



CALL FOR PAPERS
AquaFUELS Roundtable – the State of the Art of Algae-to-biofuels
October 21st–22nd, 2010
Brussels, Belgium

SPONSORS

European Commission
Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

AquaFUELS is intended to establish the state of the art on research, technological development and demonstration activities relevant to producing 2nd generation biofuels from non-food aquatic biomass, including algae. In order to understand the place of algae and aquatic biomass in the EU renewable energy sources portfolio, AquaFUELS will promote critical thinking and reasoning on the state of the art in this field.

The Roundtable is a milestone in the AquaFUELS project. The select panel of experts composing the Roundtable will identify future research needs and potential industrial developments, with a careful eye to sustainability and social implications. The panel of 40 experts invited to contribute to the presentations and following discussions of the Roundtable should be composed of the leading experts in the field of algae biomass as well as from the biofuels community, while the chair will be the Secretary-General of the European Biodiesel Board and Executive Director of the European Algae Biomass Association, Mr. Raffaello Garofalo. The outcome of the Roundtable should be a realistic perspective on algae use for biofuels production – a necessary step towards future developments.

In addition to the scientific significance of gathering international experts to assess the state of the art of algae technologies for biofuels production, the objective of the Roundtable is to analyse the findings of the first half of the AquaFUELS project and to define the great orientations for the further activities until June 2011. Indeed, the state of the art identified during the first half of the project will be instrumental in assessing the sustainability of algae-to-biofuels pathways and identifying the need for further scientific and industrial developments, which will constitute the second half of the project.

AquaFUELS gathers the Università degli Studi di Firenze, Diester Industrie International, Wageningen Universiteit, the Ben-Gurion University, the Almería University, Roquette Frères, the Irish Seaweed Center, the University of Gent, Necton-Algafuel, the Imperial College and the Czech Institute of Microbiology ASCRe under the co-ordination of the European Biodiesel Board.

SCOPE

The topics of interest to be covered by the AquaFUELS Roundtable include, but are not limited to:

Major current research activities in the world

Major projects and advance towards commercial production

Biology of algae and other aquatic biomass

- major divisions and classes
- physiology
- biochemical composition
- growth characteristics
- technological aspects
- culture media

Relevant strains for biofuels production

Algae production methods

- cultivation methods
- scaling-up limitations
- harvesting and extraction
- processing into biofuels

Biofuels production pathways

- bioethanol
- biodiesel
- drop-in fuels
- biomethane
- biomass-to-Liquids
- hydrogen

Natural resources in the context of algae cultivation

- freshwater
- wastewater
- CO₂
- fertiliser
- land area
- risk for algae blooms

Biofuels end markets for algae products

- marketing co-products
- biofuels market fundamentals
- economic barriers to commercial production
- job creation potential
- investments

SUBMISSION

Initial Paper Requirements

Initial paper submissions should be full papers of up to 8 pages in length (Font Tahoma, size 10) and the author must commit to present his/her contribution at the Roundtable on October 21st–22nd, 2010.

All papers should be sent to secretariat@ebb-eu.org with the subject: AQUAFUELS ROUNDTABLE – PAPER SUBMISSION. The AquaFUELS Secretariat must receive your paper by July 26th, 2010. Receipt of paper submission will be confirmed by email.

Authors are responsible for having their papers checked for style and grammar before submission. Papers may be rejected if the language is not satisfactory. All papers submitted for presentation in the AquaFUELS conference may have been previously published or considered for publication elsewhere. Authors are limited to a maximum of three paper submissions.

Roundtable participation requirements

Participants invited to participate in the Roundtable will be requested to submit an abstract, a full paper, and a Powerpoint presentation on their specific expertise. The AquaFUELS Secretariat must receive these documents by September 27th, 2010. Participants will also be invited to give a brief presentation of their views on the research needs and future impact of algae and aquatic biomass on renewable biofuels, including sustainability aspects.

Reviewing

Invitation to participate in the Roundtable will be based primarily on significance, innovation, relevance to the project objectives and presentation. The Roundtable chair makes the final decision on the acceptance or rejection of the papers.

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING TO THE ROUNDTABLE

The participants' contributions will be included to the Roundtable proceedings, which will be made available on the AquaFUELS website and disseminated through various media, including mailing to the algae community (over 250 algae stakeholders round the world). Their contribution will also be highlighted in the AquaFUELS final report, which will constitute one of the main publications in the fields of biofuels for algae production and will be ensured a wide coverage in the specialised press.

Through the assessment of the state of the art on algae biofuels, Roundtable participants will set the great orientations for the second phase of the project, which includes coordination with other research projects in this field and an assessment of the sustainability of biofuels from algae and aquatic biomass.

Roundtable participants will have a decisive influence on the policy recommendations formulated at the final phase of the project, which will contribute to shape the future of algae use in the biofuels policies in the EU and beyond. The policy recommendations identified will be a significant input to the work programme of the European Algae Biomass Association (EABA) – the industry association representing the interests of the algae sector before European institutions.

All participants to the Roundtable will be included the AquaFUELS Expert Group, in charge of approving the deliverables and milestones of the first project co-funded by the European Commission and specifically focused on algae-to-biofuels.

INDEXING

The proceedings will be sent for indexing in the following publications:

Journal of Applied Phycology,
European Journal of Phycology,
Hydrobiologia,
Marine Biology,
Marine Biotechnology,
Biomass & Bioenergy,
Energy from Biomass,
Biotechnology & Bioengineering,
Journal of Applied Microbiology
Aquaculture,
Applied and Environmental Microbiology
Journal of Biotechnology
Applied Microbiology and Biotechnology
MER-7
Kingsman
Biofuels International
Biodiesel Magazine
Biofuels Digest

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Initial Submissions Due July 26th, 2010
Invitation to the Roundtable September 1st, 2010
Roundtable Participation Submissions Due September 27th, 2010
Roundtable: October 21st–22nd, 2010
Roundtable proceedings publication: February 2011
AquaFUELS final report publication: June 2011

CONTACT US

For more information, or to be placed on our mailing list, please contact:

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