

# 2016 Billion-Ton Report Briefing

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Environmental and Energy Study  
Institute

Alison Goss Eng

Program Manager, Advanced Algal  
Systems | Feedstock Supply & Logistics

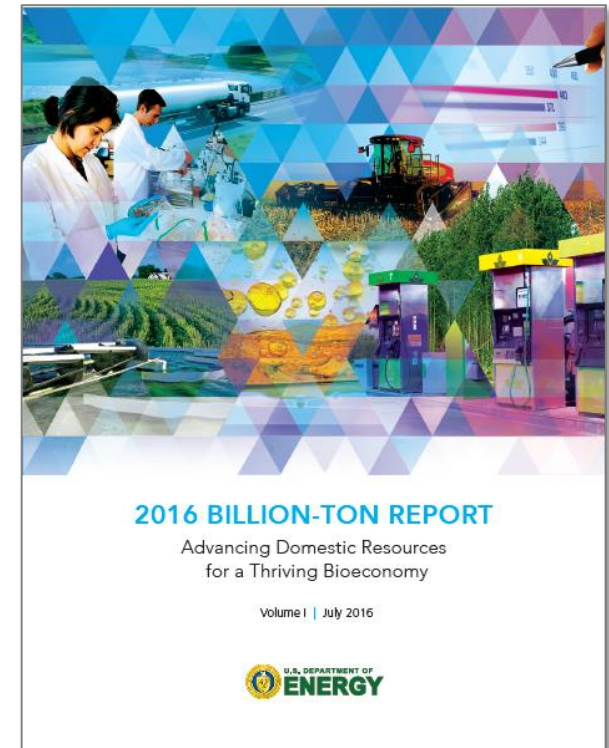
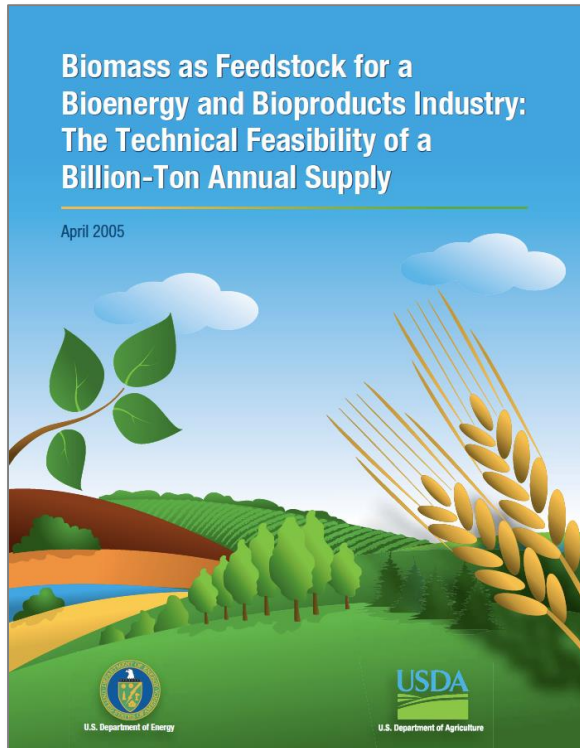
Office of Energy Efficiency and  
Renewable Energy

U.S. Department of Energy

\* On behalf of the entire team

# 2016 Billion-Ton Report: Advancing Domestic Resources for a Thriving Bioeconomy

- A follow-up from the original 2005 *Billion-Ton Study* and 2011 *Billion-Ton Update*
- Technical resource assessment to verify one billion tons of biomass is available, and under which scenarios



# Motivation Behind *2016 Billion-Ton Report*

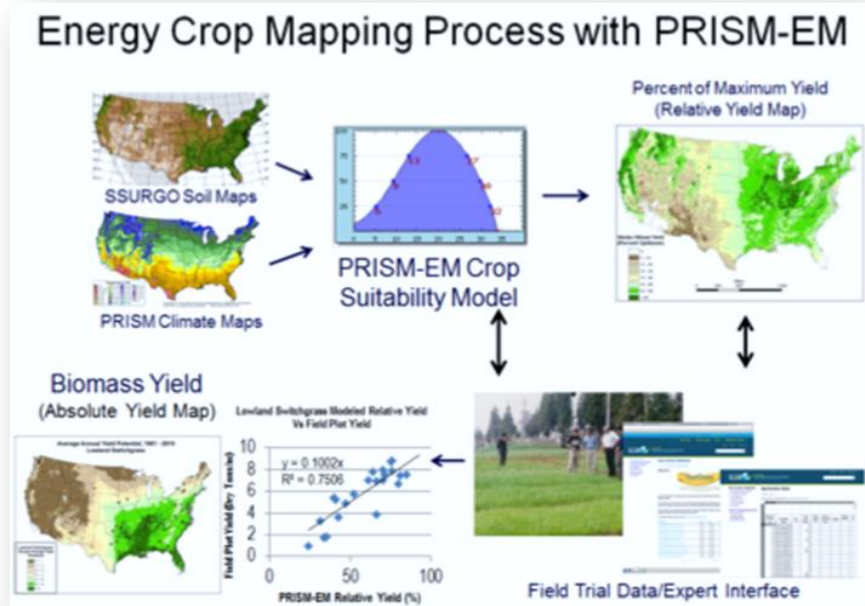
- Enormous U.S. domestic biomass potential
  - 2005 and 2011 reports identified > 1 billion ton annual supply
- Understanding and quantifying biomass supply fosters commercialization to increase
  - Energy security,
  - Energy independence, and
  - Environmental stewardship
- Sustainable production is critical to long-term viability of technology for clean energy





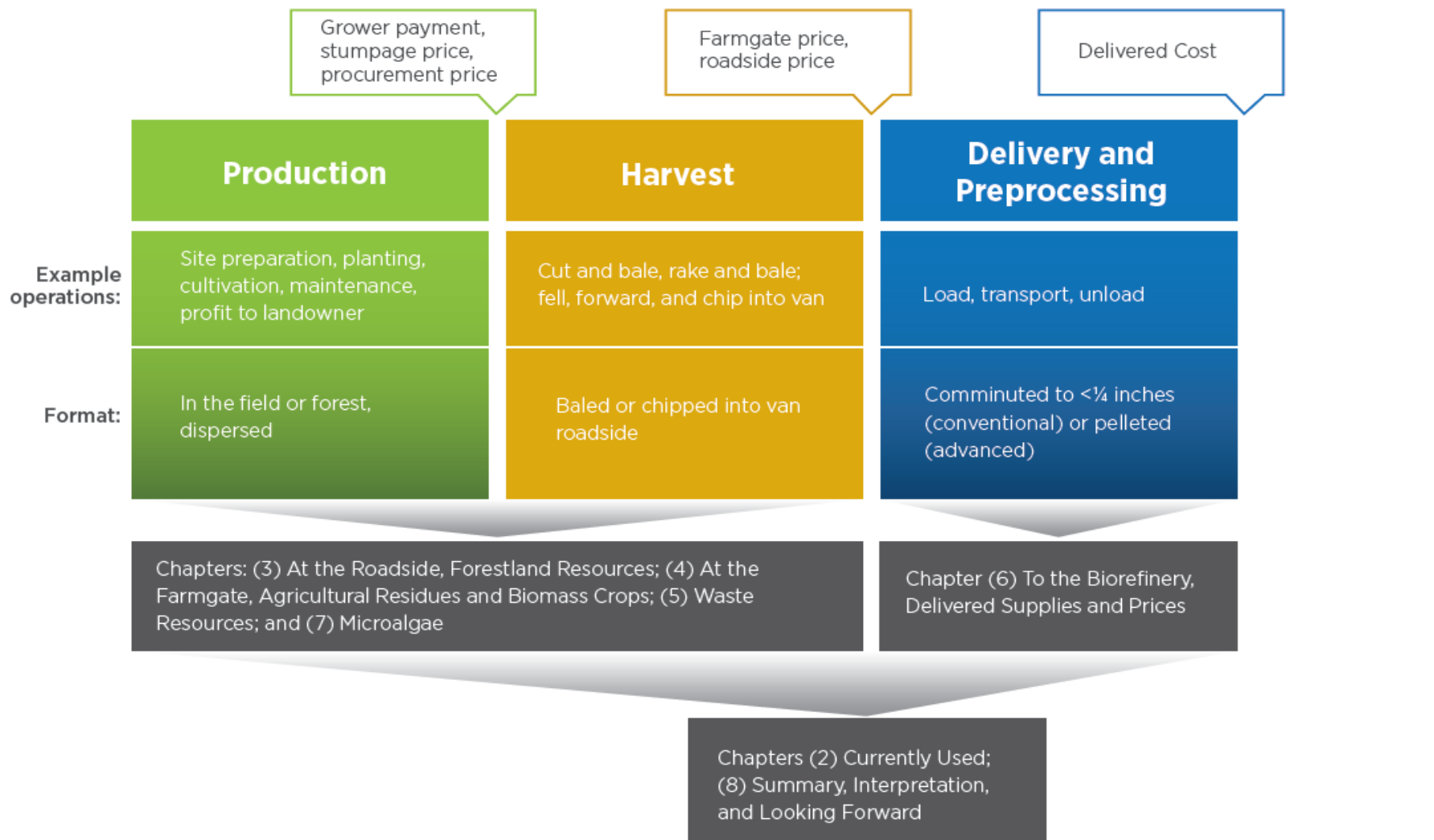
# Research Questions: 2016 Billion-Ton Report

- What is the potential economic availability of biomass resources at roadside, assuming latest-available yield and cost data?
- What is the economic availability of feedstocks delivered to the biorefinery?
- How does the addition of algae, miscanthus\*, energy cane, and eucalyptus affect potential supply?



\*Miscanthus invasiveness is limited by sterile seed cultivars and containment of rhizomes.

# Schematic of biomass supply chain



# 2016 Billion-Ton Report

- Potential new feedstocks exclude policy and end use
- Prioritizes food, forage, feed, fiber, and export to ensure social sustainability
- Current uses are estimated, then become part of the potential
- Economic supply curve approach
- Underlying conservative assumptions with environmental sustainability considerations
- Two volumes: resource assessment and environmental sustainability effects of select scenarios
- Multi-lab/agency effort

# Contributors



Pacific Northwest  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



Idaho National Laboratory



Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

# Multiple Reviewers (28) attended volume 1 workshop

## Government

- Environmental Protection Agency
- Federal Aviation Administration
- USDA Agricultural Research Service

## Academia

- University of California - Davis
- University of Georgia
- North Carolina State University
- University of Arizona
- University of Minnesota
- Iowa State University
- University of Illinois

## Non-Government Organizations

- National Council for Air & Stream Improvement
- Union of Concerned Scientists
- Pinchot Institute

## Industry

- Shell
- Forest Concepts
- Mater Engineering
- GreenWood Resources
- AGCO Corp.
- Antares
- Resource Dynamics
- Sapphire Energy
- Qualitas Health
- Algenol Biotech LLC



# Models/Data Used in BT16 Volume 1

## Models

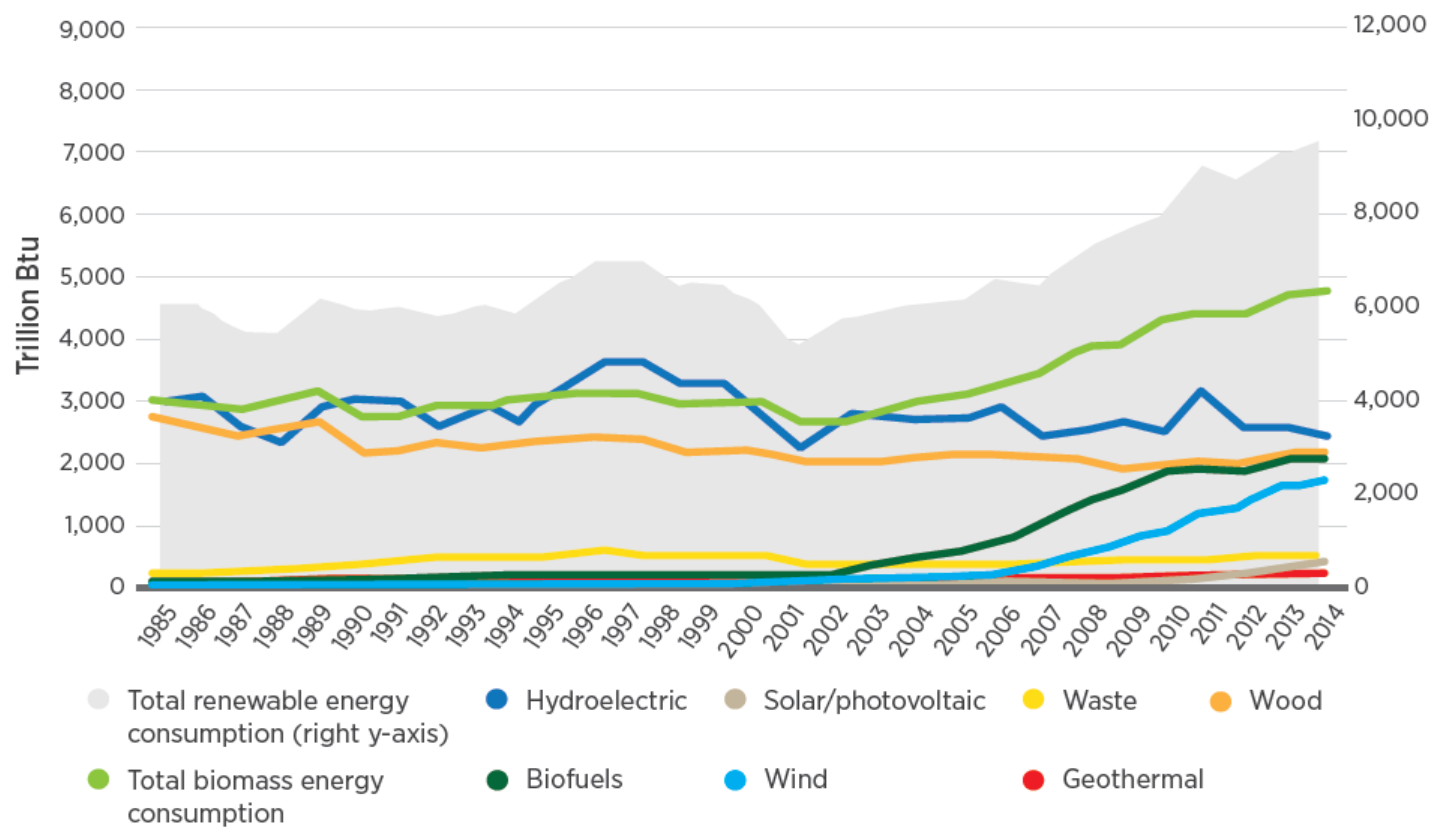
- POLYSYS: Policy Analysis System
  - ForSEAM: Forest Sustainable and Economic Analysis Model
  - SRTS: Subregional Timber Supply Model
  - USFPM/GFPM: U.S. Forest Products Module/Global Forest Products Model
  - PRISM-EM: Parameter-elevation Relationships on Independent Slopes Model
  - SCM: Supply Characterization Model
- 

## Data

- USDA Long-Term Agricultural Projections (10 years extrapolated)
- U.S. Forest Service RPA (10-year forest assessment) and FIA
- EIA Monthly Energy Review, Annual Energy Outlook, Consumption Surveys and other data
- PRISM (climate) and SSURGO (soils) high resolution data
- Sun Grant Regional Feedstock Partnership and Historical Field Trial data of energy crops

# Biomass is the largest source of domestic renewable energy

Figure 2.2 | Primary renewable energy consumption by source and total consumption (1985–2014)

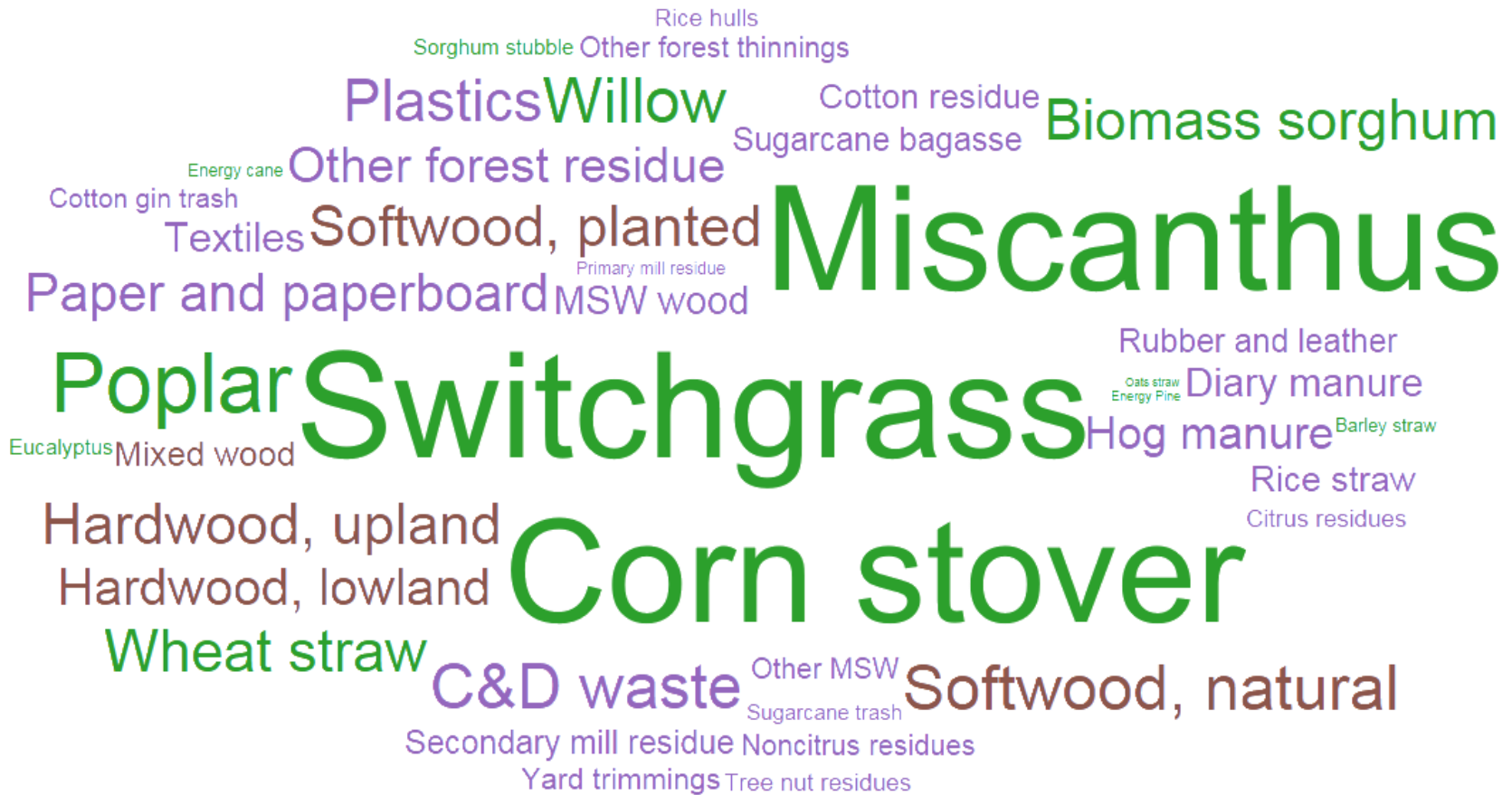


Source: Data from EIA (2015d).

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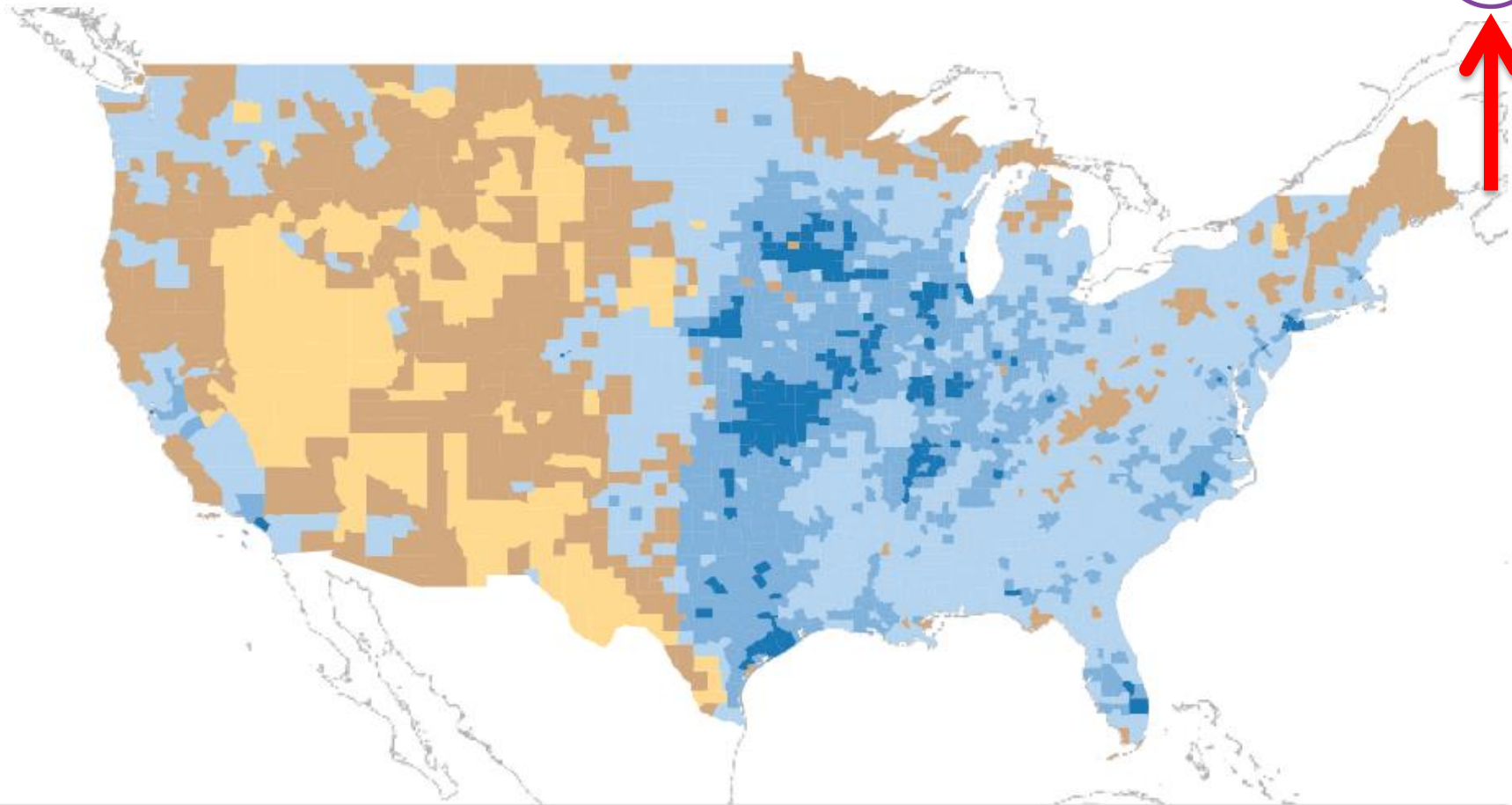
365 million dry tons per year (2014)

# Major biomass sources, 2040



Base case scenario, 2040, \$60 per dry ton or less

**Figure ES.4** | Combined potential supplies from forestry, wastes, and agricultural resources, base case, 2040<sup>10</sup>



- Less than 10 dt/SqMile
- 10-100 dt/SqMile
- 100-500 dt/SqMile
- 500-1,000 dt/SqMile
- 1,000-5,000 dt/SqMile

<sup>10</sup> Interactive visualization: <https://bioenergykdf.net/billionton2016/1/2/tableau>



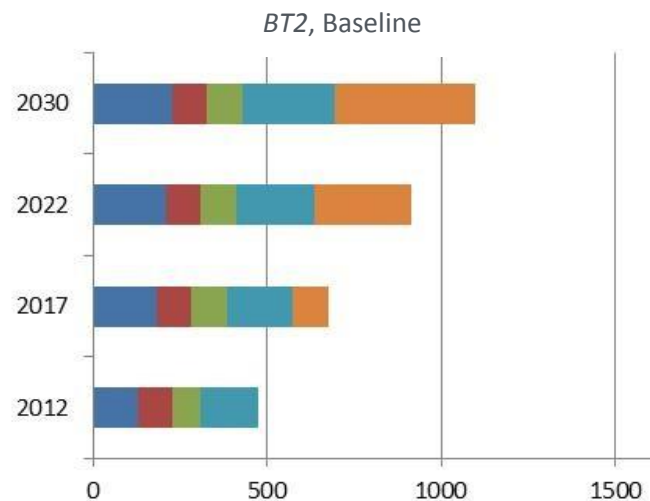
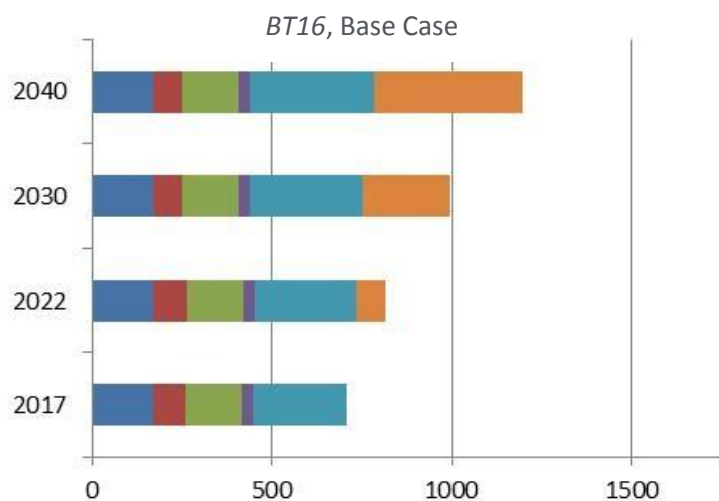


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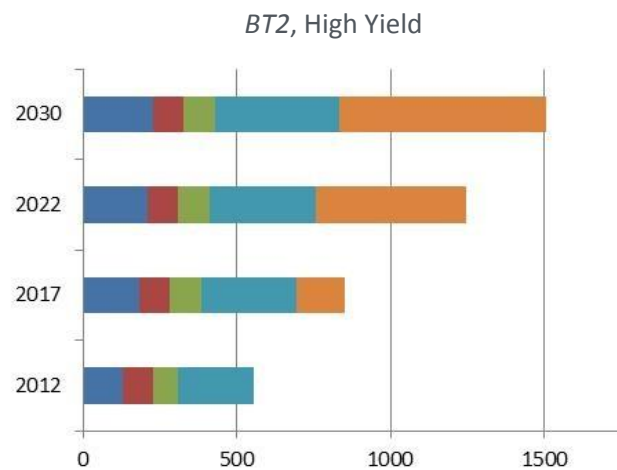
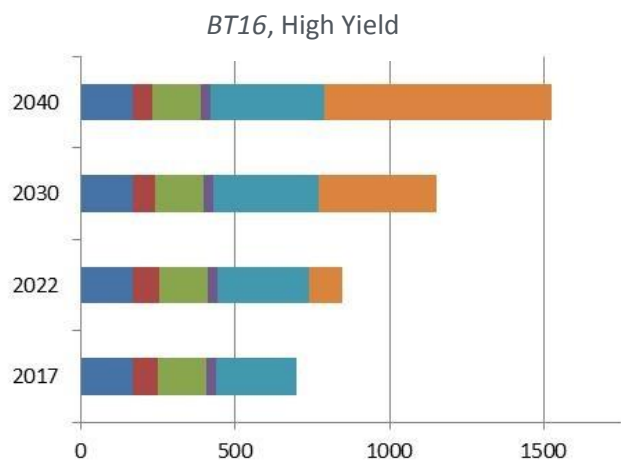
The screenshot shows the Bioenergy KDF website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the logo and menu items: OVERVIEW, TOOLS & APPS, MAP, BIOENERGY LIBRARY, and CONTRIBUTE. The main heading is "2016 BILLION-TON REPORT INTERACTIVE VERSION". Below this, there is a brief introduction and a section with buttons for "Access Report", "Data Explorer", and "Data Download Tool". A grid of seven numbered cards (01-07) provides quick access to different report sections: 01 Executive Summary/Overview, 02 Biomass Consumed in the Current Bioeconomy, 03 Forest Resources, 04 At the Farmgate, 05 Waste Resources, 06 To the Biorefinery, and 07 Microalgae. A footer contains links for "From the Bioenergy KDF", "Maps and Data", and "Questions".

This screenshot shows the "Billion-Ton 2016 Data Explorer" tool. The tool is overlaid on a map of the United States, which is color-coded to show biomass availability. The tool's interface includes several configuration options: "Agriculture" (selected), "Forest", and "Wastes"; "County Data" (selected) for aggregation; "Production" (selected) for result type; "3% yield inc." for scenario; "Miscanthus" for feedstock; and a price slider set to \$50 per dry ton. A "Select Year" dropdown is set to 2014. The map shows a high concentration of green and yellow areas in the central and eastern US, indicating high biomass potential. A "Data Grid (Click to Expand)" button is visible at the bottom left of the map area.

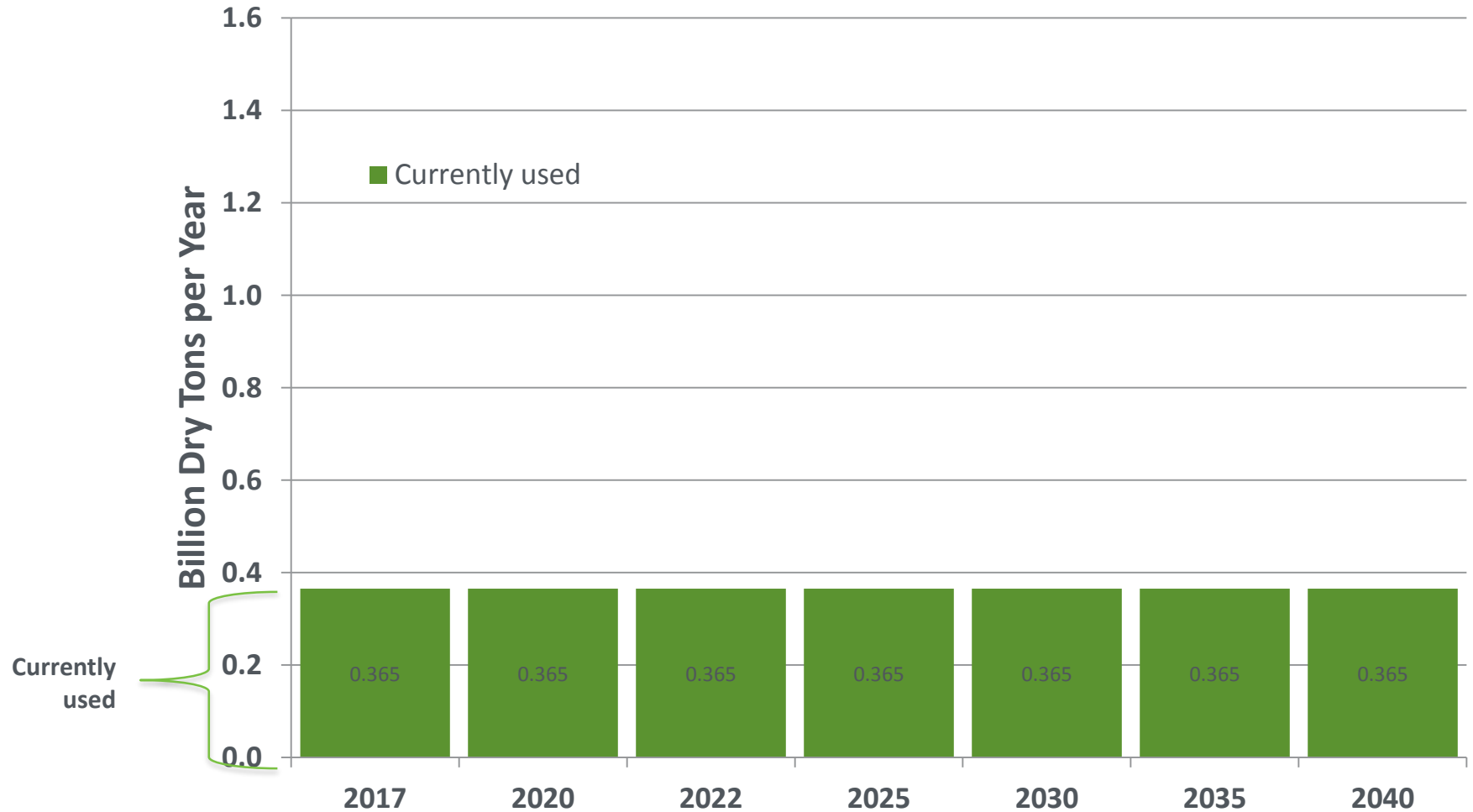
# Similar potential as 2011 *BT2*



- Forestry Resources Currently Used
- Forestry Resource Potential
- Agricultural Resources Currently Used
- Waste Resources Currently Used
- Agricultural and Waste Resources Potentially Available
- Energy Crops

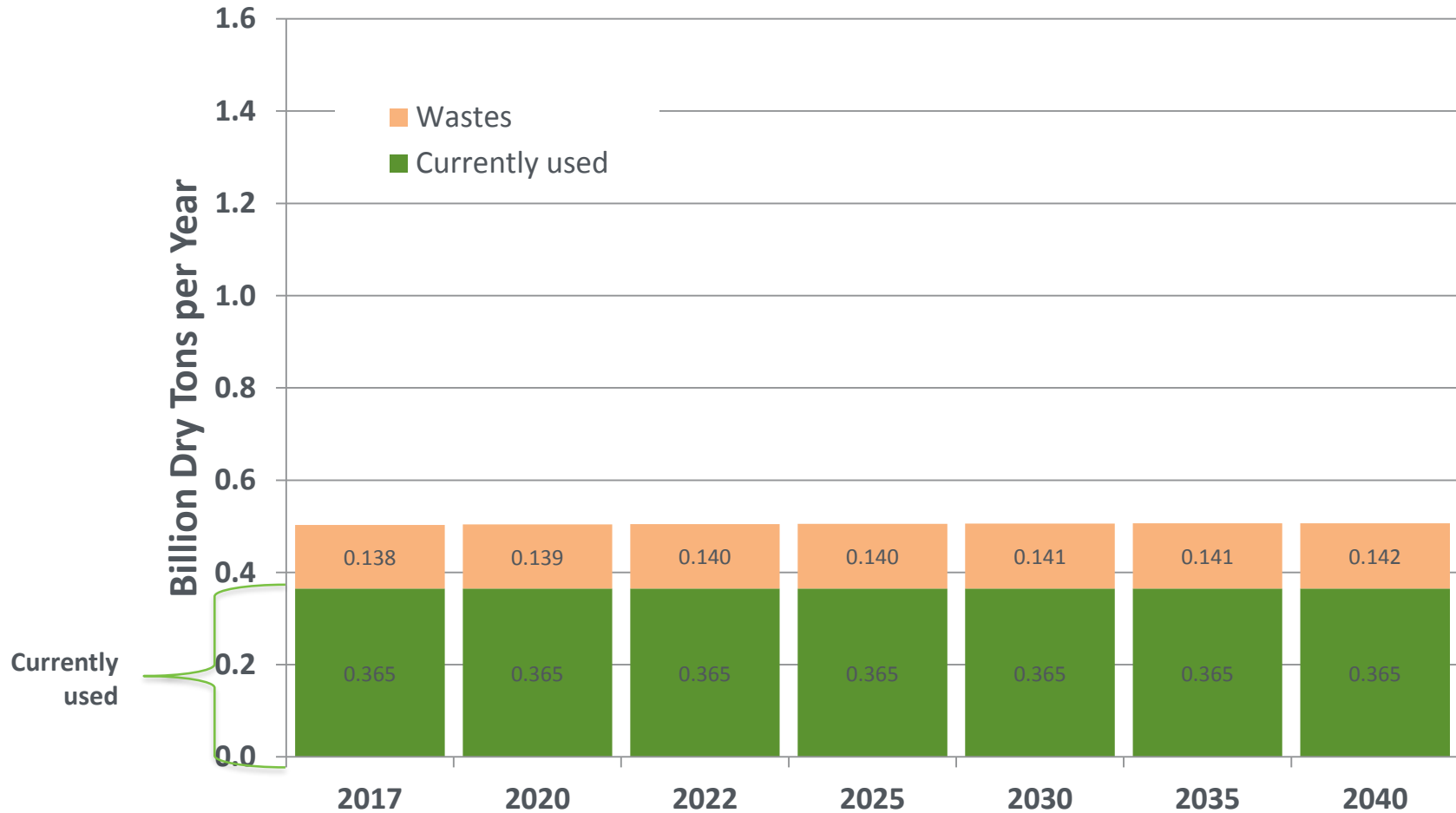


# Current and Potential, Base Case



Currently used at market prices, potential supplies up to \$60/dt (2014\$)

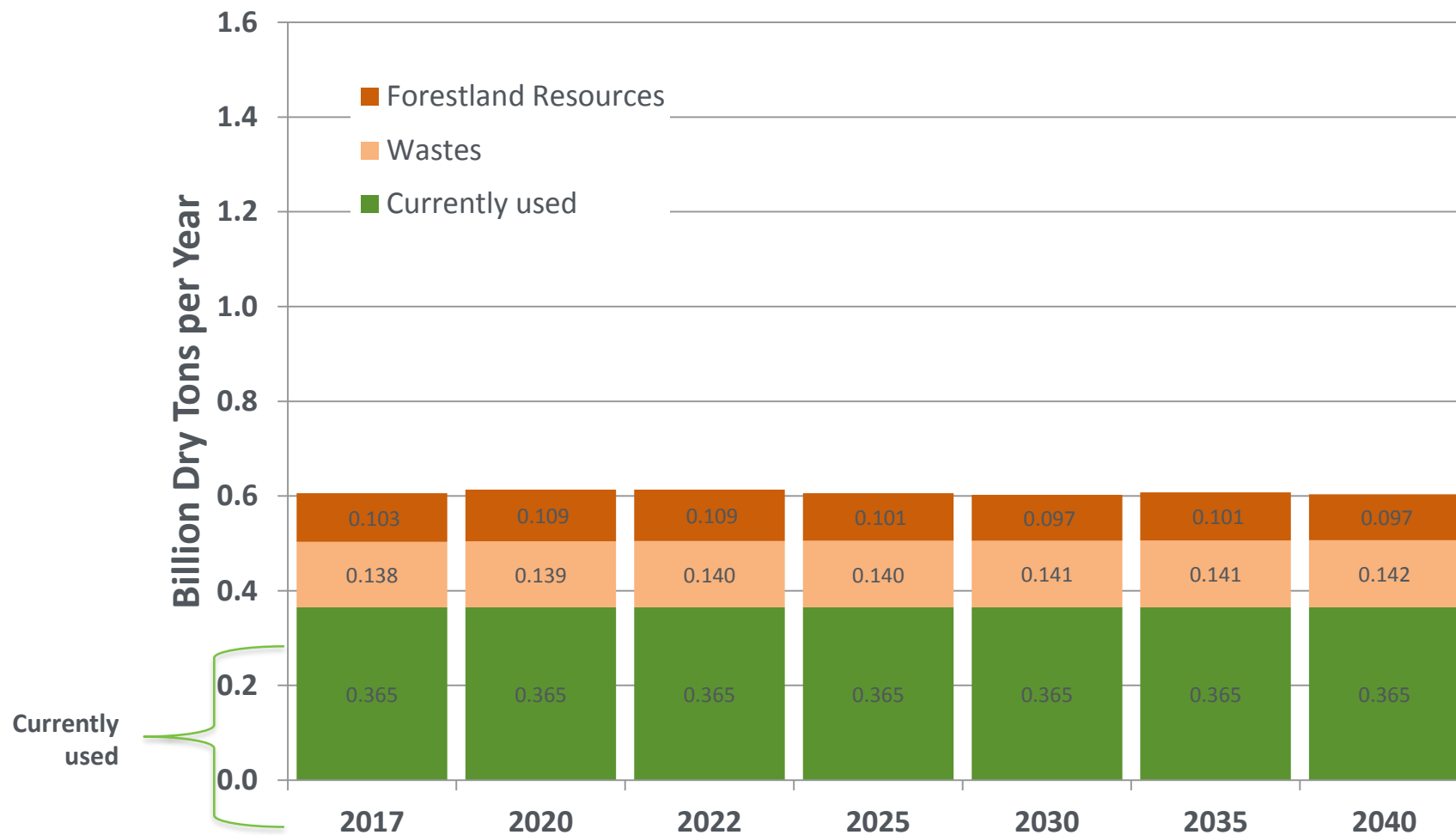
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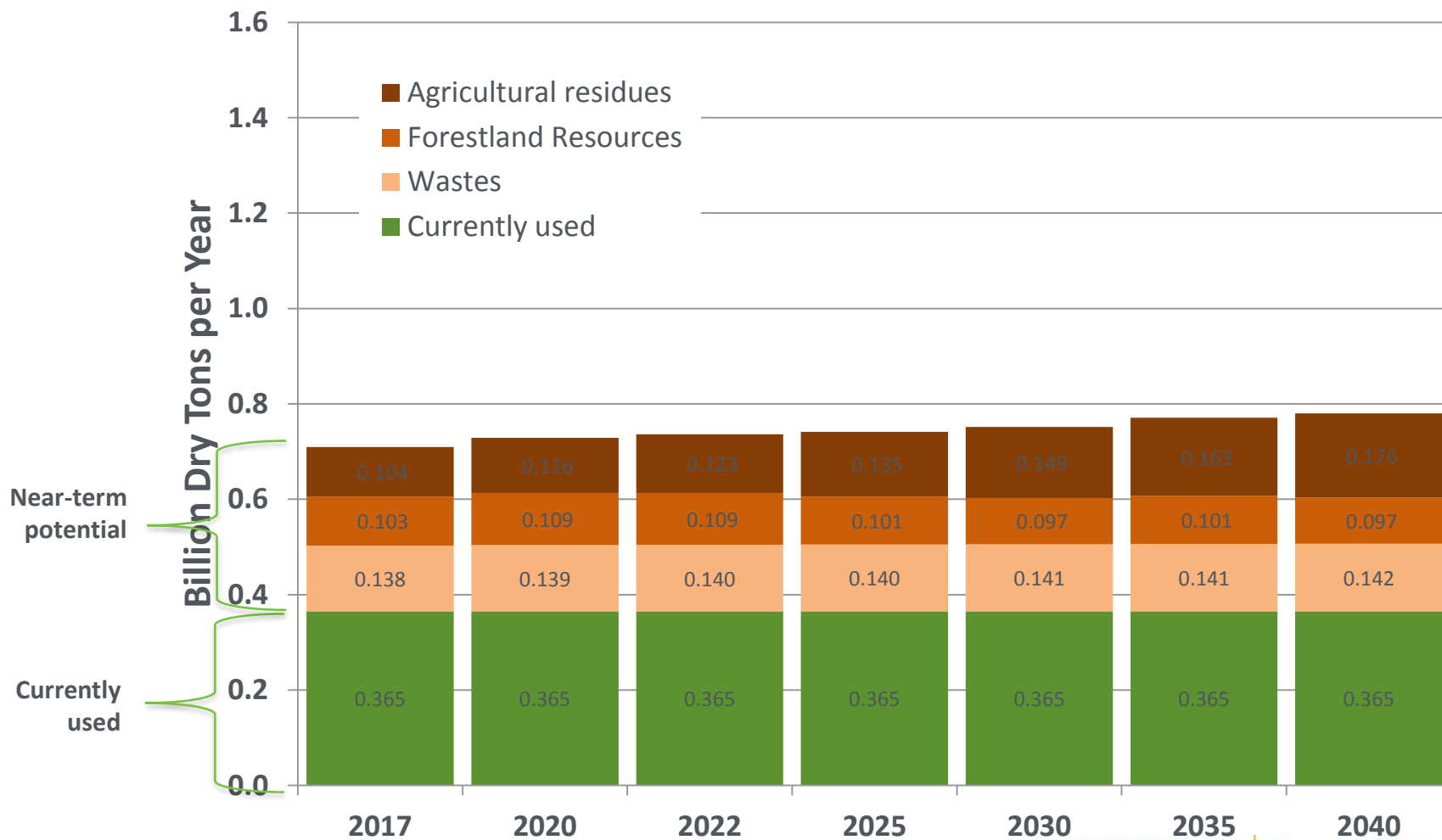


# Current and Potential, Base Case



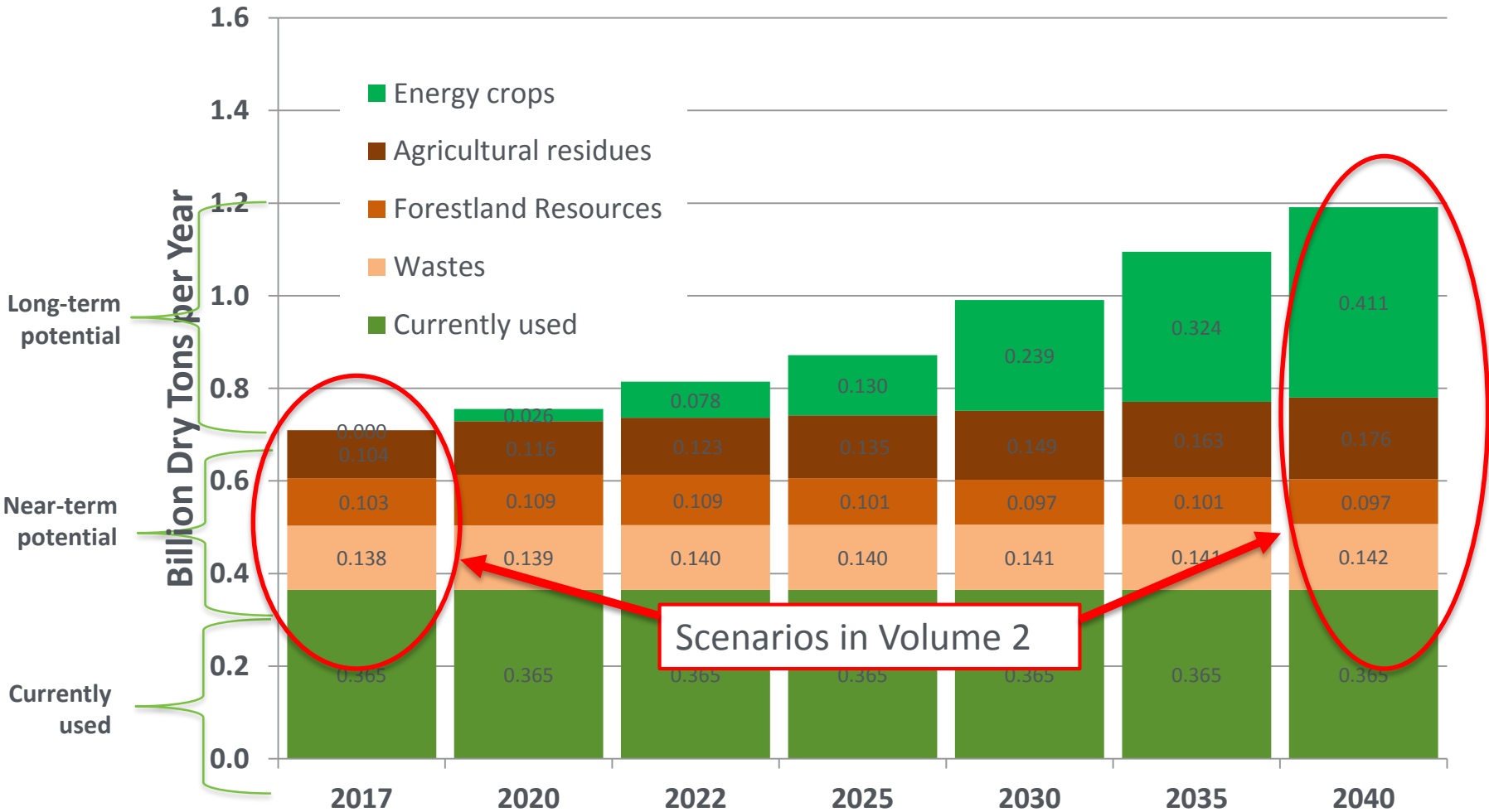
Currently used at market prices, potential supplies up to \$60/dt (2014\$)

# Current and Potential, Base Case



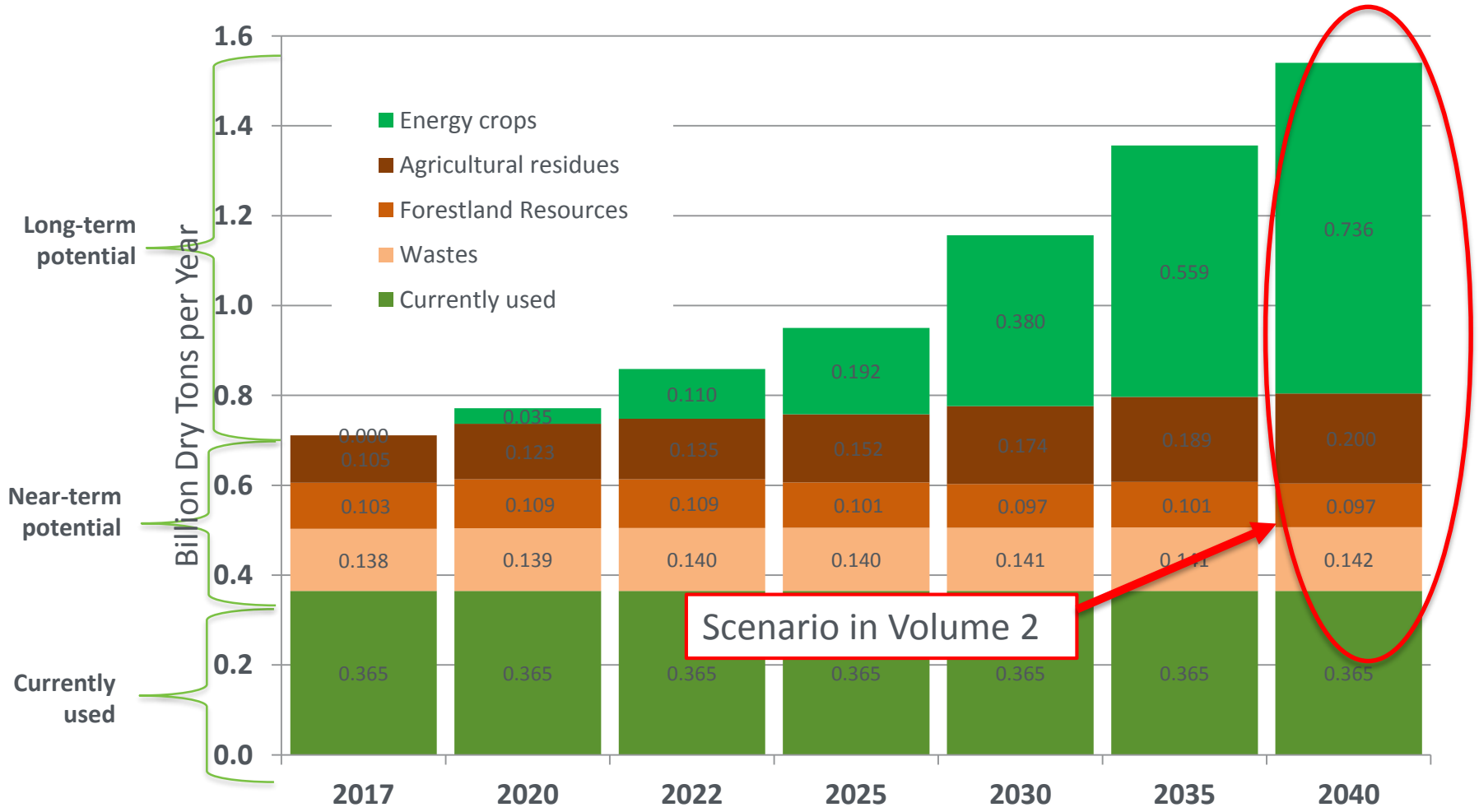
Currently used at market prices, potential supplies up to \$60/dt (2014\$)

# Current and Potential, Base Case



Currently used at market prices, potential supplies up to \$60/dt (2014\$)

# Current and Potential, High Yield Agriculture

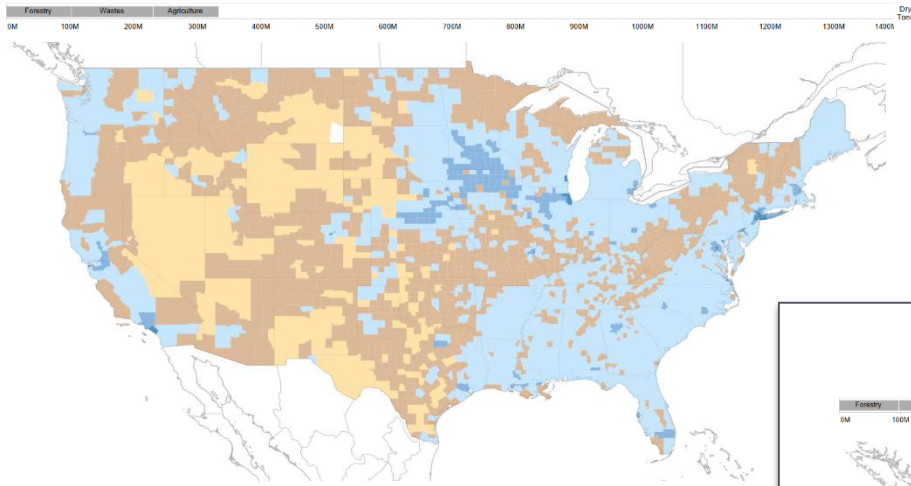


Scenario in Volume 2

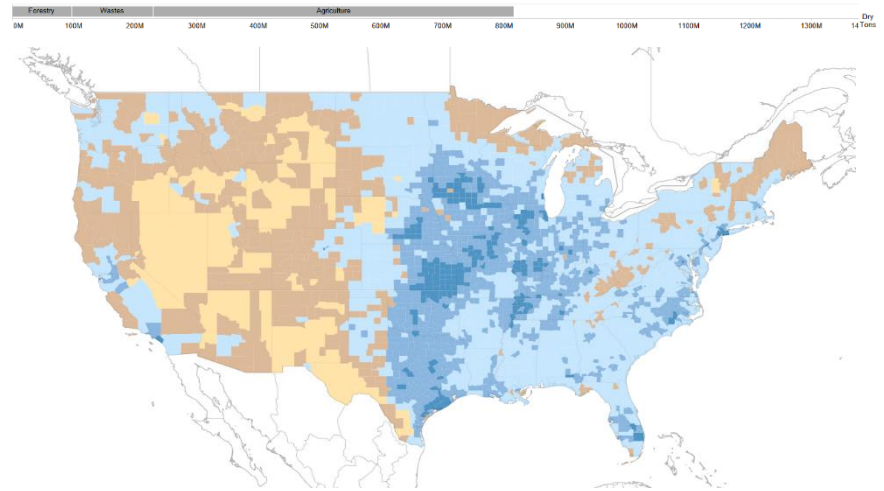


# Supplies vary spatially and temporally

Near-term potential (2017):



Long-term potential (2040, base case):



## Dry tons/year

- Less than 10 dt/SqMile
- 10-100 dt/SqMile
- 100-500 dt/SqMile
- 500-1000 dt/SqMile
- Greater than 1,000 dt/SqMile

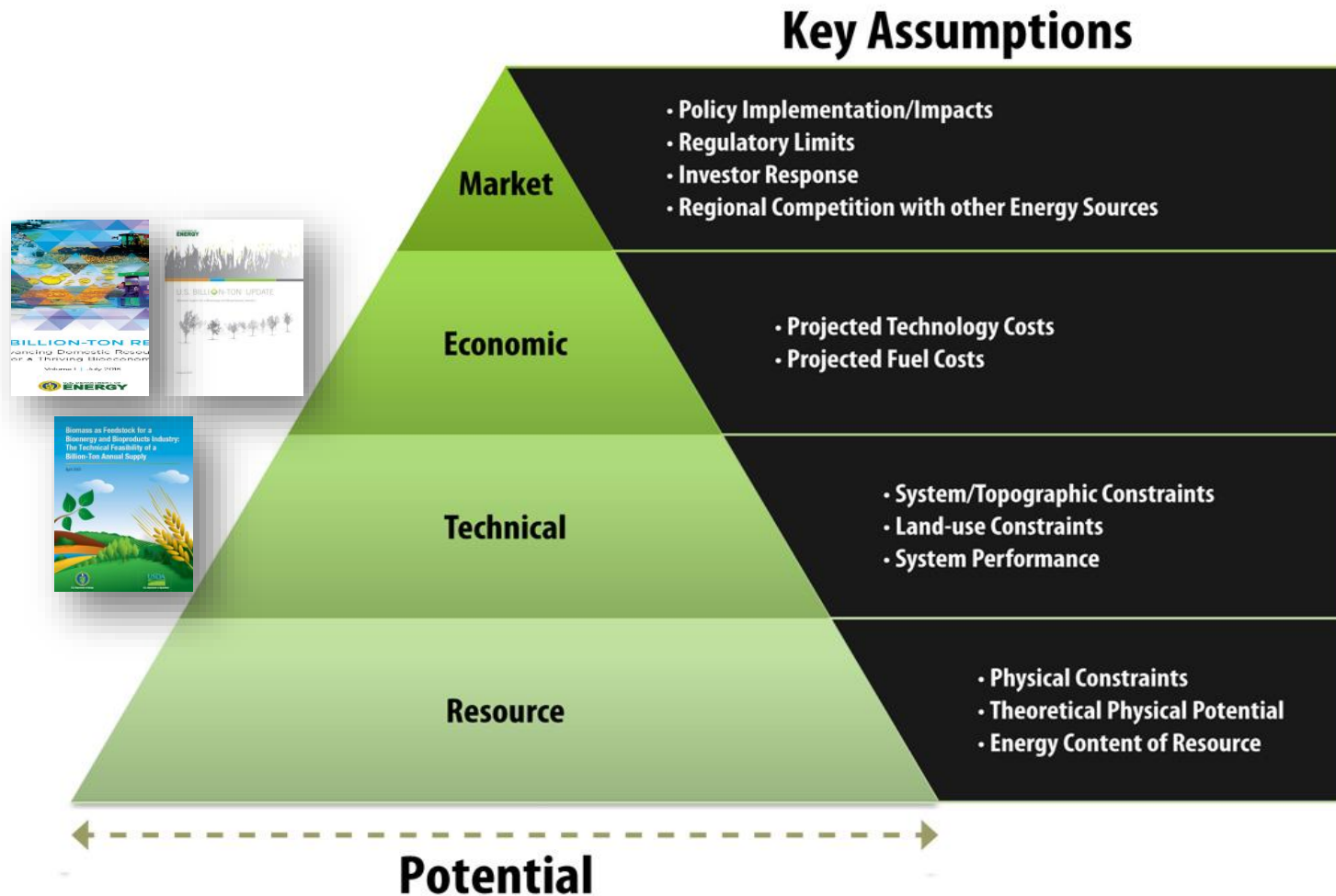


<https://bioenergykdf.net/billionton2016/1/2/tableau>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

# Advancing Resources

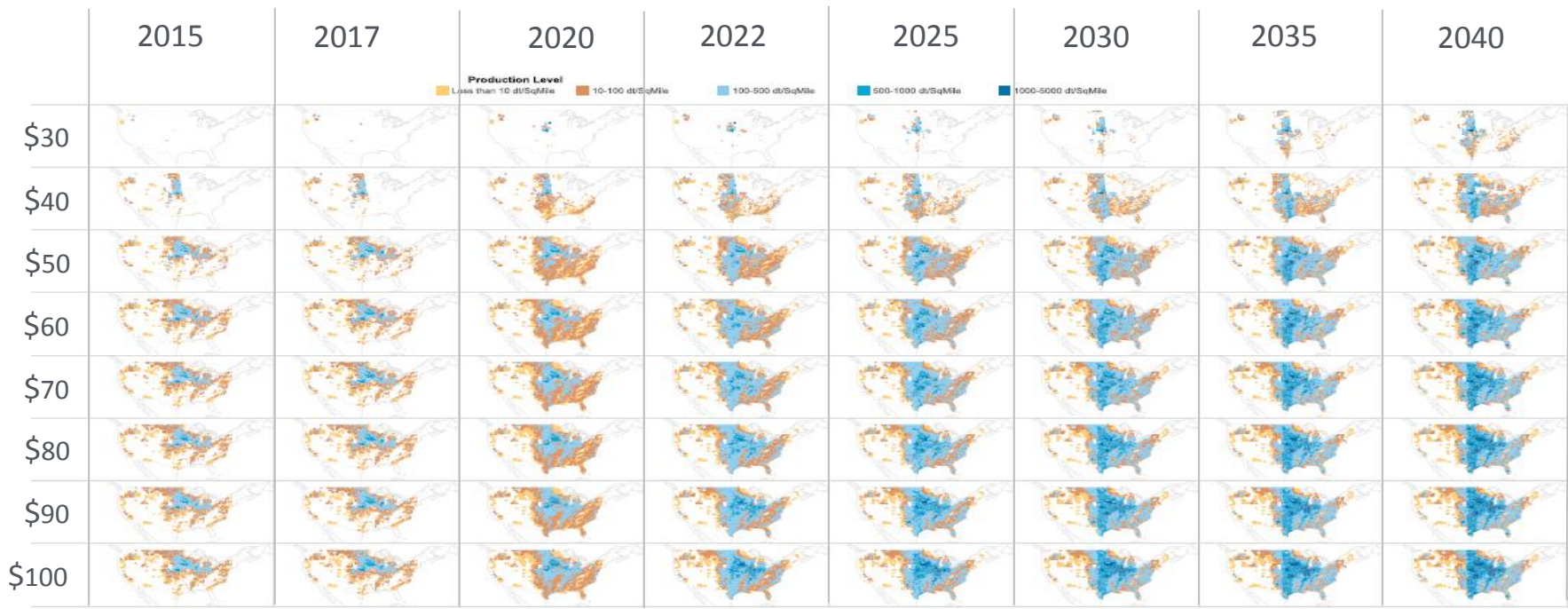


Adapted from DOE-EERE (2006) and NREL (2011). See also Batidzirai, Smeets, and Faaij (2012)

# Advancing Resources

**Supply push**

**Market pull**



- Conversion
- Bioproducts
- International markets
- Crop improvement
- Advanced logistics
- Precision agriculture

# Volume 1 Key Conclusions

- Still have the potential for more than a billion tons of biomass available as early as 2030, and continues to increase to 2040
  - 1-1.2 billion tons in 2030 and 1.2-1.5 billion tons in 2040
- New insights into biomass accessibility, spatial and temporal distribution, and costs (to roadside/farmgate and to facility gate)
- About half of potential biomass can be produced and delivered at less than \$84 per dry ton
- Forest resources are regionally specific, and subject to macroeconomic and local market forces
- Algae has substantial potential, but prices will need to decrease for that potential to be realized
- Potential biomass supply is contingent upon supply curve prices

# Sustainability Constraints in BT16 - Agriculture

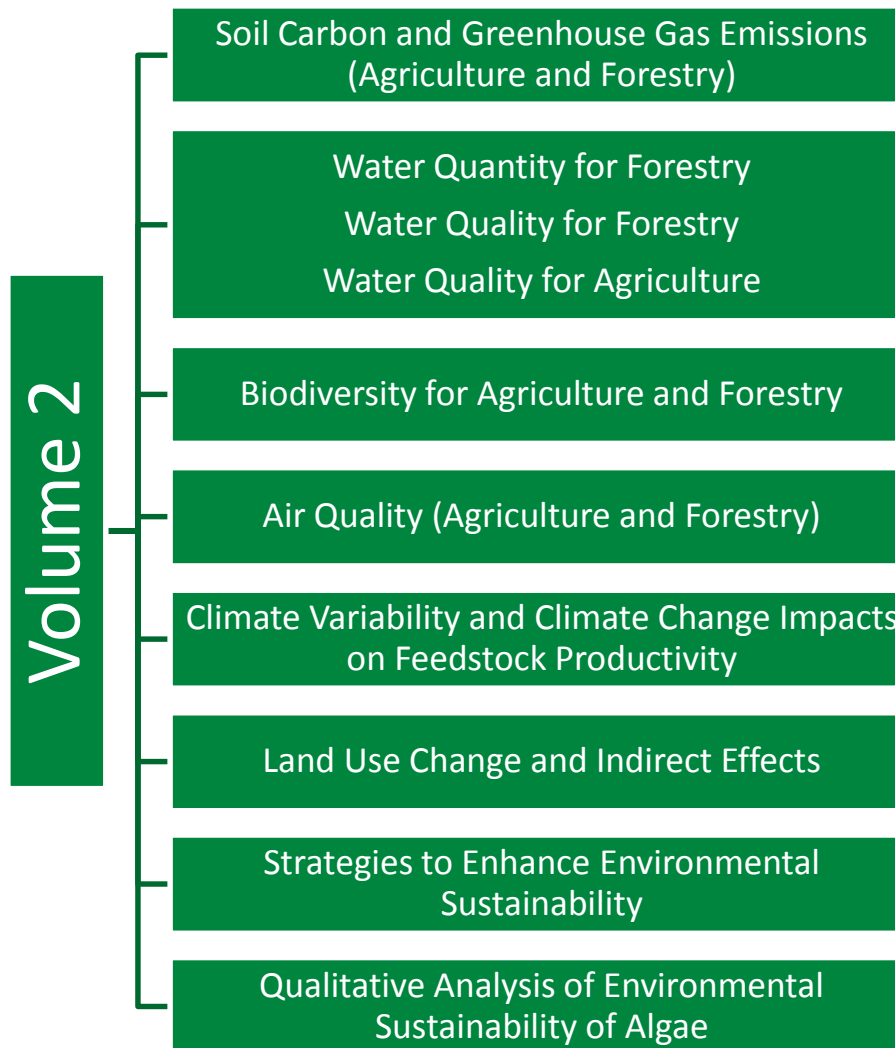
Sustainability assumption or constraint	Sustainability category	Implementation
Trend toward reduced till and no till for corn, wheat	Soil quality, water quality	Management assumptions
High fraction of crop acres no-till		Management assumptions
Residue removal prohibited on conventionally tilled acres		Management assumptions
Crop residue removal based on wind and water erosion estimates and soil carbon loss (nutrient replacement)		Residue removal tool used to estimate retention coefficients
No residue removal for soy		Management assumption
Acceptable residue removal different for reduced and no till		Residue removal tool to estimate retention coefficients
Multi-county NRCS crop management zones (e.g., tillage assumptions)		Spatially explicit rotation and management assumptions
Annual energy crops on land with low erosion potential and assumed part of multi-crop rotation		Excluded land area
Irrigated cropland or pasture excluded	Water quantity	Excluded land area
No supplemental irrigation of energy crops		Management assumptions
No use of pastureland in counties west of 100 <sup>th</sup> meridian		Excluded land area
No transition of non-agricultural lands to energy crops	Greenhouse gas emissions	Excluded land area

# Sustainability Constraints in BT16 - Forestry

Sustainability assumption or constraint	Sustainability category	Implementation
No road building – all stands had to be within half mile of low-grade logging road	Soil quality, water quality	Management assumptions
Acceptable residue removal for logging residues (70%)	Soil quality, water quality	Management assumptions
No biomass removal in wet areas to avoid soil compaction	Soil quality	Excluded land area
No production in administratively reserved forestlands, such as wilderness areas, National Parks, or roadless areas	Biodiversity	Excluded land area
Annual harvest can not exceed annual growth	Biodiversity	Excluded land area
Best management practices were assumed to be used by adding costs for compliance	Several, but primarily water quality	Management



# BT16 Volume 2 Outline



# Volume 2 – Main Objective and Research Questions

**Main Objective: Assess environmental effects of potential agricultural and forest biomass produced in select 2017 and 2040 scenarios from volume 1**

- Potential availability in 2017
- Potential availability in 2040 (base case scenario)
- Potential availability in 2040 (high yield scenario)



## Research questions

- What are the simulated values of environmental indicators and how do those compare among the above scenarios?
- What environmental benefits are possible from expansion of biomass for energy, and under what conditions do they occur?
- What are the potential negative effects, and how might they be managed or mitigated?
- Where is more research needed with regard to quantifying effects, enhancing benefits, and preventing negative consequences?

# Summary

- Resource assessments indicate vast national sustainable potential, over 1 billion tons/yr.
- Future biomass utilization is a function of supply and demand interactions.
- Resource assessments can help evaluate impacts of supply push and market pull and inform strategies to increase biomass utilization.
- Future research should advance from “how much is there” to “how can it happen”.



# Interactive Resources



<http://bioenergykdf.net/billionton>

The screenshot shows the Bioenergy KDF website homepage. The browser address bar displays <http://bioenergykdf.net/billionton>. The page features a blue header with the Bioenergy Knowledge Discovery Framework logo and navigation links for Overview, Tools & Apps, Map, Bioenergy Library, and Contribute. A large blue banner reads "2016 BILLION-TON REPORT INTERACTIVE VERSION". Below the banner, there are three buttons: "Access Report", "Data Explorer", and "Data Download Tool". The main content area is divided into seven numbered sections (01-07) with various icons and titles, such as "Executive Summary/Overview", "Biomass Consumed in the Current Bioeconomy", "Forest Resources", "At the Farmgate", "Waste Resources", "To the Biorefinery", and "Microalgae". A footer contains links for "From the Bioenergy KDF", "Maps and Data", and "Questions".

The screenshot shows the Bioenergy KDF website with the Billion-Ton 2016 Data Explorer interface overlaid on a map of the United States. The browser address bar displays [gistdrupaldev.ornl.gov/biokdf/r](http://gistdrupaldev.ornl.gov/biokdf/r). The Data Explorer panel includes the following controls:

- Category: Agriculture, Forest, Wastes
- Select Data Aggregation: County Data, State Data
- Select Result Type: Production, Production Density, Harvested Acres, Yield
- Select Scenario: 3% yield inc.
- Select Feedstock: Miscanthus
- Select Biomass Price (per dry ton): A slider ranging from \$30 to \$100.
- Select Year: A timeline from 2014 to 2040.

The map shows a grid of colored squares representing biomass availability data across the United States.

# Contact Information

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*Questions?*

Contact [EERELegAffairs@ee.doe.gov](mailto:EERELegAffairs@ee.doe.gov)

*Alison Goss Eng*

*Program Manager, Advanced Algal Systems | Feedstock Supply and Logistics*

*Biomass Research and Development (BRD) Operations Committee*

*Liaison to the BRD Board*

*Bioenergy Technologies Office*

*Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy*

*U.S. Department of Energy*