



Perennial Biomass Crops for a Resource Constrained World

The meeting place for Europe's non-food biomass scientists in 2015

European biomass research is the focus of 'Perennial Biomass Crops for a Resource Constrained World' to be held on 7 – 10 September 2015 at the University of Hohenheim in Germany. I am pleased to invite you to participate in this important meeting of Europe's leading researchers and technologists in non-food biomass production and utilisation.

The meeting is organised by the EU funded projects [OPTIMISC](#) (coordinated by University of Hohenheim/Germany), [OPTIMA](#) (coordinated by University of Catania/Italy), [GrassMargins](#) (coordinated by Teagasc, the Irish Food and Agriculture Development Authority), [WATBIO](#) (coordinated by University of Southampton/UK) in co-operation with the EU project [FIBRA](#), the French [BFF](#) (Biomass for the Future) project and the International Miscanthus Society ([MEG](#)).

Perennial crops offer a sustainable and efficient way of producing biomass. Because of their low nutrient demand and stress tolerance they can also be grown under marginal site conditions. This meeting will present advances in the breeding, production, processing and life cycle analysis of these crops. The scope includes the underpinning sciences such as plant physiology and molecular biology.

Delegates will benefit from a diverse range of activities drawing on the EU's research programme making this Europe's most important meeting in this area in 2015. The programme includes 6 keynote presentations, 9 themed sessions and side meetings for project consortia. There will also be a half-day conference tour.

The abstracts of all presentations will be published on the Internet. We are also planning a book of articles based on the conference presentations and a special issue of Global Change Biology – Bioenergy with papers linked to presentations.

The call for abstracts opens on the 1st of March and will close on the 15th of April 2015. Deadline for optional full papers: 10th of September 2015.

More information can be found on the Conference website: www.biomass2015.eu.

Professor Iris Lewandowski
University of Hohenheim, Germany

www.biomass2015.eu



Scientific themes (sessions)

1. Economic and social effects of perennial biomass crop cultivation
All economic and socio-economic aspects of growing perennial crops for fibre and bioenergy use.
2. Perennial biomass crops for development of multifunctionality and maintenance of ecosystem services in agriculture
Energy balances, LCA, carbon sequestration, land use change, use of marginal lands to grow perennial biomass crops, soil erosion, biodiversity effects and other environmental implications of perennial biomass crops
3. Biomass quality
Characterization and tailoring of biomass for enhanced conversion into different products; crop management and post-harvest processing.
4. Plant breeding methods and biotechnology
Conventional and next generation breeding methods and strategies. Characterization of genetic resources for breeding and plant biotechnological methods for crop improvement.
5. Agronomic aspects
Crop production techniques from seed bed preparation to harvest; plant nutrition and crop protection.
6. Tolerance to abiotic stress I: Drought
7. Tolerance to abiotic stress II: Cold, chilling, flooding, salinity and other abiotic stresses
8. Mechanisation and logistics
All aspects of mechanisation for growing, harvesting, processing and logistics of fibre and perennial biomass crops.
9. Conversion and uses
Biomass conversion technologies and different uses of biomass as feedstock and construction materials



Conference Preliminary Programme

Monday 7th of September

18:00 - 20:00 Evening Reception & Registration in Hohenheim Castle

Tuesday 8th of September

8:00 Registration throughout day in Euroforum, Kirchnerstrasse 4

8:45-9:15 Opening ceremony

9:15-10:00 Plenary: Keynote 1: *Tomasz Calikowski EU: EU-level initiatives for bioeconomy: the case of biomass supply for bioindustries*

10:00-10:30 Coffee

10:30-11:15 Plenary: Keynote 2

11:15-12:00 Plenary: Keynote 3

12:00-13:15 Lunch in Mensa

13:15-15:45 Parallel sessions (oral presentations)

15:45-16:15 Coffee

16:15-19:00 Parallel sessions continued

19:30 Conference dinner

Wednesday 9th of September

9:00-9:45 Plenary: Keynote 4

9:45-10:30 Plenary: Keynote 5

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-11:45 Plenary: Keynote 6

11:45-13:00 Lunch in Mensa

13:00-15:00 Poster session with select flash poster talks

15:00-15:30 Coffee

15:30-16:30 Open poster session

17:00-18:30 Guided tour through Hohenheim botanical garden

Thursday 10th of September

8:30-10:30 Parallel sessions

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-11:45 Science-policy discussion:

How can we optimise biomass and fibre crop development up to 2025?

11:45-12:00 Closing ceremony

12:30-13:00 Lunch in Mensa

13:00-18:00 Excursions

Excursion 1: Ihinger Hof field station - field trials and small miscanthus heater

Excursion 2: Large miscanthus heating installation

