eNews
for December 2, 2013

NEWBio on
The NEWBio Penn State YouTube channel now has 14 videos available for viewing. Topics include the Bioenergy Scholars and Secondary Educator programs, switchgrass pelletization, and school districts utilizing biomass boilers. View videos.

Bioenergy Stakeholders Take Note:
DOE Bioenergy Technologies Office Seeks Feedback on Technology Readiness for Near-Commercial Biorefinery Operations
BETO has issued a request for information with a December 6, 2013 response deadline for stakeholder feedback on demonstration and deployment strategies to accelerate advanced biofuel, bioproducts, and biopower technologies. For more information, view the full RFI (DE-FOA-0001013).

U.S. DOE Posts Bioenergy Knowledge Discovery Framework Webinar
Slides from the webinar on October 24, 2013 can be viewed on the EERE website, along with additional information about KDF. View the slides and find additional information about KDF. A link to the full demo will be posted soon. View the slides: http://www1.eere.energy.gov/bioenergy/webinars.html

EPA Proposes 2014 Renewable Fuel Standards
EPA is seeking input to address the E10 Blend Wall; a number of production and consumption ranges for key categories of biofuel are proposed: "The 2014 proposal seeks input on what additional actions could be taken by government and industry to help overcome current market challenges, and to minimize the need for adjustments in the statutory renewable fuel volume requirements in the future." EPA Press Release, 11/15/2013.

Perennial Feedstock Focus: Shrub Willow
Larry Smart (Cornell University), Michael Jacobson (Penn State), and Shawn Grushecky (West Virginia University) discuss their NEWBio work on shrub willow market development and feedstock improvement. Read article.

Cornell Willowpedia FAQ Website Updated
The questions are divided into three categories: General, Planting/Harvesting, and Energy. Visit http://willow.cals.cornell.edu/FAQ.html to learn more.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Research Associate, Social Dimensions of Biofuels Development, SUNY–ESF Two-year position starting January 2014 in Department of Environmental Studies, for project management, data collection and data analysis on human factors and barriers related to regional development of bioenergy in NY and PA. Application review starts December 1, 2013. More info and application procedure.

Biomass Feedstock Engineer. New York location. At least five years industrial experience in a wood-yard, pulp mill, or pellet mill. Degree in Forest Science, Pulp and Paper, or Chemical Engineering preferred, to work with scientists and engineers on process development portion of a venture to
manufacture chemicals for plastics manufacturing. Contact Carol A. Calvano, Professional Recruiting Consultants, 302-479-9550, carol@prcstaffing.com.

SUNY-ESF Research Foundation Seeks Specialist
The Research Foundation of State University of New York, at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF), is seeking applications for a Senior Research Support Specialist. This will require the selected applicant to be actively involved with various extension components of NEWBio. The role of this position will be to facilitate growth of the bioenergy industry in the region by interpreting, applying, and disseminating the latest research findings in bioenergy. For a full position description, qualifications and application procedure, see http://www.esf.edu/hr/.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS
The study examines woody biomass supply chain scenarios (forest product manufacturers, forest landowners, and biomass pre-processors). Findings indicate infrastructure and technological development will be critical to further enhance business opportunities.

Switchgrass Yield on Reclaimed Surface Mines for Bioenergy Production
Researchers analyze dry matter yields for three switchgrass varieties on two reclaimed mine land sites with different soil preparations in West Virginia. Although yields were less than on agricultural lands, switchgrass production shows economic promise when certain topsoil materials are replaced and amended.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES
2014 National Clean Energy Business Plan Competition Regional Contests
U.S. DOE announced the opening of the application periods for six regional competitions. Finalists from these regional contests will compete in the spring for the national award. The competition is intended to promote entrepreneurship in clean energy technologies through university teams to bring solutions to market in one of these areas: Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy, and Infrastructure & Resources. The Northeast Region deadline is February 28, 2014, and is run through MIT's Clean Energy Prize.

UPCOMING EVENTS
December 10, 2013
NEWBio Webinar: Wood and Biomass Pellets for Regional and Global Energy
David DeVallance, West Virginia University Wood pellets have been a growing component of the bioenergy industry in the Northeast United States, and continue to expand as local and international markets develop. Join Dr. Devallance as he discusses the process of wood pellet production, pellet properties and their management, as well as current markets – opportunities and barriers. NEWBio webinars begin at 1 p.m. Eastern Time. Access the webinar.

December 11, 2013
Advanced Hardwood Biofuels Webinar: Assessing the Economic and Environmental Impacts of Poplar-Based Biofuel Production
Rick Gustafson, Eric Budsberg, Jordon Crawford, University of Washington
The University of Washington’s Advanced Hardwood Biofuels project is one of NEWBio's sister bioenergy projects. This webinar will cover the economic assessment of the bioconversion process based on ASPEN model outputs, profitability analysis, life cycle inventory of resources and energy inputs and emissions, and life cycle analysis in consideration of global warming and fossil fuel and water use. 10 a.m Pacific Time (1 p.m. Eastern Time). Register for the webinar.

January 14, 2013
NEWBio Webinar: Biofuel Industry Economic Impacts and Analysis: Reporting the Facts in an
Environment of Hype

David Swenson, Iowa State University While we often articulate the overall benefits of biofuels development in the U.S. along lines of environmental improvement coupled with a vague notion of energy security, most state and regional interest in biofuels development hinges on one primary outcome: Jobs. The promises of job creation associated with biofuels expansion have, however, been significantly less than boosters, politicians, and other vested interests promised. This session will explain the net productivity gains to regional economies as a result of ethanol production, to include the likely net new jobs that were realized for the state of Iowa, which has the most ethanol refining capacity among the states, as well as the U.S. total. In addition, and relying on research on the cellulosic ethanol potential in NY state, this presentation displays that state’s biofuels job potential and uses that information to impute potential national impacts were the advanced biofuels mandate of 8 billion gallons met. Access the webinar.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Society of Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration
February 23–26, 2014
Salt Lake City, UT Jeff Skousen, WVU, will present Growth of Three Biofuel Crops on Reclaimed Mined Land in West Virginia

International Biomass Conference and Expo
March 24–26, 2013
Orlando, FL Accepting presentation ideas and poster abstracts (Sponsored by BBI International)

Mid-Atlantic Biomass Heat & Power Conference
April 23–24, 2014
Gettysburg, PA Inaugural conference for the Pennsylvania Biomass Energy Association was held in 2012. The 2014 conference is being developed as a larger regional event. Learn more.

Rural Sociology Society Annual Meeting
July 30–August 1, 2013
New Orleans, LA Theresa Selfa, SUNY–ESF, and Clare Hinrichs, PSU, attending

National Association of Plant Breeders
August 5–8, 2014
Minneapolis, MN Stacy Bonos, Rutgers, attending

National Advanced Biofuels Conference & Expo
October 13–15, 2014
Minneapolis, MN

Archived Webinars

View available archived Bioenergy Webinars at any time.
View available archived Bioenergy Short Course presentations at any time.

Northeast Woody/Warm–Season Biomass Consortium [NEWBio]
Land and Water Research Bldg., University Park, PA 16802
Telephone: 814.863.0291; FAX: 814.865.3378

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