

#### Poultry Litter as a Renewable Resource

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#### What is Poultry Litter?





## What is Poultry Litter? Constituents

- Poultry Manure ("undigested feed")
- Water
- Bedding Material (wood shavings/sunflower hulls)
- Barn Floor Material
- Tramp Contaminants

A Soil Amendment with a basic 3-3-3 Analysis



## What is Poultry Litter? Characteristics

- Poultry Manure variability based on bird type, feed ration, and bird health
- Water proper barn management and disinfectants
- Bedding Material types vary based on challenges growers may have obtaining consistent sources of bedding
- Barn Floor Material entrainment associated with bird habits and care taken during barn clean-out
- Tramp Contaminants bird mortality, feathers, tools, and other incidentals inadvertently included in the bulk material

Poultry Litter is a soil amendment with significant variability that only on <u>average</u> has a basic 3-3-3 Analysis



## What is Poultry Litter? A Challenging Material to Beneficially Use

- Odor Characteristics
- Biologically Active
- Variable Quality (moisture & ash)
- Difficult to Store and Manage
- Of Marginal Economic Value

A Valuable Resource?



## What is Poultry Litter? A Renewable Resource

- Renewable Energy Resource
- Resource for Rural Economic Renewal
- Renewable Environmental Resource
- Renewable Nutrient Resource

A Valuable Resource!



#### Renewable Energy Resource

- Locally Generated Renewable Fuel Resource revenues for the generation, sales, and delivery of the fuel remain in the area
- Dependable Fuel Supply dependable supply based on continued growth of the poultry industry in the U.S.
- Growing State and Federal (?) Support example biomass mandates, renewable portfolio standards, and growth of markets for marketing renewable attributes
- Lack of alternative renewables wind, solar, geothermal resources lacking in areas where the poultry industry is prevalent
- Growing Public Support public and governmental preferences for renewables taking root in many new areas of the U.S.



#### **Rural Economic Resource**

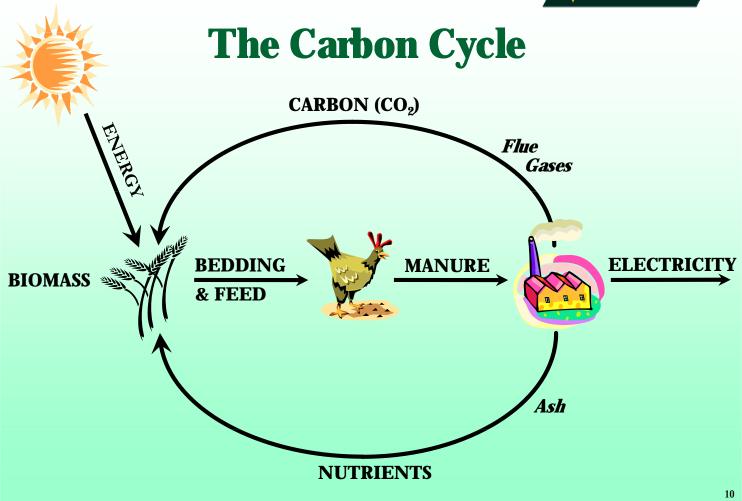
- Helps sustain Poultry Industry's future– provides a needed alternative to land spreading protecting poultry industry jobs and allows for growth
- Jobs up to 300 construction jobs, 90-100 permanent full-time jobs (30 on site, >60 in transport)
- Local Investment \$\structure{98-10}\$ million injected into local economy each year; \$\structure{9150}\$ million investment in local infrastructure



#### **Benefits to Environment**

- Reduces need to stockpile & land spread manure eliminates water contamination associated with excess nutrients and reduces local odor complaints
- Ability to export the nutrients in the ash concentrated nutrient allows for economic transport beyond areas of concentrated poultry production
- Reduction in greenhouse gases eliminates methane & nitrous oxide production from land application and displaces fossil-fueled greenhouse-gas-producing generation







## Fibrowatt's Track Record

Over a decade of experience converting poultry litter to renewable energy

## **U.K. Operating Plants: Eye Power Station**



Commissioned 1992 Design output 12.7 MW Burns 170,000 ton/yr. of poultry litter & other biomass

## **U.K. Operating Plants: Glanford Power Station**



Commissioned 1993 Design output 13.5MW
Currently burning meat & bone meal for the UK Government

## **U.K. Operating Plants:**Thetford Power Station



Commissioned 1998 Design output 38.5MW Burns 500,000 ton/yr. of poultry litter & other biomass

## **U.S. Operating Plants:** Fibrominn Biomass Power Plant





Commissioned October 2007 Design output 55MW Will combust over 700,000 ton/yr. of poultry litter & other biomass



#### How it Works - at the farm

- We sign <u>long-term</u> supply agreements with poultry farming & other biomass suppliers
- Poultry litter is removed from barns, working with Fibrowatt's fuel procurement managers
  - Fibrowatt assists in planning clean-out
- Fibrowatt generally assumes responsibility for fuel transportation
  - Sensitivity to poultry industry biosecurity concerns

#### **Poultry Farm**





#### **Covered Conveyor**





#### **Loading the Truck**





#### **Covered Transportation**







#### How it Works - at the plant

- Loads are weighed and tested on arrival at the plant
- Deliveries accepted and managed according to fuel quality (moisture content)
- Trucks tip only when fuel hall doors are closed
  - Maintains negative pressure
  - Odors cannot escape, since fuel hall air is drawn into the furnace
- Poultry litter is stored in a fully enclosed building
- Trucks are cleaned with a bio-disinfectant before returning to poultry farms



#### **Truck on Scale**





#### **Fuel Delivery**





#### **Fuel Hall**





#### Truck being washed





#### **Sampling and Analysis**





#### **Poultry Litter as a Fuel**

#### **Litter Fuel Quality**

#### **Fuel Comparison**

	Litte	_	ucı	Y.	шш
Moistu	re			Ĭ	

Typical: 35% - 40% Range: 20% - 60%

Ash

**Typical: 12% - 15% Range: 8% - 22%** 

Higher Heating Value (btu/lb)
 Typical: 3,500 – 4,000

Range: 2,400 – 4,800

Sulfur

Typical: 0.3% - 0.4% Range: 0.2% - 0.7%

Chlorine

Typical: 0.3% - 0.4% Range: 0.2% - 0.7%

Moisture Ash
Coal 10% 8.0%

• Wood 50% 0.5%

Sulfur ChlorineCoal 2% nilWood 0.02% nil

**Higher Heating Value** 

• Coal 8,000 – 12,000

Wood 3,000 – 6,000





# Poultry Litter Really Does Burn!



#### **Source of Ash**

"Basically what the birds eat"

- Ash in poultry litter
  (Nutrients primarily from corn and soybeans)
- Lime reaction products
- Un- reacted lime
- Ash in secondary biomass



#### **Ash By-Product Analysis**

		Average Testing Results (Sept. – Oct, 2007)	Long-Term Expected Analysis
Primary	Phosphorus (P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	15.4%	17.6%
Nutrients	Potassium (K <sub>2</sub> O)	8.0%	13.2%
Secondary	Calcium (CaO)	25.4%	21.1%
Nutrients	Sulfur (SO <sub>3</sub> )	2.8%	6.3%
	Magnesium (MgO)	4.3%	4.3%
Other Minerals	Sodium (Na <sub>2</sub> O)	2.8%	3.3%
	Aluminum (Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	4.4%	1.7%
	Silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> )	33.8%	12.2%
Micronutrients	Iron (Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	1.5%	1.0%
	Manganese (Mn)	1,160 ppm	1,800 ppm
	Zinc (Zn)	950 ppm	1,880 ppm
	Boron (B)	170 ppm	245 ppm
	Copper (Cu)	1,060 ppm	1,445 ppm
	Molybdenum (Mo)	10 ppm	30 ppm
	Nickel (Ni)	20 ppm	50 ppm
Trace Elements	Arsenic (As)	11.9 ppm	3.7 ppm
	Barium (Ba)	135 ppm	126 ppm
	Cadmium (Cd)	0.6 ppm	0.9 ppm
	Chromium (Cr)	9.5 ppm	35 ppm
	Cobalt (Co)	3.3 ppm	3.3 ppm
	Lead (Pb)	13.7 ppm	8.7 ppm
	Mercury (Hg)	Not detected	Not detected
	Selenium (Se)	3.7 ppm	5.1 ppm



**3%** - **6%** 

#### **Litter Ash Composition**

•	<b>Aluminum</b> (as Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	1.5% - 2.5%
•	Calcium (as CaO)	<b>18%</b> - <b>22%</b>
•	Iron (as Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> )	<b>1%</b> - <b>2%</b>
•	Magnesium (as MgO)	<b>4</b> % - <b>6</b> %
•	Phosphorous (as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> )	<b>18</b> % - <b>25</b> %
•	Potassium (as K <sub>2</sub> O)	<b>15%</b> - <b>20%</b>
•	Silicon (as SiO2 <sub>5</sub> )	<b>10%</b> - <b>20%</b>

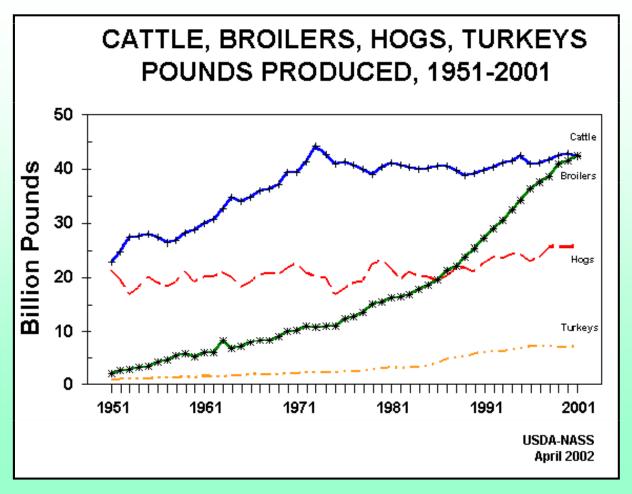
Sodium (as Na<sub>2</sub>O)



## **Ash By-Product Characteristics**

- Nitrogen-free fertilizer
- Balance of secondary and micronutrients
- Material can be successfully granulated
- Local generation and availability of ash byproduct used for fertilizer production







#### **Poultry Growing Trends**

- Fastest growth rate of any livestock type for over two decades.
- Poultry production a major part of the state's economy
- Concentrated poultry production more farms clustered around regional processing plants.
- Manure management has become an important issue for the poultry industry.



## U.S. Project Opportunities

Fibrowatt has identified and in some cases is pursuing projects in several states in the U.S.

- North Carolina
- Maryland
- Arkansas
- Mississippi
- Alabama

- Texas
- Georgia
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- Other