



Networking Session on

“Bioenergy and Biomass”

Dr Beatrix Schlarb-Ridley

Partner Organisations:

University of Cambridge, Plant Sciences (Prof. Alison Smith)

Renewables East (Bianca Forte)



Dr. Beatrix Schlarb-Ridley

InCrops Business Innovation Manager

Based at partner institution University of Cambridge



My background:

- Started with InCrops on 1 May 09
- Previously - member of Algal Bioenergy Consortium
 - Coordinator of Cambridge Bioenergy Initiative

At InCrops leading on

- bioenergy / biomass / bioremediation
- oleochemicals
- biopharmaca
- pigments

Assisting colleagues in

- bioplastics & packaging
- functionalised foods
- nanotechnologies
- biorefineries



What are we trying to achieve with this session?

- identify market needs for the bioenergy / bioremediation sector
- spot the barriers for market penetration
- outline how InCrops and its partners can address those issues and facilitate the development of new products/technologies



Sector overview



Bioenergy in the East of England –
overview given by Bianca Forte, Biofuels East

Example biogas –
Adrian Venni, CH4 Power

Bioremediation using (aquatic) plants, esp. algae –
potential for clean-up of nutrient-rich waste water, flue gas scrubbing, uptake of heavy metals



Sector overview



Biomass into Biorefineries –

Great opportunity for development, multiple synergies with other sectors (incl high value products)

Biomass gets separated into components:

Lipids – food oils, oleochemicals, biofuels

Proteins – human nutrition / animal feed, biopolymers

Carbohydrates – human nutrition / animal feed, biopolymers, bioalcohols (solvents / fuel)

Various – biopharmaca, pigments



Biomass into Biorefineries –

Upcoming funding opportunity: IBTI (Integrated Biorefinery Technology Initiative)

2nd call for proposals; involvement of BBSRC and EPSRC;
InCrops is member of IBTI Strategy Group

John French to attend Scoping Workshop next month –
opportunity to make your voice heard through him



Next speakers:

- Bianca Forte, Renewables East / Biofuels East
- Prof Alison Smith, University of Cambridge Dept of Plant Sciences
- Adrian Venni, CH4 Power

- Discussion





Points for discussion:

- ***What are the barriers for market penetration***
- ***Where would the partner organisations or other research expertise be of benefit for commercialisation***
- ***What are the current trends and best routes for commercialisation***
- ***Where do companies see the role of InCrops***
- ***What future activities should InCrops plan to help businesses***



Upcoming InCrops events of interest:

- Biopackaging, 16 July 09, 3-6.30pm, Cambridge
- Opportunities for commercialisation of algal products and processes, early Sept (tbc), Essex