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SENT TO LSU AGCENTER/LOUISIANA FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT CENTER - FOREST SECTOR / FORESTY PRODUCTS INTEREST GROUP LSU AgCenter announces bioenergy conference

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, USA: To help Louisiana producers and residents become more acquainted with the bioenergy industry, the LSU AgCenter is holding a conference, titled "Bioenergy: A Focus on Louisiana."

The conference is slated for Oct. 21, from 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Efferson Hall Room 214 on the LSU campus. Experts will present information about state programs and industry involvement related to bioenergy and bioproducts. This program has been reviewed and is approved by the Society of American Foresters for 6.5 professional contact hours, Category 1-C.

Cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch. There is no charge for students. Registration is limited. The deadline to register is Oct. 10. To register online or for information on how to mail in a registration form with payment, go to www.lsuagcenter.com/AgCenterBioEnergyDay.

According to Conference Coordinating Committee Chair, <u>Dr. Richard Vlosky</u>, director, and Crosby Land and Resources professor of Forest Sector Business Development in the AgCenter's Louisiana Forest Products Development Center, the bioenergy industry is gaining a lot of attention. "There is a lot of focus right now on bioenergy globally, particularly in the wood sector," Vlosky said. "We want to show what is taking place globally in the bioenergy sector with a focus on Louisiana."

Based on the current status of the bioenergy industry in Louisiana, <u>Dr. John Russin</u>, vice chancellor for the LSU AgCenter and principal investigator for the Sustainable Bioproducts Initiative (SUBI), said it is possible the state's agricultural producers could benefit by becoming a part of this growing trend. "In the future, the bioenergy industry may give producers another outlet from which to make money in addition to selling their crops for food," Russin said. "We encourage everyone who is interested in learning more about the bioenergy industry to join us on Oct. 21."

This year is the third year National Bioenergy Day has been recognized. The Louisiana event is just one of many slated for Oct. 21 in the United States and Canada. For a full list of national events, go to http://bioenergyday.com.

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A. Denise Attaway, Ph.D.

Asst. Communications Specialist - LSU AgCenter Communications/SUBI

121 Knapp Hall

Baton Rouge, LA 70803 Office: 225.578.2939 Fax: 225.578.4524 Mobile: 225.788.4524

mailto:dattaway@agcenter.lsu.edu http://www.LSUAgCenter.com http://www.LSU AgCenter.com/subi

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Richard P. Vlosky, Ph.D.

Director, Louisiana Forest Products Development Center

Crosby Land & Resources Endowed Professor of Forest Sector Business Development

Room 227, School of Renewable Natural Resources

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Phone (office): (225) 578-4527; Fax: (225) 578-4251; Mobile Phone: (225) 223-1931

Web Site: www.LFPDC.lsu.edu





President-Elect, Forest Products Society; President-Elect, WoodEMA i.a.



