baseline projections
- Dedicated energy crops include switchgrass, energycane, energy sorghum, hybrid poplar, pine, eucalyptus,

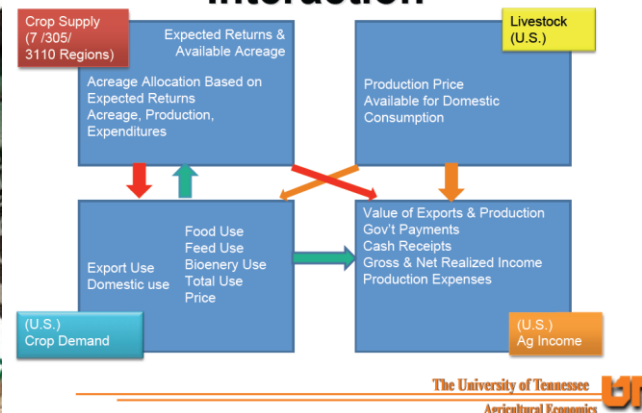
## 2. Primary forest resources – Forest logging residues, thinnings, and mill residue

- Use USDA-Forest Service data (FIA, TPO, RPA, ...); meet RPA projections for pulp, timber, veneer
- Resource constraints include forest residue access, recovery, and merchantability
- Requirements for resource environmental sustainability

# Economic Forecasting Model

- POLYSYS- Policy Analysis System, partial equilibrium mathematical displacement model
  - County model of the U.S. agricultural sector anchored to USDA 10-year baseline projection & extended to 2030
  - 8 major crops (corn, soybeans, wheat, sorghum, oats, barley, rice, cotton) and hay, livestock, food/feed markets
  - USDA projected demands for food, feed, industrial demand, and exports
  - Stover, straw, energy crops (perennial grass, coppice and non-coppice woody, annual)
  - Land base includes cropland (250 million acres), cropland pasture (22 million acres), hay (61 million acres), permanent pasture (118 million acres)

## POLYSYS Modules and Interaction

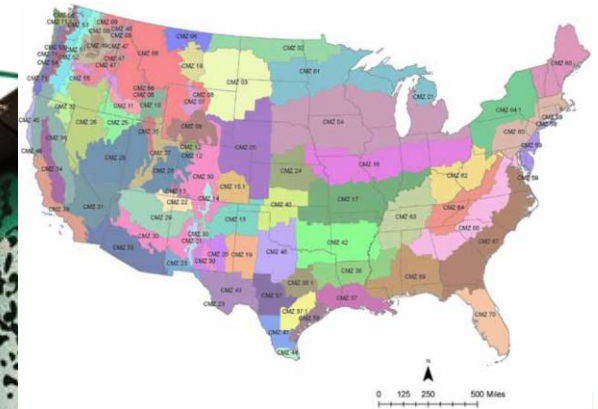


For model background:  
Daniel G De la Torre Ugarte,., and Darrell E. Ray. 2000. "Biomass and Bioenergy Applications of the POLYSYS Modeling Framework," *Biomass and Bioenergy* 4(3):1-18.

# Agricultural Crop Residues

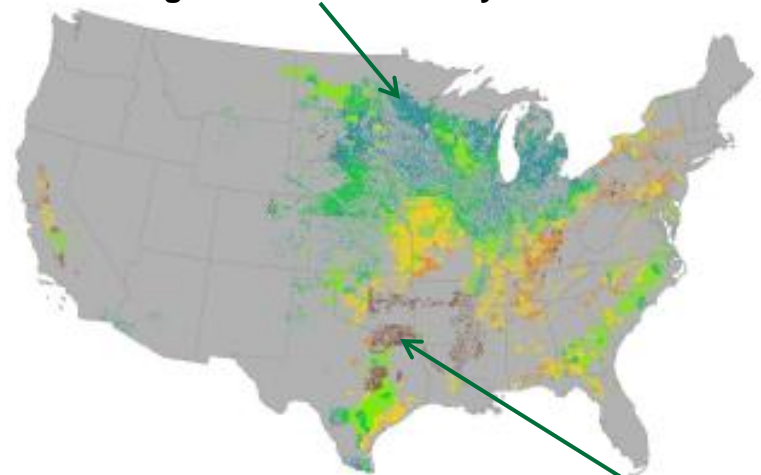
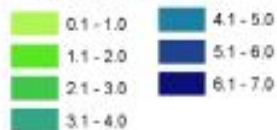
- Residue retention coefficients estimated using RUSLE2, WEPS, and SCI models for erosion and soil carbon
  - Separate coefficients for reduced till and no-till
  - No residue removal under conventional till

NRCS Crop Management Zones



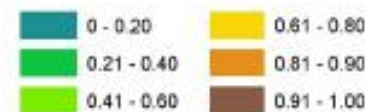
No-till total stover yield

(dry tons/acre)

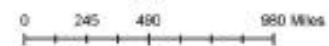


High residue availability

Sustainable Retention Coefficient



Low residue availability



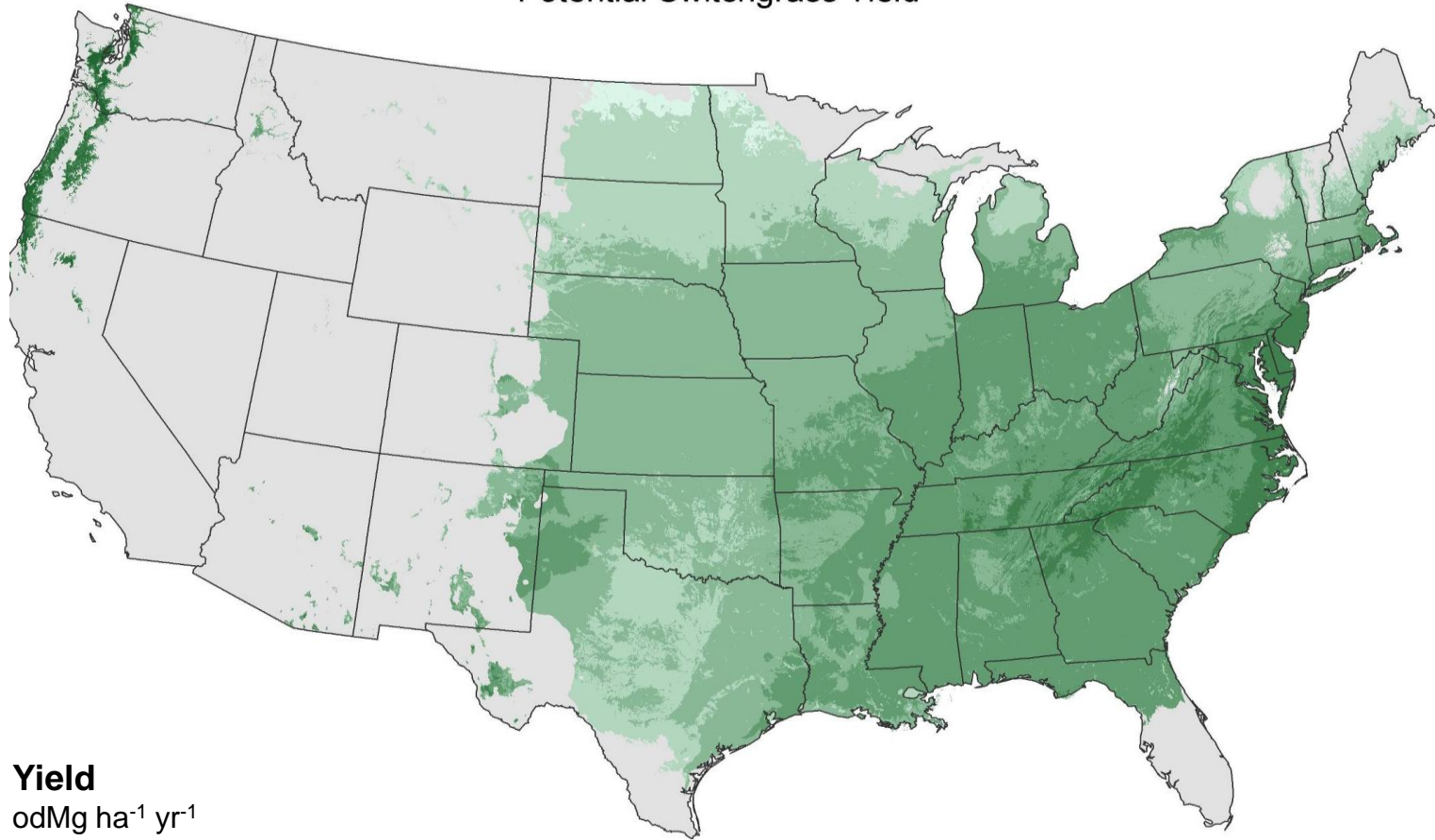


# Dedicated Energy Crops: Sustainability

- **Energy crops allowed on non irrigated land**
- **Minimal tillage, fertilizer and herbicide applications**
- **Used BMPs for establishment, cultivation, and harvesting**
- **Some intensification of pasture land required (Management Intensive Grazing) to meet lost forage when energy crops displaced pasture**

# Dedicated Energy Crops: Switchgrass Yields

Potential Switchgrass Yield



## Yield

odMg ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>



## Herbaceous crop yields

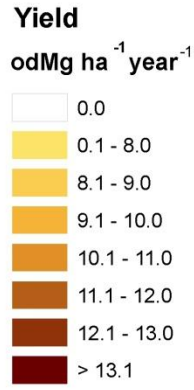
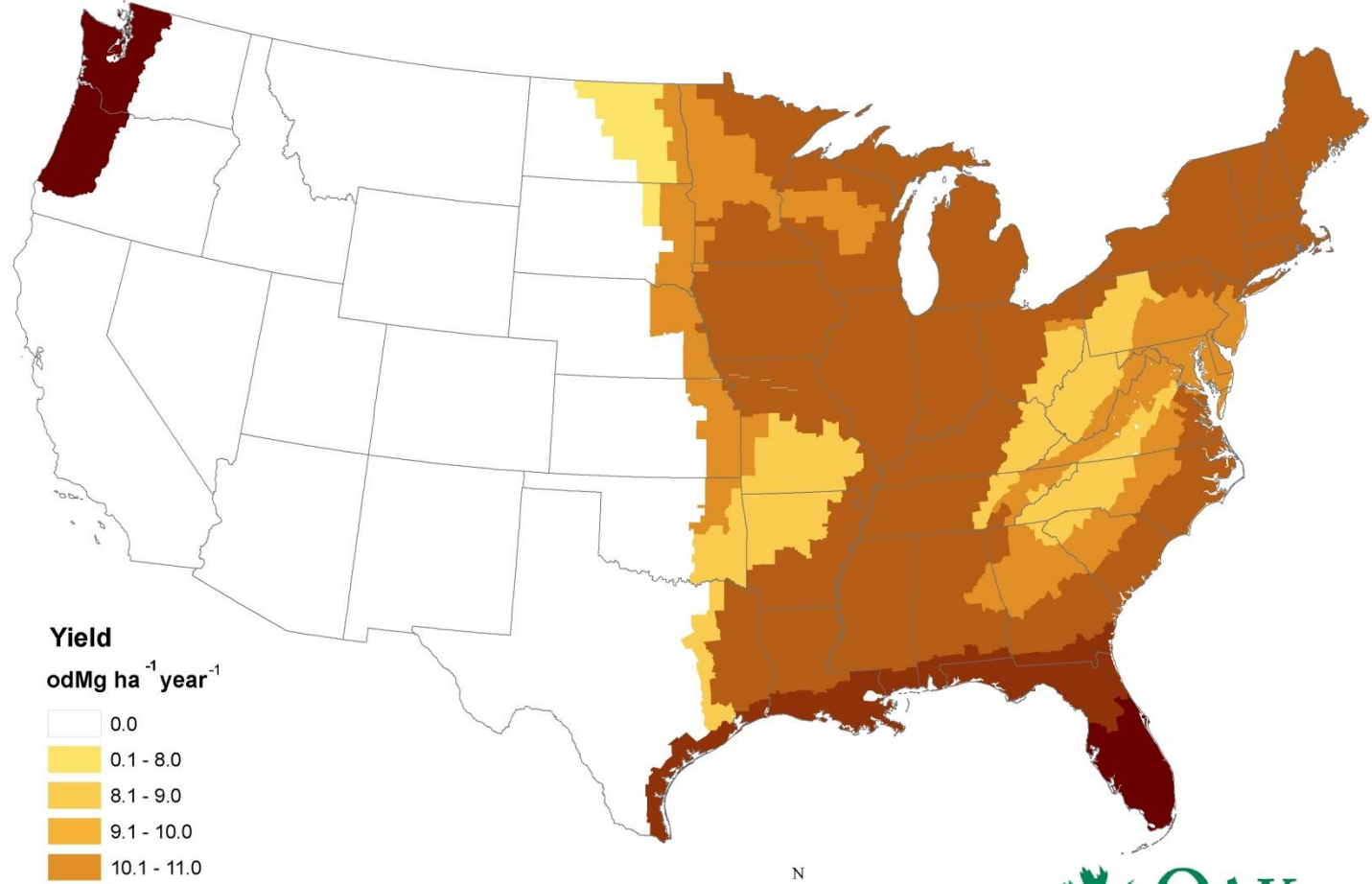
2010 yield = 3 – 9.9 tons/acre;

2030 yield = 3.6 – 12.0 tons/acre

(baseline scenario)

# Dedicated Energy Crops: Woody Crop Yields

- Woody crops (poplar, pine, eucalyptus, willow)



**Woody crop yields**  
**2010 yield = 3.5 – 6;**  
**2030 yield = 4.2 – 7.2**  
**(baseline scenario)**



# Scenarios

- **Baseline scenario assumptions**
  - **Published USDA Baseline forecast for crop yields, acres, etc.**
  - **Baseline forecast extended to 2030 based on trends in last 3-years of published forecast**
  - **Stover to grain ratio of 1:1 assumed**
  - **National corn yield average of 160 bu/ac in 2010 and assumed to increase to 201 bu/ac in 2030**



# Scenarios (cont'd)

- **Baseline scenario assumptions (continued)**
  - Assumes a mix of conventional till (CT), reduced till (RT), and no-till (NT)
    - For corn
      - 2010 – 38% conventional till, 43% reduced till, 20% no-till
      - 2030 – 34% conventional till, 43% reduced till, 23% no-till
    - No residue collected on conventionally tilled acres
  - Energy crop yields increase of 1% (learning-by-doing)
- **High-yield scenario assumptions**
  - National Corn yield average increases to 265 bu/acre in 2030
  - Higher no-till adoption allowed (greater residue removal allowed)
  - Energy crop yields increase at 2%, 3%, and 4% annually
    - Higher yields attributed to more aggressive R&D

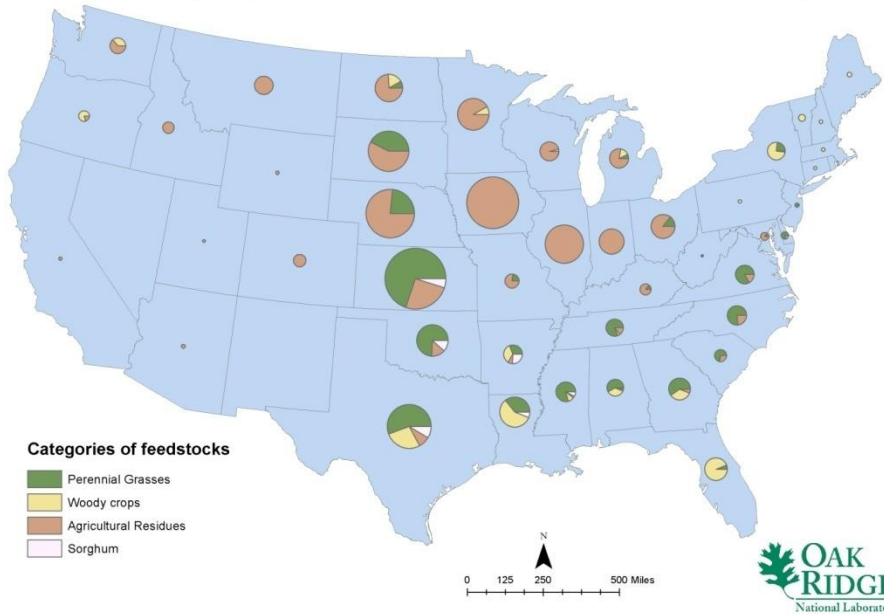
# Scenarios (cont'd)

- **High-yield scenario assumptions**
  - **National Corn yield average increases to 265 bu/acre in 2030**
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# State-level sources of agricultural feedstocks in 2030

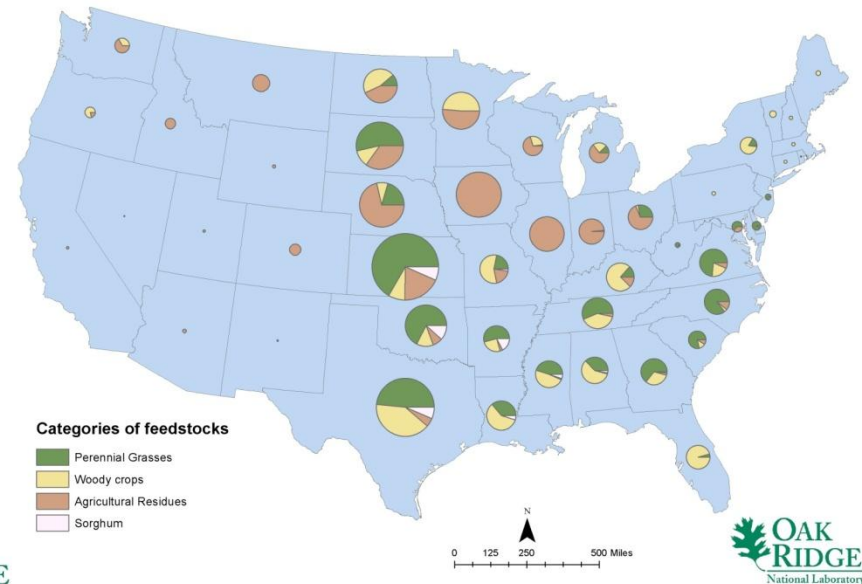
\$50/dry ton

Shares of primary cellulosic feedstocks, baseline 2030, \$50/dry ton (farmgate)



\$60/dry ton

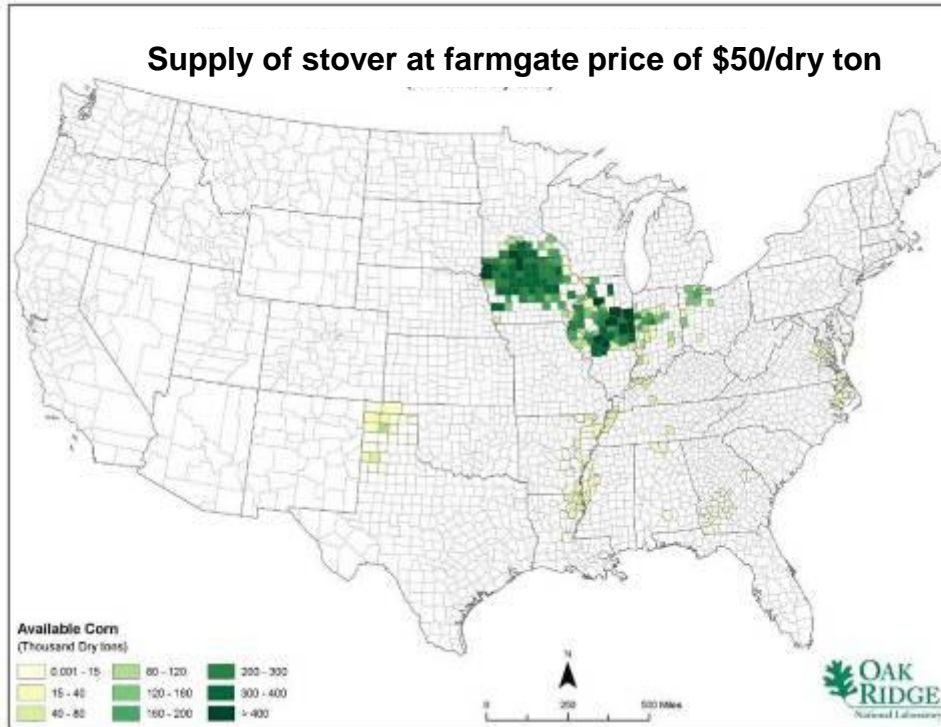
Shares of primary cellulosic feedstocks, baseline 2030, \$60/dry ton (farmgate)



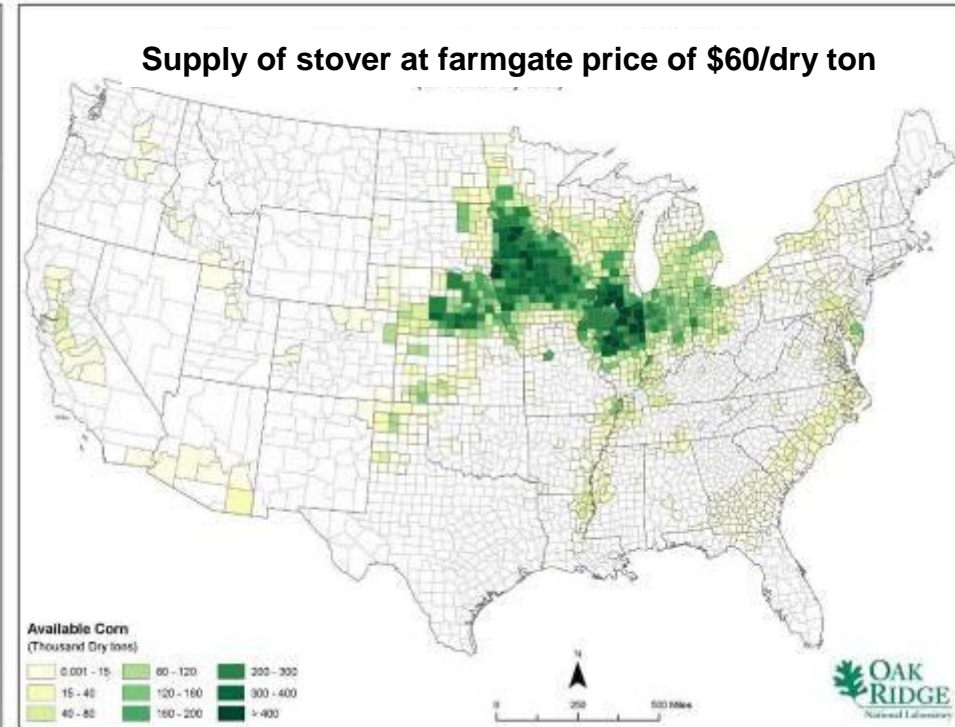
As price increases, fraction of supply that is woody crops increases

# County-level Corn Stover Supply, 2030

Supply of stover at farmgate price of \$50/dry ton



Supply of stover at farmgate price of \$60/dry ton





# Other research publications (under review)



U.S. Department of Energy – Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy  
INL/EXT-10-18930

## Billion-Ton Study Update “High-Yield Scenario” Workshop Series

### SUMMARY REPORT

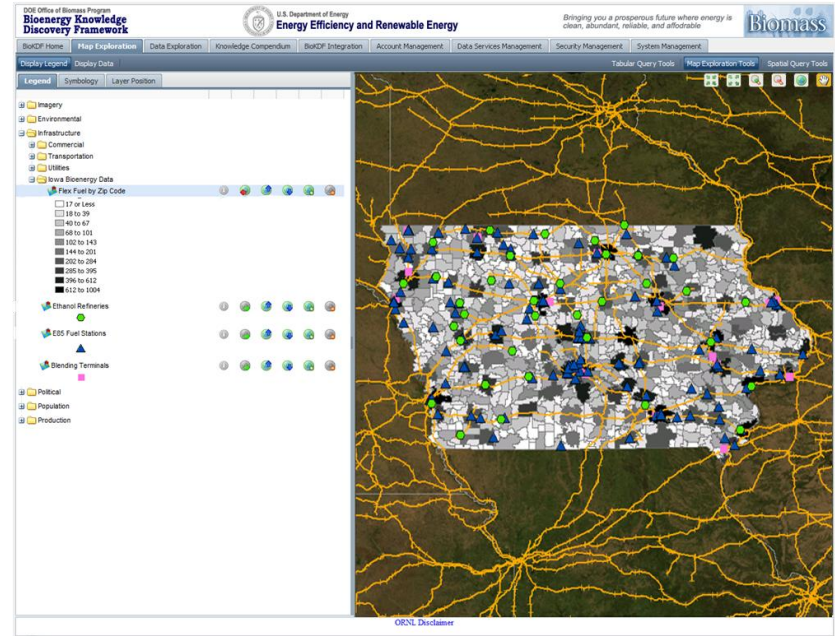
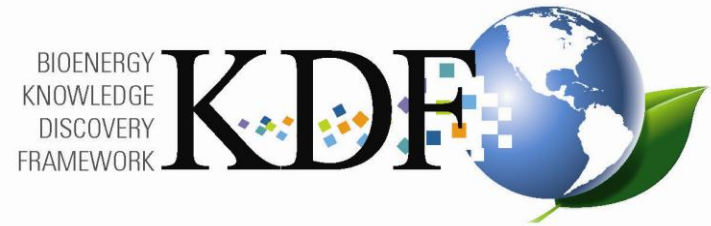
*Workshop 1 – Corn/Agricultural Crop Residue:*  
December 3, 2009 - St Louis, MO

*Workshop 2 – Herbaceous Energy Crop:*  
December 10, 2009 - Chicago, IL

*Workshop 3 – Woody Energy Crop:*  
December 11, 2009 - Chicago, IL

May 2010

The INL is a U.S. Department of Energy National Laboratory  
operated by Battelle Energy Alliance



# Final comments and Conclusions

1. Projections for the annual potential of biomass is estimated to exceed 1 billion dry tons on an annual basis, depending on technology assumptions, prices and land availability
2. Crop residue sustainability is important (retention, rotations, etc)
3. Resource assessment relies upon multiple sources of data and information

**Thank you for your attention!**

Contact:  
[eatonlm@ornl.gov](mailto:eatonlm@ornl.gov)