

# MSU RESOURCES INVESTED IN MICHIGAN'S BIOECONOMY

In addition to the Office of Bio-based Technologies other MSU entities, including MSU Extension and the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station at MSU, have allocated staff members and other resources to growing the bioeconomy in the state.

MSU Extension:

- appointed a network of state-wide biomass coordinators
- established a bioeconomy steering committee
- conducted focus group meetings to solicit public input about the bioeconomy
- developed a series of biomass information sheets aimed at explaining the issues involved with woody biomass production and funded a project to develop a woody biomass energy Extension program
- funded a comprehensive biomass outreach program

The Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station:



- appointed a forest biomass development coordinator
- equipped campus facilities and the U.P. Tree Improvement Center with the tools necessary to conduct research on forest biomass production
- funded research projects on:
  - poplar and willow yield trials in the Upper Peninsula
  - poplar and willow cultural trials in the Upper Peninsula
  - soil carbon cycling in energy plantations
  - energy plantation production system economics

Michigan State University has hired new faculty members to study all aspects of the bioeconomy, including:

- public policy experts
- chemical process and catalysis experts
- sociologists with expertise in how communities access natural resources
- woody biomass supply chain engineering

Michigan State University scientists have been conducting research to prepare for the bioeconomy for more than 15 years:

- willow and poplar clonal trials began in the 1980s and continue today
- willow and poplar yield trials started in 1991 and continue today
- studies on spacing and herbicide use in poplar and willow energy crops began in 1990 and continue today
- switchgrass variety trials have been underway for more than a decade

MSU continues to strengthen its ability to identify issues and answer the critical questions facing Michigan's emerging bioeconomy. The university is committed to making long-term investments to ensure a future for Michigan's economy and environment that is sustainable and profitable.

**MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

EXPANDING THE BIOECONOMY  
WITH WOODY BIOMASS

FACT SHEET

FOR MORE INFORMATION: [WWW.MAES.MSU.EDU/UPTIC](http://WWW.MAES.MSU.EDU/UPTIC) OR [WWW.BIOECONOMY.MSU.EDU](http://WWW.BIOECONOMY.MSU.EDU)

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