



**Ph.D. Assistantship
Socio-economic and Resource Assessment of
Wood for Energy Feedstock Supply and Availability
Department of Forestry, University of Missouri**

We welcome applications for a graduate research assistantship focused on the study of wood for energy supply and availability in the U.S. Lakes region. The student will join a multidisciplinary team of collaborators from the University of Missouri, University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Minnesota and the U.S. Forest Service to provide a regional assessment of the potential supply and availability of wood for energy feedstock within the states of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The project is funded as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Biomass Research and Development Initiative.

The graduate research assistant will be based at the University of Missouri in Columbia, MO. The student will be supervised by Dr. Francisco X. Aguilar. The aim of this research is to determine existing physical supply of forest-derived biofuel feedstocks using georeferenced information, as well as to assess the impacts of various social, logistical, economic, and environmental constraints on this availability. Biomass availability estimates will be integrated into life cycle analyses addressing the flows of carbon associated with the production of forest-derived biofuels and bioenergy in the northern Lake States over a 100-year period.

Qualifications: Applicants should hold a Masters degree in Forestry, Agricultural Economics, Environmental Sciences, Agronomic Sciences, or related field. The selected candidate is expected to have strong interests in forest resources, renewable energy feedstock and the study of landowners' motivations for land management. Applicants should be able to work independently, but also cooperatively with other researchers working on this project. Strong quantitative skills are required. Understanding of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is recommended.

The start date is flexible, but preferably the student will begin classes in spring 2010. A competitive salary, tuition waiver and mandatory health benefits are provided.

Application materials: Applicants should submit a statement of research interests (500 words max.) and a curriculum vitae to:

Dr. Francisco X. Aguilar [aguilarf@missouri.edu]
203L Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building
Department of Forestry – School of Natural Resources
University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211



Queries about this position or the project should be directed to aguilarf@missouri.edu.

Applications will be accepted until position is filled.