U.S. Department of Energy
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
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Biomass Program

Feedstock Interface R&D

Feedstock Supply Forecasts and Analysis

Feedstock supply data are vitally important to the development of biorefineries. Accurate data can help shape the design of cost- and performance-competitive biorefinery technologies. Accurate feedstock data are also needed to establish a viable feedstock infrastructure capable of supplying a network of biorefineries.

There is a current lack of credible data on price, location, quantity, and quality of biomass available for bioenergy. This project addresses the barriers by developing data and forecasts of future and existing biomass supplies, and defining the most cost- and performance-effective biomass feedstock mix for supplying a billion tons per year biorefinery industry. The biomass resources covered include future biomass supplies, such as energy crops, agricultural residues, and forest residues.

Researchers will maintain a feedstock supply (price and quantity) database of both current supplies and forecasts useful for work such as life cycle assessments and other analyses. Data will be available to both the public and private sectors.

Photo: National Renewable Energy Laboratory

R&D Pathway

Researchers will develop and publish a credible vision of a feedstock supply chain capable of supporting the billion tons per year feedstock demand of a mature biorefinery industry.

Researchers will summarize current corn stover and wheat residue supplies given the primary environmental constraints (soil erosion and soil moisture) and discuss how supplies might be increased through changes in crop tillage and rotation practices.

Researchers will make fully operational a biomass resource supply website that will include revised supply schedules for dedicated energy crops and agricultural residues, based on an updated version of the POLYSYS model, and revised supply schedules for forest residues and urban wood wastes.

Benefits

- **Provide credible data (price, quantity, quality, and location) on biomass supply**
- **Fully operational and publicly accessible website for biomass feedstock data**

Applications

The database and forecasts will provide standardized biomass data and provide a basis for identifying the most cost- and performance-effective biomass feedstocks.

Project Participants

Oak Ridge National Laboratory
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Project Period

FY 2003 – FY 2007

For more information contact:

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Visit the Web site for the Office of the Biomass Program (OBP) at www.eere.energy.gov/biomass.html

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A Strong Energy Portfolio for a Strong America. Energy efficiency and clean, renewable energy will mean a stronger economy, a cleaner environment, and greater energy independence for America. Working with a wide array of state, community, industry, and university partners, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy invests in a diverse portfolio of energy technologies.