

Harnessing Innovation, the Future of Biomass

The Slate, Warwick

Day 1 – 7th November

10.00 - 10.30	Tea/coffee and registration
10.30 – 10.45 Welcome and opening address	Jeanette Whitaker , UKCEH. <i>Growing a sustainable biomass sector through research, innovation and demonstration.</i>
10.45 – 11.00 Government perspectives on innovation	Charlotte Powell , Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. <i>Innovations and opportunities surrounding bioenergy, hydrogen and carbon capture.</i>
11.00 – 11.45 Innovations in Biomass Crop breeding and propagation	Will MacAlpine , Rothamsted Research. <i>Unlocking the potential of willow using genomic selection.</i> Kerrie Farrar , IBERS, Aberystwyth University. <i>Miscanspeed – genomic selection and speed breeding to accelerate the development of resilient Miscanthus varieties.</i> Paul Carver , New Energy Farms. <i>The role of Energycanes, synthetic seeds (CEEDS) and novel Miscanthus varieties in the future biomass industry.</i>
11.45 – 12.00	Tim Volk , SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, USA. <i>Letters from America – reflections on willow production in the US.</i>
12.00 – 1.00	Lunch and exhibition viewing
1.00 – 2.00 Which crop and why? Decision making for biomass crops	Kevin Lindegaard . Envirocrops. <i>The role of decision support and information tools, in successful scaling up of the biomass industry.</i> John Hawkins , Bagber Farms Ltd. <i>Land use change to incorporate biomass crops. A tenant farmers perspective.</i> Ewan Boyd , Teesdale Moorland Biomass. <i>Developing end uses for heather – naturally occurring biomass crops and the environmental benefits of processing them into saleable products.</i> Panel discussion with crop suppliers and existing growers.
2.00 – 2.45 Technologies to enhance propagation, planting and harvesting	Jamie Rickerby . Willow Energy. <i>Innovations in robotic planting and harvesting machinery to increase the potential scale up rate of SRC willow.</i> Jason Kam , Terravesta. <i>Optimising Miscanthus Establishment through improved mechanisation and data capture.</i> Zoe Harris , University of Surrey. <i>Using aeroponics to fast track the sustainable propagation of SRC willow.</i>
2.45 – 3.15	Tea/coffee and exhibition viewing
3.15 – 5.00	Moving beyond barriers; creating a blueprint for the future biomass industry. <i>Session facilitated by Creative Exchange.</i>
5.00 – 7.00	Free time and networking in the lounge
7.00	Conference dinner



Day 2 – 8th November

- 9.15 – 10.00 **Gail Shuttleworth**, NNFCC. Facilitated workshop session. Biomass value chains – where are our gaps in understanding?
- 10.00 – 11.00 **Steve Smith**, Oxford University. *Carbon dioxide removal – the state of play and the global scale up challenge.*
Biomass crops for greenhouse gas removal – the rhetoric and the reality **Enrique Cornejo**, Offshore Energy UK. *Early infrastructure deployment in industrial clusters (Track 1, 2) and development of our CO2 storage sector*
Panel discussion
- 11.00 – 11.30 **Tea/coffee and exhibition viewing**
- 11.30 – 1.30 **Moving beyond barriers; creating a blueprint for the future biomass industry.** *Session facilitated by Creative Exchange.*
Closing remarks
- 1.30 – 2.30 **Lunch and exhibition viewing. Close**

