

Native warm-season grasses for bioenergy and forage



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Steps for Success

1. Planning
2. Weed management
3. Planting
4. Cutting or grazing management



Planning

1. New ground
2. Cropland
3. Hayland/pasture
4. Bermudagrass fields



Keyser et al., 2011b

Weed management



Weed management

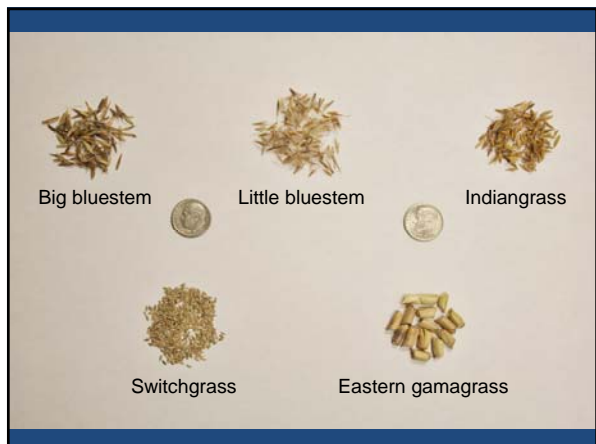


July 16 2012

July 15 2013

No-till Planting





Grazing

Switch/Gama:
May – Late June
 1600-2000 lbs/acre

Late June – Early Aug.
 1400-1600 lbs/acre

BB/Indian:
May – Late June
 1200-1400 lbs/acre

Late June – Early Aug.
 900-1200 lbs/acre

Kaiser et al., 2011c

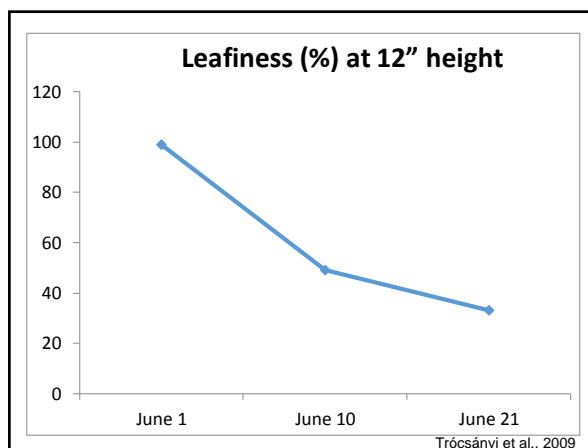


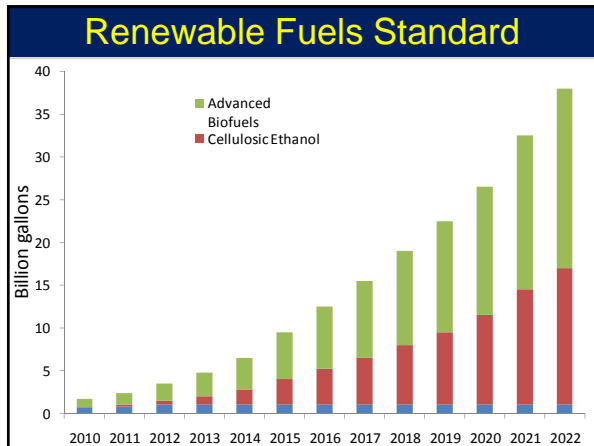
Cutting/Grazing Height

12" height → 99%

8" height → 51%

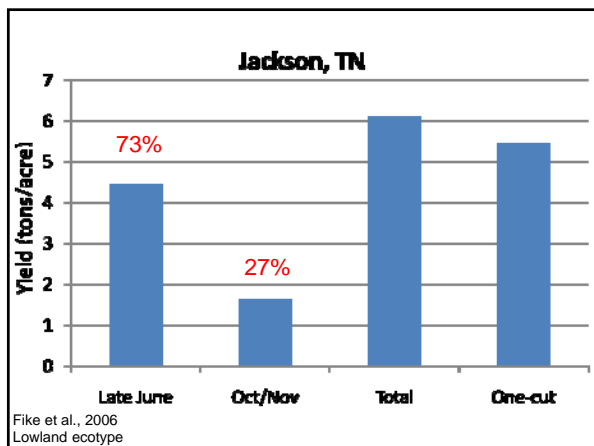
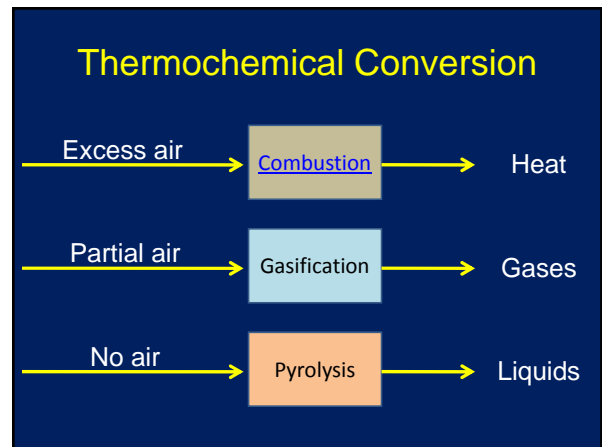
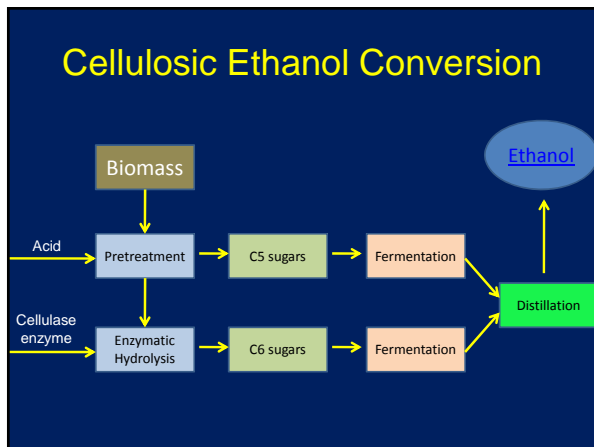
Trócsányi et al., 2009
 Virginia
 Upland ecotype





Biofuel production

- Biochemical conversion
- Thermochemical conversion



Program Assistance

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
 - Through NRCS
 - Pay a portion of the average cost associated with the developed conservation plans
- Farm Wildlife Habitat Program
 - Through TWRA
 - Provides 75% reimbursement (up to \$2,000 per contract per year) to improve wildlife habitat

Program Assistance

- Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP)
 - Supports the establishment and production of crops within project areas for conversion to bioenergy
- Project areas and producers are approved through an application process
- Producers within project areas may receive
 - Cost share payments for establishment
 - Annual rental payments
 - Payments for harvest

Further information

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<http://www.extension.org/>