

# Environment Workshops 2008

## Plant biomass for food and energy: future and reality

### Speakers

Professor James Barber,  
Imperial College London. UK

Professor Miguel G. Guerrero,  
CSIC-University of Sevilla.  
Spain

Professor Alain Buléon,  
National Institute of  
Agronomical Research. France

Professor Jen Sheen,  
Harvard Medical School. USA

Professor Catherine Martin,  
John Innes Centre. UK

Professor Ian A Graham,  
University of York. UK

Dr. Patricia León,  
UNAM. México

Professor Stephen Long,  
University of Illinois. USA

Professor Christine Raines,  
University of Essex. UK

Dr. Javier Pozueta,  
CSIC-University of Navarra.  
Spain

Professor Ulrich Schurr,  
University of Düsseldorf.  
Germany

Professor John Sheehy,  
International Rice Research  
Institute. Philippines

Patricia Guardabassi,  
University of Sao Paulo. Brazil

Professor Martin Steup,  
University of Potsdam.  
Germany

Dr. Mariam Sahrawy,  
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### Scope

The use of renewable energy has become a goal for the future of the population since it has been recognized that burning fossil fuels and deforestation are major contributors to climate change. It is necessary to tackle this change by reducing carbon

dioxide emissions. Among the renewable resources, biomass has become one of the most important materials not only to acquire food but also energy, as it can be obtained from plants of diverse origins. This issue is now high on the political agenda of a growing number of countries aimed at increasing production of major crops, in order to produce biofuels, for partial replacement of fossil fuels. An emerging area is the study of plants with a view to increase our understanding of how plant biomass can be used in a sustainable manner in order to secure future fuel and food supply.

The aim of this workshop is to discuss the recent progress on the production of biomass and the uses of new biotechnological approaches to achieve the challenge of supplying food and products derived from plants as an alternative to the current fossil fuel. In addition, the workshop will also consider the reality of reducing carbon dioxide emission through the use of plants for the production of fuel and food in a sustainable environment. The meeting will bring together leading experts with knowledge in a range of fields relating to bioenergy production, including global change climate, regulation of carbon metabolism, improvement of photosynthetic efficiency and the application of plant biotechnology to the development of novel crops.

### Format of the Workshop

The workshop will bring together 17 speakers and a maximum of 50 participants (including speakers). The scientific programme will start in the morning of Thursday, 9th October, and will end on Saturday 11 October. Ample time for informal discussion will be reserved.

Participants will be invited to present a poster.

9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>

October 2008

Deadline:

september 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Venue

Sede Antonio

Machado

Universidad

Internacional

de Andalucía

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<http://www.unia.es/environmentworkshops>

Journal of  
Experimental Botany