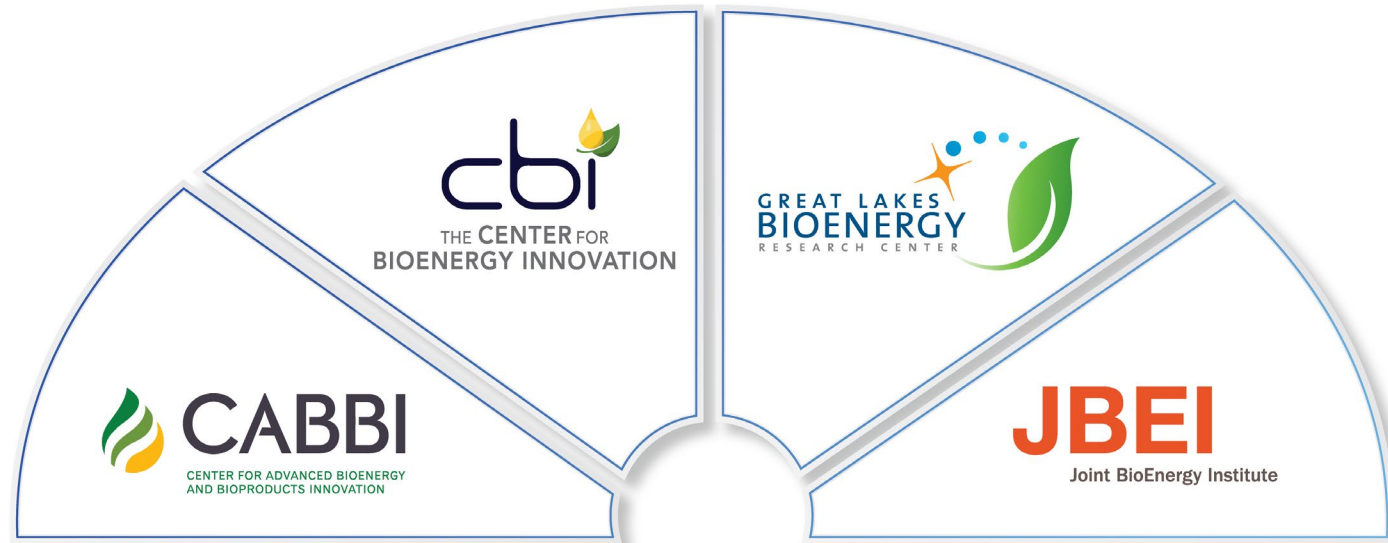


Bioenergy Research Centers: Paths to Sustainable Aviation Fuels

Brian Davison

CSO, Center for Bioenergy Innovation

August 15, 2023



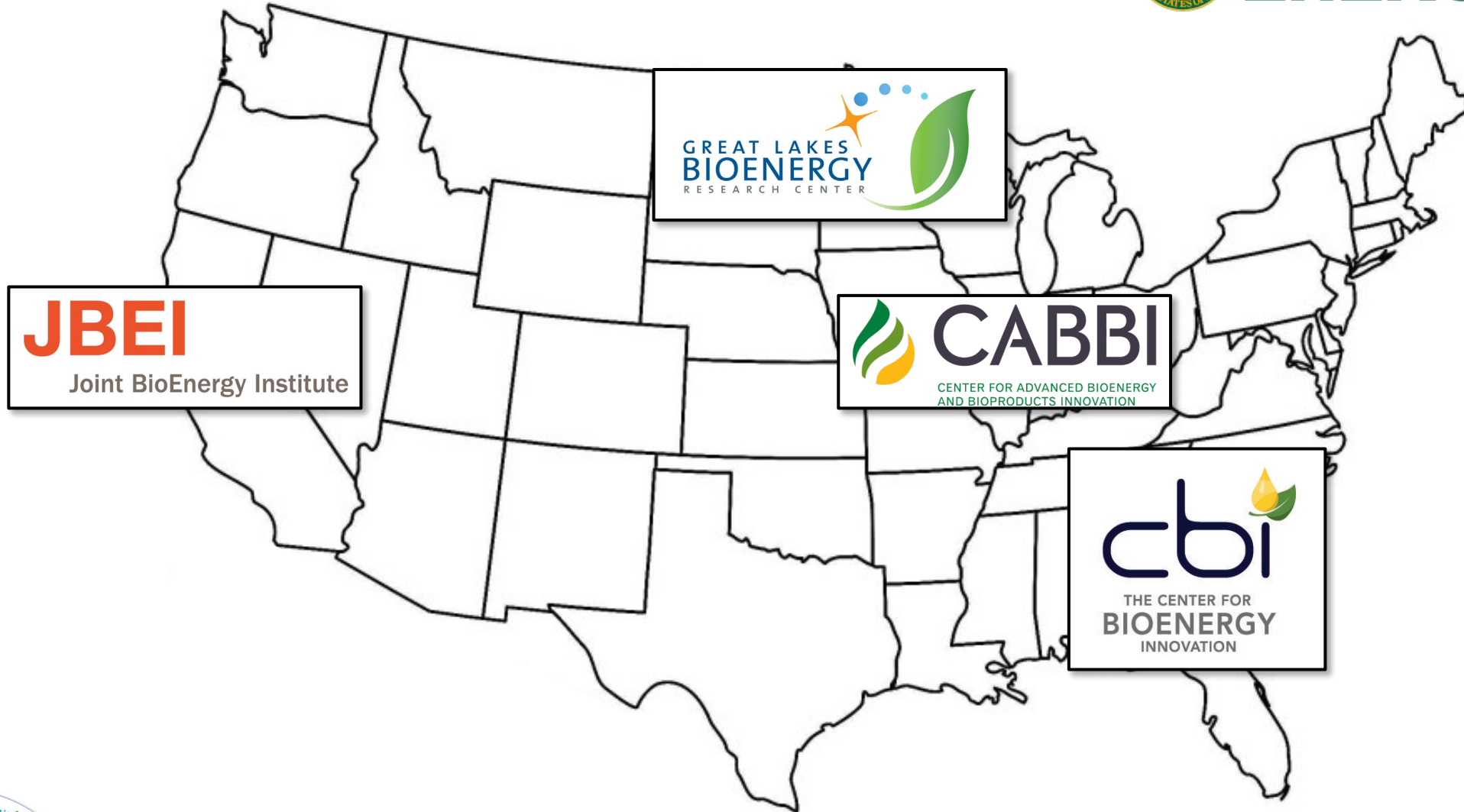
Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program

DOE funds four Bioenergy Research Centers (BRCs)



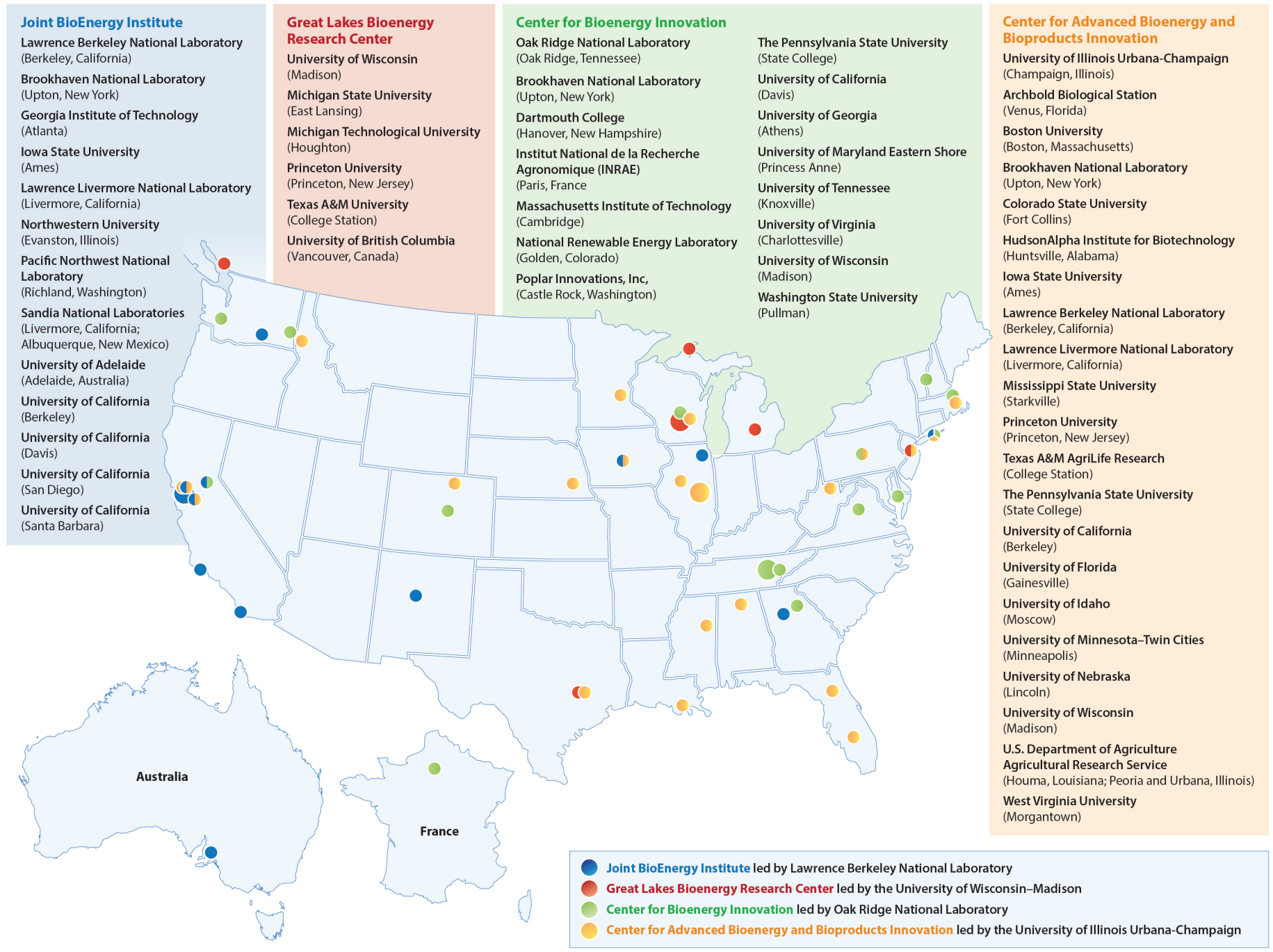
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Science



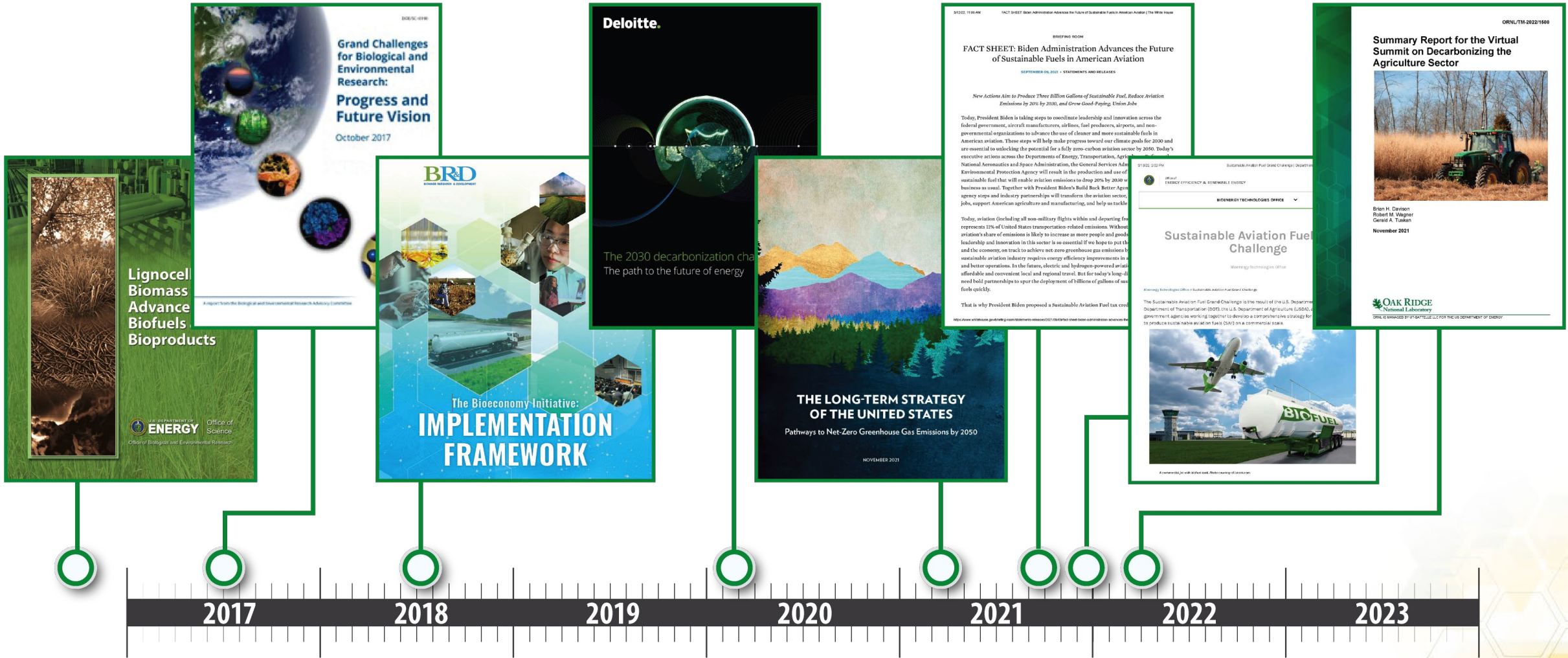
Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program

BRC research spans the country

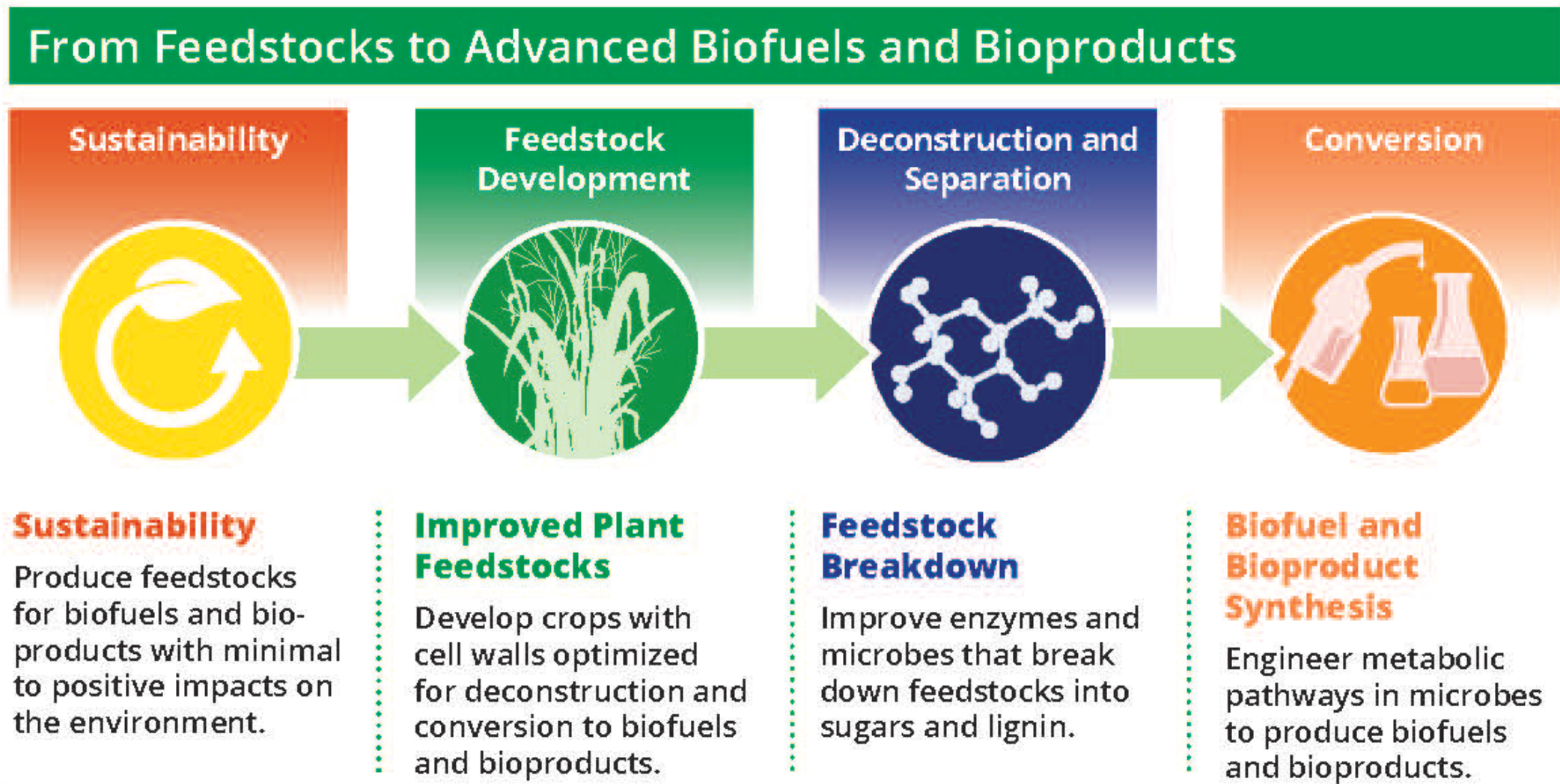


Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program

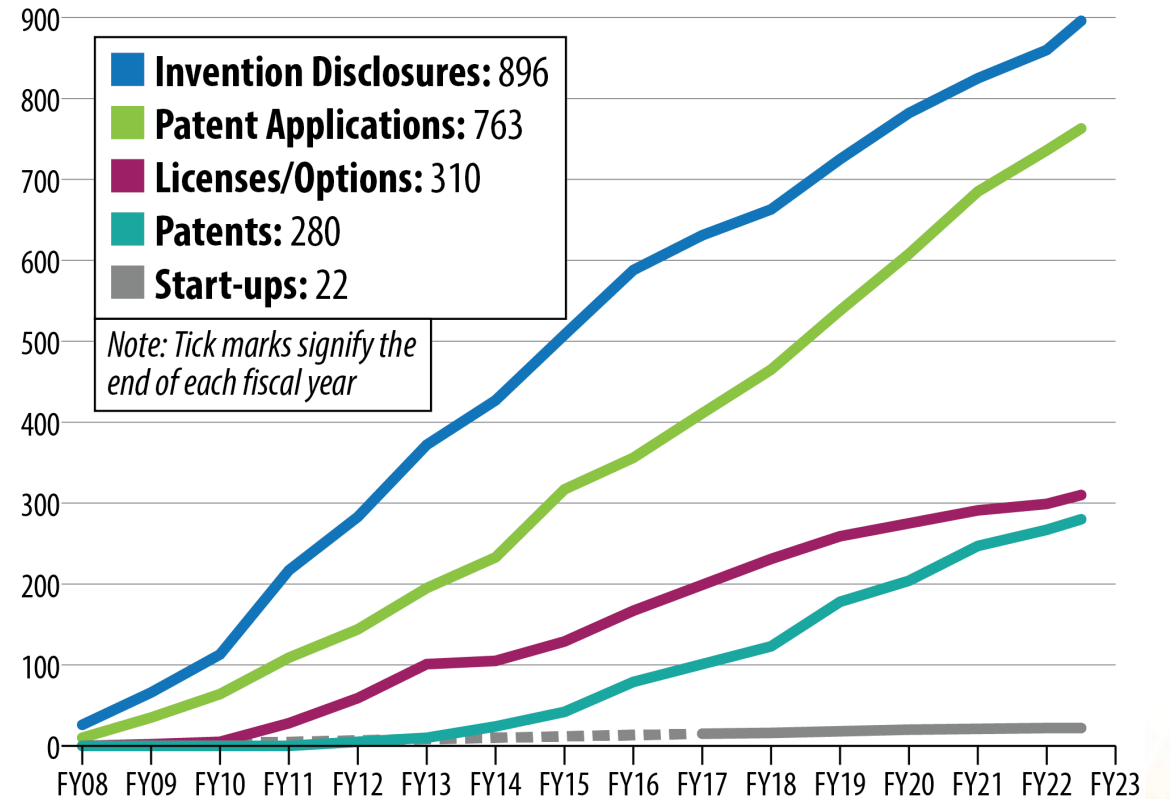
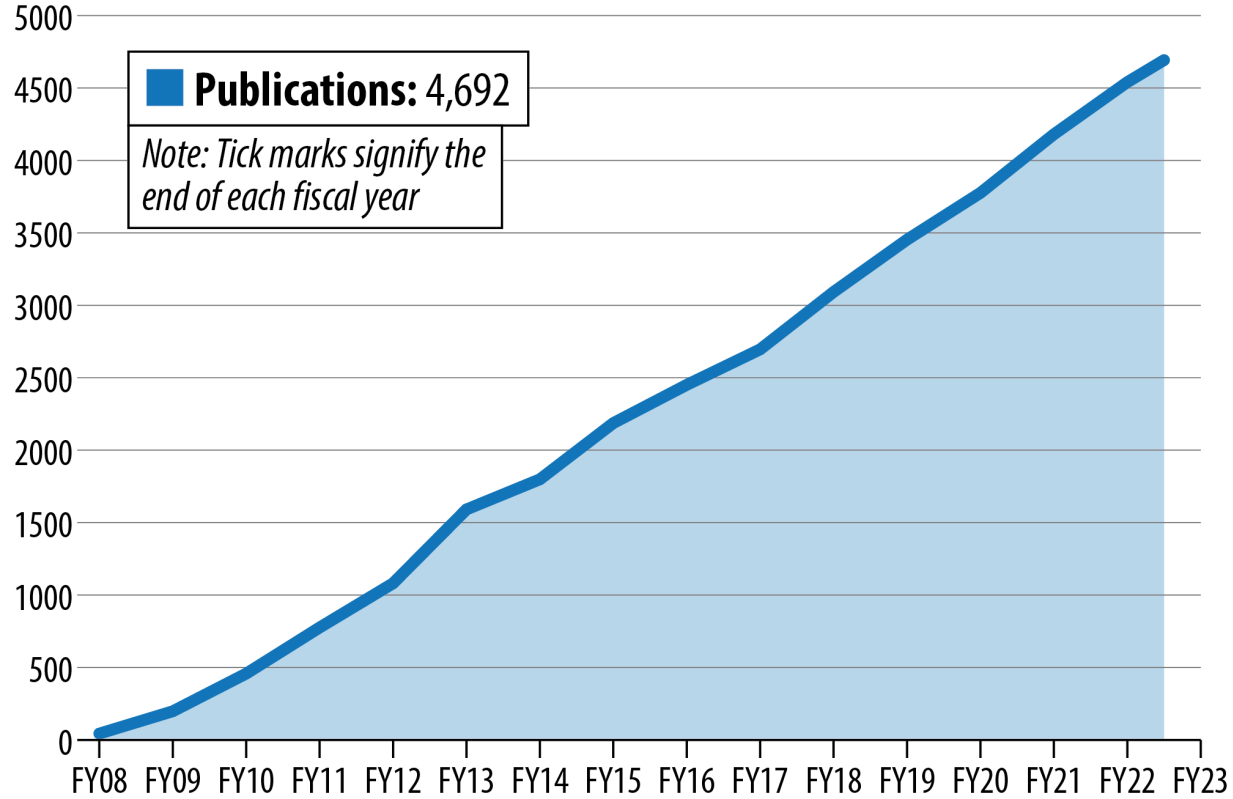
Historical Context



The BRCs perform fundamental science for DOE missions



BRC Impact Metrics: Accelerating Deployment of Science & Commercialization



(as of March 2023)



Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program

BRCs are learning where to fit into your SAF Drivers

Drivers in the SAF grand challenge

Aviation Fuel Consumption

- 200 million ton/year in 2012
- Predicted 852 million ton/yr by 2050

Industry-Wide Emissions Reduction

- 50% of 2005 levels by 2050

Four Ways to 2050 Goals

- Better engines (20%)
- Better ATC (10%)
- Better operations (10%)
- **SAF (50%)**



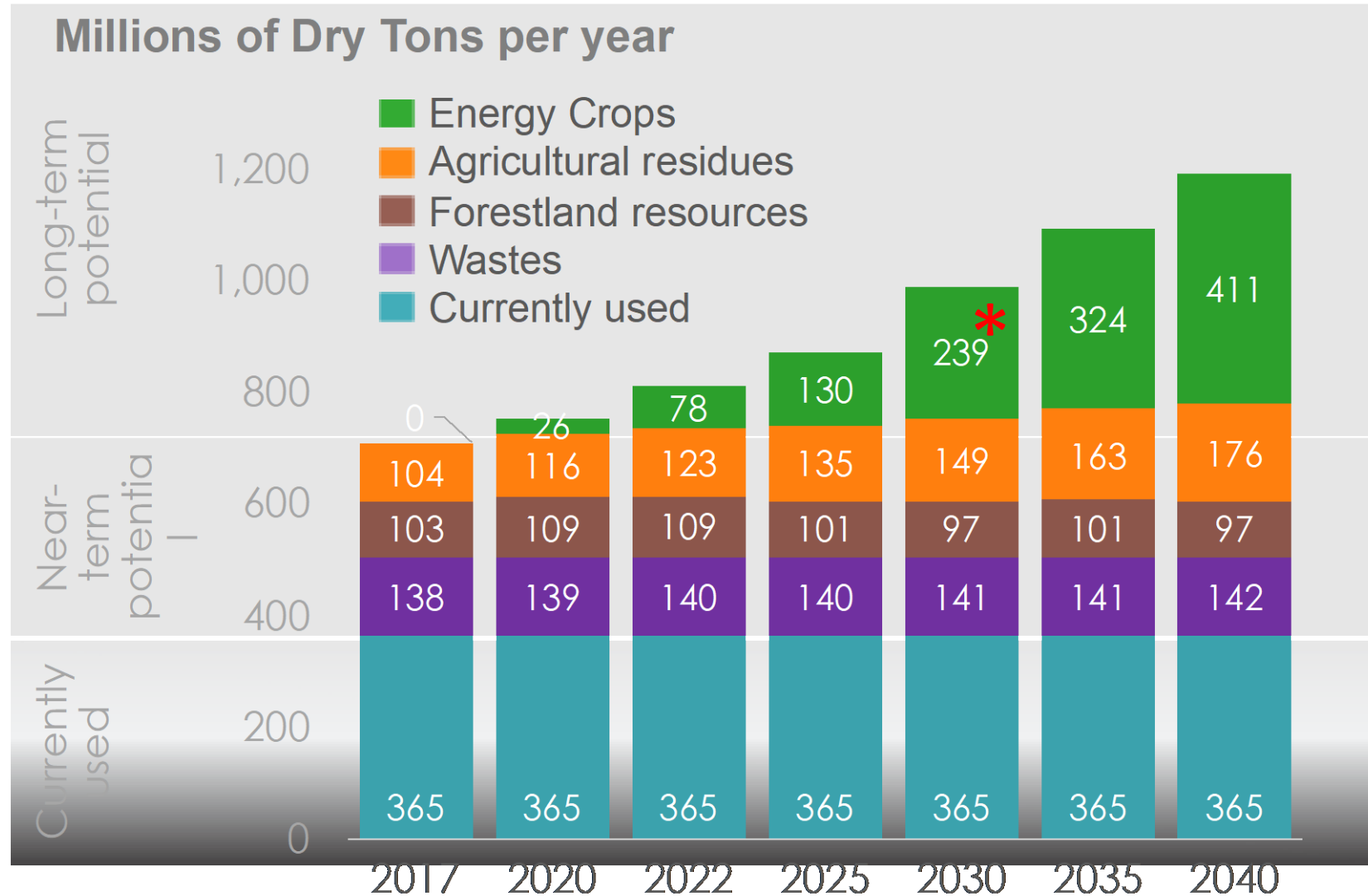
Fundamental Proof-of-Concept Goals: Demonstrate that the various BRC feedstocks-to-fuels processes will support various blendstocks for SAF.

How much renewable carbon do we need?

- 35 B gallons of SAF = 800 M tons of biomass
 - 9 B gallons of marine fuel = 150 M tons of biomass
 - 5 B gallons of biodiesel = 80 M tons of biomass
 - 100 M tons of chemicals (50% of today's market) = 400 M of biomass
-
- TOTAL = 1.5 B tons of biomass (very conservative)



Where will the biomass come from?



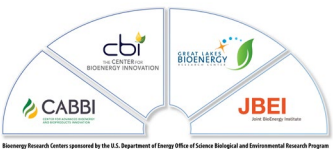
* represents approximately 27 million acres

ca. 0.8 billion tons of new potential



Introduction to the BRCs

- CBI – Brian Davison
- JBEI – Aindrila Mukhopadhyay
- CABBI – Andrew Leakey
- GLBRC – Tim Donohue
- Working with BRCs and IP – Jennifer Gottwald, WARF
- QA



The Center for Bioenergy Innovation and Sustainable Aviation Fuels

Brian Davison

CSO, Center for Bioenergy Innovation

August 15, 2023

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davisonbh@ornl.gov



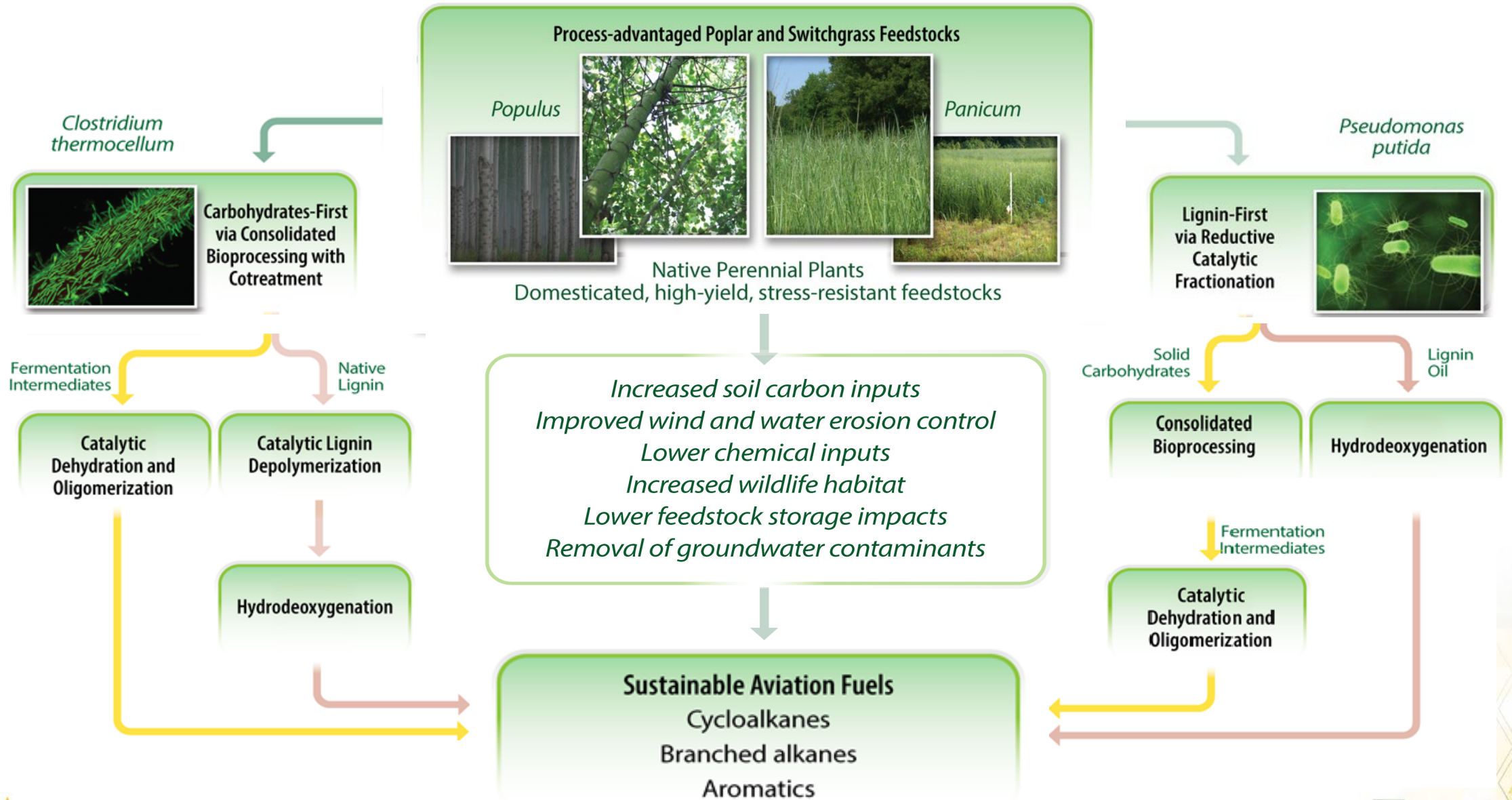
CBI Vision and Innovation Targets

The Center for Bioenergy Innovation vision is to accelerate domestication of bioenergy-relevant, non-model plants and microbes to enable high-impact innovations within the sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) domain.

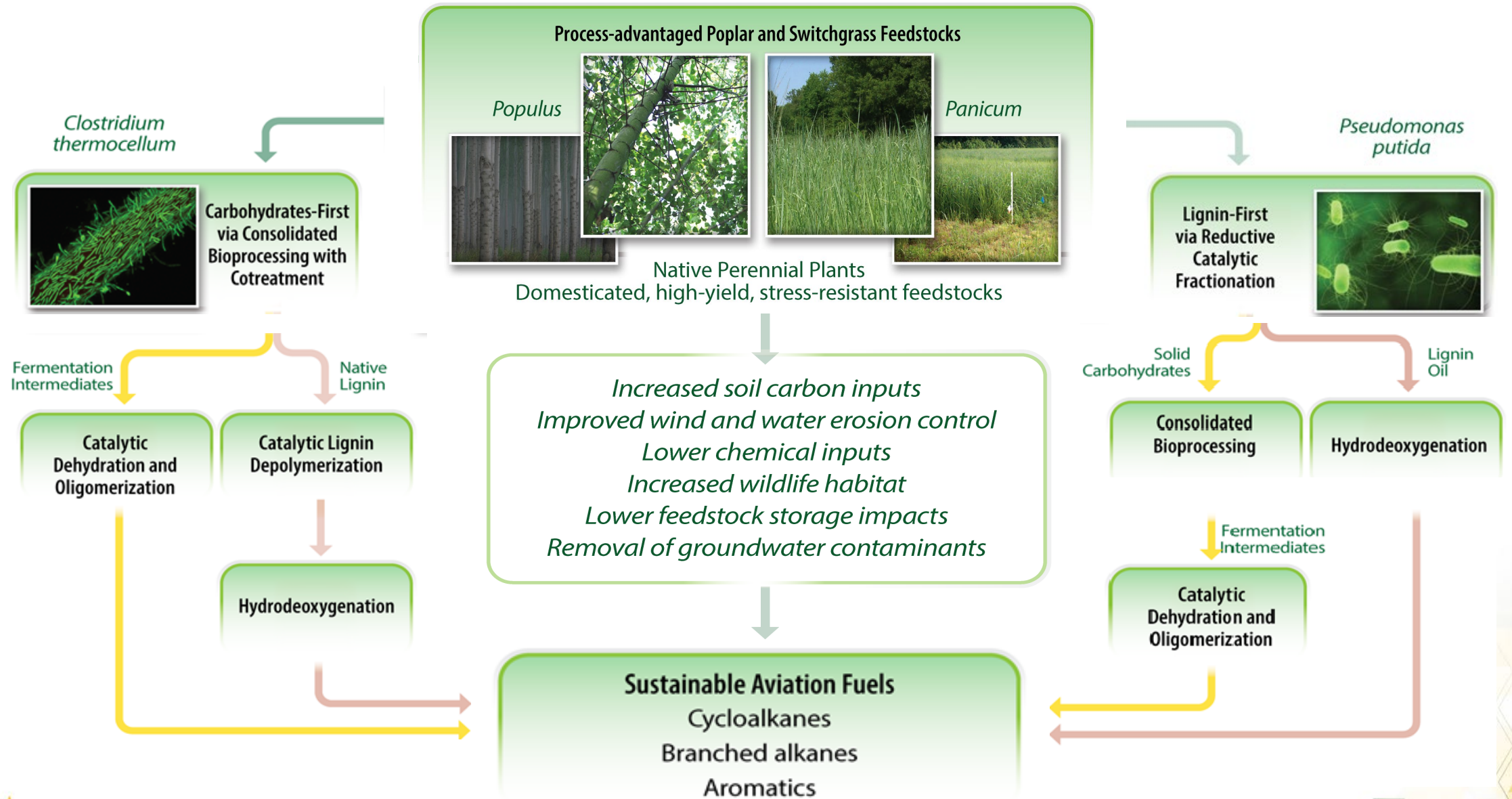
Innovation Targets

1. Develop sustainable, process-advantaged biomass feedstocks
2. Refine consolidated bioprocessing with cotreatment to create fermentative intermediates
3. Advance lignin valorization for bio-based products and aviation fuel feedstocks
4. Improve catalytic upgrading for SAF blend stocks certification

CBI research structure and approach



CBI Research Structure and Approach



There is Significant Economic Impact of Variation in Plant Yield and Composition for Poplar

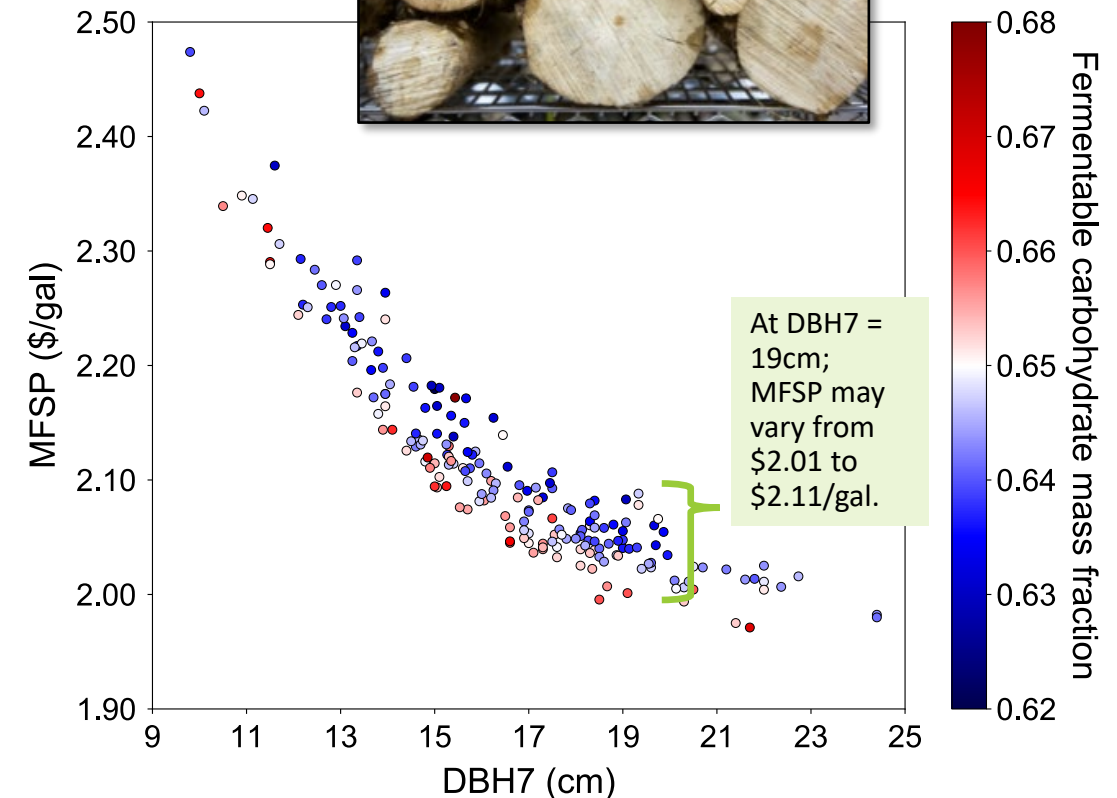
- There is a wide range of variation in natural populations of perennial biofeedstock

Approach

- Improved HTP compositional analytics provides the full range of natural variation
- The poplar supply chain simulation model was used to estimate the cost of poplar based on tree size delivered to the biorefinery.
- Technoeconomic sensitivity was performed on representative sample of 204 poplar clones from GWAS population wrt biomass yield and carbohydrate composition.
- Utilized Aspen Plus model based on the NREL biomass conversion base case (pretreatment, enzymes, and fermentation) into ethanol intermediate.

Outcome

- **Biomass yield (as DBH7) was the strongest influence on economics due to high variation and feedstock costs.**
- **After biomass yield, composition (i.e., feedstock quality) becomes an equally important parameter on MFSP.**



MFSP (minimum fuel selling price) vs DBH7 and fermentable carbohydrate

CBI Proof-of-Process(es): Tier α /Tier β SAF Goal

- **Proof-of-Process Goal:** Demonstrate that the CBI feedstocks-to-fuels process supports upgrading of carbohydrates and lignin from corn stover, process-advantaged switchgrass and process-advantaged poplar into a tunable portfolio of branched alkanes, cycloalkanes, and aromatics for use as components in complete SAF.
- Three feedstocks
 - Stover
 - Poplar
 - Switchgrass
 - We have gathered and milled 30 kg of each
- Two major possible workflows
 - Carbohydrate 1st/Lignin 2nd
 - CBP/RCF/upgrading
 - Lignin 1st/Carbohydrate 2nd
 - RCF/CBP/upgrading
- Outcome: three possible blendstocks into Tier α /Tier β tests
 - Aromatics
 - Branched alkanes
 - Cycloalkanes

Poplar Innovations Inc.



CBI is collaborating with WSU Heyne lab to perform the Tier α /Tier β SAF tests

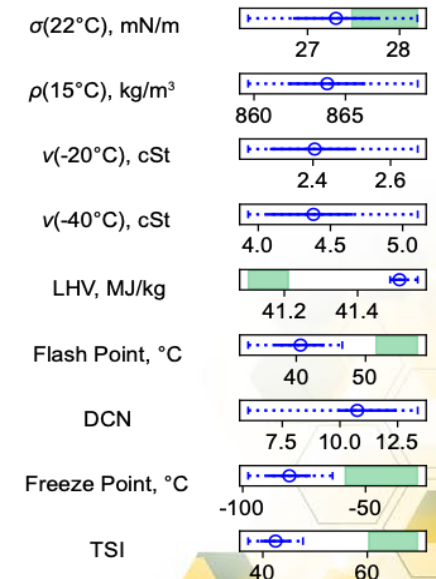
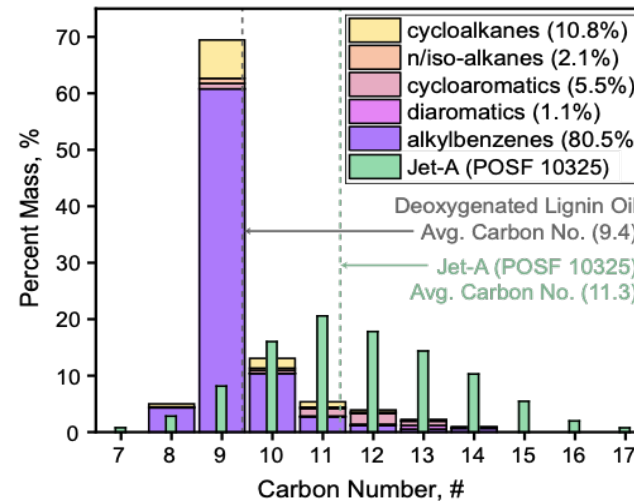
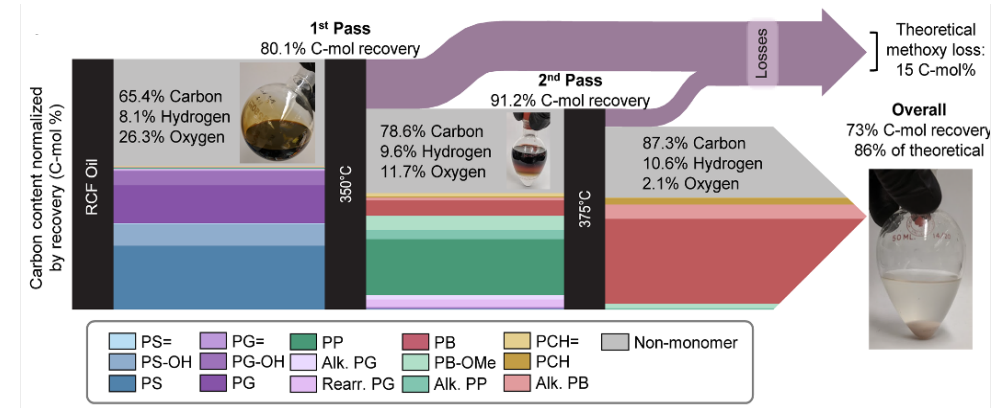


WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
TRI-CITIES

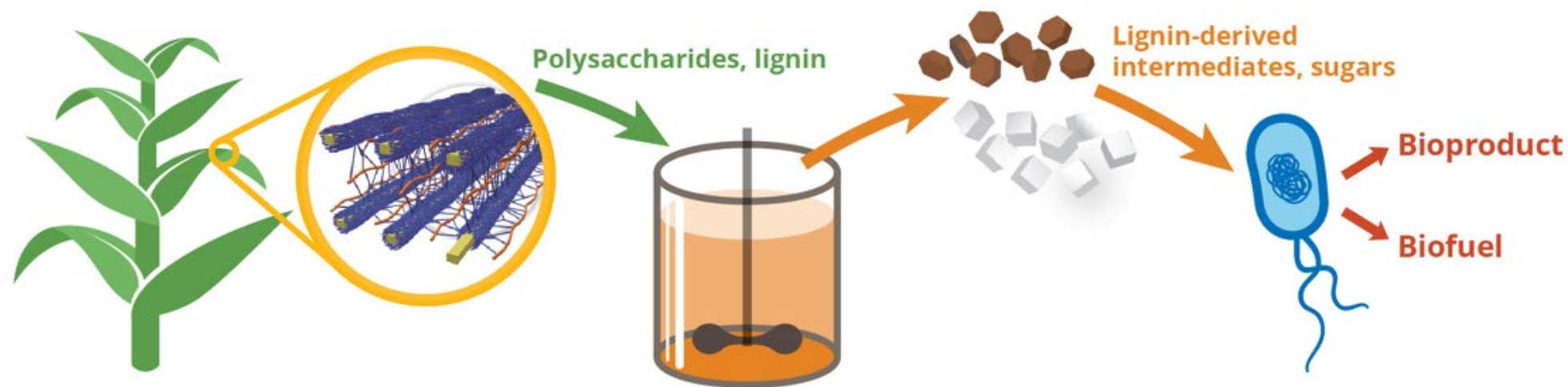
CBI and SAF to date

- CBI began additional upgrading to SAF hydrocarbons work in 2019
- We have preliminary results on
 - upgraded reductive catalytic upgrading of lignin oils into a possible blendstock
 - Upgraded ethanol into hydrocarbons
- Fall 2022: began the coordinated proof-of-process
- Continue discussions and outreach to end-users

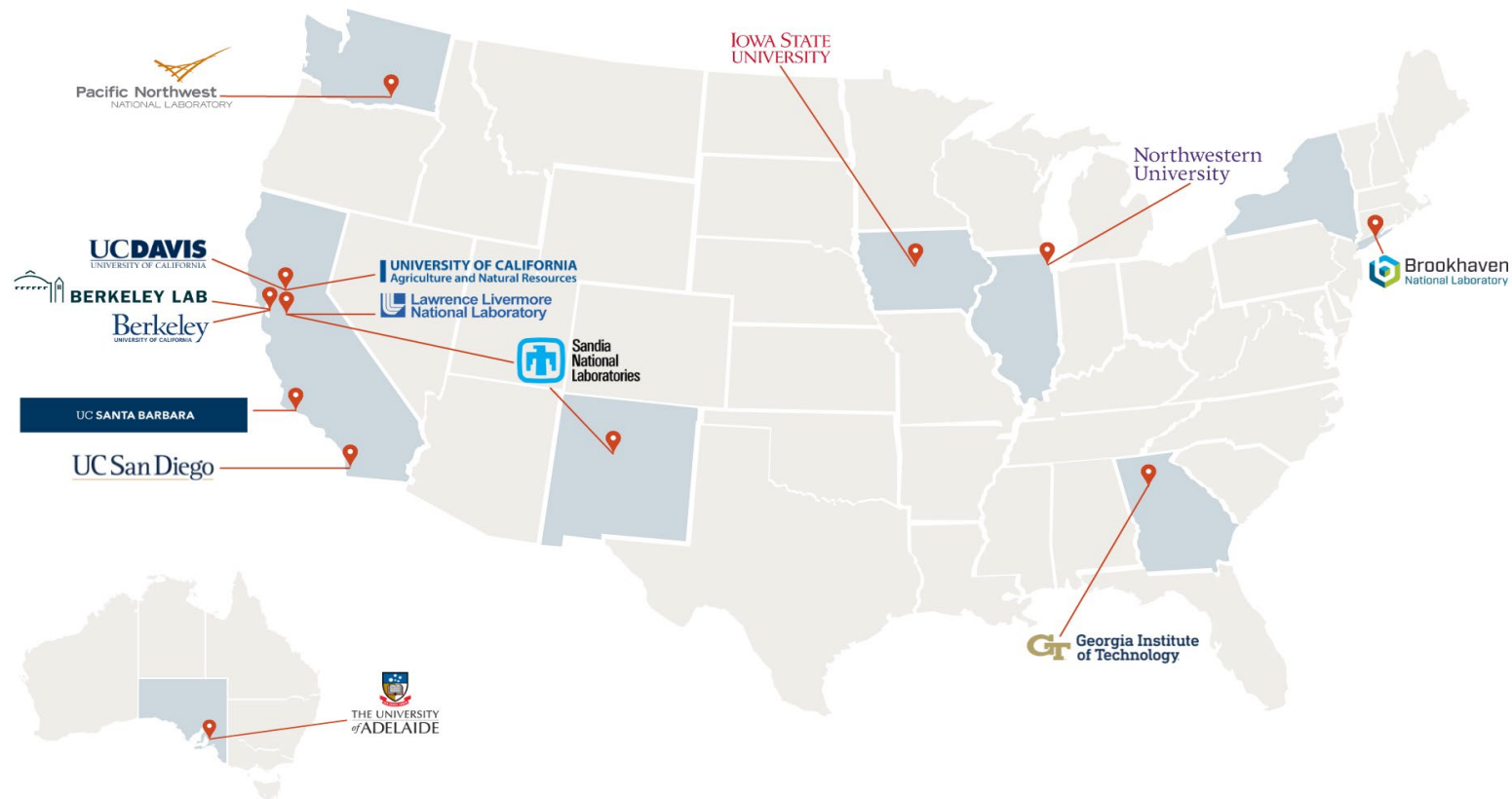
ASTM 4054 Tier α testing of deoxygenated lignin oil



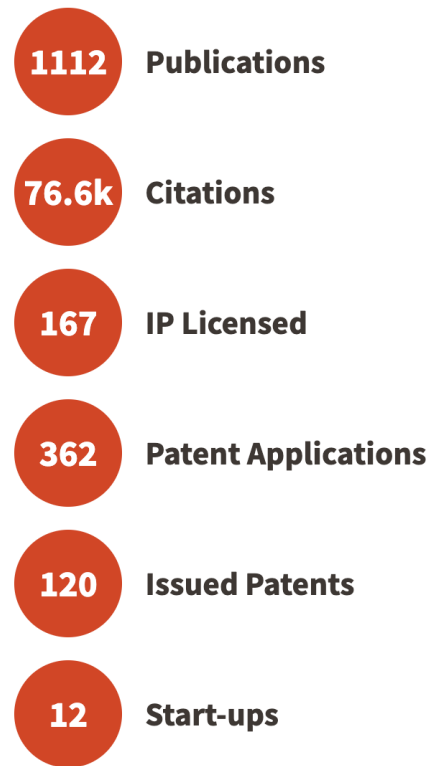
CAFFI Seminar: JBEI SAF Update



JBEI Mission and impacts



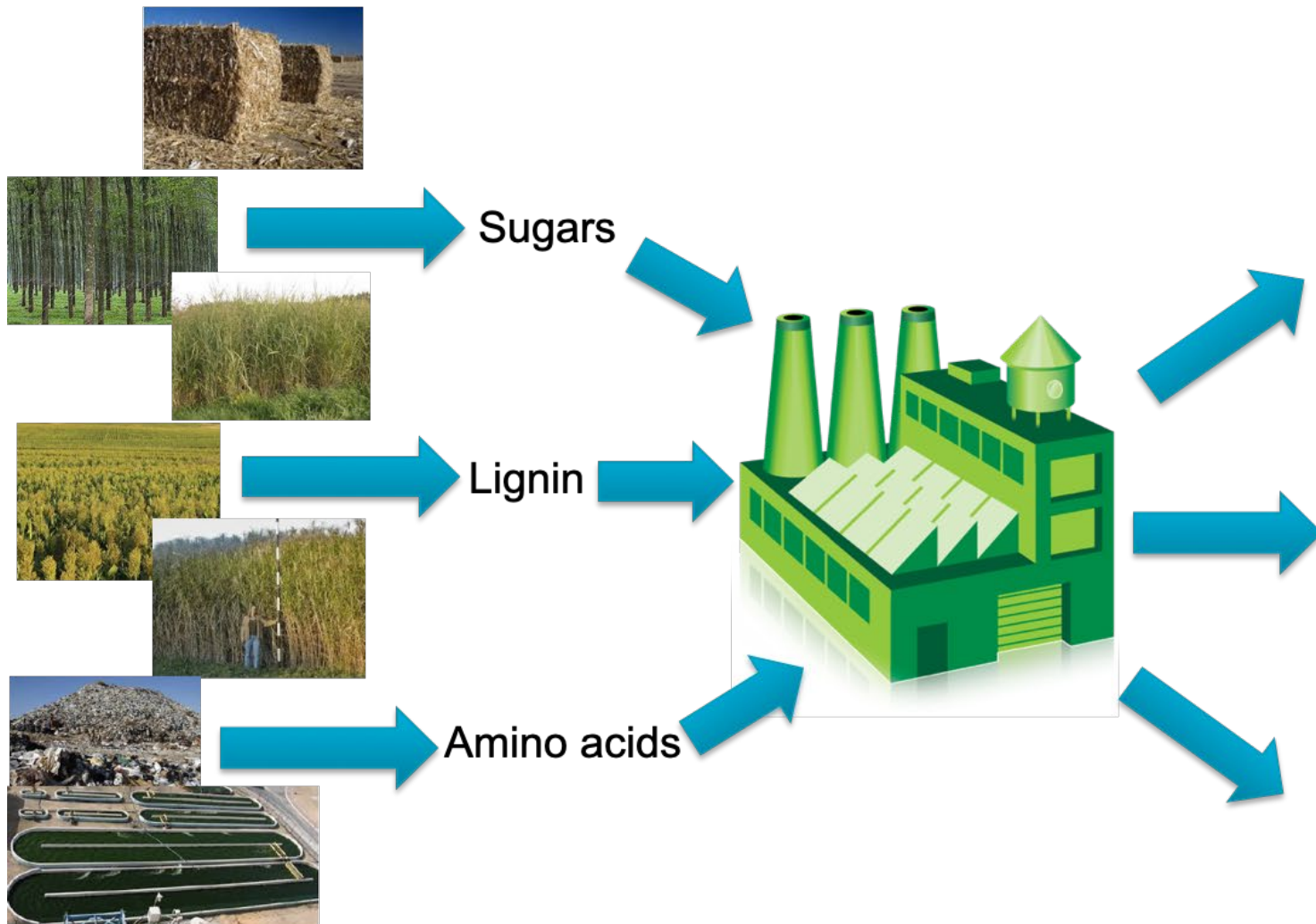
JBEI By the Numbers



JBEI Mission:

Establish the **scientific knowledge** and **new technologies** to transform the maximum amount of carbon available in bioenergy crops into biofuels and bioproducts.

Building a Sustainable Aviation Enterprise



Sustainable Fuels:

- Drop-in blendstocks
- Higher energy density fuels for enhanced ranges



Interior Cabin:

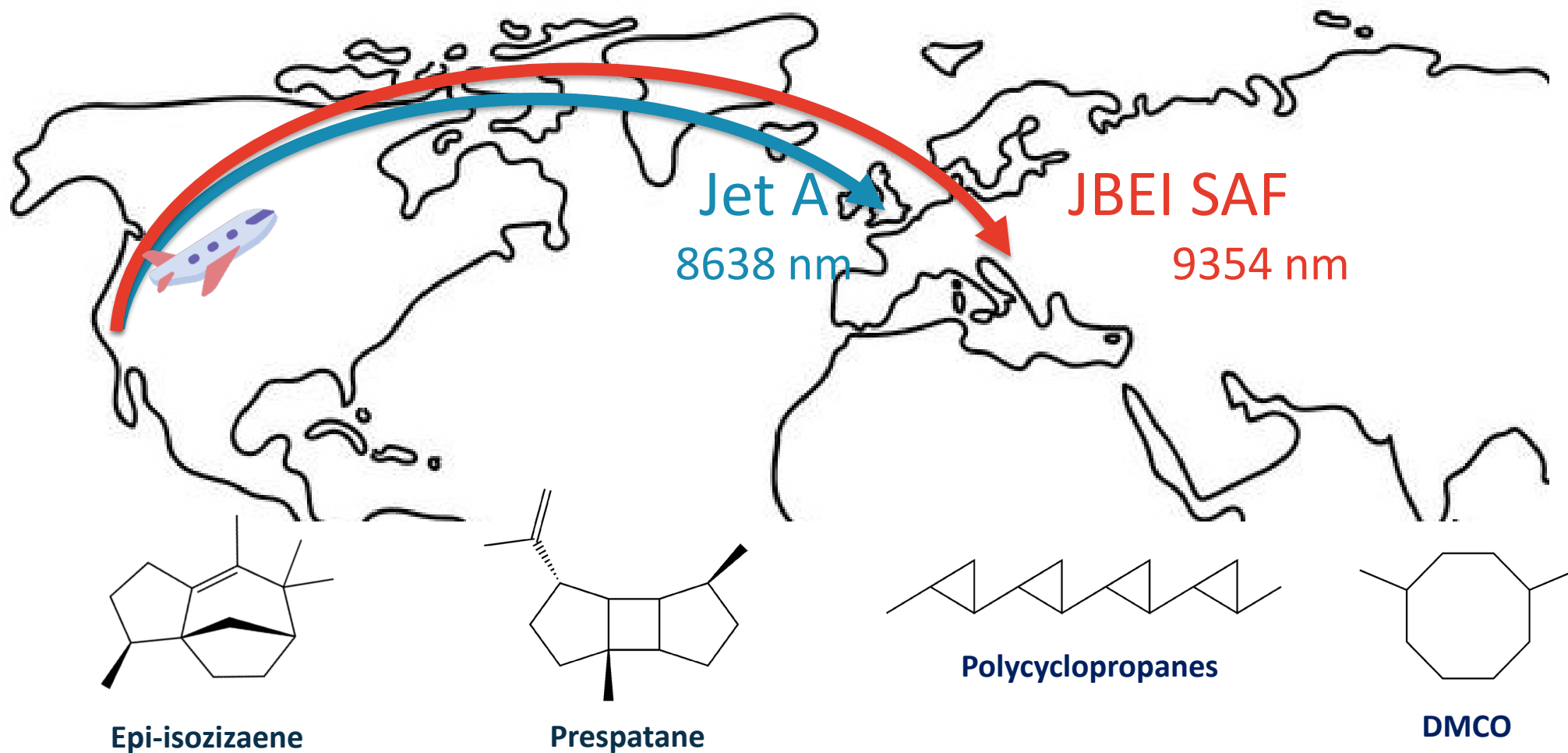
- Renewable fabrics
- Polymers
- Fire retardant materials



Airframe:

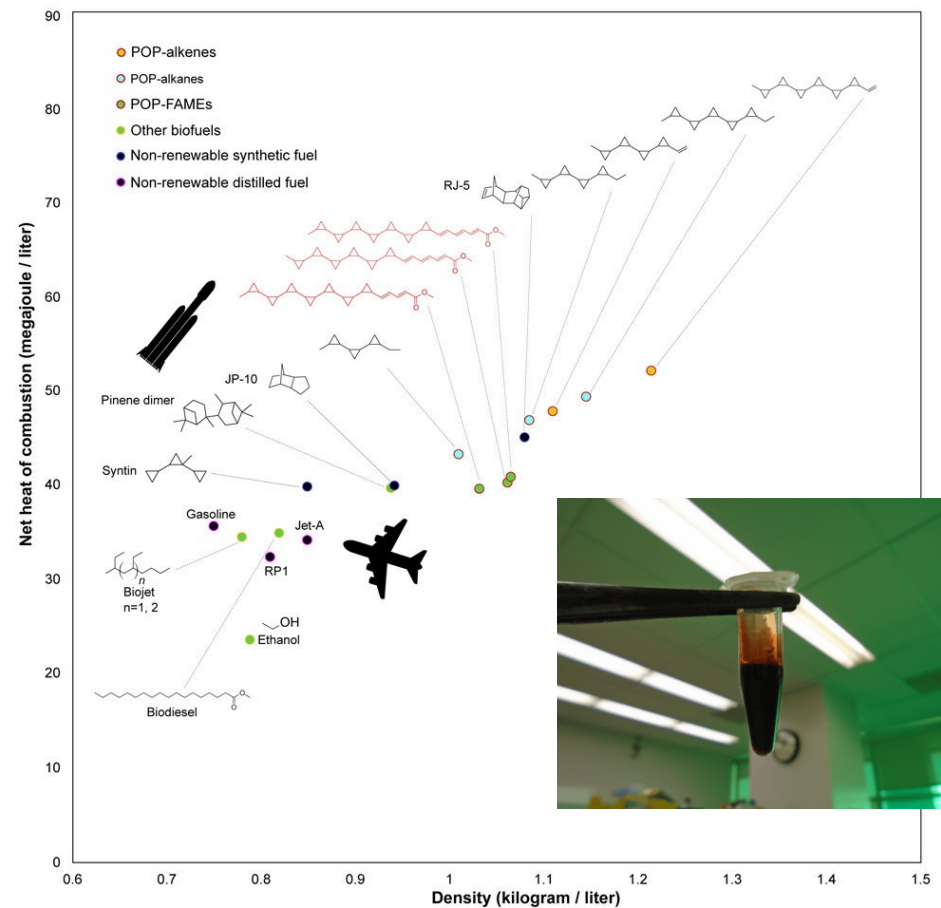
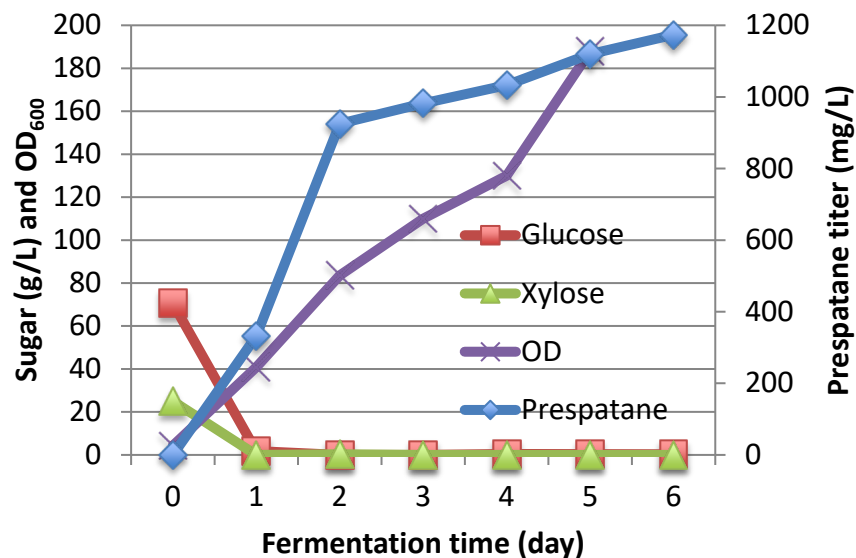
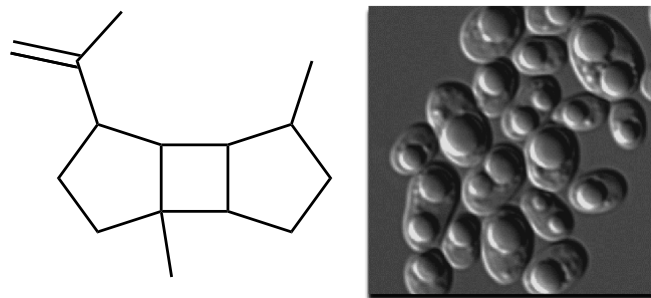
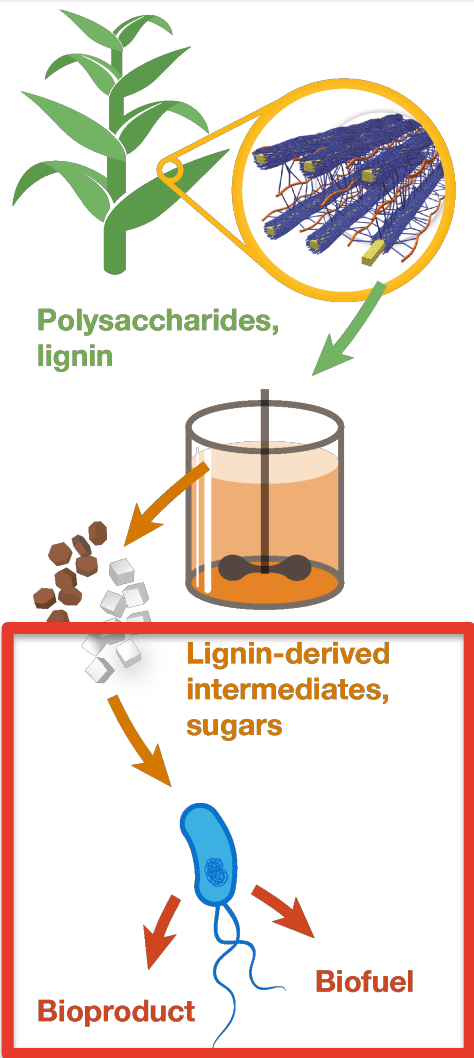
- Renewable carbon fiber
- Renewable carbon composites

JBEI's Sustainable Aviation Fuel Targets

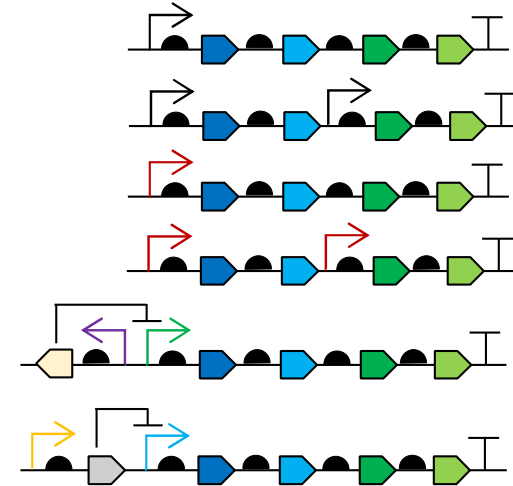
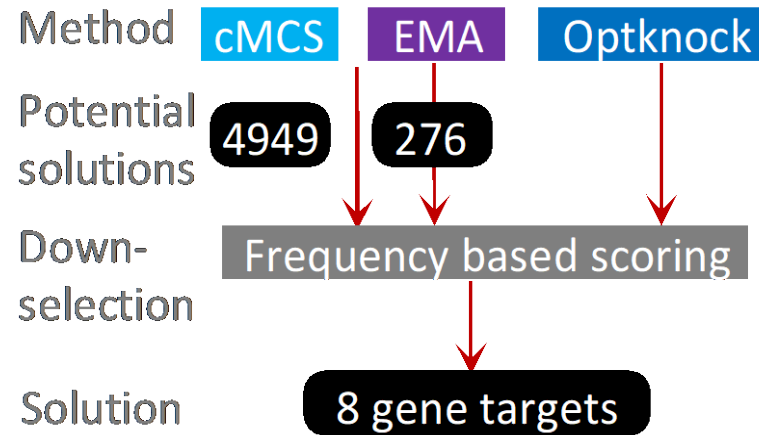
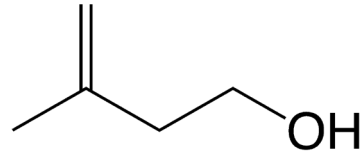
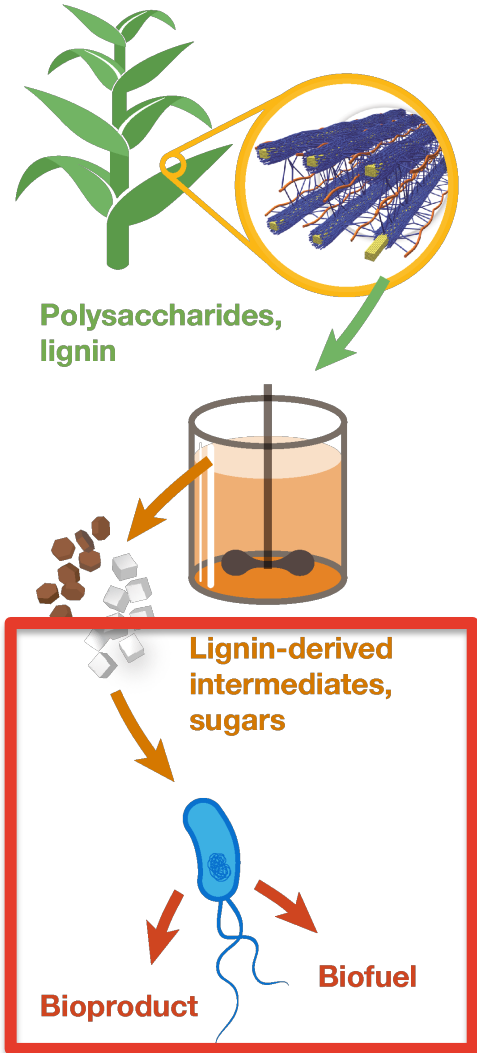


Highly energy dense sustainable aviation fuels (SAFs) improve range and economics

JBEI's Sustainable Aviation Fuel Targets



Engineering production of isoprenol in several microbial strains



P. putida

We have engineered many microbial strains to produce isoprenol and improved the titers rates and yields.

Dimethylcyclooctane (DMCO) is produced from isoprenol using a 3-step conversion process

JBEI

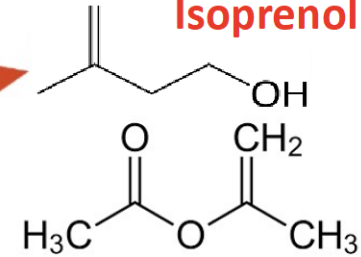
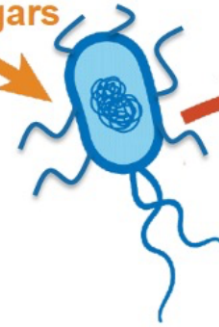
NAWCWD

Polysaccharides, lignin

Lignin-derived intermediates, sugars

Isoprenol

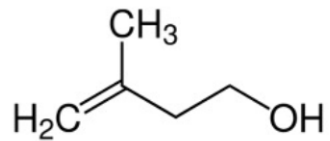
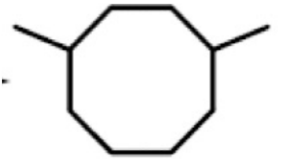
DMCO



Isoprenyl acetate



Chemical Catalysis

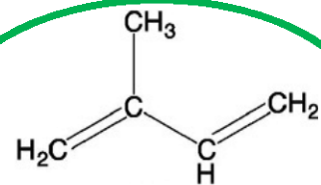


Isoprenol



Auto Fuel:

Co-Optima "Top Ten" Blendstock:
Higher Octane Higher Efficiency



Isoprene



Industrial Chemical:
Green Synthetic Rubber



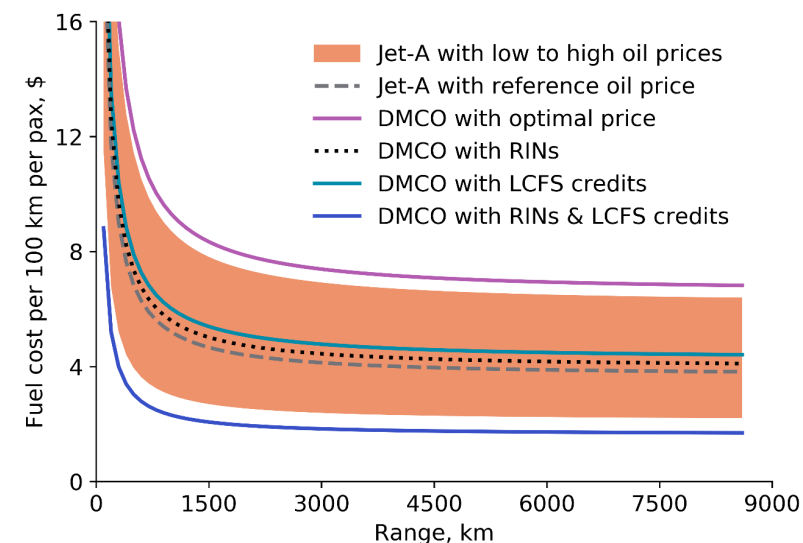
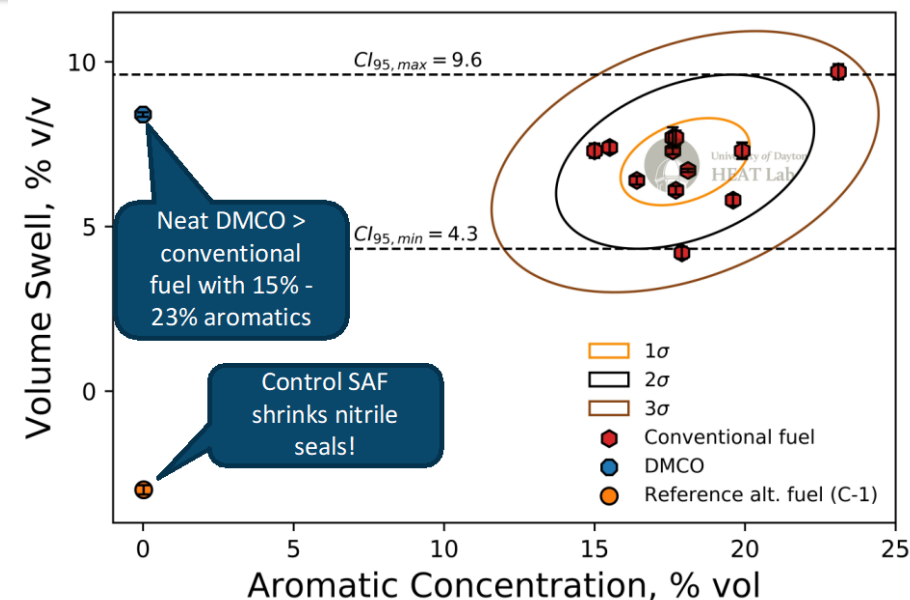
DMCO



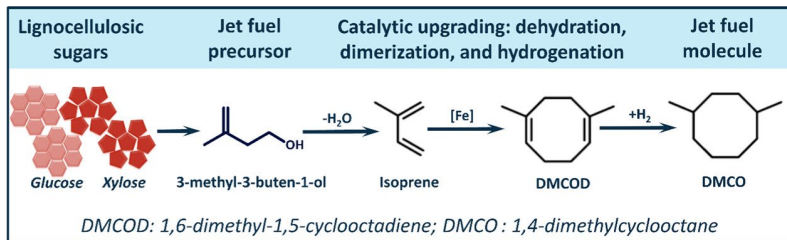
Aviation Fuel:
High-Performance SAF

DMCO Achieves Better Performance than Jet-A1/JP-8 and Enables 100% SAF

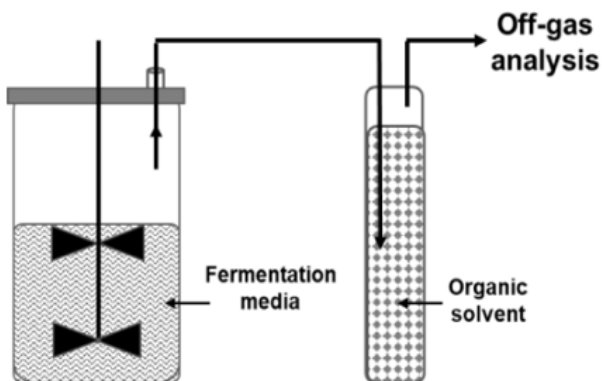
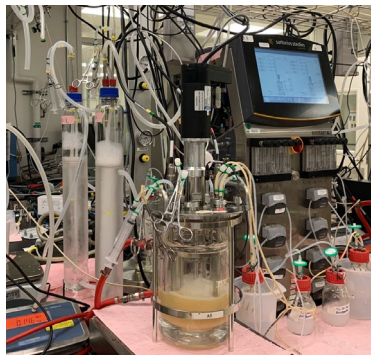
- DMCO can eliminate aromatics in jet fuel
- DMCO enables 100% SAF
 - 30% DMCO/70% HEFA is 100% renewable drop-in, with better performance
- Estimated commercial fleet-level fuel savings $\sim \leq 8.6\%$ with full DMCO adoption by 2025: Greatest impact on larger, long-haul planes
- DMCO increases energy density by 9.2% relative to Jet-A, can replace petroleum derived aromatics in blend w/ paraffinic bio-jet fuels like HEFA



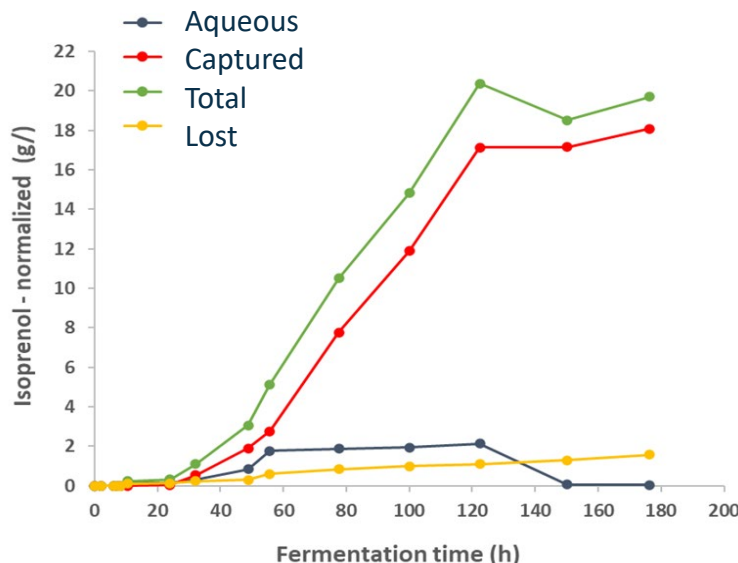
Scale-up for Production of Isoprenol for DMCO



Roesenkoetter et al., Green Chem, 2019

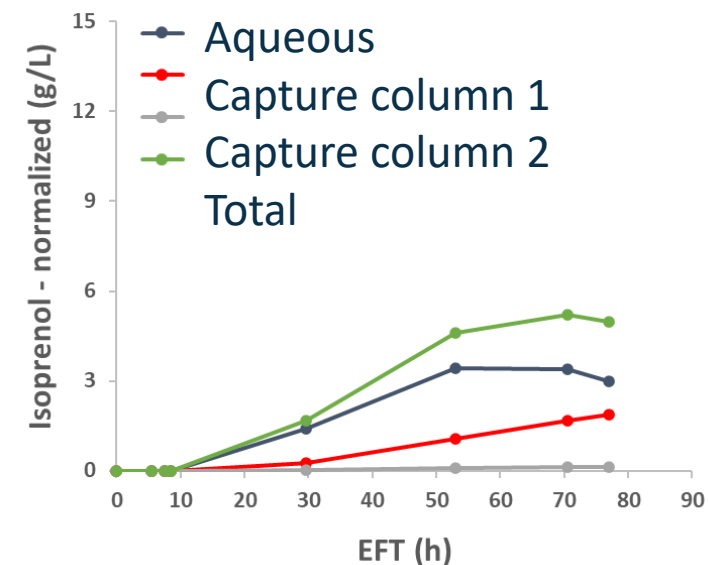


2L scale-up: Separations Consortium



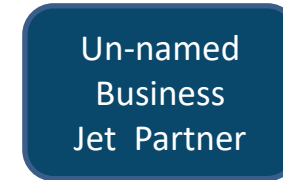
At 2L scale offgas stripping can fully replace organic overlays

300L scale-up: US Navy



Scalability to 300L fermentation is challenged by back pressure and reduced aeration rates – toxicity limits titers


JBEI's Aviation Program



Formal and informal collaborations with aviation leaders

BRC Synergies for Carbon-negative biomanufacturing

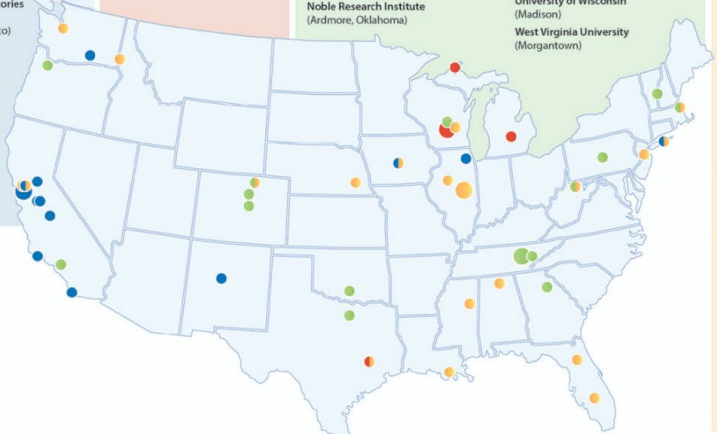
- Shared Research objectives
- Shared strains and feedstocks
- Shared tools and data
- Coordination of TEA and LCA models
- Collaborative studies on strain engineering, Enzyme discovery, and bioprocess development



Bioenergy.org


Launching soon: A collaborative educational and informational platform brought to you by the four US Department of Energy funded Bioenergy Research Centers

<p>Joint BioEnergy Institute</p> <p>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley, California)</p> <p>Argonne National Laboratory (Argonne, Illinois)</p> <p>Brookhaven National Laboratory (Upton, New York)</p> <p>Iowa State University (Ames)</p> <p>Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (Livermore, California)</p> <p>Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (Richland, Washington)</p> <p>Sandia National Laboratories (Livermore, California; Albuquerque, New Mexico)</p> <p>University of California (Berkeley)</p> <p>University of California (Davis)</p> <p>University of California (San Diego)</p> <p>University of California (Santa Barbara)</p> <p>University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (Parlier)</p>	<p>Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center</p> <p>University of Wisconsin (Madison)</p> <p>Michigan State University (East Lansing)</p> <p>Michigan Technological University (Houghton)</p> <p>Texas A&M University (College Station)</p> <p>University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada)</p>	<p>Center for Bioenergy Innovation</p> <p>Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Oak Ridge, Tennessee)</p> <p>Colorado State University (Fort Collins)</p> <p>Dartmouth College (Hanover, New Hampshire)</p> <p>GreenWood Resources, Inc. (Portland, Oregon)</p> <p>Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge)</p> <p>National Renewable Energy Laboratory (Golden, Colorado)</p> <p>Noble Research Institute (Ardmore, Oklahoma)</p>	<p>The Pennsylvania State University (State College)</p> <p>University of California (Riverside)</p> <p>University of Colorado (Boulder)</p> <p>University of Georgia (Athens)</p> <p>University of North Texas (Denton)</p> <p>University of Tennessee (Knoxville)</p> <p>University of Wisconsin (Madison)</p> <p>West Virginia University (Morgantown)</p>	<p>Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation</p> <p>University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign)</p> <p>Archbold Biological Station (Venus, Florida)</p> <p>Boston University (Massachusetts)</p> <p>Brookhaven National Laboratory (Upton, New York)</p> <p>Colorado State University (Fort Collins)</p> <p>HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology (Huntsville, Alabama)</p> <p>Institute for Systems Biology (Seattle, Washington)</p> <p>Iowa State University (Ames)</p> <p>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley, California)</p> <p>Mississippi State University (Starkville)</p> <p>Princeton University (New Jersey)</p> <p>Texas A&M University (College Station)</p> <p>University of California (Berkeley)</p> <p>University of Florida (Gainesville)</p> <p>University of Idaho (Moscow)</p> <p>University of Nebraska (Lincoln)</p> <p>University of Wisconsin (Madison)</p> <p>U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service (Houma, Louisiana; Peoria and Urbana, Illinois)</p> <p>West Virginia University (Morgantown)</p>
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Office of Science


Please visit us individually:




CABBI
CENTER FOR ADVANCED BIOENERGY AND BIOPRODUCTS INNOVATION



THE CENTER FOR BIOENERGY INNOVATION



GREAT LAKES BIOENERGY RESEARCH CENTER



JBEI
Joint BioEnergy Institute

Thank you to DOE BER for funding!



www.jbei.org



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AND BIOPRODUCTS INNOVATION

Andrew Leakey

leakey@illinois.edu

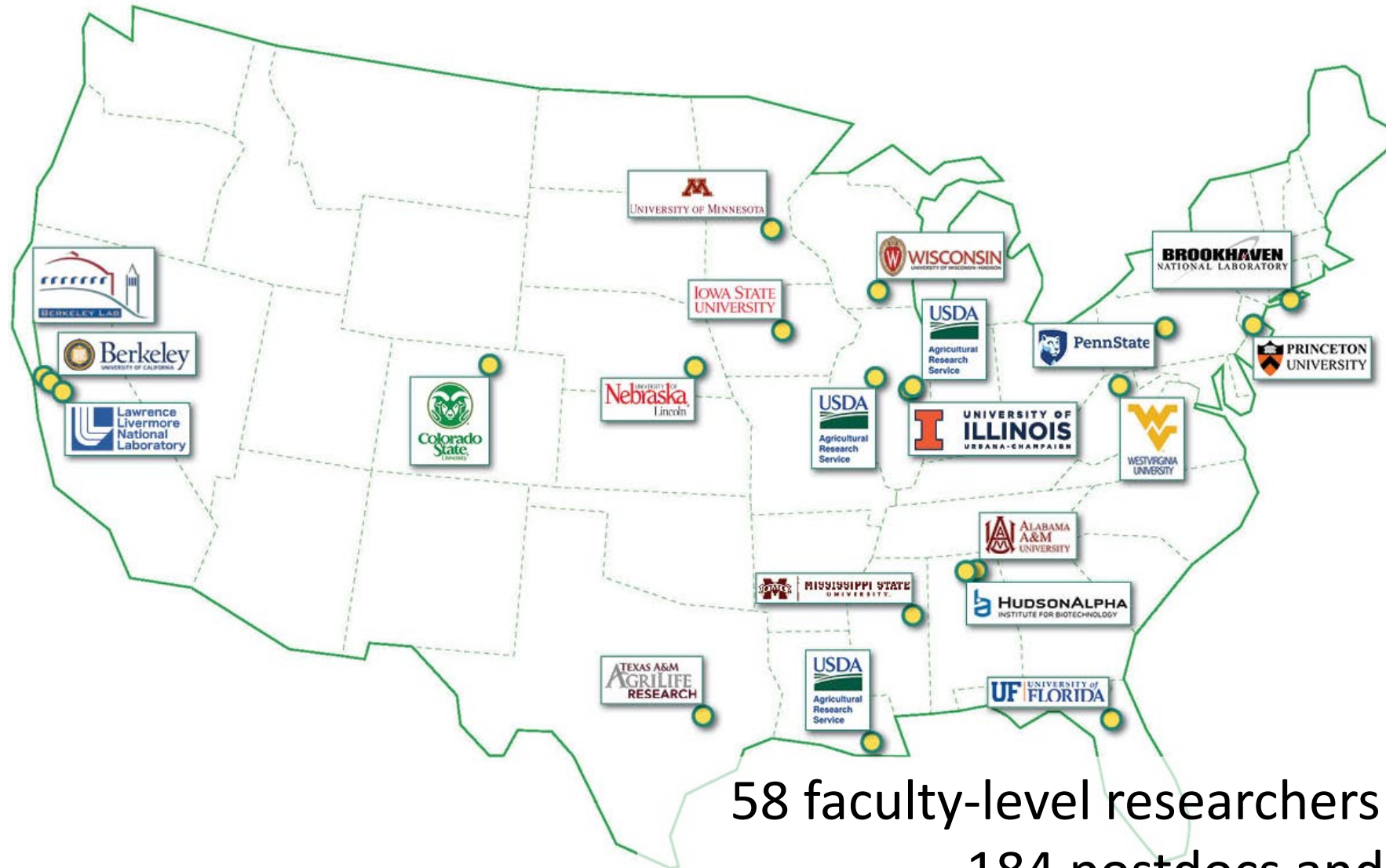
CAAFI seminar

June 2023





Partners & Personnel

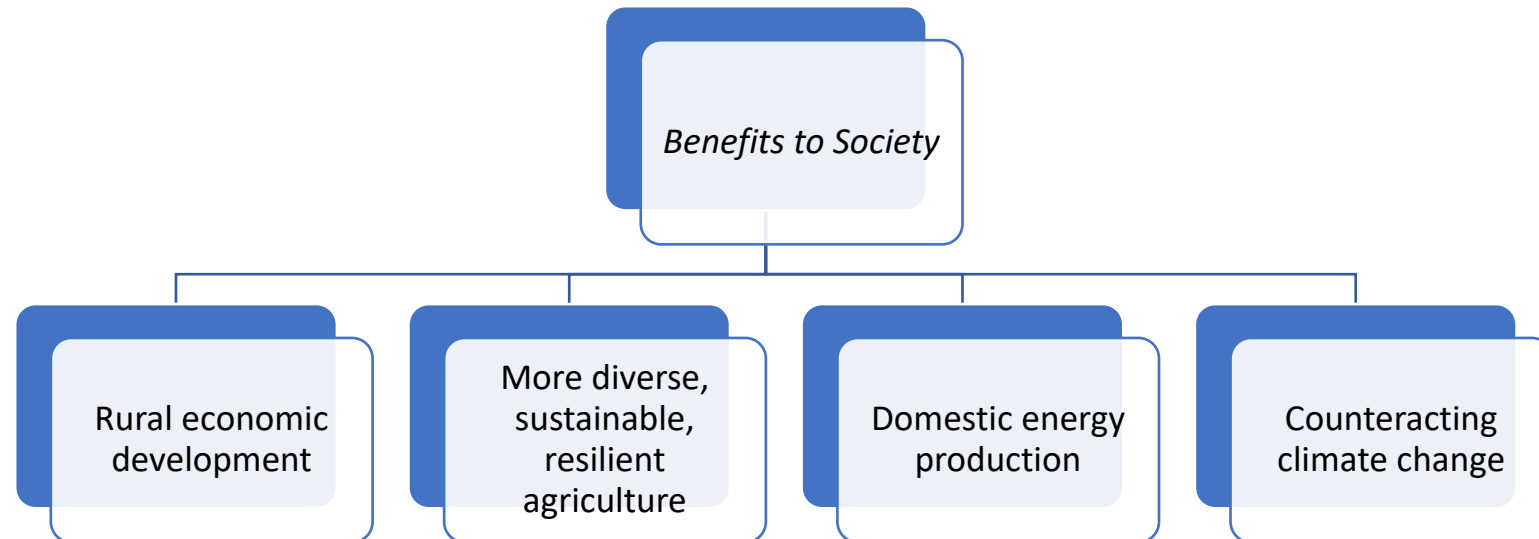


58 faculty-level researchers for renewal
184 postdocs and technicians
143 graduate and undergraduate students

BRC PROGRAM PURPOSE, BENEFITS

Purpose

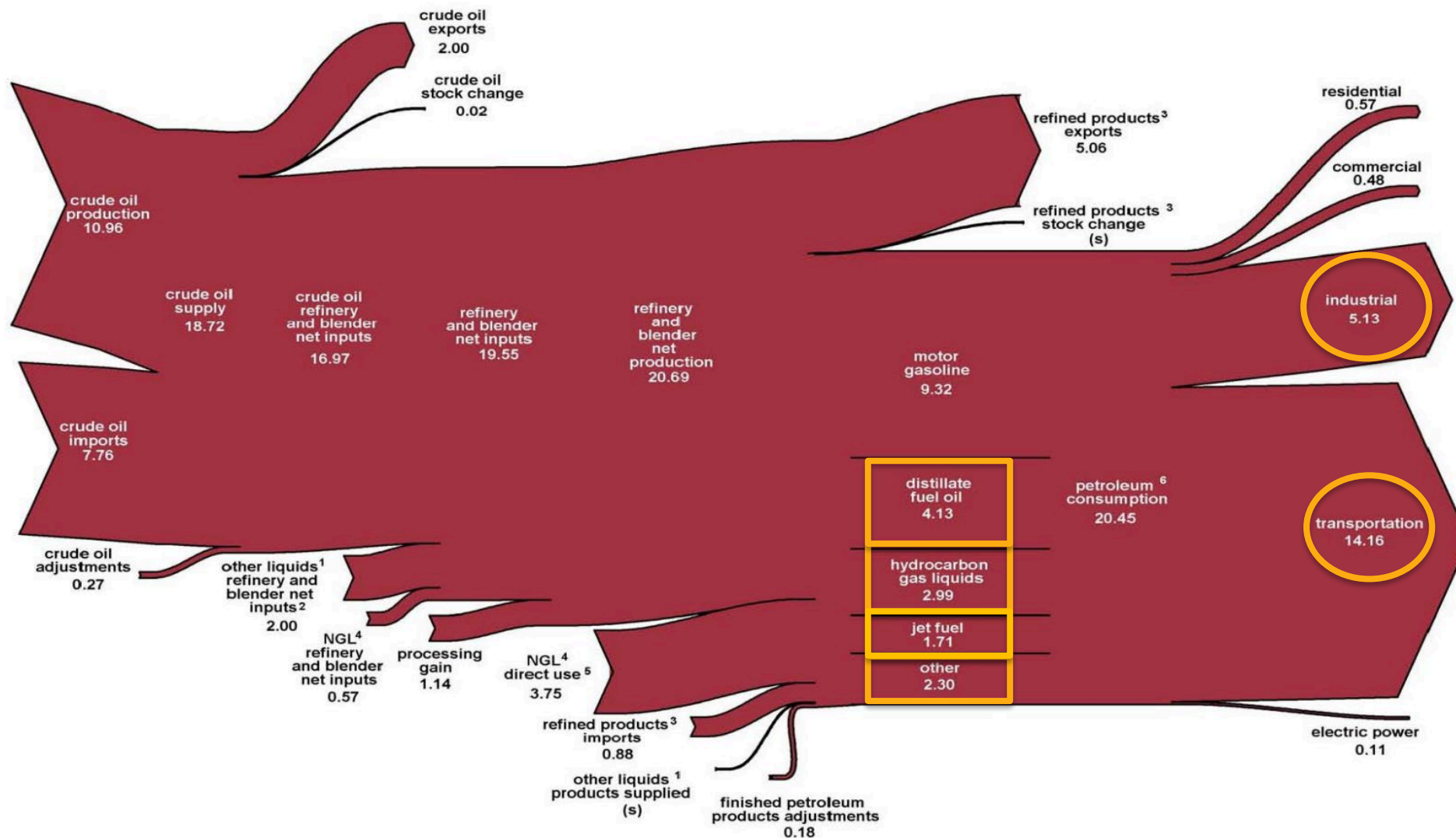
Provide the scientific discoveries and new technologies to develop an economically viable and ecologically sustainable domestic biofuel and bioproducts industry from dedicated bioenergy crops



PROVIDING CLEAN FUEL/CHEMICALS FOR HARD-TO-ELECTRIFY SECTORS

U.S. petroleum flow, 2018

million barrels per day





SUSTAINABILITY

Optimizing the economic value and environmental benefits of bioenergy and bioproducts



FEEDSTOCK PRODUCTION

Developing more productive, resilient, and sustainable crops that produce oil and other high-value products

MISCANTHUS



SORGHUM



SUGARCANE



READY-TO-USE FUEL



COMPONENTS FOR HIGH-VALUE CHEMICALS

BIOPROCESSING



SUGARS

Issatchenkia orientalis
Saccharomyces cerevisiae
Rhodospiridium toruloides
Yarrowia lipolytica

LIPIDS

FATTY ALCOHOLS; CITRAMALATE;
3-HYDROXYPROPIONIC ACID (3-HP);
TRIACETIC ACID LACTONE (TAL)

DICARBOXYLIC ACIDS;
POLYUNSATURATED FATTY ACIDS



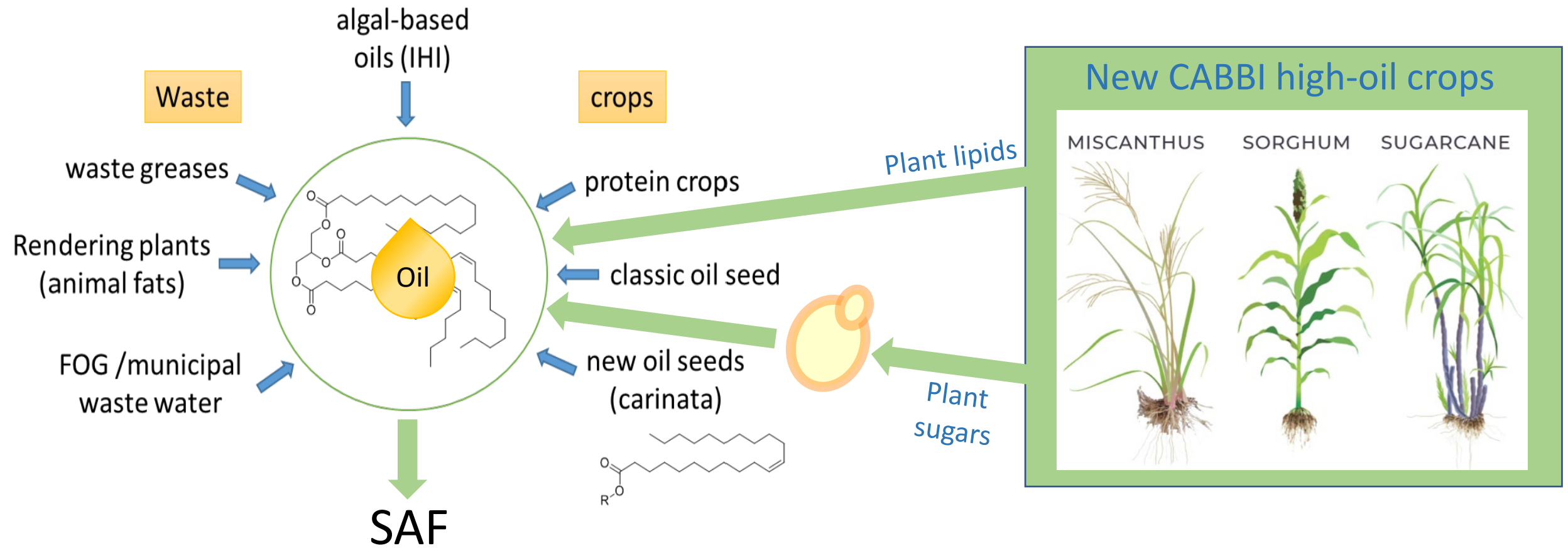
CONVERSION

Pioneering synthetic biology to develop microbes that create new chemicals and upgrade plant products



BIOFUELS & BIOPRODUCTS

Expanding capacity for the primary source of biodiesel, renewable diesel and renewable jet fuel: *lipids*



“Feedstocks are the primary cost contributor to biofuels. Rethinking feedstock sourcing and the means of reducing costs while doing less harm to watersheds and land is a critical activity” Sustainable Aviation Fuel: Review of Technical Pathways, BETO, 2020



CABBI Teamwork — Successfully Completed Oilcane 1.0 (Pilot-Scale Demonstration of Feedstocks to Fuels)



University of Illinois
Greenhouse Planting &
Processing of Biomass



Mississippi State University
Field Planting



University of Florida
Field Planting



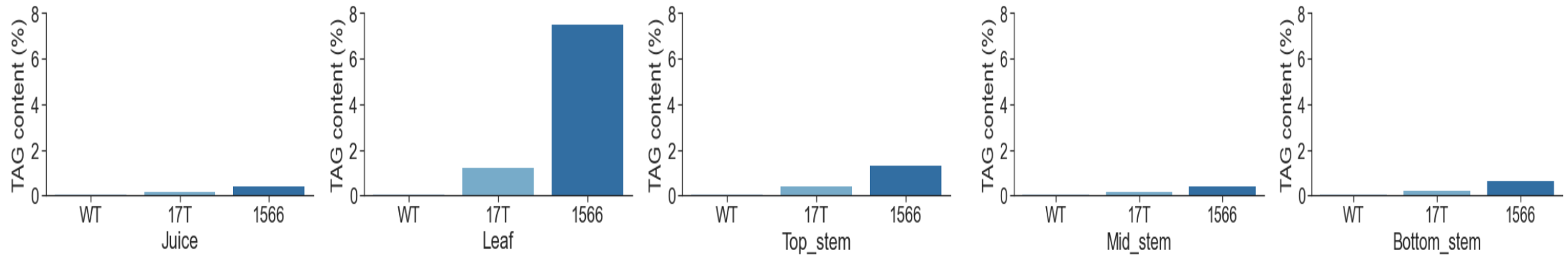
Transgenic lines

1. WT
2. 1566
3. 17T





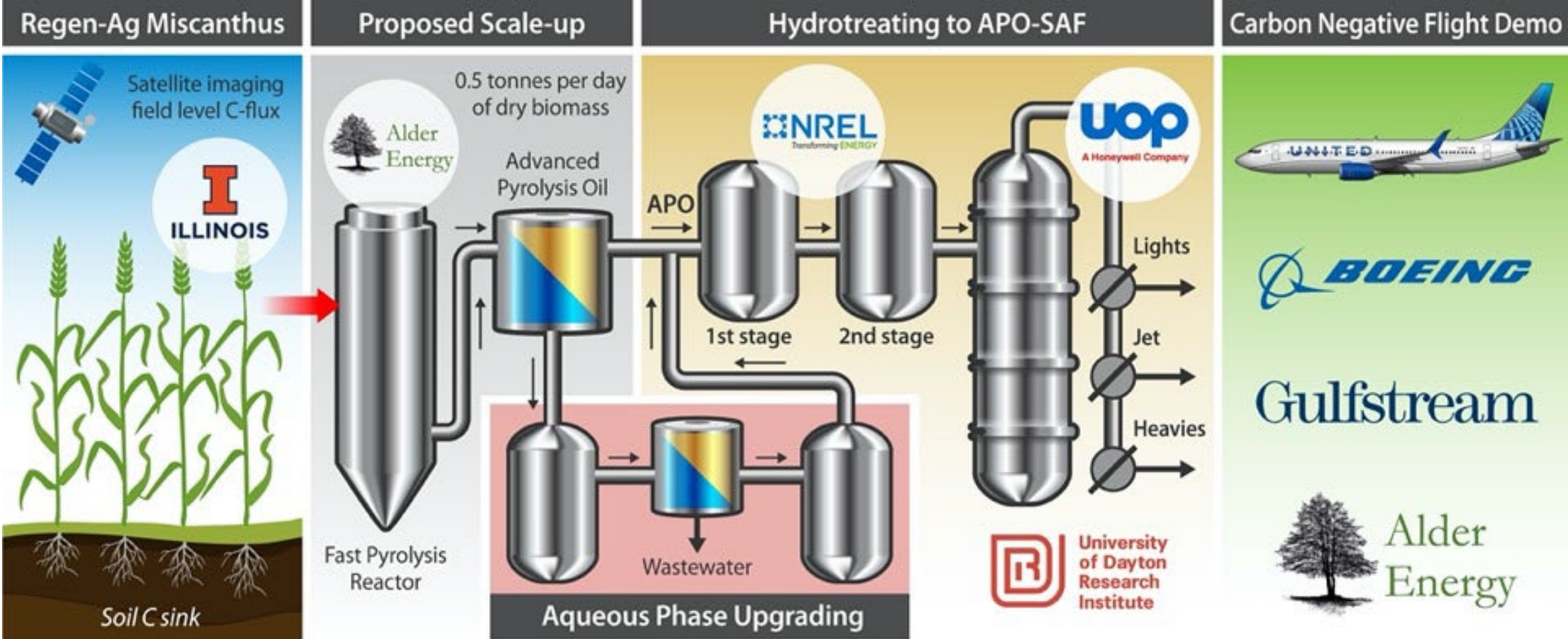
2020 Oilcane trials in Florida



Even higher oil contents produced in 2021 trials...

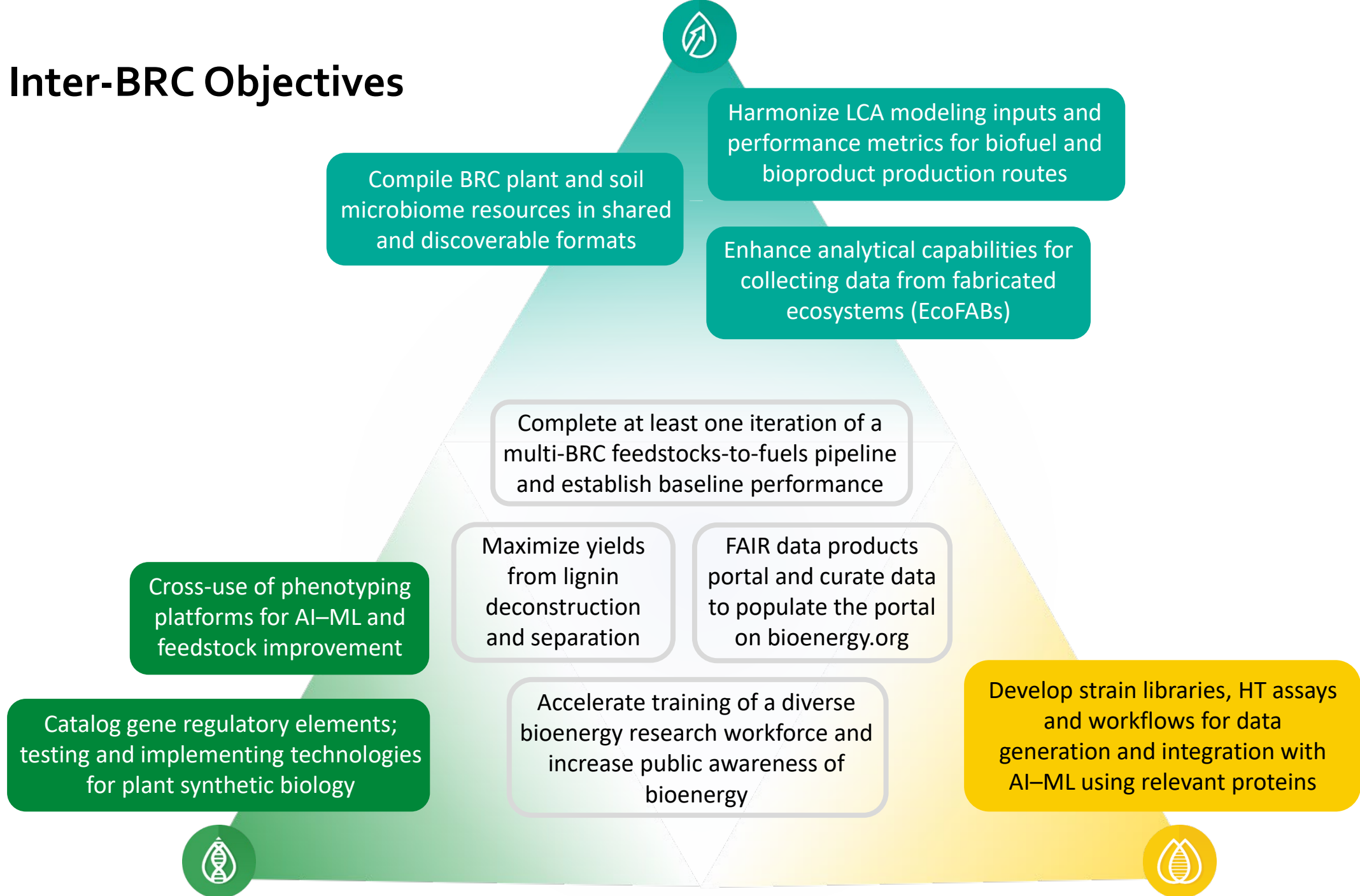
Partnerships for T2M:

Example project - Field-to-Fuel Production of Carbon-Negative Sustainable Aviation Fuel from Regenerative Agriculture Biomass





Inter-BRC Objectives





IMPROVED BIOPROCESSING

- Fatty Acid (FA) separation and recovery
- Yield of oil and sugars from lipid-producing biomass
- High solids loading for cellulosic sugar production



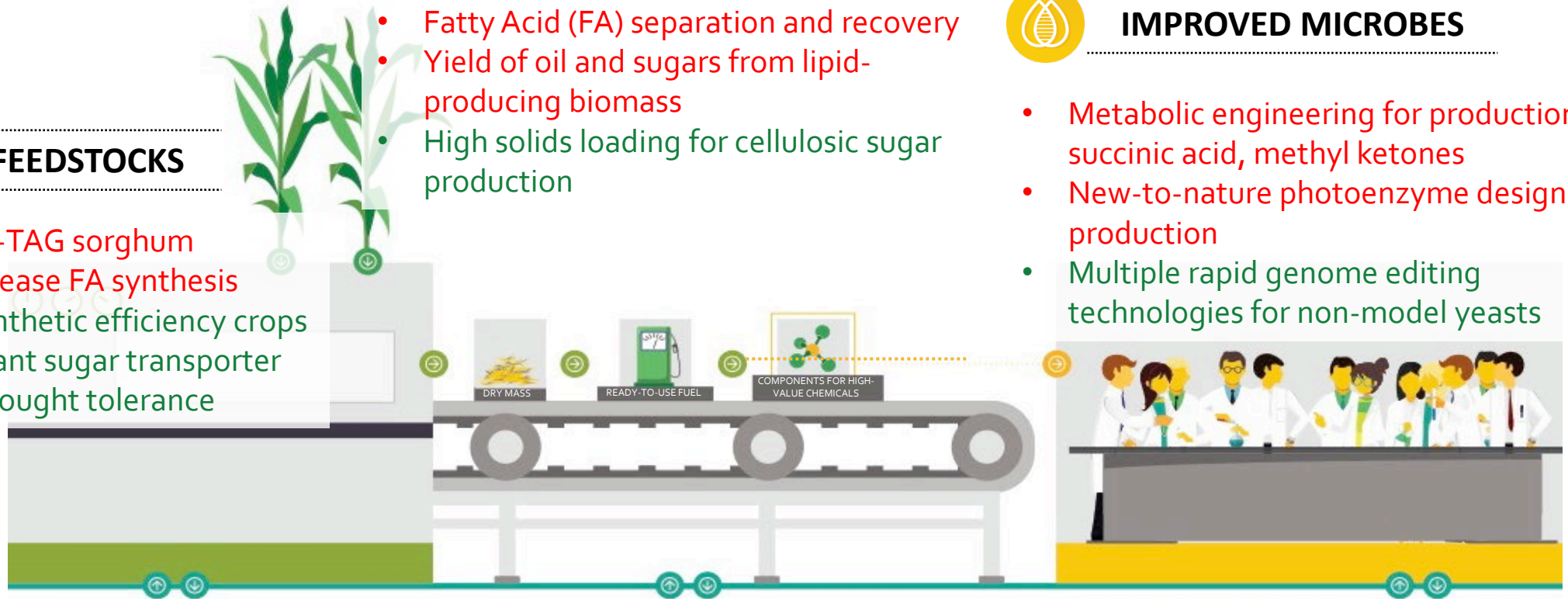
IMPROVED MICROBES

- Metabolic engineering for production of succinic acid, methyl ketones
- New-to-nature photoenzyme design and production
- Multiple rapid genome editing technologies for non-model yeasts



IMPROVED FEEDSTOCKS

- Production of high-TAG sorghum
- ATP Factors to increase FA synthesis
- Increased photosynthetic efficiency crops
- Broad spectrum plant sugar transporter
- Biostimulant for drought tolerance



IMPROVED FIELD SENSORS/ANALYSIS

- Airborne and satellite imaging for crop and soil monitoring
- Sub-canopy imaging of crop development



IMPROVED LAB SENSORS/ANALYSIS

- Multiplexed proteomics
- Genome-wide protein copy-number determination



Contact:

Questions?

<http://www.cabbi.bio>



RISE INTERNSHIP

Engage with underrepresented undergrads at RISE!

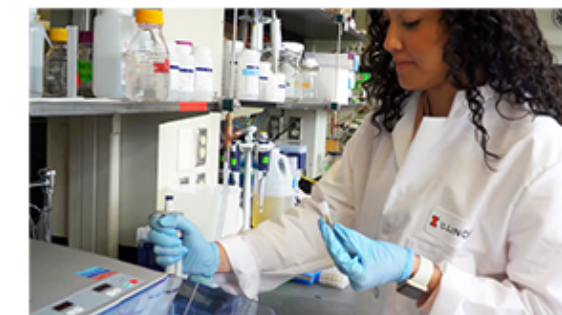
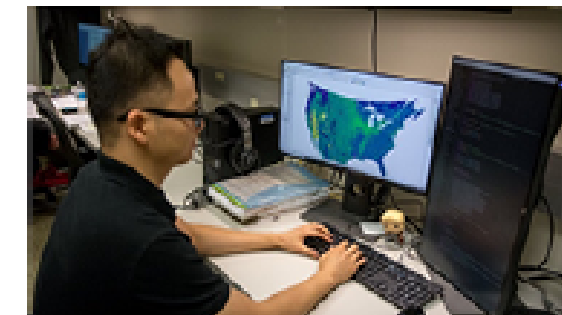
Research Internship Sustainable Bioenergy (RISE) is a summer internship program offering bioenergy research opportunities for undergraduates from groups currently underrepresented in STEM. During the 10-week program, students gain experience in plant biology, agronomy, synthetic biology, genetics, environmental sciences, chemical engineering, or civil & environmental engineering. Successful applicants receive a stipend and have housing and travel expenses covered by the Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation.

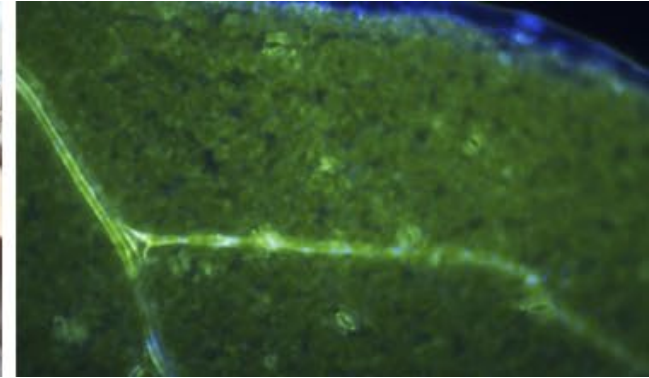
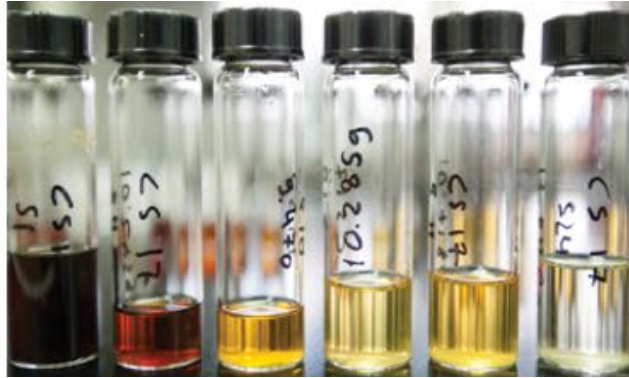
Sponsors will have the opportunity to:

- Participate in welcome event for students;
- Lead professional or career development workshops for program participants;
- Provide formal or informal mentors from your company; and
- Participate in program wrap-up events including student research presentations.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Tracy Parish, director of corporate and foundation relations, at tparish@illinois.edu or (217) 265-0880.





CAAFI BRC Webinar

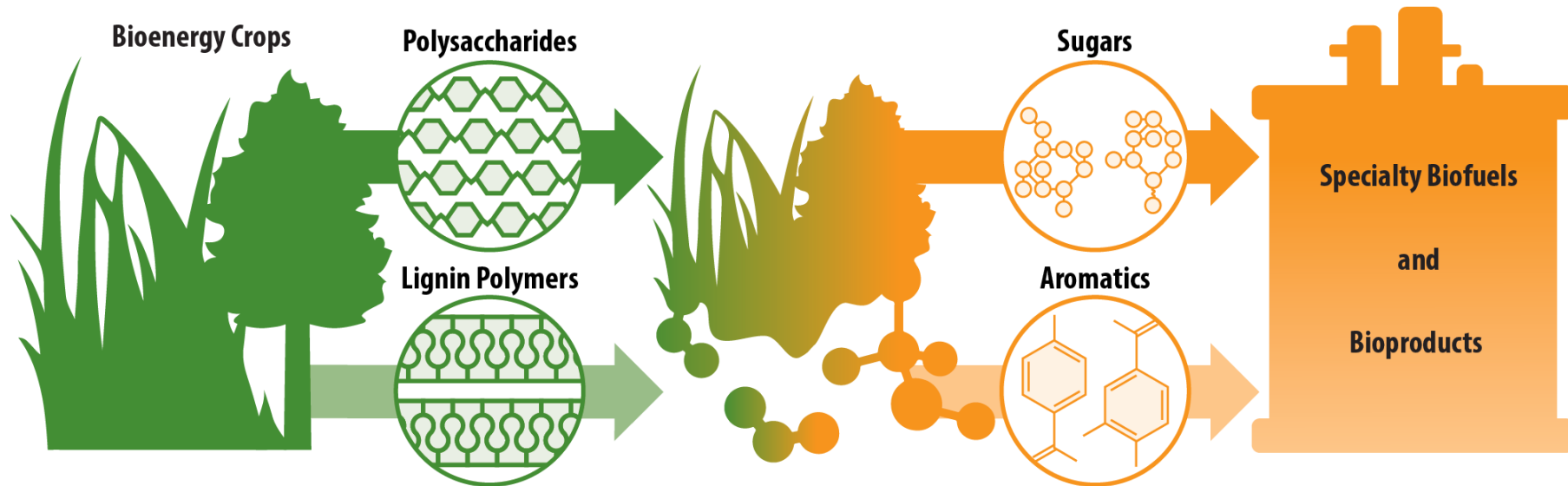
Tim Donohue

Ira L Baldwin & UW Foundation Fetzer Professor of Bacteriology UW-Madison
Director Wisconsin Energy Institute, Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center

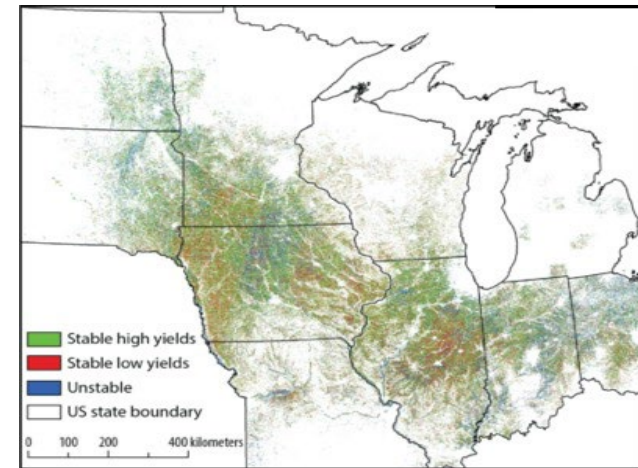
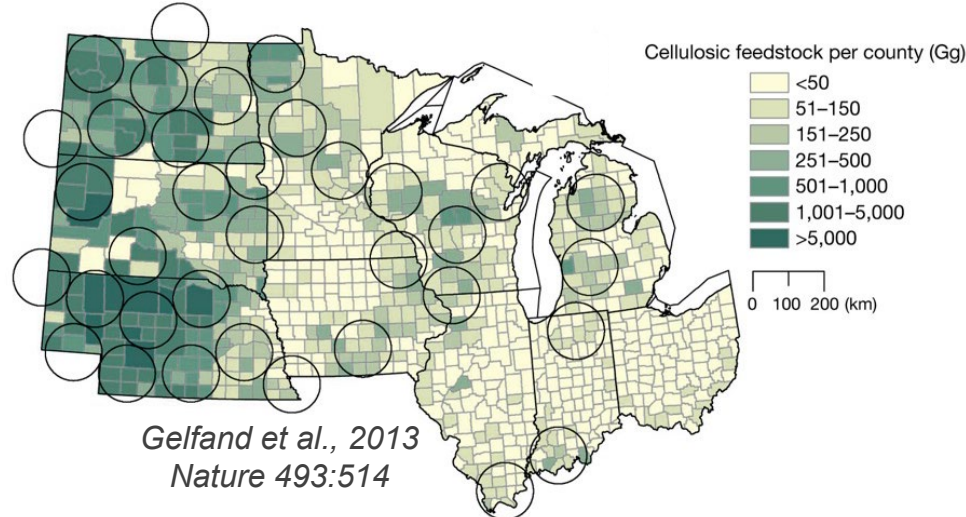
tdonohue@bact.wisc.edu

August 15, 2023

Lands to Host Bioenergy Crops



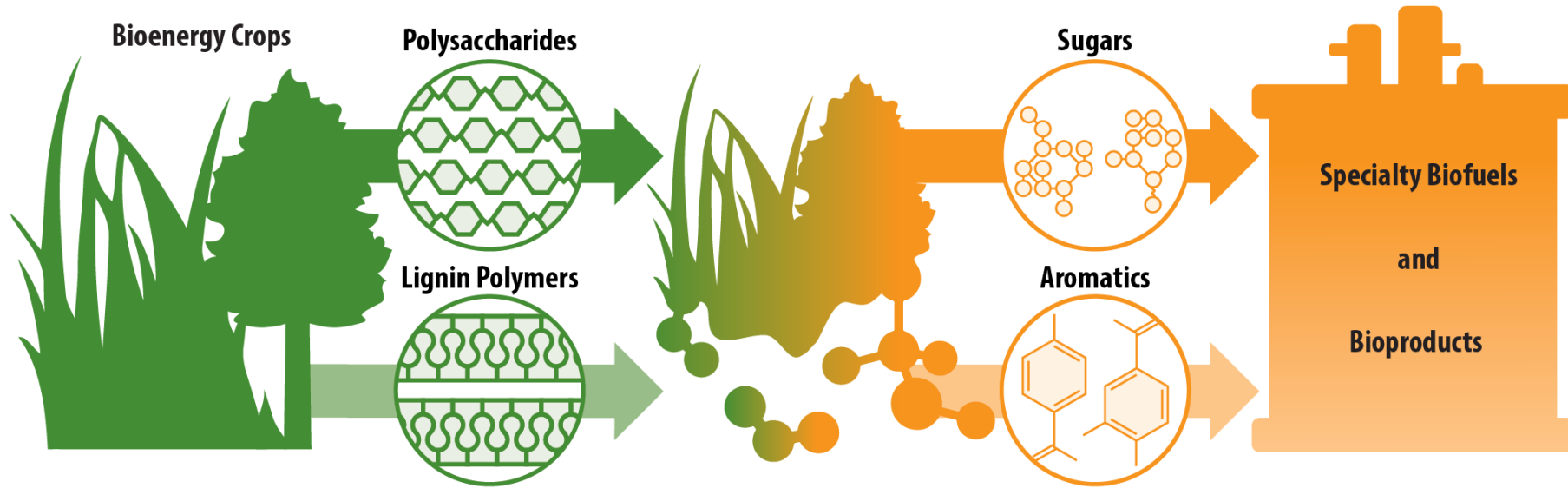
- Productive
- Perennials
- Polycultures
- Placement



Basso et al., 2019 Science Reports 9:5774

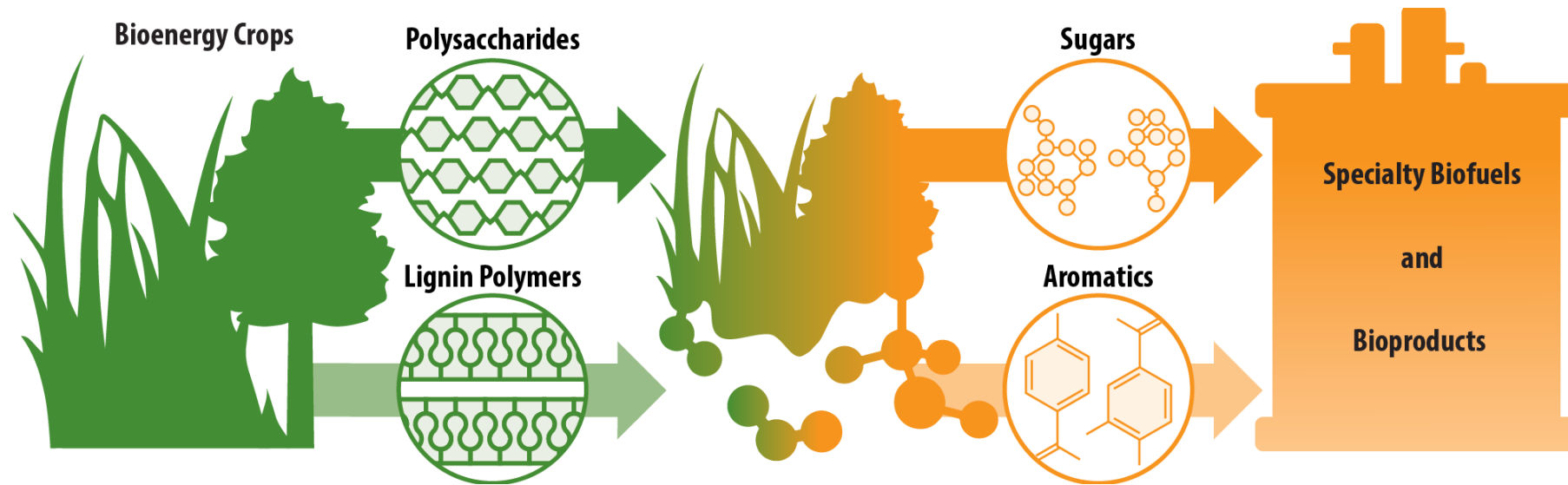
- Environmental and socioeconomic benefits

GLBRC Bioenergy Crops



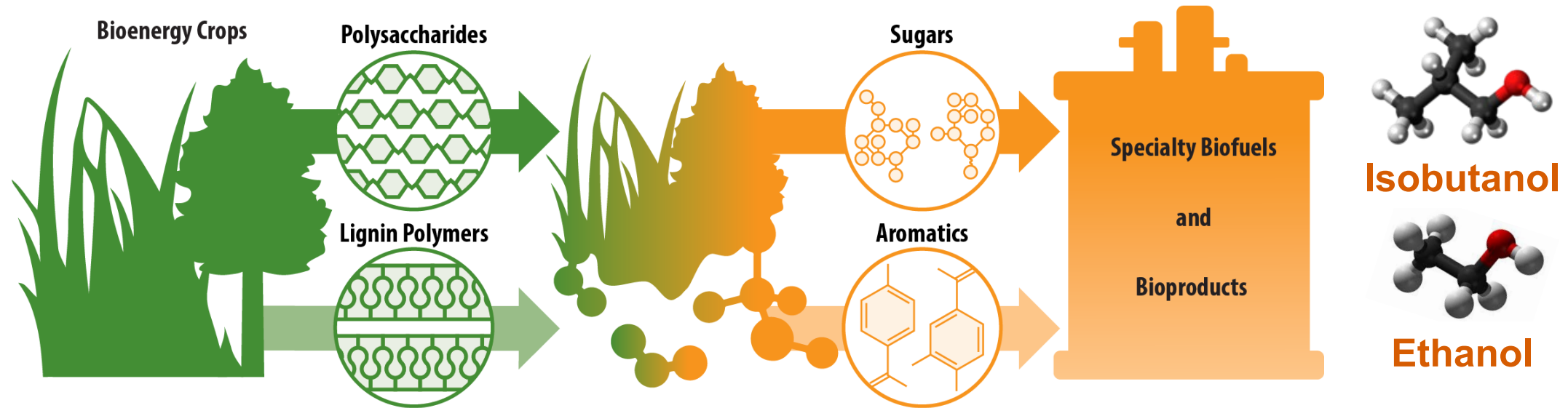
- Poplar, Switchgrass, Sorghum, Mixed species
- Genome-informed breeding
- Plant-microbe-soil interactions to improve crop yields, quality, carbon sequestration, ecosystem services

GLBRC Biomass Pipeline



- Cost-effective, feedstock-agnostic biomass deconstruction
 - Sugar (to fuels) and aromatic (to chemicals) streams
- Genome-informed knowledge to
 - engineer industry-ready microbes
 - mitigate impact of crop, soil, and weather variation on conversion

GLBRC Biomass ATJ Strategy



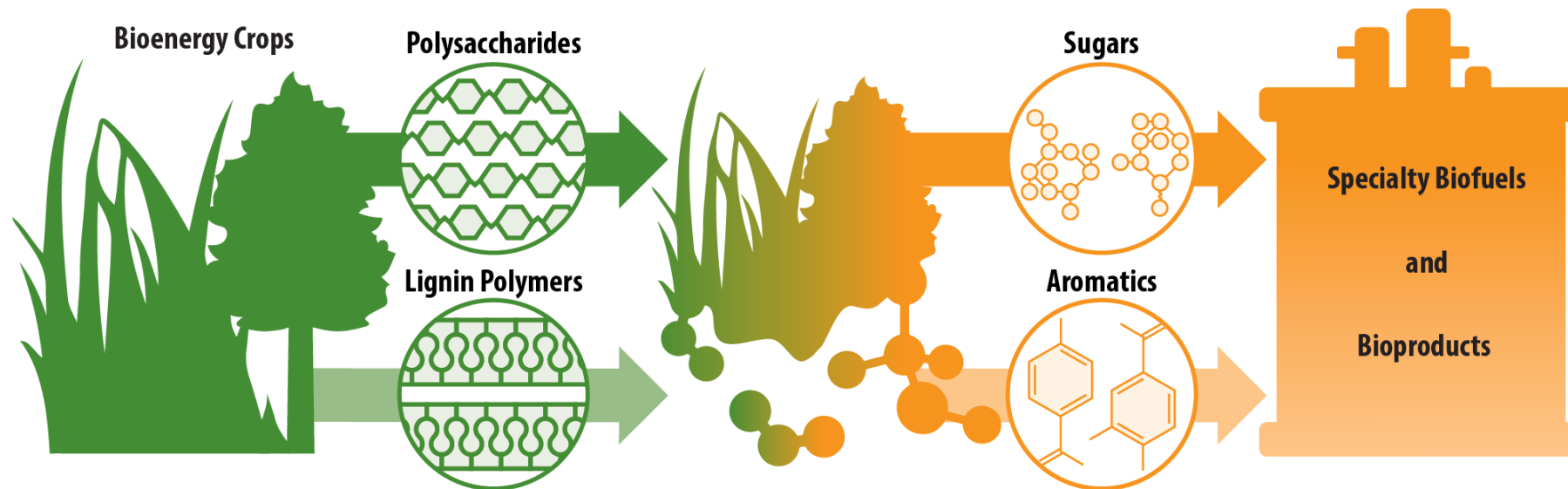
- Cellulosic sugars (~60% of biomass) to alcohols (isobutanol, ethanol)
 - Alcohols approved as SAF blend stocks
 - Compatible with catalytic upgrading
 - Overcome bottlenecks in fermenting deconstructed cellulosic sugars

<https://www.astm.org/Standards/D1655.htm>, 2018

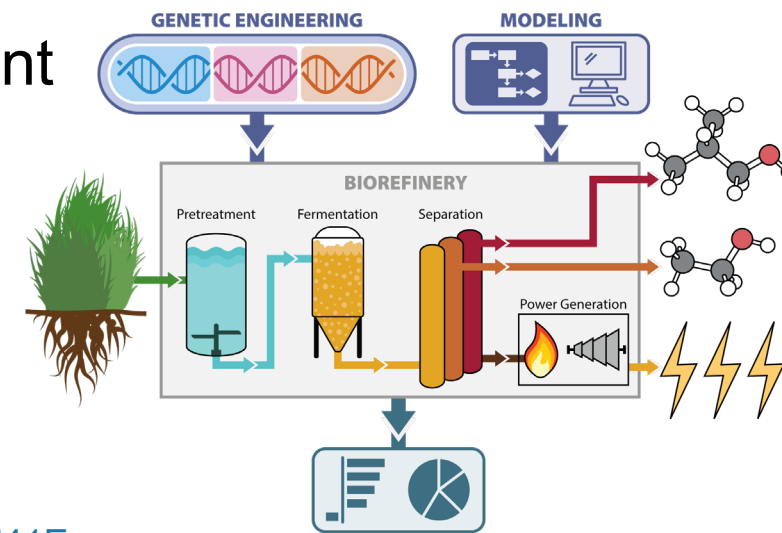
<https://www.astm.org/Standards/D4054.htm>, 2017

Geleyse et al., 2018 ChemSusChem <https://doi.org/10.1002/cssc.201801690>

GLBRC ATJ Strategy



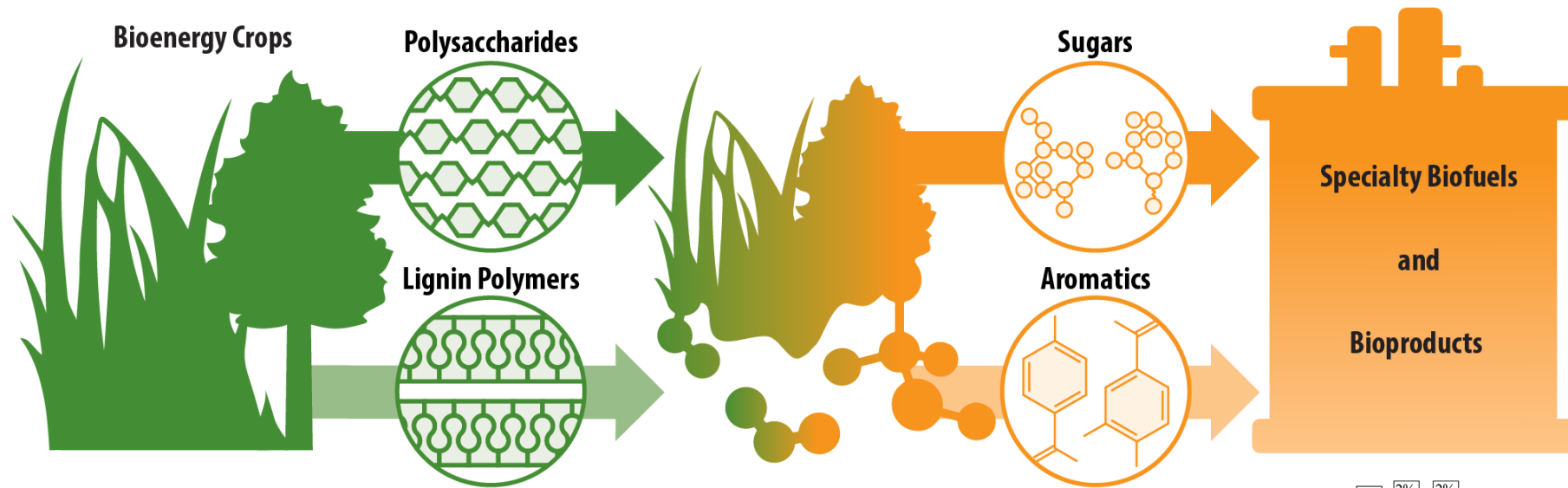
- Engineered industry-ready bacteria, yeast to ferment cellulosic sugars to SAF-compatible alcohols
 - Balance R-T-Y with growth, energy and stress
 - TEA-informed targets for process improvements



Liu et al., 2020 *Metab. Eng.*, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymben.2020.06.005>

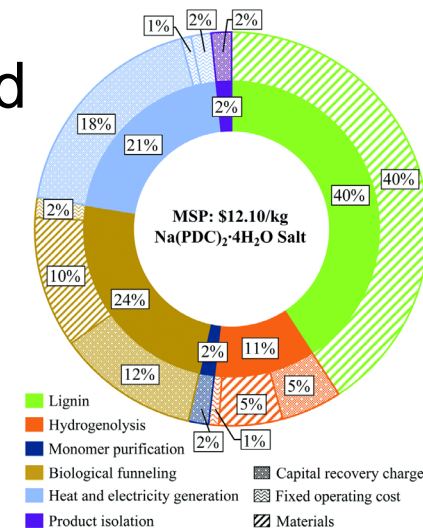
Pastore de Lima et al., 2023 *Sustainable Energy & Fuels* <https://doi.org/10.1039/D2SE01741E>

GLBRC Aromatic Conversion

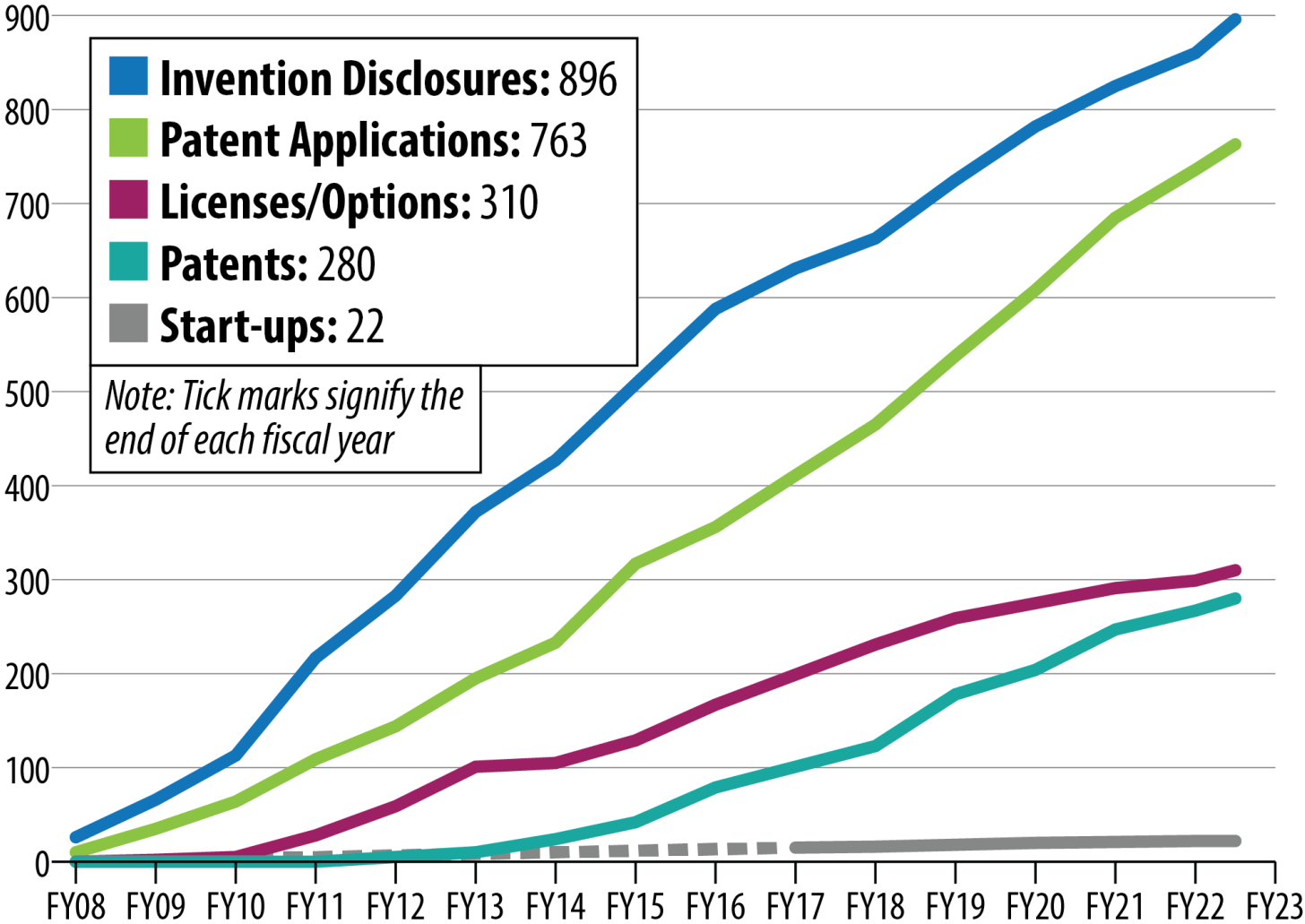


- Industry-ready bacterium that naturally funnels mixed aromatic streams (~30% of biomass) to bioproducts
 - Aromatics for SAF (and more)
 - Chemicals (lubricants, polyesters, nylon, others)
 - TEA-informed opportunities and challenges

Perez et al., 2022 Green Chemistry <https://doi.org/10.1039/D1GC03592D>

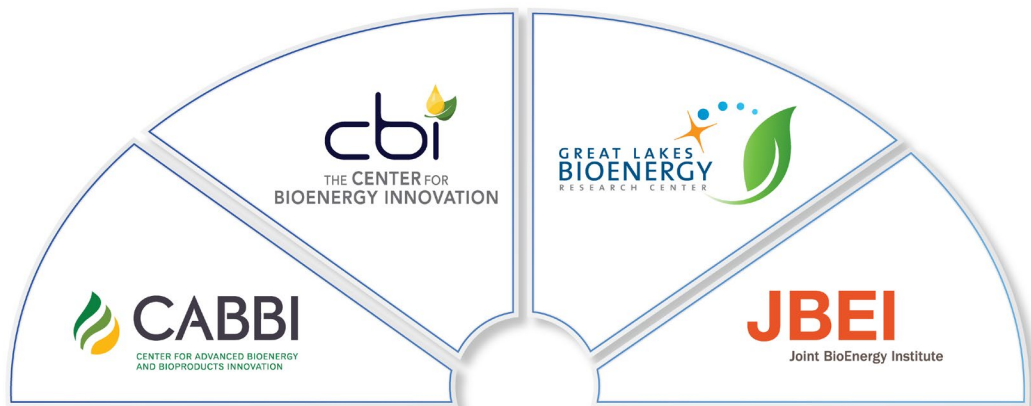


BRC technology metrics*



*March 2023

New efforts in collaborative BRC IP marketing



Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program



BRC booth at
ABLC March 2023, October 2022;
Commercializing Industrial Biotech May 2022, Sept. 2023

BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS



Bioenergy Research Centers sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Science Biological and Environmental Research Program

The Four Centers

Center for Advanced Bioenergy and Bioproducts Innovation (CABBI), led by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. CABBI is integrating recent advances in agronomics, genomics, biosystems design, and computational biology to increase the value of energy crops, using a “plants as factories” approach to grow fuels and chemicals in plant stems and an automated foundry to convert biomass into valuable chemicals that are ecologically and economically sustainable.

Center for Bioenergy Innovation (CBI), led by Oak Ridge National Laboratory. CBI is accelerating the domestication of bioenergy-relevant plants and microbes to enable high impact, value-added coproduct development at multiple points in the bioenergy supply chain.

Great Lakes Bioenergy Research Center (GLBRC), led by the University of Wisconsin–Madison in partnership with Michigan State University. GLBRC is developing science and technological advances to ensure sustainability at each step in the process of creating biofuels and bioproducts from lignocellulose.

Joint BioEnergy Institute (JBEI), led by DOE’s Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. JBEI is using the latest tools in molecular biology, chemical engineering, and computational and robotics technologies to transform biomass into biofuels and bioproducts.

TOP 10 TECHNOLOGIES

Scan for detailed descriptions:



RAPID ASSEMBLY OF GRNAS FOR MULTIPLEX CRISPR

Dr. Xiaohan Yang



BENEFICIAL MICROBIAL COMMUNITY FROM SORGHUM PHYLLOSHERE

Dr. Ashley Shade



ALKANOLAMINES FOR LIGNIN EXTRACTION IN BIOMASS PRETREATMENT

Dr. Blake Simmons



INCREASED ETHANOL PRODUCTION IN CLOSTRIDIA

Dr Jonathan Lo



GREEN ACETAMINOPHEN FROM LIGNIN

Dr. John Ralph

Marketing handouts and links

Find us at ABLC or contact us after!

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BRCs Engaging Industry



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