



First Announcement and Call for Papers

8TH BIENNIAL SRWC OPERATIONS WORKING GROUP CONFERENCE

SHORT ROTATION WOODY CROPS IN A RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE:

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

**Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel and Conference Center
Syracuse, New York, USA**

October 17-19, 2010



Short rotation woody crops (SRWC) are being developed as a sustainable supply of woody biomass for the production of bioenergy, biofuels and bioproducts as well as for traditional solid wood and fiber products. Interest in SRWC has developed in the past because of multiple environmental and rural development benefits associated with their production and use, and most recently because of increasing concerns about dependence on and impacts associated with the consumption of fossil fuels.

As a result of increasing interest in SRWC the amount of related activity is expanding rapidly. The 8th Biennial Short Rotation Woody Crops Operations Working Group conference is an excellent forum to learn about the latest developments in the science, production, harvesting, use and policies related to SRWC. The conference will also explore challenges and opportunities of successful commercialization of SRWC as a source of fiber or as an energy feedstock material. Please join us to learn more about SRWC and their role in the growing renewable energy economy and traditional forest industries.

The abstract submission deadline is Wednesday, June 30, 2010.

Field Tours: A field trip included in the conference will highlight a demonstration of the SRWC single pass cut and chip harvesting system that has been developed by Case New Holland and a stop at a large scale alternative cover project using shrub willows. Post-conference tours (October 20-21, 2010) will include stops at a pellet manufacturing facility, a wood-fired combined heat and power facility and hybrid poplar and willow plantations in New York State and Ontario, Canada.



Conference Venue: The conference will be held adjacent to the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry campus in Syracuse, NY at the Syracuse University Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center; 801 University Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210; (315) 475-3000 or (800) 395-2105. Room rates are \$99.00 US (single) and \$109.00 US (double) until **September 12, 2010**.

Registration, hotel, and tour information is available at <http://www.esf.edu/outreach/pd/2010/srwc/>
If you have any questions contact **Maura Harling Stefl** (Program Specialist, Outreach Office, SUNY-ESF) at mhstefl@esf.edu or +1 (315) 470-6817.

Topic Areas

1. Production Systems and Operations
2. Environmental and Landscape Processes and Benefits
3. End Use Applications
4. Regional Feedstock Partnerships
5. Commercializing SRWC: Linking Feedstock Production with End Use and Policy Considerations

Abstract Submission: Please submit abstracts (maximum of 300 words) in English using MS Word or Rich Text format to Ron Zalesny. The abstract submission deadline is **Wednesday, June 30, 2010**. The abstract should be typed in 11-point Times New Roman font with 1.9-cm margins. Please provide the title in bold, followed by authors' names (indicate each corresponding author with an asterisk) and their institutional affiliations on separate lines, and the body of the abstract – all in 1.5-line spacing. Below the body, list keywords, complete contact information of the corresponding author, and your preferred *topic area (1-5 above)* and *presentation format (oral or poster)*. An example abstract is attached. Authors will be notified of presentation formats during mid July.

Please submit abstracts to:

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Sample Abstract

Ecological Sustainability of Alternative Biomass Feedstock Production for Environmental Benefits and Bioenergy

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U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station

The incorporation of intensive forestry with waste management fills a much-needed niche throughout numerous phytotechnology applications. There is a growing opportunity to incorporate sustainable recycling of waste waters as irrigation and fertilization for alternative biomass feedstock production systems. However, the success of short rotation woody crops is largely based upon the selection of genotypes that are productive on the sites where they are deployed. Given the inherent genetic variability within the genus *Populus* and the availability of clonal material beyond what is typically used, our current research activities include revising and combining crop and tree improvement protocols (i.e., using phyto-recurrent selection) to select favorable *Populus* genotypes that perform well across a variety of contaminants (generalists) or that can be used for specific concerns (specialists). The information presented highlights the results of numerous studies where we tested the: 1) establishment success of growing the trees for both environmental benefits and bioenergy, 2) efficacy of using waste water effluent including landfill leachate to fertigate bioenergy crops, 3) uptake of nutrients/contaminants into tree root, woody (stems + branches), and leaf tissue, and 4) environmental impact of waste water fertigation on soil and water quality. This collective effort helps scientists and resource managers acquire information about genotype × contaminant interactions that contribute to deployment of closed loop energy systems that are ecologically sustainable, while the general public maintains environmental quality and the natural resource base on which local and regional agriculture, forestry, and recreation depend.

Keywords: hybrid poplar, phytoremediation, *Populus*, tree improvement, waste management

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Subject Area: 3. End Use Applications **Preferred Presentation Format:** **Oral** or Poster

Sample Abstract