Research on new and alternative crops for biofuels & bioproducts
USDA-ARS Lab in Morris, MN

Future Generation Energy Crops

What is this technology?

Developing new and alternative crop sources for biofuels and bioproducts

What is this research project?

- Identify new and alternative bioenergy & bioproduct crops for production in the Midwest
- Develop and improve best agricultural management strategies for production
- Determine environmental limitations of bioenergy crop growth and production

What problem does it address?

- Provide alternative crops that compliment rather than replace high value food crops for energy
- Diversify cropping systems to reduce pest and disease problems
- Provide crops and management strategies that lower agricultural inputs and benefit the environment

How is the project different from or how does it enhance other projects?

- Few researchers exploring the development of new/alternative bioenergy & bioproduct crops
- Working with NCAUR in Peoria on new uses and process technology for new crops material
- Working with the EERC at UND in developing cuphea as a feedstock for aircraft fuel

What are the potential benefits of partnering with ARS on this research?

- USDA-ARS is well qualified and structured to handle new and alternative crops research
- The NCSCRL in Morris, MN has diverse research expertise in plant and soil sciences
- Proven track record of developing cuphea as a novel medium-chain oil producing crop for the US.

Moving Forward

- R&D to improve new and alternative crop germplasm
- Industry & government cooperation to commercialize new and alternative crops
- Federal & state government policy support of new/alternative energy & bioproduct crops

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