United States Department of Agriculture | National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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NIFA FACTSHEET:
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Division of Sustainable Bioenergy

Sustainable Bioenergy Division Scope

The Division of Sustainable Bioenergy supports developing regional systems that will produce sustainable bioenergy and biobased products. The goal of these systems is to provide support for the growth of an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable biomass-based energy and materials industry to help meet the nation's target of 36 billion gallons per year of biofuels by 2022, expand domestic energy and material production to increase national security, and create rural prosperity. The division administers grants that support: feedstock development; sustainable biomass production; logistics of harvesting, storing , transporting and preprocessing; conversion to biofuels, biopower and biobased products; increasing the scientific corps and programs that evaluate the impacts of feedstock production systems on the environment, land use and rural prosperity.

Sustainable Bioenergy Division Staff

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Vacant, National Program Leader

Sustainable Bioenergy Competitive Programs

Biomass Research and Development Initiative (BRDI)

BRDI is authorized by Section 9008 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 as a joint (USDA/DOE), applied research, development, and demonstration program to develop a diversity of domestic sources of renewable biomass and technologies for conversion to biofuels, bioenergy, and bio-based products. BRDI fills a critical gap in the continuum of technology development and commercialization a source of bridge funding to help develop and demonstrate technologies to the point that they might attract additional private or public financing. ($40M)

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

AFRI is the largest competitive program at NIFA. AFRI supports sustainable bioenergy programs including: Regional Approaches to Sustainable Bioenergy ($37M), Environmental Implication of Direct and Indirect Land Use Change ($3M), Policy options and Impacts on Regional Biofuel Production Systems ($3M), Socioeconomic Impacts of Biofuels on Rural Communities ($3M), Biodiversity Impacts on Wildlife and Pollinators($3M), and Feedstock Genomics for Sustainable Bioenergy ($2M) which is run jointly with DOE.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)

Supporting small business approaches to feedstock genetic development, production, logistics and conversion ($3M).

Critical Agricultural Materials (CAM)

CAM is authorized by Section 5(d) of the Critical Agricultural Materials Act (7 U.S.C. 178, as amendedto develop and demonstrate industrial polymers that are manufactured from domestically produced agricultural materials and are of strategic and industrial importance to benefit the economy, defense and general well-being of the Nation. ($1.2M)

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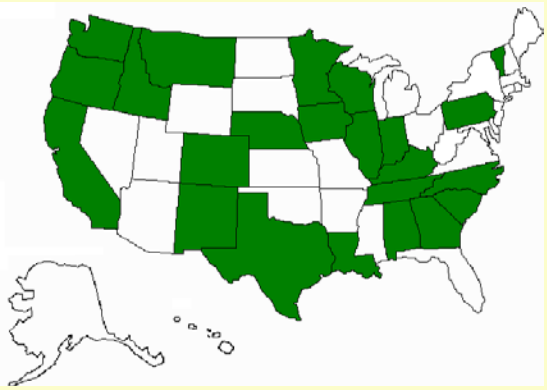
Sustainable Bioenergy Greater Team Members from across NIFA
Dr. Ed Kaleikau, National Program Leader, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Dr. Shing Kwok, National Program Leader, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Dr. Mary Purcell, National Program Leader, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Dr. Richard Hegg, National Program Leader, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Dr. Brad Rein, Division Director, Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Tim Grosser, National Program Leader, Institute of Youth Family and Community
Dr. Nancy Cavallaro, National Program Leader, Institute of Bioenergy Climate and Environment

Sustainable Bioenergy Coordinated Agricultural Project Grants
Six Grants awarded for a total of
$146 million over 5 years



Institutions included in Funded Partnerships:
State Participation in CAPs (Green)
25 States
25 Land-Grant Universities
(including 6 minority-serving institutions)
6 Non Land-Grant Public Universities
1 Community College Regional Consortium
2 Private Non-Profit
9 Federal Partners
27 Industrial Partners

Project Directors, Lead Institution and Feedstocks

Gustafson, University of Washington:	Poplar / Alder
Cavalieri Washington State University:	Douglas Fir / Western Red Hemlock; Poplar / Alder
Moore, Iowa State University:	Switchgrass, Big Bluestem, Indian grass
Kochergin, Louisiana State University:	Sweet Sorghum, Energy Cane
Rials, University of Tennessee:	Switchgrass, Pine, Eucalyptus
Richard, Pennsylvania State University:	Purpose grown willow, Miscanthus and Switchgrass