



SunGrant INITIATIVE

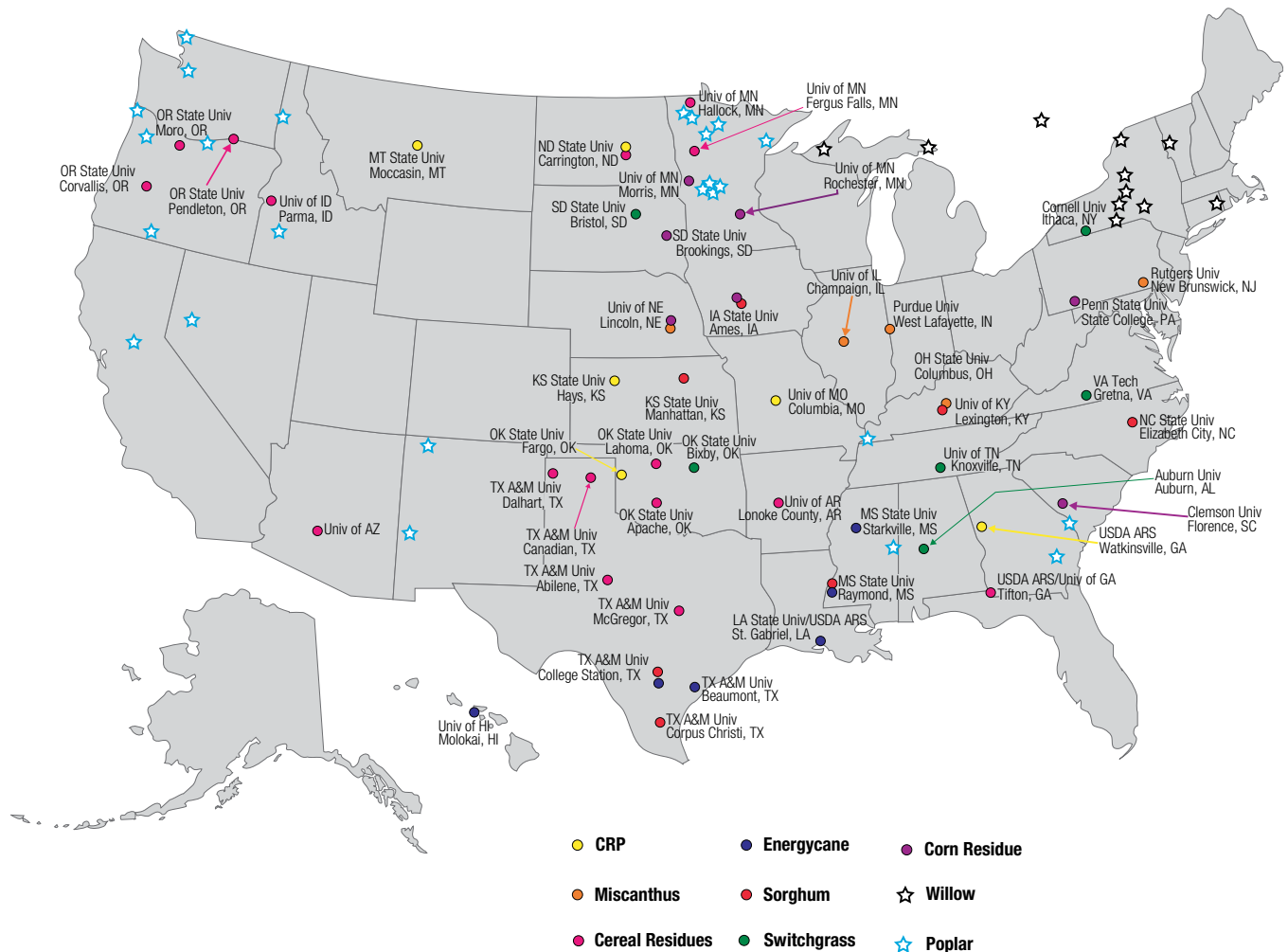
The Sun Grant Initiative is a national network of land-grant universities and federally funded laboratories working together to further establish a biobased economy. These institutes are at the forefront of research and innovation involving bioenergy, bioproducts, and biofuels production. They have the history, technology and resources available to lead the nation towards a renewable, sustainable, domestic energy industry. Sun Grant Centers are also charged with reviving America's rural communities by placing an emphasis on economic development through the production of biobased renewable energy feedstocks.

The North Central Center, located at South Dakota State University serves ten states in the region including, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and South Dakota. Research and outreach activities in the region and nation are centered on the Biomass Feedstock Partnership, Competitive Grants and the Bioweb.

Biomass Feedstock Partnership

The Sun Grant Initiative and the United States Department of Energy –Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy office Biomass program are working together to develop and implement regional biomass partnerships to address the barriers associated with the development of a sustainable and projectable supply of biomass feedstocks.

The Feedstock Partnership has been charged with three tasks: 1) biomass resource assessment, 2) biomass resource development, and 3) biomass resource education and outreach. National task teams have been assembled to complete these tasks. Below is a map of the research field plots:

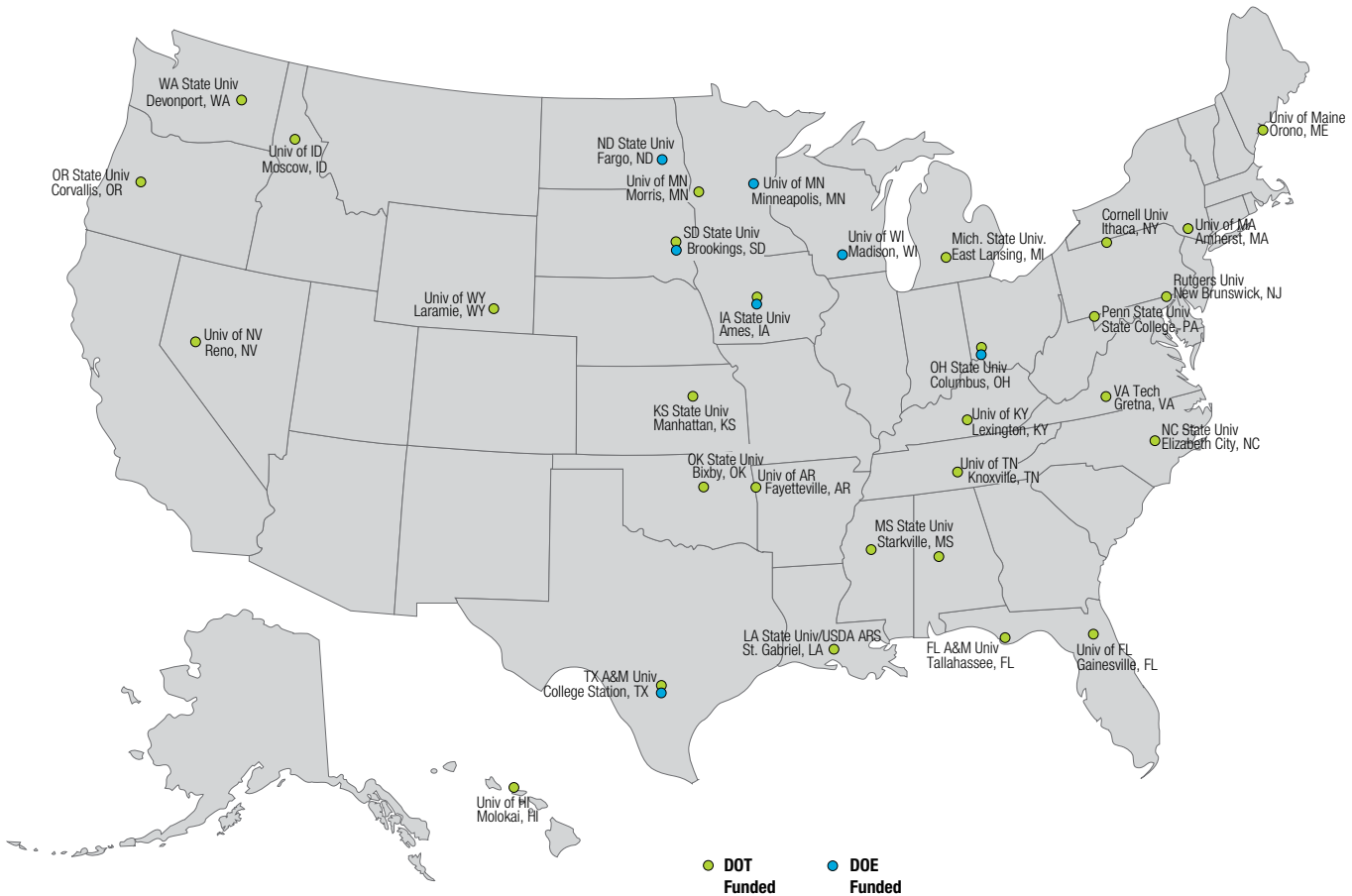


**Sun Grant Initiative Competitive Grants –
US Department of Transportation & US Department of Energy**

The Sun Grant Initiative, through funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), is charged with conducting a competitive research program for land-grant universities and their partners.

Each of the five SGI Centers manages its own regional competitive grants program, to best meet the challenges of bioenergy and biomass research and education needs within their respective regions. Regional priorities are meshed with national priorities for renewable transportation fuel development to include: biofuel feedstock development; biofuels conversion processes; biofuel system analysis; economics, marketing and policy; and, environmental impacts.

The North Central Region Sun Grant Center and the U.S. Department of Energy awarded \$2.7 million for eight research projects evaluating the logistics of biomass feedstocks. Including cost-share dollars the total dollar amount for the projects is over \$4 million. The funded proposals met three criteria: 1) addressed biomass feedstock logistics directly relevant to future biomass utilization in the North Central Sun Grant Region, 2) defined logistics to include biomass harvesting, handling (field operations), transportation, storage (including degradation & transformations), and/or densification, and 3) will investigate logistics of woody crops, herbaceous crops and /or herbaceous crop residues from crops suitable for commercial production in the NC Sun Grant Region.



BIOWEB - www.bioweb.sungrant.org

The Sun Grant BioWeb is a non-commercial, educational website that provides current information about using biomass resources for bioenergy and bioproducts. This site is designed to help you understand:

- What biomass is, where it is, and how much is available
- The ways it can be converted to biofuels, biopower, and bioproducts

- The current state of biomass technology, research, production & use
- Biomass economics and policy

All BioWeb content is contributed by experts in their fields and vetted through an academic peer review process. Use the left bar links to navigate this rich source of peer-reviewed information related to biomass and its utilization.

<http://www.sungrant.org/>

Funding Partners



U.S. Department of Transportation



South Dakota State University, South Dakota counties, and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. South Dakota State University is an Affirmative Action/ Equal Opportunity Employer and offers all benefits, services, education, and employment opportunities without regard for race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or Vietnam Era veteran status.
400 at \$0.78 each, June 2009