

# **International Sorghum for Biofuels Conference**

**Workshop # 1  
Feedstock Development**

# Top 5: Challenges / Knowledge Gaps

Challenges / Knowledge Gaps	Impact				Implementation		
	A. Productivity	B. People	C. Countries / Geography	D. Overall Impact	E. Difficulty	For top 5 in column E, capture reason for why difficult to address	F. Cooperation Needed
1. Value of Feedstock	18	19	2	14	17	Needs not defined	30
2. Genetic Improvement	30	25	26	24	13	Traits not defined	6
3. Genetic resources	15	9	20	13	9	Biology not understood	15
4. Yield	20	20	9	9	8	Yield of what: GxE	7
5. Regional feedstock development	6	11	17	3	11	Various systems needed	7
6. Improved collaboration	2	3	15	3	14	IP restrictions, different cultures, no common goals	

# Key Messages

- **Tremendous need for targets and defining who those targets are directed at**
- **Industry development and sustainability in advanced biofuels**
- **Broad sustained public and private commitment**
- **Uncomfortable with numbering system and how these might drive policy**

# Top 5: Possible Strategies

Challenges / Knowledge Gaps	Possible Strategies	
	Solutions / Approaches	Time Frame = S, M, or L
1. Value of Feedstock	a. Promote multi-disciplinary integrated programs	S
	b. Think outside of the traditional agricultural box	S
	c. Compositional Biomass database	S
2. Genetic improvement	a. Expediently complete the 1 <sup>st</sup> to accomplish the second	M
	b. Strategies to mitigate gene flow	M
	c. Using sorghum as a model system	M
3. Genetic resources	a. Greater understanding of phenotypic characterization	M
	b. Global database	S
	c. Establish common genetic resources	M

# Top 5: Possible Strategies

Challenges / Knowledge Gaps	Possible Strategies	
	Solutions / Approaches	Time Frame = S, M, or L
4. Yield	a. Harmonization screening technologies	M
	b. Determining biology of yield	M
	c.	
5. Regional feedstock development	a. Developing regional based research testing	S
	b. Worldwide regional meetings	S
	c.	
6. Improved collaboration	a. of the above	M
	b.	
	c.	

# Collaboration

# 1 Feedstock Development

## Benefits

- Increased acres of all sorghum
- Increased profitability to producers
- Rural development and sustainability

## Barriers

- Money
- Politics
- Regulatory and IP

## Potential Next Steps

- Expanding this meeting to include ethanol industry, funding organizations, etc...in near future
- Contact information for participants
- Seeking new funding opportunities
- Development of research proposals