



# Advanced **Hardwood Biofuels** Northwest On Track for Sustainable Biofuels

## AHB two year update

Advanced Hardwood Biofuels Northwest (AHB) began as an USDA NIFA funded initiative in September 2011 to lay the foundation for a hardwood biofuels industry in the Northwest. The AHB research includes all aspects of creating sustainable poplar-based biofuels.

### **Feedstock: Providing a renewable resource**

- Bioenergy demonstration sites planted in OR and ID in 2012 and in WA and CA in 2013
- On target for first harvests fall 2013 in OR and ID
- Research is underway on best poplar varieties for bioenergy, disease reduction, and yield improvements

### **Conversion: Creating sustainable transportation fuels**

- Produced poplar-based biofuels at demonstration biorefinery in Boardman, OR
- Completing research on moving from alcohol to hydrocarbons to produce drop-in fuels

### **Sustainability: Supporting the environment, people, and the economy**

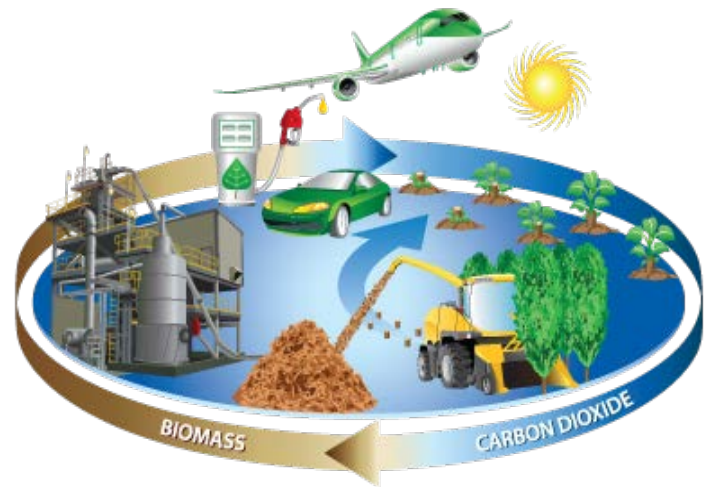
- Completed life cycle analysis on poplar-based jet-fuels showing reduced emissions compared to fossil fuels
- Continuing research on soils and wildlife including birds, small mammals and insects
- Assessing community perceptions and concerns about bioenergy farms and biorefinery locations
- Established economic models on poplar growth and best locations for biorefineries

### **Education: Building a prepared work force**

- 4-yr bioenergy minor started fall 2012
- 2-yr bioenergy programs starting fall 2013
- Developing bioenergy outreach curriculum for K-12

### **Extension: Reaching future feedstock growers, policy makers, and citizens**

- Launched a new website [hardwoodbiofuel.org](http://hardwoodbiofuel.org)
- Led informational tours of demonstration sites for stakeholders in WA and OR



*The poplar cycle of growth, harvest, and regrowth leads to continued carbon storage. The process will produce 'drop-in' transportation fuels and reduce carbon emissions by at least 50% compared to gasoline.*



*Field tour participants learn about the demonstration site at the Pilchuck Tree Farm in Washington. The sites showcase all aspects of poplar production and also provide opportunities for research on poplar, wildlife, and soils.*

**Contact: Rick Gustafson**, University of Washington, (206) 543-2790, [pulp@uw.edu](mailto:pulp@uw.edu)  
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*This project is supported by Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) Competitive Grant no. 2011-68005-30407 from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA).*



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