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Forest Biomass

Forest Biomass Available for Energy Production

“Un-merchantable” biomass is considered to be biomass that is not merchantable for traditional forest products or that is a manufacturing residue, which may be used as a low value byproduct. A report was recently released by General Bioenergy Incorporated that lists estimated “un-merchantable” forestry biomass by county for Georgia. Amounts are indicated in the table. The most significant sources are un-merchantable standing timber and harvesting residues. The un-merchantable timber is assumed to be recoverable at the rate of 5% per year, based on the current inventory of this type of timber. The accuracy of this projection of biomass recovery would depend upon the future market price of the biomass and the development of harvesting systems to gather the smaller stems.

Existing Forest Biomass in Georgia by Type and Utilization Status

Wood Resources	Units	Amount Generated	% Unutilized	Amount Available
Unmerchantable Timber (20 year Growth Cycle)	dry tons	13,260,175	100%	13,260,175
Harvesting Residues	dry tons	5,314,287	95%	5,048,572
Mill Residues	dry tons	7,970,276	1%	79,703
Urban Wood Waste @ \$30.00/dt	dry tons	1,436,823	100%	1,436,823
Pecan Shells	dry tons	22,297	95%	21,182
Paper Mill Sludge	dry tons	395,210	95%	375,449
Black Liquor Production	dry tons	12,066,840	0%	-
TOTAL		40,465,908		20,221,904

The map on the back shows the estimated amount of logging residues in dry tons available annually within each county of Georgia.

Estimated Amount of Logging Residues in Dry Tons Available Annually Within Each County of Georgia

