

The World's Largest Open Access Agricultural & Applied Economics Digital Library

This document is discoverable and free to researchers across the globe due to the work of AgEcon Search.

Help ensure our sustainability.

Give to AgEcon Search

AgEcon Search
http://ageconsearch.umn.edu
aesearch@umn.edu

Papers downloaded from **AgEcon Search** may be used for non-commercial purposes and personal study only. No other use, including posting to another Internet site, is permitted without permission from the copyright owner (not AgEcon Search), or as allowed under the provisions of Fair Use, U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 U.S.C.

Growing a Future of Clean Renewable Energy







Growing Demand for Biomass ...

Putting It All Together: The Tennessee Biomass Innovation Park

2011 USDA Ag Outlook Forum Washington, DC February 25, 2011

Kelly Tiller, Ph.D.

President & CEO

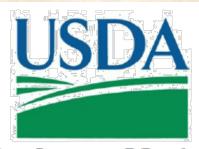
Genera Energy LLC 2450 E.J. Chapman Drive Knoxville, TN 37996 865.974.8258 ktiller@generaenergy.net Associate Professor

University of Tennessee Center for Renewable Carbon Knoxville, TN 37996-4570 865.946.1130 ktiller@tennessee.edu



RFS2 Requires Aggressive Buildout ...

USDA Biofuels Strategic Production Report June 23, 2010



A USDA Regional Roadmap to Meeting the Biofuels Goals of the Renewable Fuels Standard by 2022

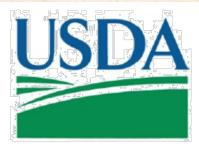
Advanced Biofuel Production from New Capacity (billion gallons)

		Advanced biofuels		Total Advanced	Total Advanced
	% of Total Advanced				
Region	Volume	Ethanol	Biodiesel	Volume	RFS2 Basis (1)
Southeast (2)	49.8	10.45	0.01	10.46	10.47
Central East (3)	43.3	8.83	0.26	9.09	9.22
Northeast (4)	2.0	0.42	0.01	0.42	0.43
Northwest (5)	4.6	0.79	0.18	0.96	1.05
West (6)	<.3	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.06
United States		20.55	0.45	21.00	21.23



A Southeast Target ...

USDA Biofuels Strategic Production Report June 23, 2010



A USDA Regional Roadmap to Meeting the Biofuels Goals of the Renewable Fuels Standard by 2022

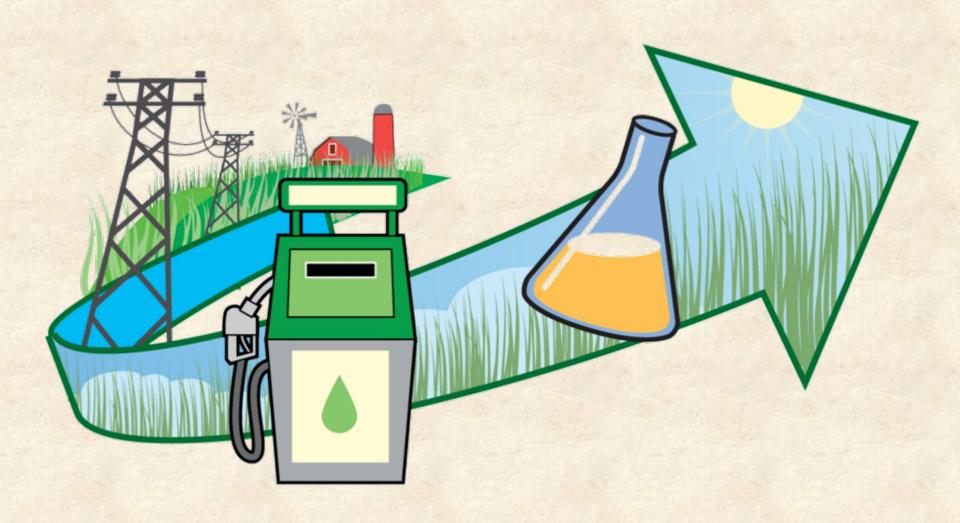
Southeast

Potential Production Capacity. This region could produce 10.5 billion gallons of advanced biofuels per year, at 263 biorefineries producing 40 million gallons by year, costing \$320 million per biorefinery. This will take an \$83.8 billion cumulative investment, to build the 263 biorefineries with an average capacity of 40 million gallons. USDA estimated that a significant amount of volume, up to 50%, of the advanced biofuels, could come from this region because it has the most robust growing season in the United States that supports the highest gallons-peracre crops of all biofuels crops. One advanced fuel biorefinery is expected to open in August of 2010 in Louisiana, with expected production of 75 million gallons.

Land Use. In this region there is an acreage base of 83.4 million acres of cropland and cropland pasture and 182.8 million acres of forest land. To produce the biofuels necessary from this region, an advanced biofuel production of 10.5 billion gallons from 9.5 million acres, 11.4% of the available cropland and cropland pasture acreage base, would be required for fuel use.



Biomass: The Common Denominator





Tailoring Biomass Supply Chain Solutions



Biochemical Biofuels & Products

- Achieving carbohydrate structure for specific conversion processes
- Blending, if at all, within species for a commodity market like wheat



Thermochemical Biofuels & Heat/Power

- Achieving ash, moisture & rheological property specs
- •Blending to produce a commodity market like corn or coal



Petroleum Refinery Markets

- Achieving energy density & feedstock stability
- Blending to produce a stabilized liquid "biocrude" for a commodity market like petroleum crude

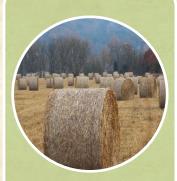
While <u>one size</u>
of feedstock <u>may fit</u>
all downstream conversion uses

It <u>doesn't mean</u> that one size/type/ source/ spec is necessarily the most <u>efficient or cost effective</u> for all downstream conversion uses

Biomass Selection & Pre-Processing



Feedstock Characteristics



Perennial Energy Crops

- Multi-year production decision
- •High up-front establishment costs
- •Slow yield ramp after establishment
- Minimal annual production risk postestablishment
- Mod rate/high yield



Annual Energy Crops

- •Annual production decision
- Full yield harvested in first crop cycle
- Higher annual production risk
- •May be part of multiyear rotations
- High yield potential



Ag Residues

- Secondary value stream
- Annual quantity fluctuations
- •Higher annual crop yield (production) risk
- Low annual yield potential



Forest Residues

- Secondary value stream
- Quantity limited by primary products
- Potentially high collection cost
- Low annual yield potential



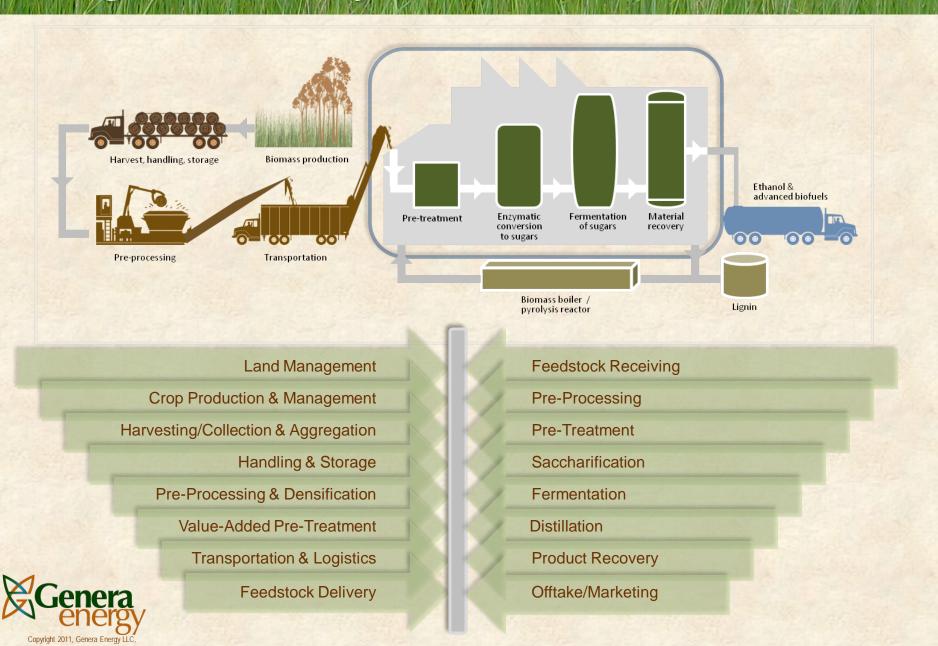
Short Rotation Woody Crops

- Multi-year production decision
- High up-front establishment costs
- •Slow yield ramp after establishment
- Moderate yield potential

Time Horizon, Risk, Capital Investment, Downstream Processing



Integrated Industry Value Chain



Tennessee's Comprehensive Approach



Energy Crop Supply Chain

Demonstrate the establishment of a dedicated biomass energy crop supply chain with farmer

AgResearch Extension

Commercialization

Develop a viable, sustainable, long-term path to commercialization of cellulosic biofuels in Tennessee







\$70.5 Million State Commitment

Biofuels, Bioproducts R&D

Establish premier RD&D capabilities and capacity in biofuels and bioproducts









Cellulosic Ethanol Biorefinery

Demonstrate the pre-commercial production of ethanol from switchgrass

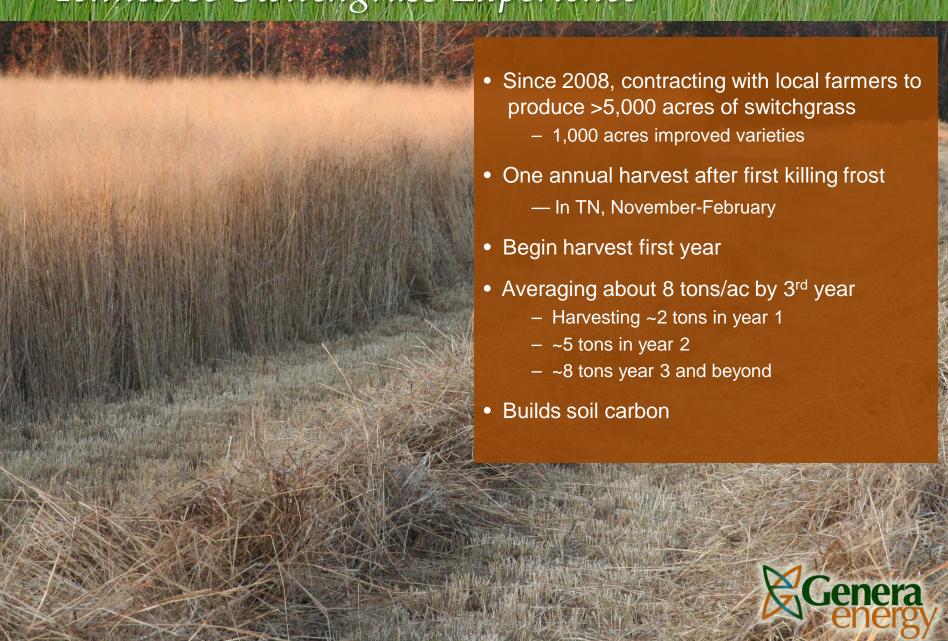




Switchgrass as an Energy Crop







Switchgrass Contract Farms 40 Knox **Cumberland** Roane Loudon **Blount Biorefinery** Rhea Vonore 75 Meigs **Monroe** McMinn 2008 SFIP Contract 2009 SFIP Contract **Bradley** Polk 2010 SFIP Contract Copyright 2010, Genera Energy LLC, NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

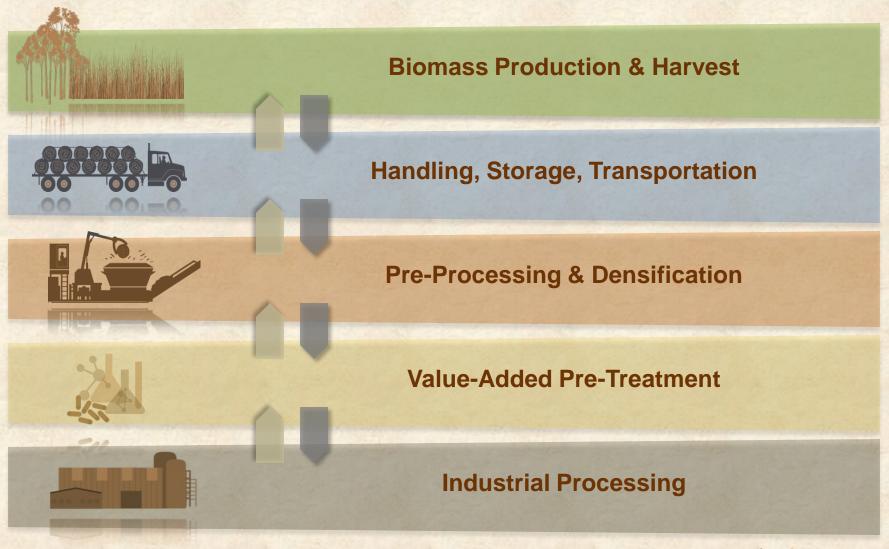




Biomass Handling Today...



Integrated Biomass Supply Chain





Tennessee Biomass Innovation Park

- World-class RD&D campus
- Integrates entire biomass supply chain
 - Harvest, handling, storage, densification, logistics
 - Pre-processing
 - High throughput screening and analysis
 - Agronomics, plant genetics, production
 - Intermediate processing and conversion

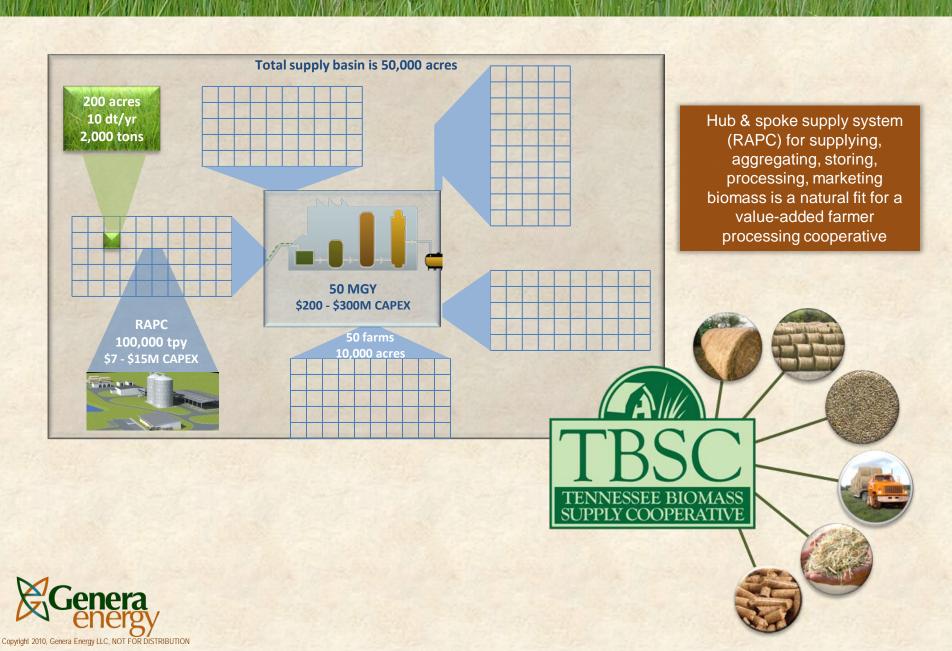
- Multiple feedstocks
- Site for \$5M DOE-funded high tonnage bulk handling demonstration
- Processing operational by summer 2011
- Strategic partnership opportunities
- Template for regional biomass depots







RAPC - Regional Aggregation & Processing Cooperatives



Challenges to Industry Buildout

- Feedstock supply risk to biorefinery
 - Real or perceived
- Availability of, access to financing
 - Conversion facility
 - Biomass supply
- Policy uncertainty
- Maintaining momentum





Biomass Supply Chain Structure Drivers

- Required length for supply agreements
 - Matching conversion facility time horizon with crop cycles
 - Perennial crops
 - 20 years?
- Technology treadmill
 - Technology improvement curves
- Managing cash flow
 - Particularly before plant start-up
- Quality control



Points to end-to-end solutions across entire value chain



Tennessee Leading by Example





Genera Energy LLC

2450 E.J. Chapman Drive
UT Business Incubator Bldg.
Suite 216
Knoxville, TN 37996

865.974.8258 (Office) 865.974.8301 (Fax)

www.GeneraEnergy.net



Center for Renewable Carbon

University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture 2506 Jacob Drive Knoxville, TN 37996-4570 865.946.1130 (Office) 865.946.1109 (Fax)

www.UTBioenergy.org