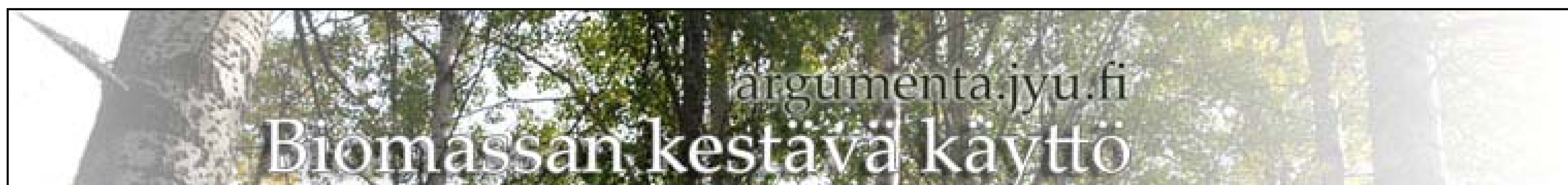


SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION OF BIOMASS

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BACKGROUND

Limited biomass resources used for food, raw material and energy supply

The limited biomass resources are used within three main sectors: food and fodder supply, raw material supply for industry and for bioenergy production. The World population growth, the ascending standard of living, the continual increasing energy demand and urgent issues like climate change are already affecting the utilization of our biomass resources.

Many sectors competing of using the same resources?

There will probably be several sectors competing of the use of our Finnish forest- agro-, peat and water areas in the future. Additionally, a growing utilization of biomass resources will have environmental side effects which make the steering and administration a confrontational issue as well as a scientifically challenging question.

Biomass strategies needed for decision making

The sustainable utilization of biomasses is an issue important for the development of society and may have far-reaching consequences. Strategies regarding how to use our limited biomass resources in a sustainable way will be needed to support decision making.

Argumenta Platform encourages multidisciplinary discussion and new research approaches

Research in this field is fragmented and different disciplines have studied the issue separately with very little interaction. To tackle this and encourage multidisciplinary approaches a Finnish Argumenta platform, bringing scientists with different background together, is being built up.

FINNISH ARGUMENTA PLATFORM

2010—2011

www.argumenta.jyu.fi

FIVE SEMINARS FOR SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION

Seminar topics and dates

- ◆ **Utilization Hierarchy of Biomass: Food, Raw Material or Energy?**
University of Jyväskylä, November 3-4, 2010
- ◆ **Biodiversity Effects of Production and Utilization of Biomasses**
University of Eastern Finland, Joensuu
February 16-17, 2011
- ◆ **Climate Change and Biomass Production and Utilization Chains**
Statistics Finland, Helsinki, May 4-5, 2011
- ◆ **Measuring Sustainability in Biomass Production and Utilization**
Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki
September 8-9, 2011
- ◆ **Final Seminar (Open for public): Utilization Hierarchy of Biomass: Food, Raw Material of Energy?**
November 10, 2011

KEY PARTNERS AND FINANCIER

The platform work is coordinated by the
University of Jyväskylä, Department of Biological
and Environmental Science.

The key partners involved:

Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
Finnish Forest Research Institute (Metla)
MTT Agrifood Research Finland
Statistics Finland
Technical Research Centre of Finland (VTT)
University of Eastern Finland
Geological Survey of Finland

The platform work is sponsored by the
Finnish Cultural Foundation.

ATTENDANCE

Invited speakers and participants

Participants from different universities and research organizations are invited. As continuity of participation is very important for the work, committed researchers aiming to attend the seminars regularly are encouraged before others. Each closed seminar will be hosting about 40 scientists from Finnish research organizations.

PhD students

A course for a limited number of PhD students from the University of Jyväskylä and Tampere University of Technology will be arranged parallel with the Argumenta-seminar session 2010. The aim of the parallel work is (i) to train students to collect scientific background material that will be used for enriching the discussions of the seminars, (ii) to introduce young students to experienced scientists and (iii) to encourage the discussion groups to publish the outcomes of the discussions. The students will get training in scientific writing and will be encouraged to write scientific manuscripts together with the invited speakers and senior participants.

Final seminar

A final seminar presenting the outcome of the platform work will be arranged in Autumn 2011. This seminar will be open for everyone interested, and especially high level decision makers will be invited to attend. The number of participants will be approximately 130-150 persons.

Further information

- ◆ The outcome of the work can be followed on the web page of the platform, www.argumenta.jyu.fi

Communication language

- ◆ The communication language of the platform will mainly be Finnish. A few seminar sessions will though be held in English due to foreign invited speakers.

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Updated 21.8.2010

