



“Ocean, Forest & Field – the Bioenergy Playground”

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Bioenergy and Biofuels: From Lab to Commercial

Numerous technologies are available for conversion of biomass into bioenergy and biofuels. Many novel technologies are also being developed. Some industrial fermentation technologies resulting in ethanol and biogas production are well known and have proven efficient when used with specific set of biomass.

In the Maritimes, biomass can come from a wide range of sectors, namely: forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, marine, industrial food processing, municipal waste, etc. There is a lot of potential here in the Maritimes. We just have to know where to look. Research and validation work is essential to evaluate the potential of a technology/biomass combination for the production of biofuel or bioenergy.

Lab scale trials are important for the development of new technologies, for the improvement of existing technology, or for preliminary validation studies of certain biomass/technology combinations. The implementation of new technologies must be done diligently in order to avoid any pitfalls. Pre-commercial scale proof of concept is an efficient way to reduce the potential financial risks of adopting new technologies.