## 

## 31. MARZ BIS 1. APRUL 2009 IN BERLMN

# Biomass in Future Landscapes 

## Nachallige Biomassenutzung und Reumentwicklung

# Leuphana University of Lüneburg <br> Centre for Sustainability Management <br> Dipl.-Oec. Florian Lüdeke-Freund (corresponding author) 

Scharnhorststr. 1
21335 Lüneburg
Tel.: 04131/677-2522
e-mail: luedeke@uni.leuphana.de

## Dr. Jan Müller

Forstconsult
Schillerstraße 10
21335 Lüneburg
Tel.: 04131/776290
e-mail: info@forstconsult.com

## Session III - Regional Biomass Markets

## Developing New Markets for Moist Biomass: An Eco-efficient Approach of Dehydrating Agricultural Biomass ${ }^{1)}$ <br> Poster-abstract

A diversified range of biomass will be needed in the future as a source of energy. To achieve the goals on the share of biomass in the energy mix, not only wood and straw, but also agricultural biomass will have to be used in several sectors of renewable energies. But agricultural biomass often contains a lot of water. This causes problems concerning transport and storage, especially if the biomass shall be processed on an industrial scale. Therefore, new markets for moist biomass like grass, silage or by-products from rural conservation have to be developed to guarantee their availability. In this proposal an eco-efficient technique is introduced to reduce the water content by means of mechanical pressure. This process can be seen as a driver for new markets for moist biomass.

1. Technical description. To overcome the problems of storage and transport only energy- and cost-efficient processes can come into consideration. The use of mechanical pressure in an extruder seems to be a possibility to dehydrate the biomass in a more energy- and cost-efficient way compared to thermal drying. Within the project a screw-extruder has been constructed to dehydrate grass silage. Two products result from this process: a dehydrated solid phase and a liquid phase. The current tests show a reduction of water content in the solid phase from about $70 \%$ to approx. $40 \%$. The silage is reduced to small pieces, so the total surface is increased and the fibres are opened. This abets downstream drying by means of convection (rejected process heat), which provides a further reduction of water content to less than $30 \%$.
2. Economic aspects. Current studies show that the solid phase can be used as a combustible or as raw material for BtL . For this purpose it must be delivered as pellets or compacted in bales. The main materials used for burning or BtL are wood and straw, so these are the competing products. The economic comparison shows that the dehydrated grass silage can compete with wood chips and straw. Given a purchase price of 45 Euro per ton grass silage, the total costs of the process amount to about 130 Euro per ton solid phase.

However, the price for the raw material is crucial to the cost structure. Therefore a low purchase price substantially leverages the economic success. Based on the developed dehydration process, new biomass markets, value chains and business models could be developed for materials with a currently low demand and value added, e.g. growth from rural conservation areas.
Additionally, the liquid phase was tested for the use in biogas plants. Chemical analyses demonstrate that the liquid phase possesses advantageous characteristics for the biogas process. Because of its high weight the transport distance should be kept short. So far, there is no market for this product; approaches to new markets, e.g. for ecological fertilizer, are being discussed at the moment.
3. Energy balance. Two tons of silage containing about 650 kg of solid material can be treated per hour by extrusion. The energy consumption of the extruder adds up to 50 kWh . Downstream drying consumes a further $100-120 \mathrm{kWh}$; all in all about 160 kWh , appropriate to 480 MJ . The water content is reduced from $70 \%$ to $30 \%$. The corresponding energy gain of the solid phase adds up to $8 \mathrm{MJ} / \mathrm{kg}$, summed up to 5200 MJ for 650 kg . These calculations show that by the dehydration of agricultural biomass the problems of transport and storage can be overcome in an energy- and cost-efficient way,
4. Contribution to Session 3. However, the volatile and regionally different markets disallow an absolute conclusion to the economic success. In the light of the political goals concerning the energetic use of biomass, it can be assumed that the prices of other biomass products will increase in the future; so any possible resource has to be considered. The approach of an eco-efficient dehydration process for moist biomass allows considering new local and regional biomass markets for currently unattractive resources. New markets, value chains and business models can be designed according to the characteristics of the developed energy- and cost-efficient extrusion process.

## References

- Dachverband Agrarforschung e.V. (Hg.) (2007): Energie aus Biomasse - weltwirtschaftliche, ressourcenökonomische und produktionstechnische Perspektiven. Frankfurt a. M.: DLG.
- Eder, B.; Schulz, H. \& Krieg, A. (2007): Biogas-Praxis. Grundlagen, Planung, Anlageņbau, Beispiele, Wirtschaftlichkeit. 4. Aufl. Staufen bei Freiburg: Ökobuch-Verlag.
- Fischer, J. (2002): Einsatzmöglichkeiten von Biomasse in KWK-Systemen. In: Kaltschmitt, M.; Fischer, J. \& Langnickel, U. (Hg.): Bioenergieträger in Kraft-Warme-Kopplungsanlagen. Berlin: E. Schmidt (Initiativen zum Umweltschutz, 47), S. 1-12.
- Institut für Energetik und Umwelt; Institut für Iandwirtschaftliche Betriebswirtschaftslehre; Bundesforschungsanstalt für Forst- und Holzwirtschaft \& Öko-Institut e.V. (2005): Nachhaltige Biomassenutzungsstrategien im europäischen Kontext. Analyse im Spannungsfeld nationaler Vorgaben und der Konkurrenz zwischen festen, flüssigen und gasförmigen Bioenergieträgern. Leipzig.
- Kaltschmitt, M. (2001): Energie aus Biomasse. Grundlagen, Techniken und Verfahren. Berlin: Springer.
- Kaltschmitt, M.; Fischer, J. \& Langnickel, U. (Hg.) (2002): Bioenergieträger in Kraft-Wärme-Kopplungsanlagen. Berlin: E. Schmidt (Initiativen zum Umweltschutz, 47).
- Kaltschmitt, M.; Streicher, W. \& Wiese, A. (2006): Erneuerbare Energien. Systemtechnik, Wirtschaftlichkeit, Umweltaspekte. 4. Auflage. Berlin: Springer.
- Kröll, K. \& Krischer, O. (1997): Trockner und Trocknungsverfahren. 2. Auflage. Berlin: Springer (Trocknungstechnik / von Otto Krischer und Karl Kröll. Begr. von Otto Krischer, Bd. 2).
- Kuratorium für Technik und Bauwesen in der Landwirtschaft (KTBL) (2005): Gasausbeute aus landwirtschaftlichen Biogasanlagen. Darmstadt: KTBL.
- OTTI e.V. (Hg.) (2007): 16. Symposium „Bloenergie". Festbrennstoffe, Flüssigkraftstoffe, Biogas. OTTI Energie Kolleg. Regensburg: Ostbayerisches Technologie-Transfer-Institut e.V.
- Scheffer, K. \& Karpenstein-Machan, M. (2001): Ökologischer und ökonomischer Wert der Biodiverșität am Beispiel der Nutzung von Energiepflanzen, in: Hammer, K. \& Thomas, G. (Hg.): Schriften zu Genetischen Ressourcen. Bonn: ZADI, S. 177-192.
- Thrän, D.; Kaltschmitt, M. \& Kicherer, A. (2008): Kriterienmatrix zur stofflichen und energetischen Nutzung nachwachsender Rohstoffe. Berlin: E. Schmidt (Initiativen zum Umweltschutz, 69).
- Weiland, P. (2007): Biogas - Stand und Perspektiven der Erzeugung und Nutzūng in Deutschland. In: Dachverband Agrarforschung e.V. (Hg.): Energie aus Biomasse - weltwirtschaftliche, ressourcenökonomische und prodüktionstechnische Perspektiven. Frankfurt a. M.: DLG, S. 111-122.


# Dehydration and Pelletisation of Agricultural Biomass by Extrusion* 

Project Overview (Term 2007-2009)

4
LEUPTIANA

## Problem Area \& Approach

The energetic utilisation if biomass is on the boom due to signals from politics. By the year 2020 , one fitth of the energy consumed in the EU should be obtained from renewable resources. The number of Biogas plants and biomass power stations grows exponentially, paralleled by increasing capacities per production unit:

OIt is necessary to exploit a broader range of renewable resources.

## Preliminary Results

Several series of tests were performed to improve the screw extruder's degree of effectiveness. A decision was made for grass and grass silage as primary resources. Objects to techirical development were the drive; the screw and the cutter.

D The share of dry substance was increased, reaching nearly $50 \%$ in the first extrusion.

| Year of tests | Silo | 1 Extrusion | 2 Extrusions | Add air drying |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2007 | 21\% | 35\% | 43\% | not tested |
| 2008 | 35\% | 50\% | 52\% | 61\% |
| 2009 | 33\% | 48\% | noll tested | not tested |

## Outlook

As illustrated the eco-efficient dehydration process could for example be Integrated into the Combined Solid Fuel and Biogas Production Concept (Grass et al. 2009).

PHence, the degree of effectiveness has to be improved to $60 \%$ or $70 \%$ share of dry substance.



Liouid paits:


To realise industrial scales, alternatives to e.g. maize must be made available Agricultural biomass contains large shares of water which poses problems for transpoit and storage: Thus, the process of dehydration is crucial, it must be eco-efficient in terms of the energy used for dehydration and the energy gain in transport and further processing.
$D$ The project's focus is on improving the process of screw extrusion,


## Dehydrierung landwirtschaftlicher Biomasse Entwicklung einer praxisreifen Biomassekonditionierung*

## Das Projekt im Überblick (1/2)

## Problemstellung

Seit einigen Jahren erlebt die energetische Verwertung landwirtschaftlicher Biomasse einen Boom. Die Anzahl der Biogasanlagen und Biomassekraftwerke wächst bei durchschnittlich größeren Produktionskapazitäten exponentiell.

- Für die Strom- und Wärmeerzeugung ist eine zunehmende Verwertung stark wasserhaltiger Biomasse aus der Landwirtschaft zu erwarten.
Transportwürdigkeit und Lagerfähigkeit wasserhaltiger Biomasse werden bislang durch ineffiziente thermische Trocknungsverfahren hergestellt. Dies vermindert die Wirtschaftlichkeit und Konkurrenfähigkeit der NawaRo-Bereitstellungsketten. Bisherige Verfahren zur nicht-thermischen Trocknung überzeugen noch nicht.
- Daher besteht Bedarf an Technologien zur energieeffizienten und wirtschaftlichen Konditionierung landwirtschaftlicher Biomasse.
Der Wassergehalt und der energetische und finanzielle Aufwand seiner Reduktion sowie die Integrationsfähigkeit in bestehende Bereitstellungsketten sind entscheidend.

Э Ein entsprechend optimiertes Verfahren zu entwickeln, ist Ziel des Projekts.



## Kontaht:

Centre for Sustainability
Management
Floilan Lildeke
luedeke@uni leuphana:de
04131 -6717-2522
www leup liana:de/csm

[^0]
## Dehydrierung landwirtschaftlicher Biomasse

## Entwicklung einer praxisreifen Biomassekonditionierung*

Arbeitsschritte und Methodik / Zwischenergebnisse (2/2)



[^0]:    * Forschungsprojekt „Entwicklung eines praxisreifen Verfahrens zur zeitgleichen Dehydrierung und Pelletierung von Biomassen aus der Landwirtschaft" Projektpartner: Rehart GmbH, Centre for Sustainability Management (CSM), Peilet Power GbR I Förderung: Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (23758)

