

NOVEMBER 7, 2022 | GREET TRAINING WORKSHOP



# GREET Life Cycle Analysis of Bioenergy Technologies

**Troy R. Hawkins and Hao Cai**

Systems Assessment Center  
Energy Systems and Infrastructure Analysis Division  
Argonne National Laboratory

# Key Sponsors

Providing long-term support for GREET development

➤ **Bioenergy Technologies Office (BETO)**

- Data, Modeling, and Analysis
- Strategic Development and Integration
- Conversion Technologies
- Feedstock Technologies
- Advanced Algal Systems



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

➤ **Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E)**

- Decarbonizing agriculture and biofuel feedstocks
- Green ammonia
- Macroalgae Cultivation and Products



CHANGING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

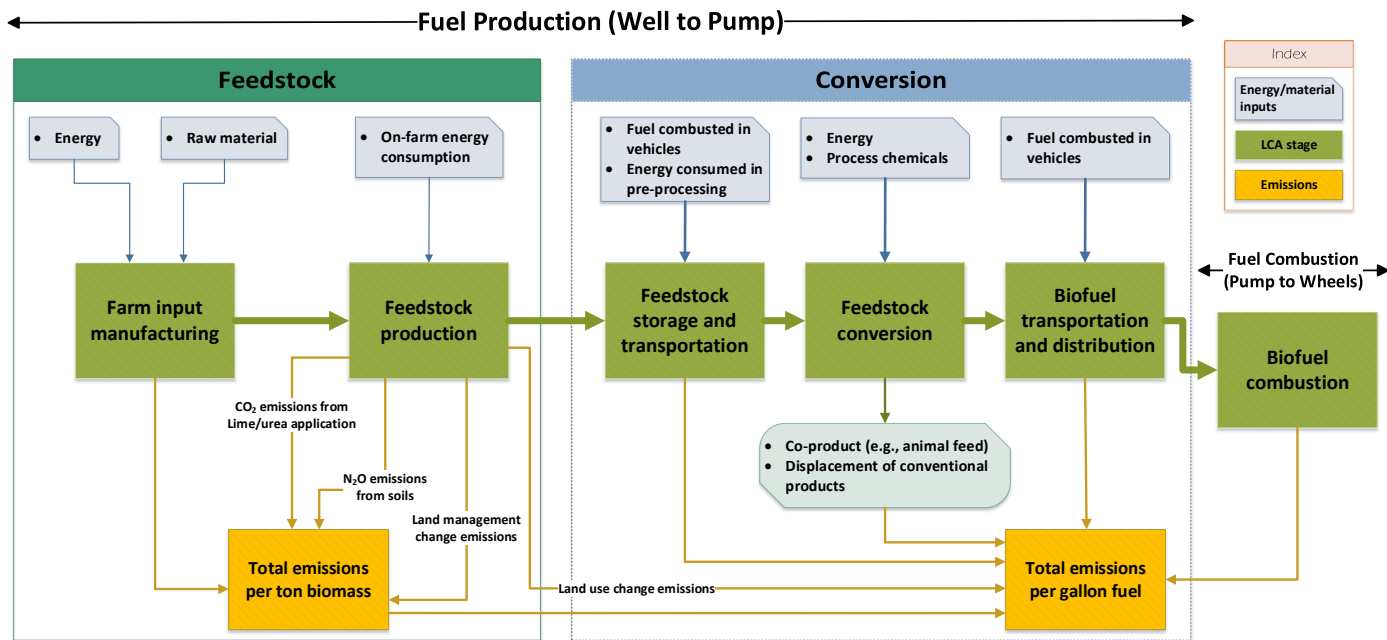
➤ **U.S. Dept. of Agriculture**

- Bioenergy, low carbon agricultural products



# Comprehensive Scope

## Detailed modeling of feedstocks and conversion



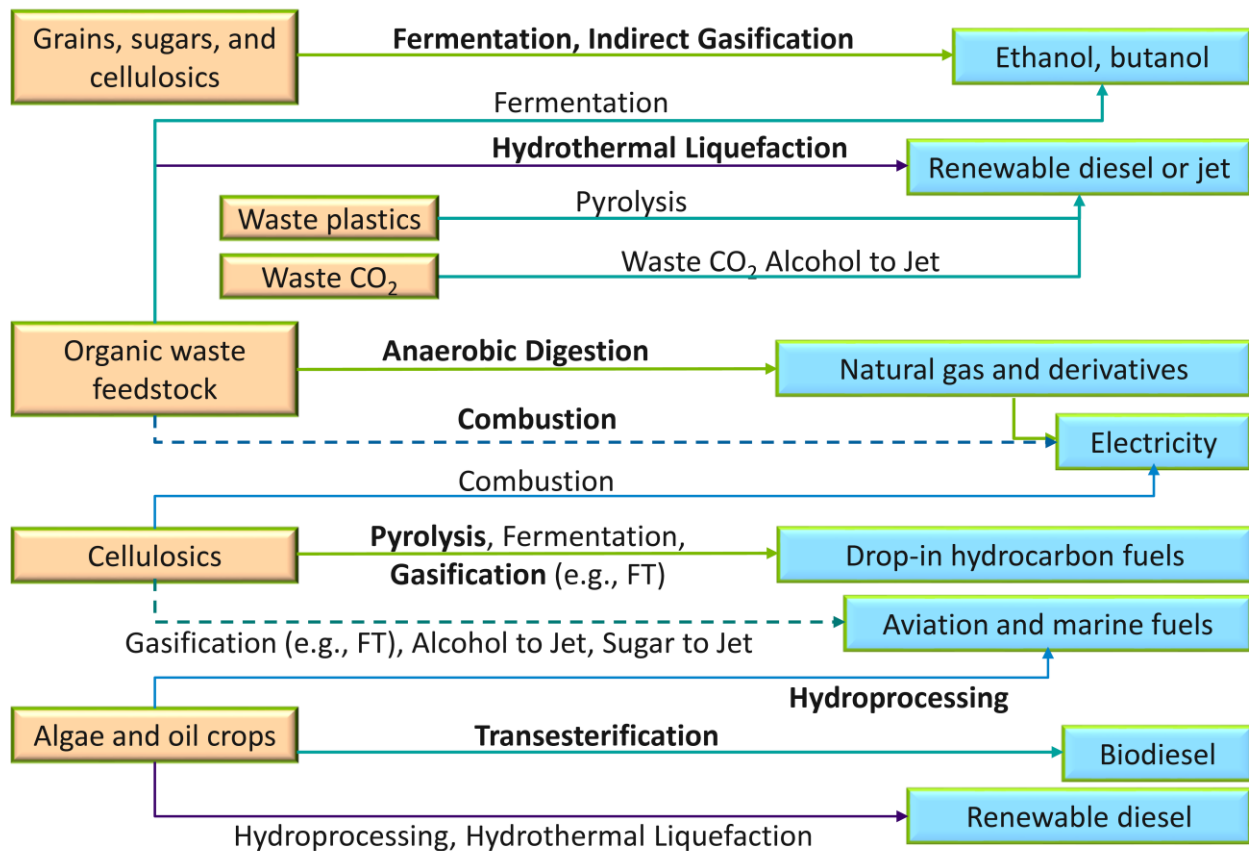
### Land Use Change

- Carbon Calculator for Land Use Change from Biofuels Production (CCLUB)
- Feedstock average soil C and soil nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O)

### Land Management Practices

# Comprehensive Scope

## Feedstocks, conversion, and end use fuels, energy, chemicals



# Focus Areas and Related Models

## LCA, location-specific, water stress, water quality, decarbonization

### ➤ Biofuels and Bioenergy

- Biofuels / low-carbon liquid fuels
- Renewable natural gas
- Refinery coprocessing
- Biopower
- Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub> utilization

### ➤ Bioproducts

- Bioplastics and biochemicals
- Circular economy
- Agricultural products/animal feed

### Models

- **GREET** - Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Technologies
- **CCLUB** - Carbon Calculator for Land Use Change from Biofuels Production
- **FDCIC** - Feedstock Carbon Intensity Calculator
- **AWARE US** - Available Water Remaining U.S.
- **Bioeconomy AGE** - Bioeconomy Air, Greenhouse Gases, and Energy Use
- **Decarbonization Scenario Analysis Model**
- **RP-LCA** - Refinery Products LCA and RP-VOC - Refinery Products VOC Calculator
- **WATER** - Water Analysis Tool for Energy Resources
- **DAYCENT / CENTURY**
- **SWAT** - Soil and Water Assessment Tool [external]

# LCA of Feedstock Production



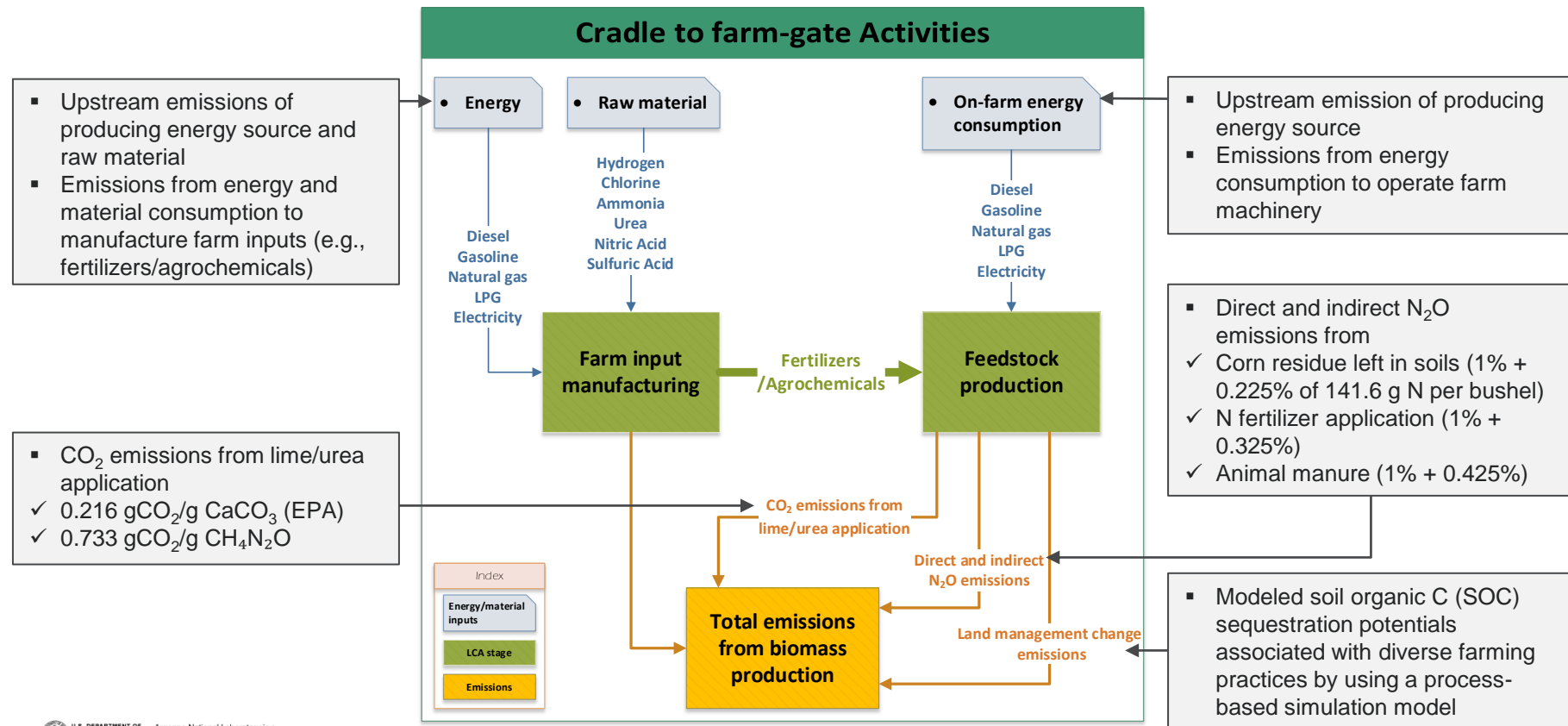
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# Consistent and Inclusive Feedstock LCA Framework

## Detailed considerations for corn and soy cultivation

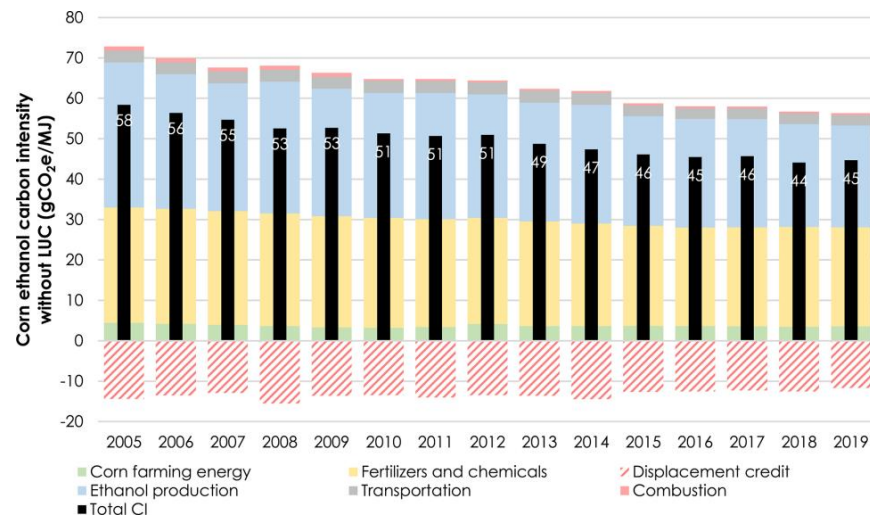




# Actively Updating GREET for Changing Practices

## Ongoing research to address current and future biomass production

- Tracking and updating key parameters
  - Yield, farming inputs, energy consumption (corn, soybean, and sorghum)
  - N<sub>2</sub>O emissions from crop residues of bio-oil feedstocks
  - Land use change emissions for biodiesel and renewable diesel
- Near-term GHG reduction opportunities
  - Mitigation measures for corn farms
  - Decarbonizing agriculture
  - Low carbon biofuel feedstocks
- What if low-carbon fuel standards recognized improved farming practices?
  - Significant potential for SOC, but concerns around additionality and permanence



Reference:

Lee et al. 2021. 'Retrospective analysis of the U.S. corn ethanol industry for 2005-2019: Implications for GHG emissions. *BioFPR*. 15(5) 1318-1331. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/bbb.2225>



# CCLUB Provides GREET Land Use Change Modeling Capability

## Carbon Calculator for Land Use Change from Biofuels Production

### Biofuel scenarios

- 5 scenarios for ethanol from corn grain, stover, Miscanthus, switchgrass
- 4 scenarios for soy biodiesel

### GTAP-Bio CGE model

- Estimates land conversion associated with scenarios.
- Domestic and international
- Forest, grassland, cropland pasture, feedstock land

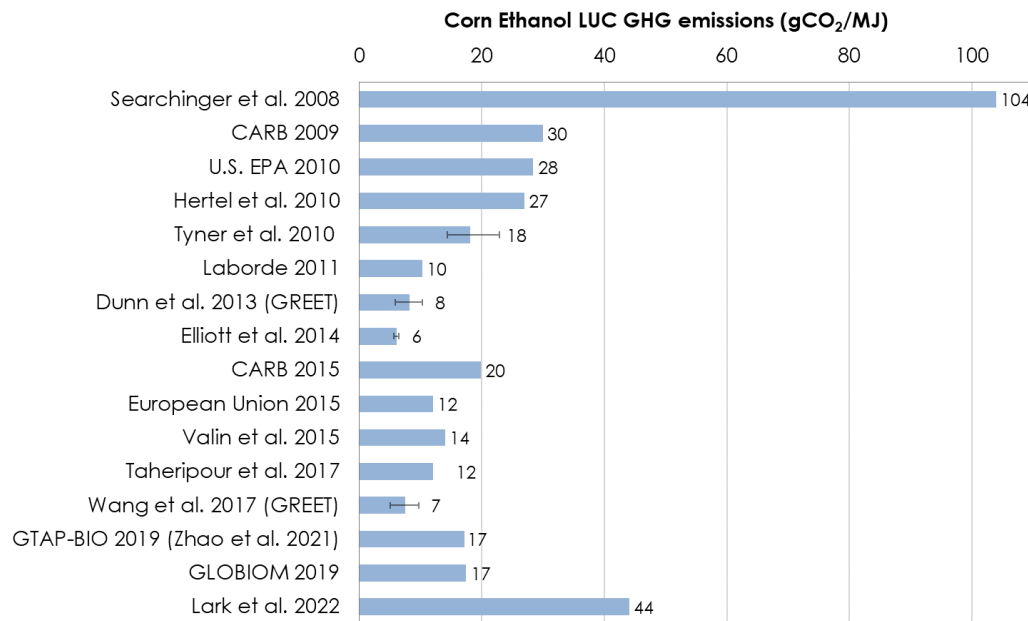
### Soil C and N<sub>2</sub>O emission factors related to LUC

- Domestic EFs modeled using U.S. county-level soil C simulations.
- International EFs derived from Winrock and Woods Hole datasets

# GREET CCLUB: Macroeconomic and Process-Based Modeling

## Understanding of LUC GHG emissions has been evolving since 2008

- Down trends in LUC estimates due to improved and better calibrated models incorporating newer data
- GREET combines GTAP LUC and detailed process modeling of soil carbon changes
- Critical factors for LUC GHG
  - Intensification vs. extensification
    - Yields: existing vs. new cropland
    - Double cropping
    - Extension to new land types
  - Price elasticities
    - Crop yield response to price
    - Food demand response to price
  - SOC change from land conversion and mgt practices

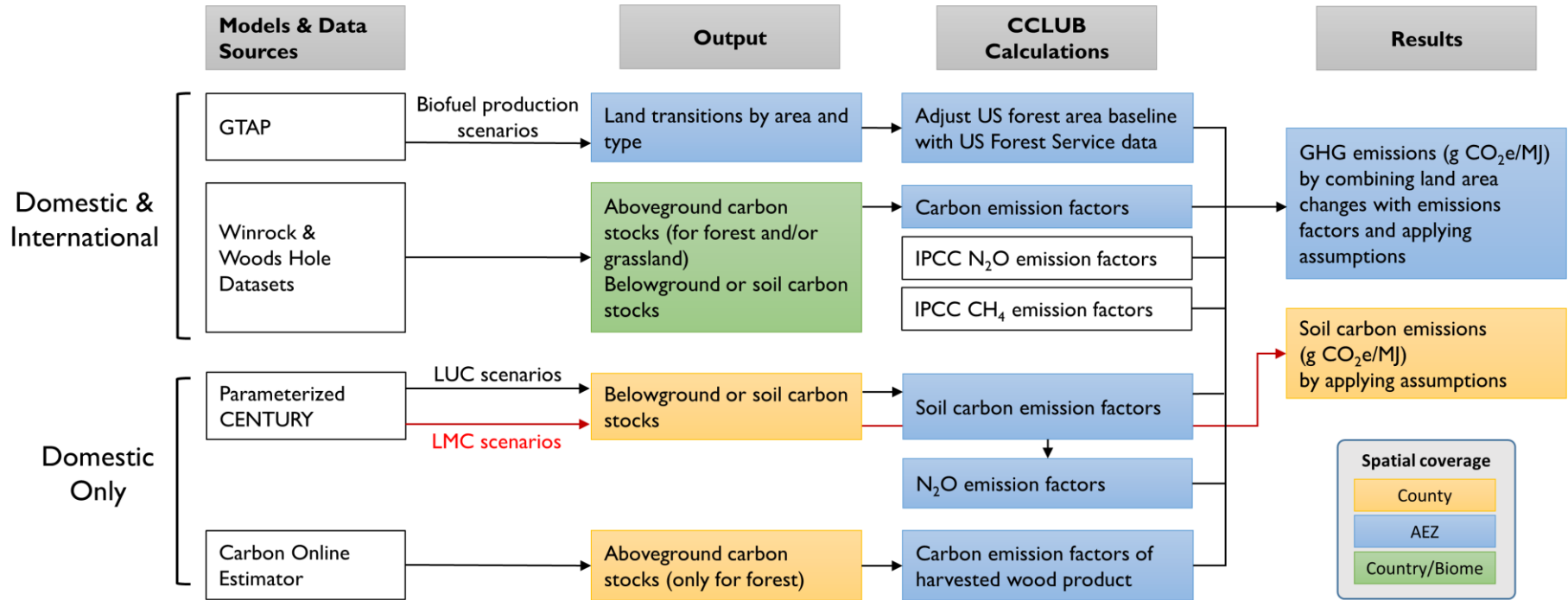


Lee et al 2021 Retrospective analysis of the U.S. corn ethanol industry for 2005–2019

Visit <https://greet.es.anl.gov/publications> for modeling methods, results, and responses to related efforts.

# Rigorous Estimates of GHG Emissions from LUC

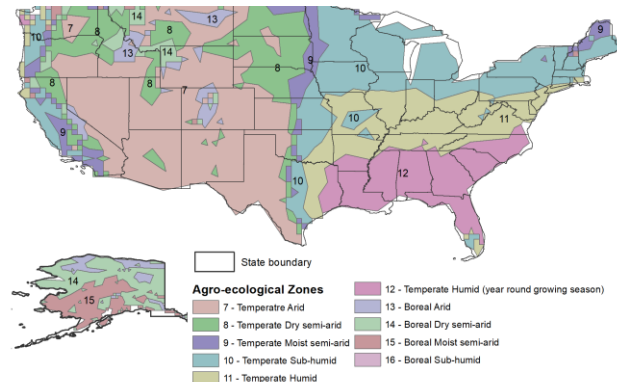
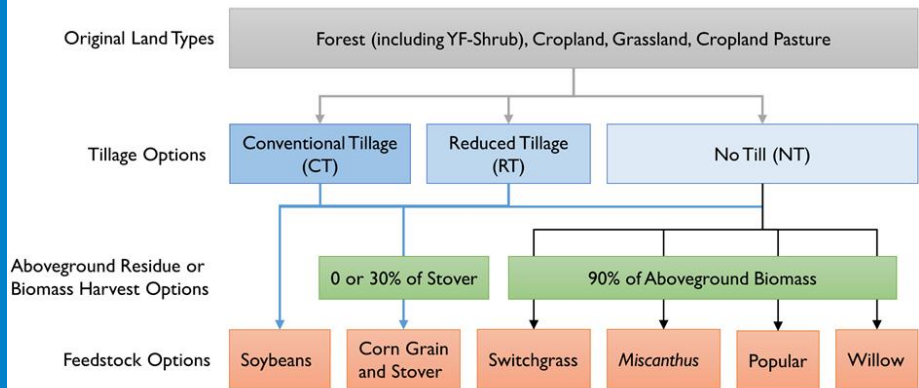
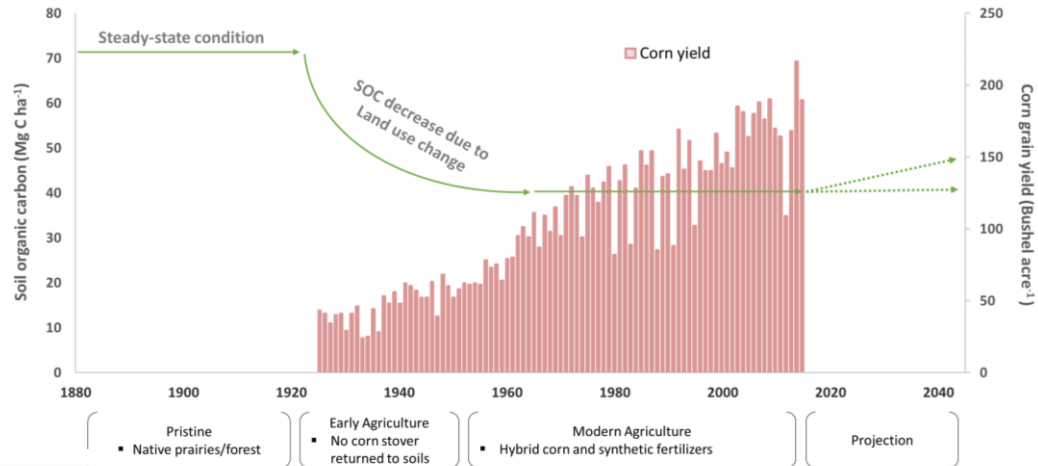
Harmonized, peer-reviewed, and transparent framework for reliable and repeatable results



Kwon et al 2021 CCLUB users' manual and technical documentation

# Customized CENTURY Model Provides LUC GHG Emissions SOC estimates over 30 years at the U.S. county-level aggregated to AEZ

- Long-term land use history
- Tillage and harvest practices
- Constant or increasing yield
- Consistent with USDA and EPA GHG accounting
- Broad applicability across soil, climate and management conditions



# CCLUB SOC and N<sub>2</sub>O Estimates Informed by Meta-Analysis

## Synthesizing information from measured data and recent literature

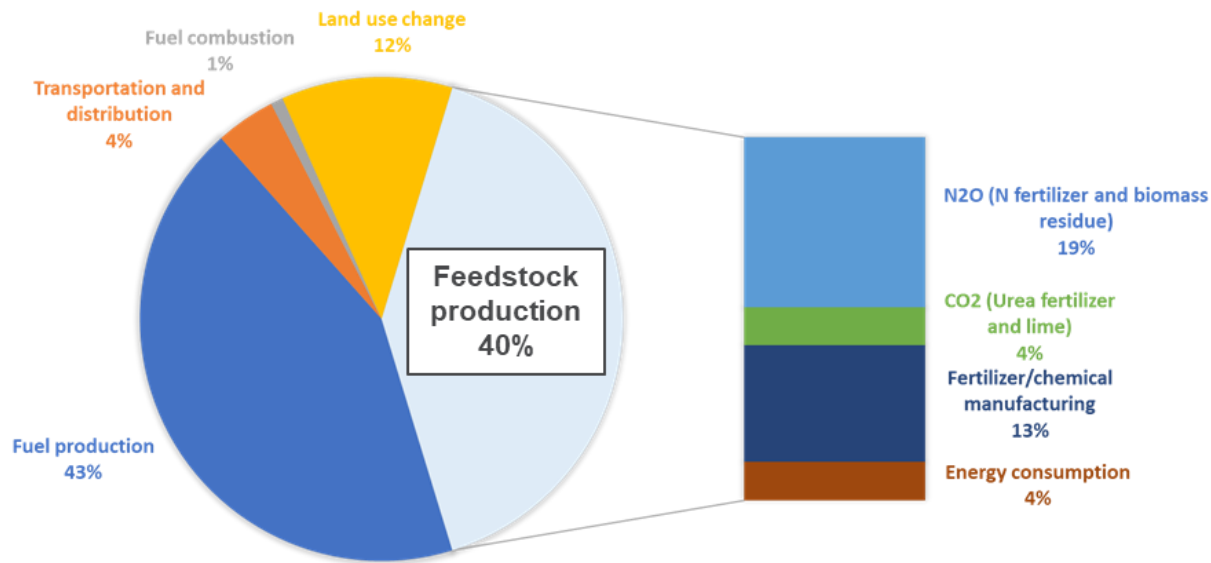


- Forest harvesting and biomass removal (James et al 2021)
  - Measured data from the North American Long-Term Soil Productivity study and recent publications
- Corn stover removal (Xu et al 2019)
  - Effect of removal rate, tillage, soil texture, and soil sampling depth
- Indirect peatland loss (Qin and Kwon, 2018)
  - Updates for Southeast Asian palm plantations
- Corn and cellulosic ethanol and soy biodiesel (Qin et al 2016)
  - Cropland, grassland, and forest land to production of corn, switchgrass, Miscanthus, poplar, and willow

# Feedstock Carbon Intensity Calculator (FD-CIC)

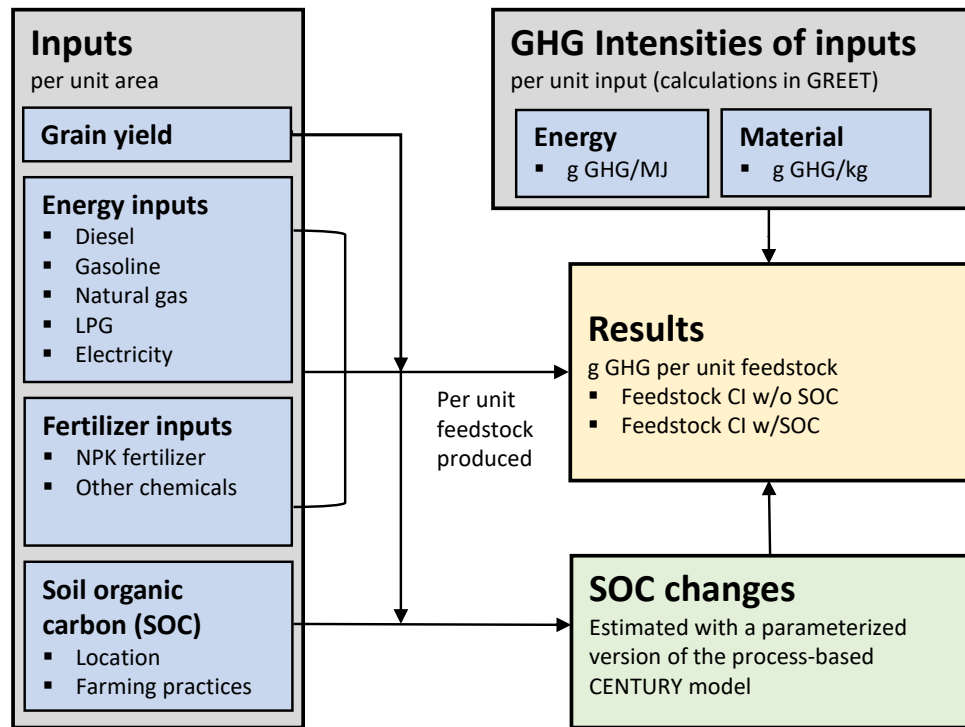
## Cradle to farm-gate GHG emissions for feedstocks

- New tool for field-specific feedstock LCA
- Considers alternate farming practices
- Harmonized framework based on GREET
- Feedstocks significant in LCA of corn ethanol and other biofuels



# Feedstock Carbon Intensity Calculator (FD-CIC)

## Cradle to farm-gate GHG emissions for feedstocks



- Key parameters:
  - Crop yield
  - Energy consumption
  - Fertilizer/soil amendment use
  - Pesticide use
- Input supply chains from GREET



# Feedstock Carbon Intensity Calculator (FD-CIC)

## Cradle to farm-gate GHG emissions for feedstocks

1.2) Energy	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.2.1) Diesel	491	491	g GHG/bu
1.2.2) Gasoline	77	77	g GHG/bu
1.2.3) Natural gas	39	39	g GHG/bu
1.2.4) Liquefied petroleum gas	86	86	g GHG/bu
1.2.5) Electricity	171	171	g GHG/bu

1.3) Nitrogen Fertilizer	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.3.1) Ammonia	394	394	g GHG/bu
1.3.2) Urea	239	239	g GHG/bu
1.3.3) Ammonium Nitrate	54	54	g GHG/bu
1.3.4) Ammonium Sulfate	28	28	g GHG/bu
1.3.5) Urea-ammonium nitrate solution	651	651	g GHG/bu
1.3.6) Monoammonium Phosphate as N fert	70	70	g GHG/bu
1.3.7) Diammonium Phosphate as N fert	119	119	g GHG/bu
N <sub>2</sub> O emission due to nitrogen fertilizer and bio	3043	3043	g GHG/bu
CO <sub>2</sub> emission due to urea use	248	248	g GHG/bu

1.4) Phosphorus Fertilizer	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.4.1) Monoammonium Phosphate as P fert	166	166	g GHG/bu
1.4.2) Diammonium Phosphate as P fert	137	137	g GHG/bu

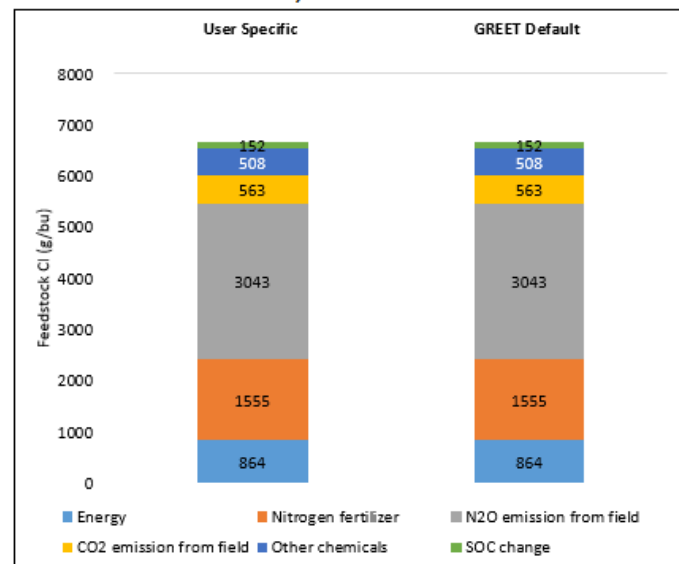
1.5) Potash Fertilizer	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.5.1) K <sub>2</sub> O	82	82	g GHG/bu

1.6) Lime	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.6.1) CaCO <sub>3</sub>	14	14	g GHG/bu
CO <sub>2</sub> emission due to CaCO <sub>3</sub> use	315	315	g GHG/bu

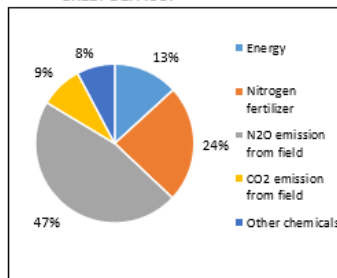
1.7) Herbicide	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.7.1) Herbicide	109	109	g GHG/bu

1.8) Insecticide	User Specific GHG	REET Default GHG	Unit
1.8.1) Insecticide	0.27	0.27	g GHG/bu

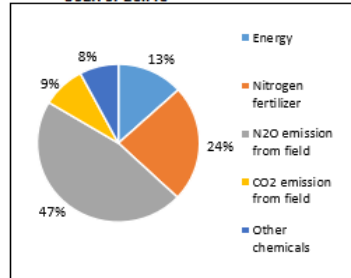
GHG, Conventional ammonia



REET DEFAULT



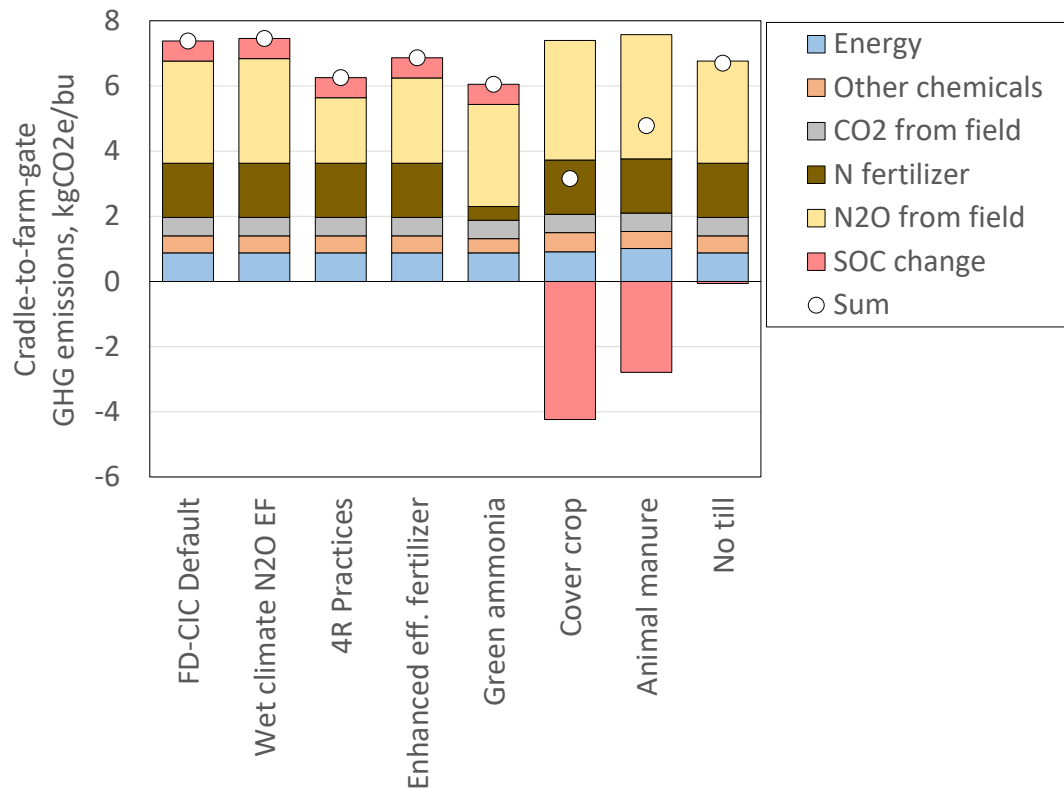
USER SPECIFIC



# Feedstock Carbon Intensity Calculator (FD-CIC)

## Farming practices significantly affect feedstock carbon intensities

- Soil carbon,  $N_2O$ , and inputs supply chains are all significant
- No-till, cover crops, and manure application can achieve low GHG biofuel feedstocks



# Expanding FD-CIC for Key Feedstocks & Management Options

- Feedstocks
  - Domestic: corn, soybean, grain sorghum, rice
  - International: Brazilian sugarcane, Canadian corn
- Corn farm management practices
  - N<sub>2</sub>O EFs for different climate zones
  - Nitrogen management: right time, right place, right form, right rate (4R's) and enhanced efficiency fertilizer
  - Fertilizer production: conventional (fossil NG), green ammonia via electrolysis with renewable electricity
  - Cover cropping
  - Manure application
  - Tillage: conventional tillage, reduced tillage, and no tillage
- Rice farm management practices
  - Water management
  - Straw management

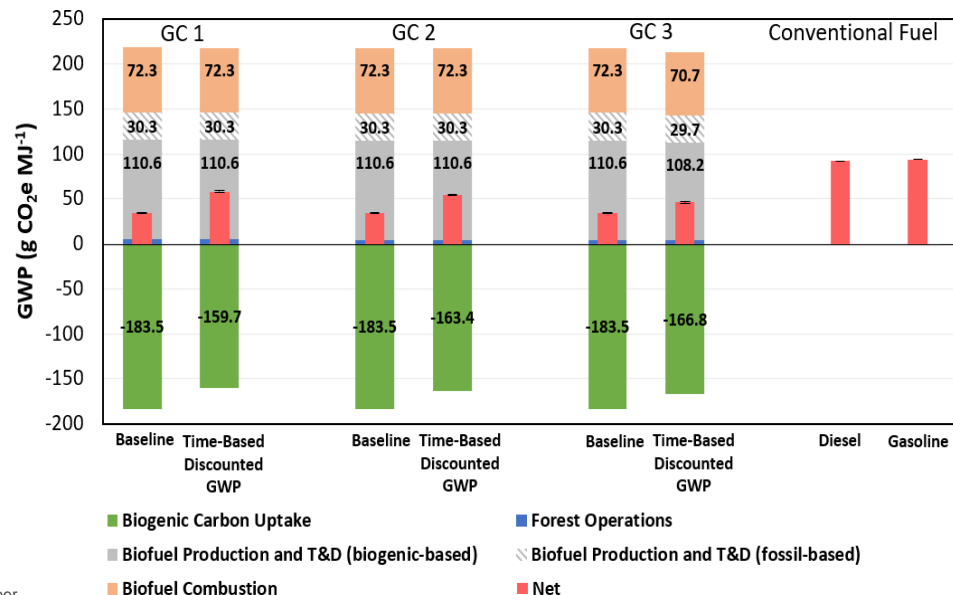
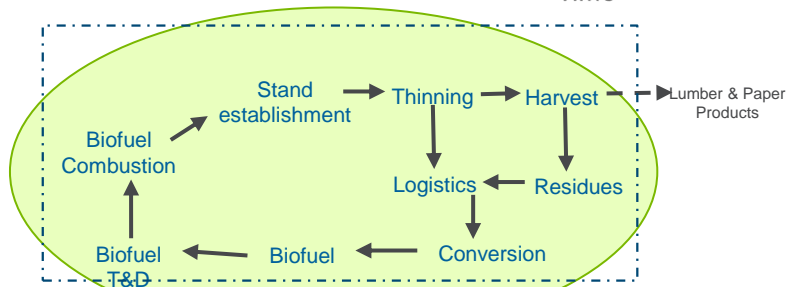
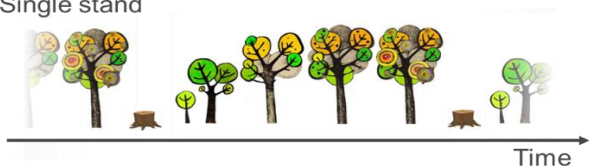


# Wood Feedstock Production

## Various species, temporal effects, whole tree and residuals

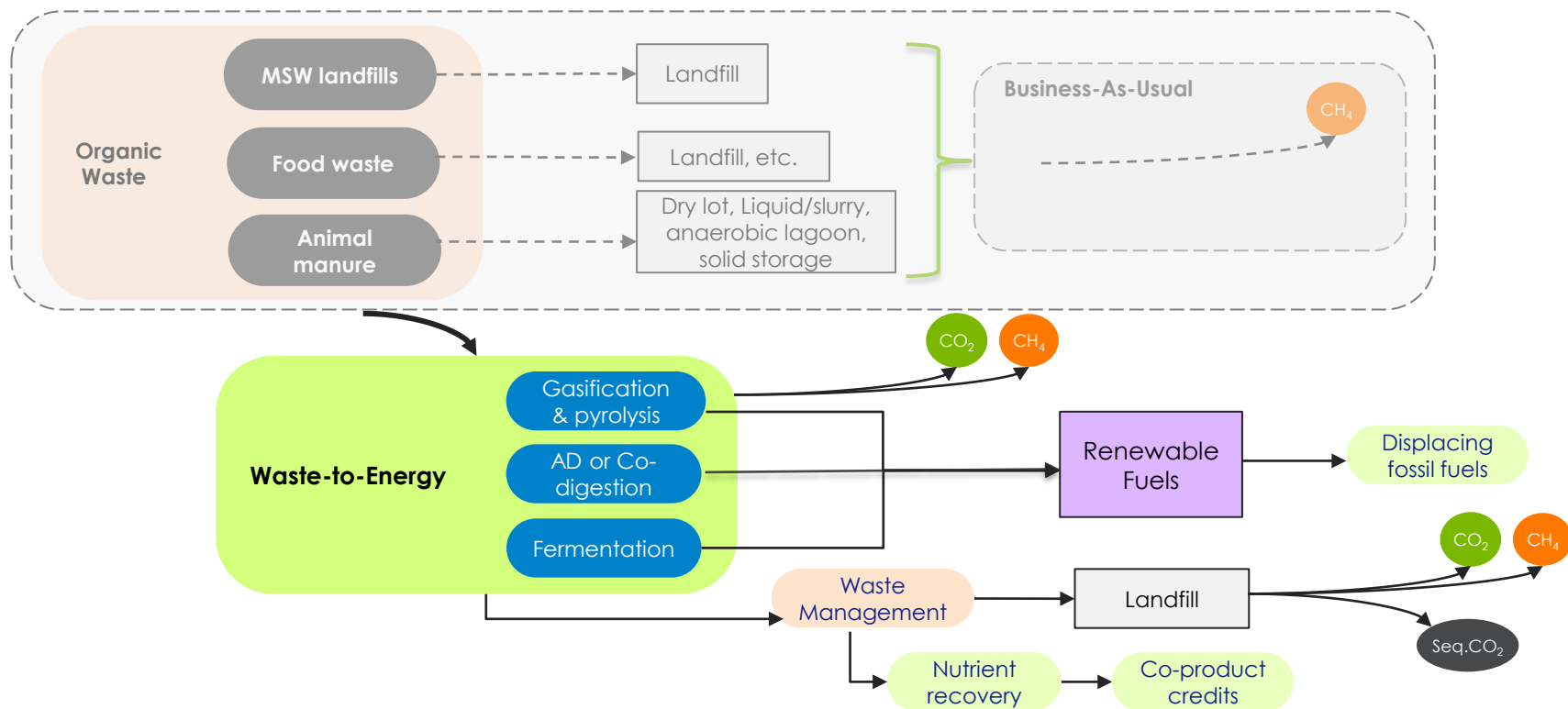
- GREET wood feedstocks include Pine, Douglas-Fir, Spruce/Fir, Eucalyptus, Poplar, Willow.
- Calculations based on growth cycles address temporal effects on C balance.

Single stand



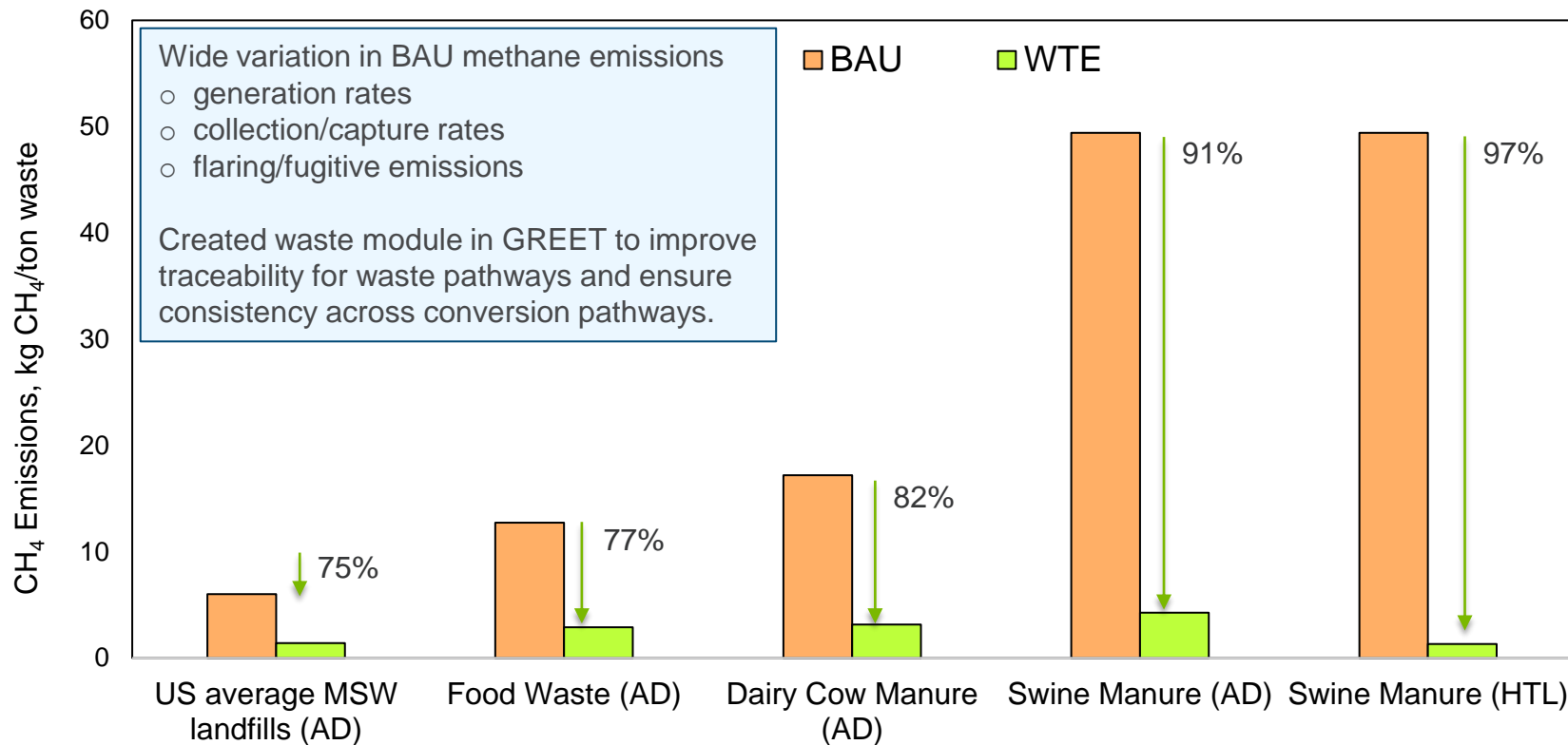
# Avoided Emissions and Carbon Balance for Wastes

## Quantifying the effect of diverting wastes from conventional mgt.



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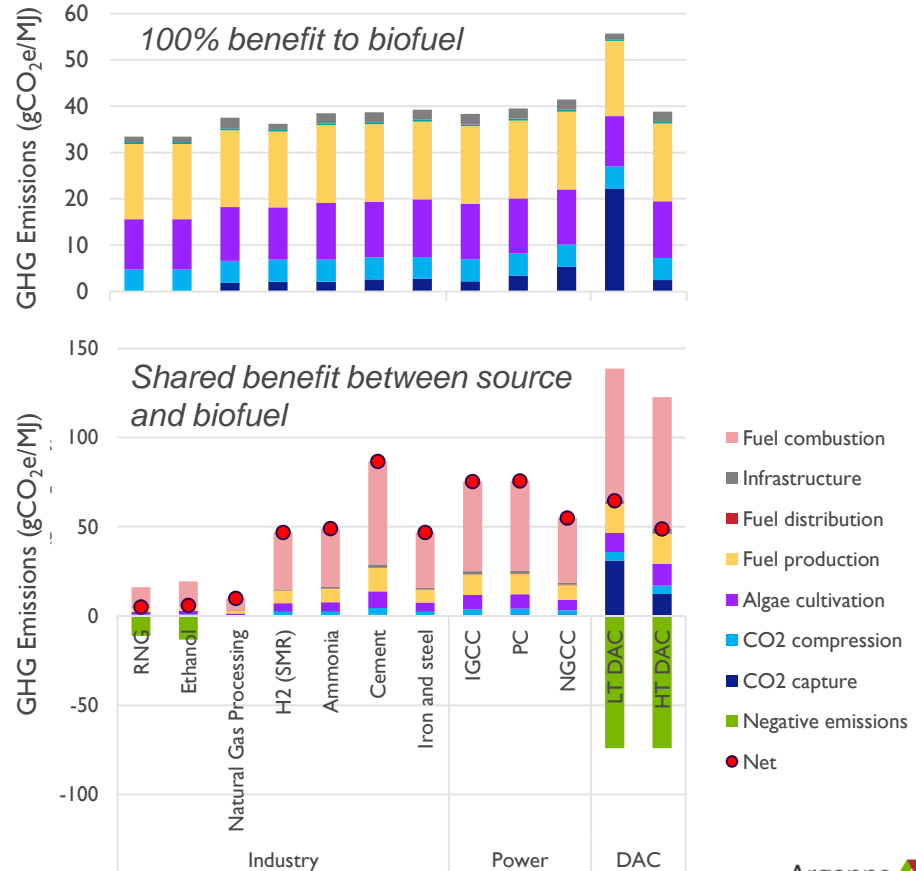
## Quantifying the effect of diverting wastes from conventional mgt.



# Microalgae Cultivation

## Open Raceway and Photobioreactor

- Recent updates focusing on water stress, CO<sub>2</sub> source, and recycling of nutrients and carbon.
- Algae is often a CCUS pathway.
- Developed consistent projections across CO<sub>2</sub> sources.
  - CO<sub>2</sub>: biogenic, fossil, and direct air capture
  - Source CO<sub>2</sub> purity affects capture reqs.
  - Allocating CO<sub>2</sub> credit distinguishes sources
    - Biogenic CO<sub>2</sub>: low carbon intensity
    - Fossil CO<sub>2</sub>: higher carbon intensity
    - Direct air capture CO<sub>2</sub>: potential for future

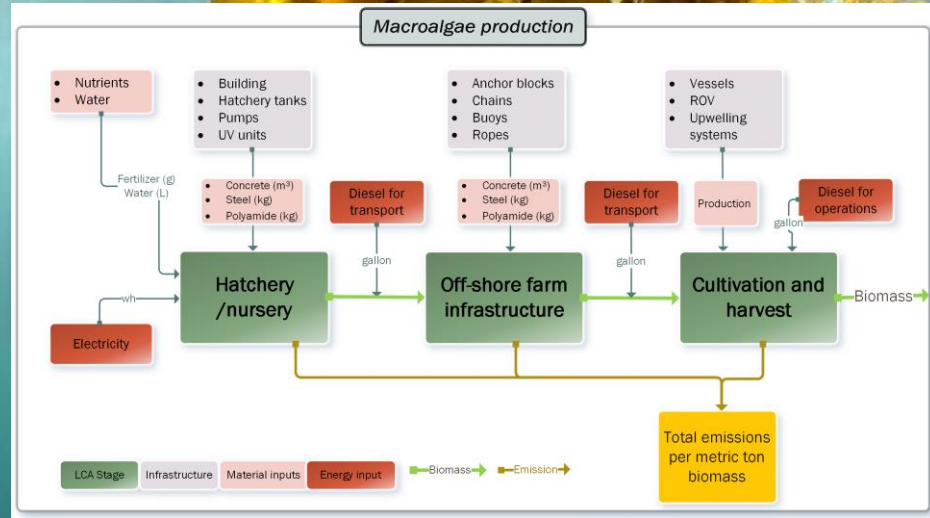




# GREET Macroalgae Module

New – Released with GREET 2022

- Support from ARPA-E MARINER
- Data collected from MARINER teams.
- Includes full life cycle for macroalgae production system
  - Hatchery/nursery
  - Offshore farm infrastructure
  - Installation and maintenance
  - Cultivation and harvest
  - Also includes fuel production via hydrothermal liquefaction to provide a fuel functional unit
- Ready to parameterize with case-specific results
- Publication forthcoming



# LCA of Biofuel Production



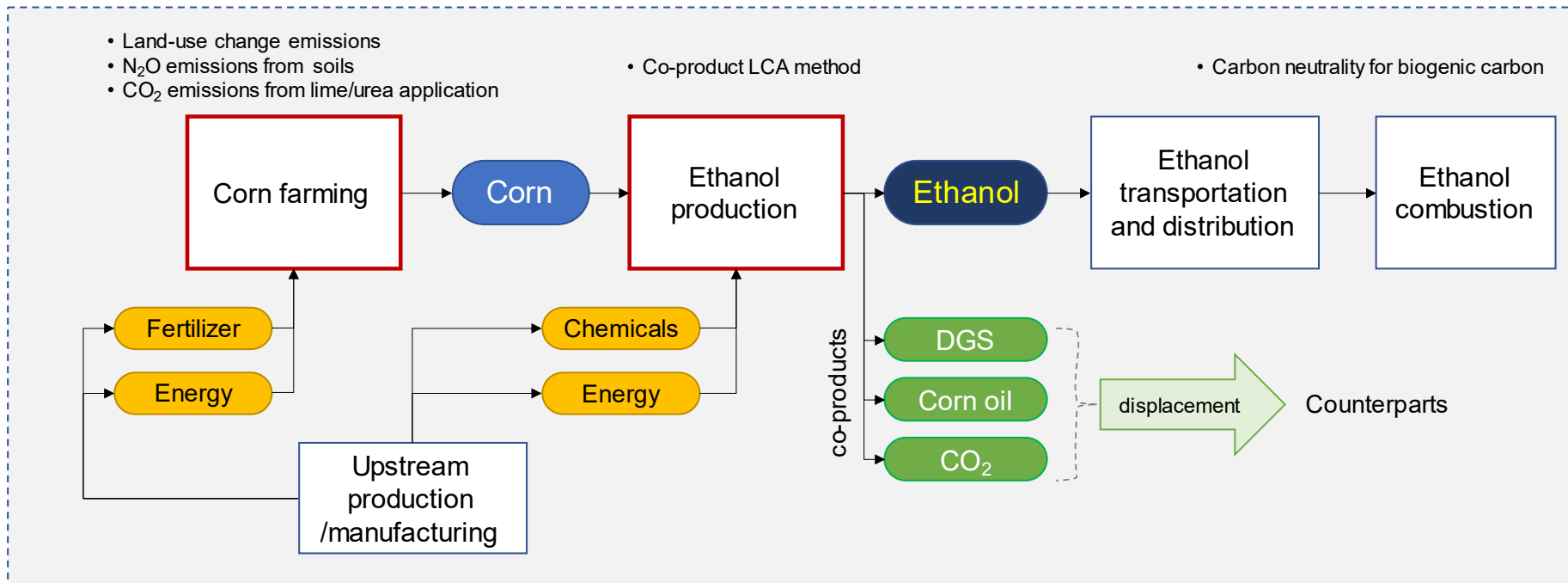
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# Corn Ethanol

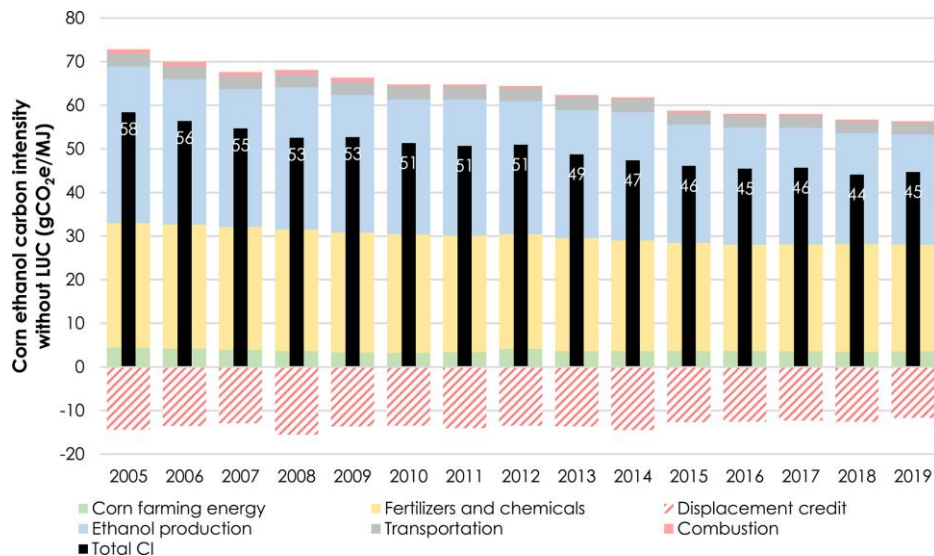
Updated based on industry survey, GHG reduction potential, CO<sub>2</sub> capture



# Corn Ethanol

## Updated based on industry survey, GHG reduction potential, CO<sub>2</sub> capture

- Decrease in corn ethanol CI from 58 to 45 gCO<sub>2</sub>e/MJ over 2005-2019
  - Retrospective analysis based on industry survey
  - Increase in corn yield, 6.5% increase in ethanol yield/bushel, 24% reduction in ethanol plant energy use.
- Evaluated options for decarbonizing corn ethanol production.
- Evaluated use of high-purity fermentation CO<sub>2</sub> for producing additional ethanol via gas fermentation and electrochemical reduction.



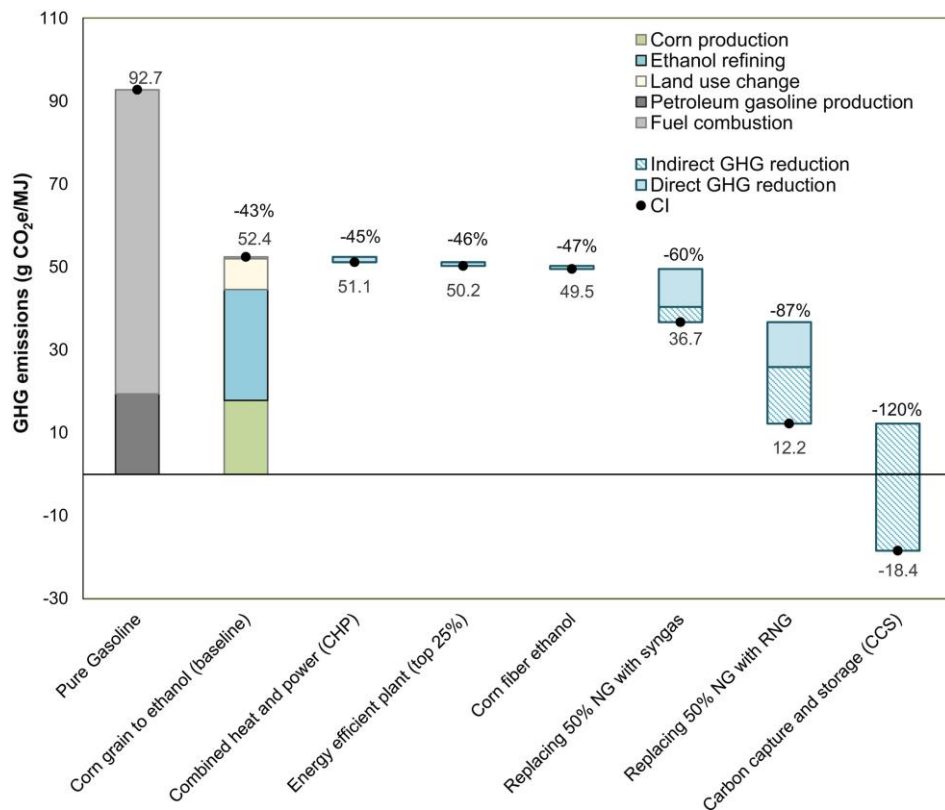
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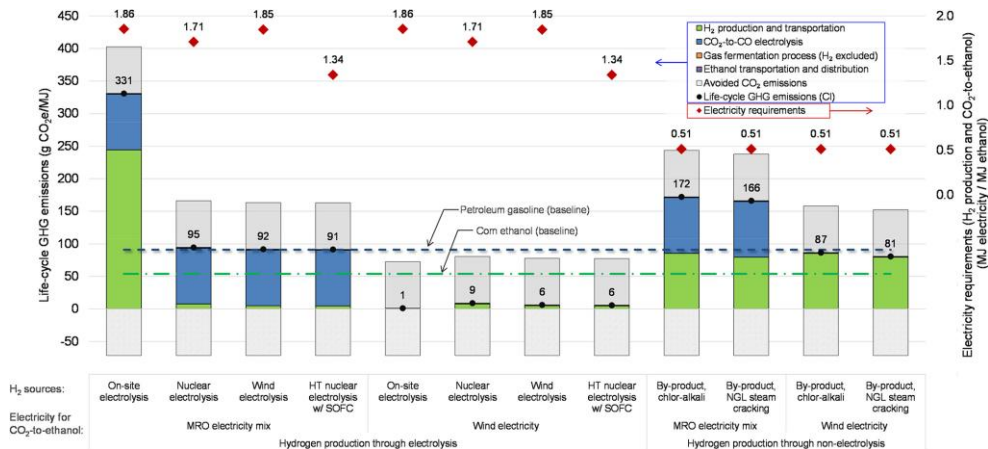
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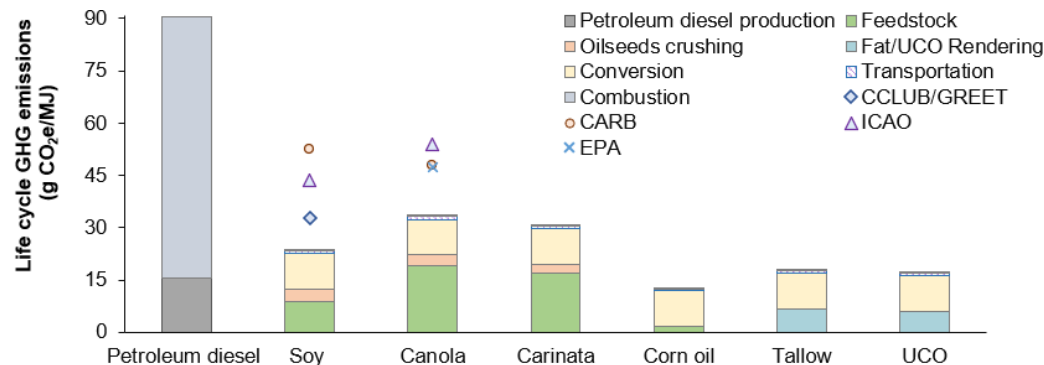
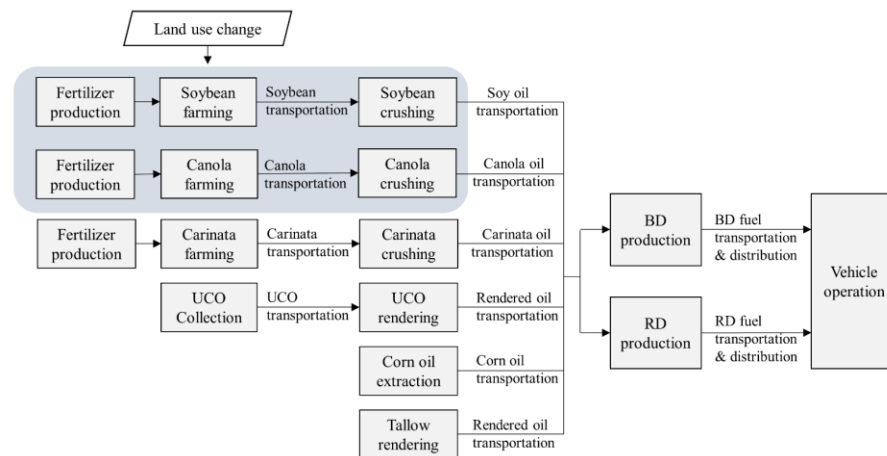
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# Biodiesel and Renewable Diesel

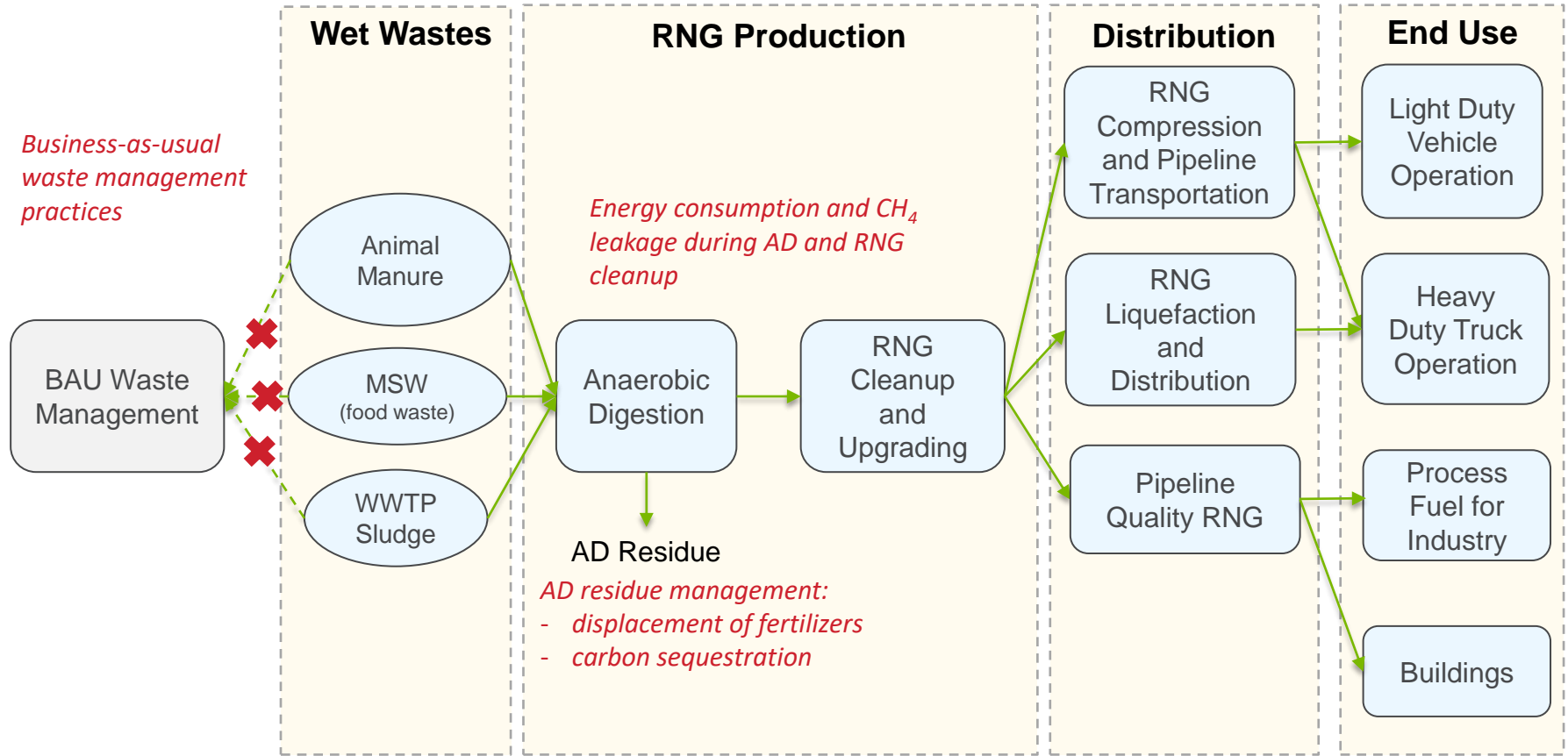
## Updated in GREET 2022 based on industry survey data

- Updated using surveys of producers and renderers of animal fat and used cooking oil
- System boundary includes farming, conversion, use, and land-use change (when applicable)
- Carbon intensities for soy pathways can be 64-67% lower than petroleum diesel using the GREET LUC value
- Carbon intensities for waste pathways reach 79 to 86% reductions



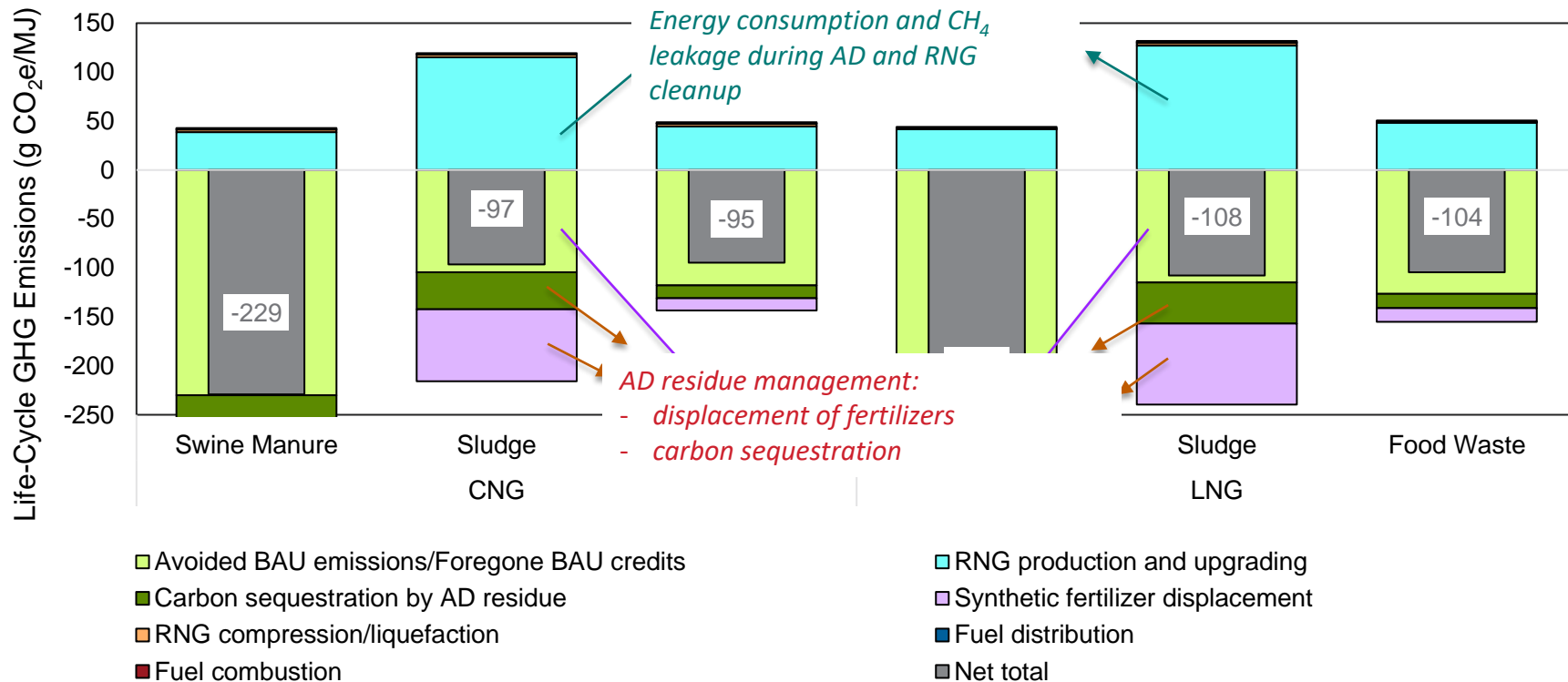


# Renewable Natural Gas



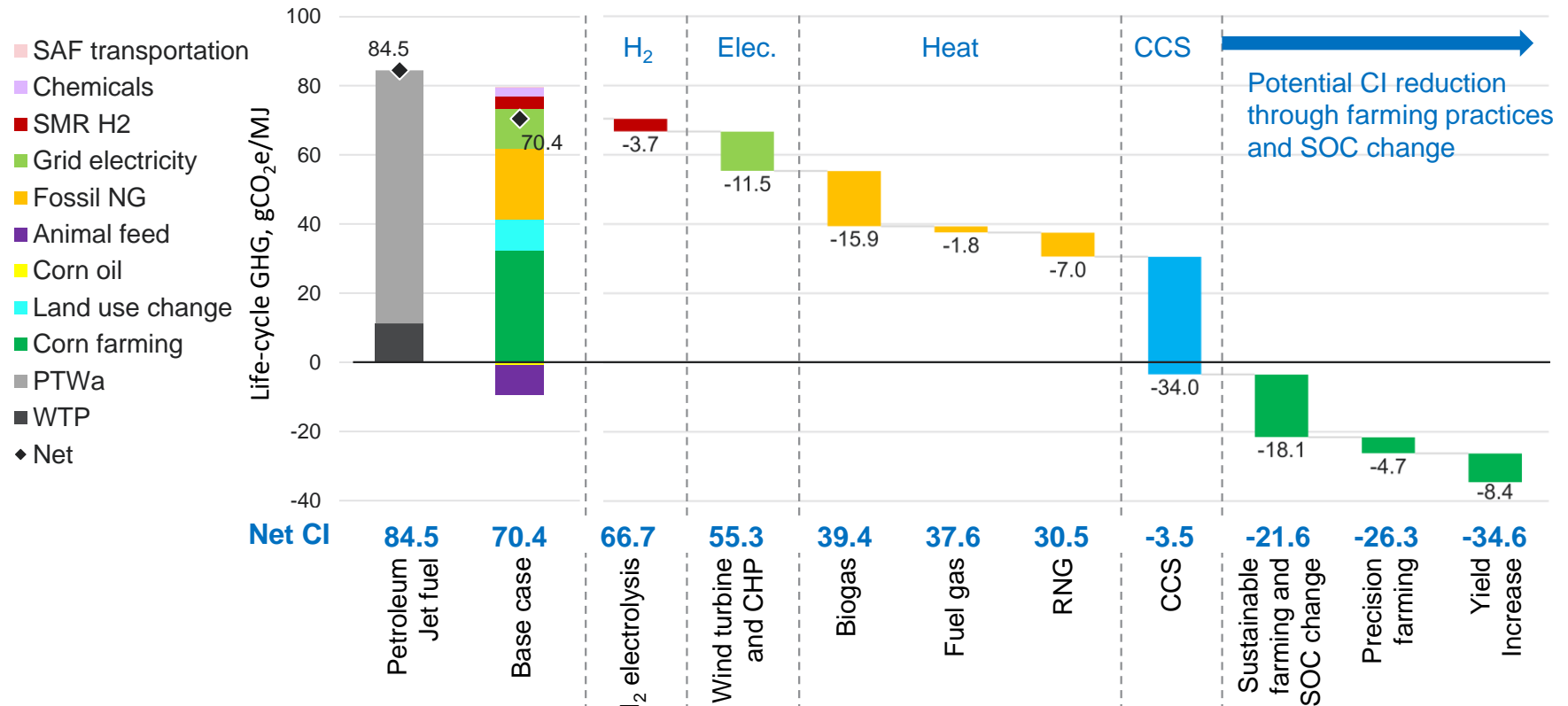
# Renewable Natural Gas

Avoided emissions and displacement credits can be significant



# Sustainable Aviation Fuels

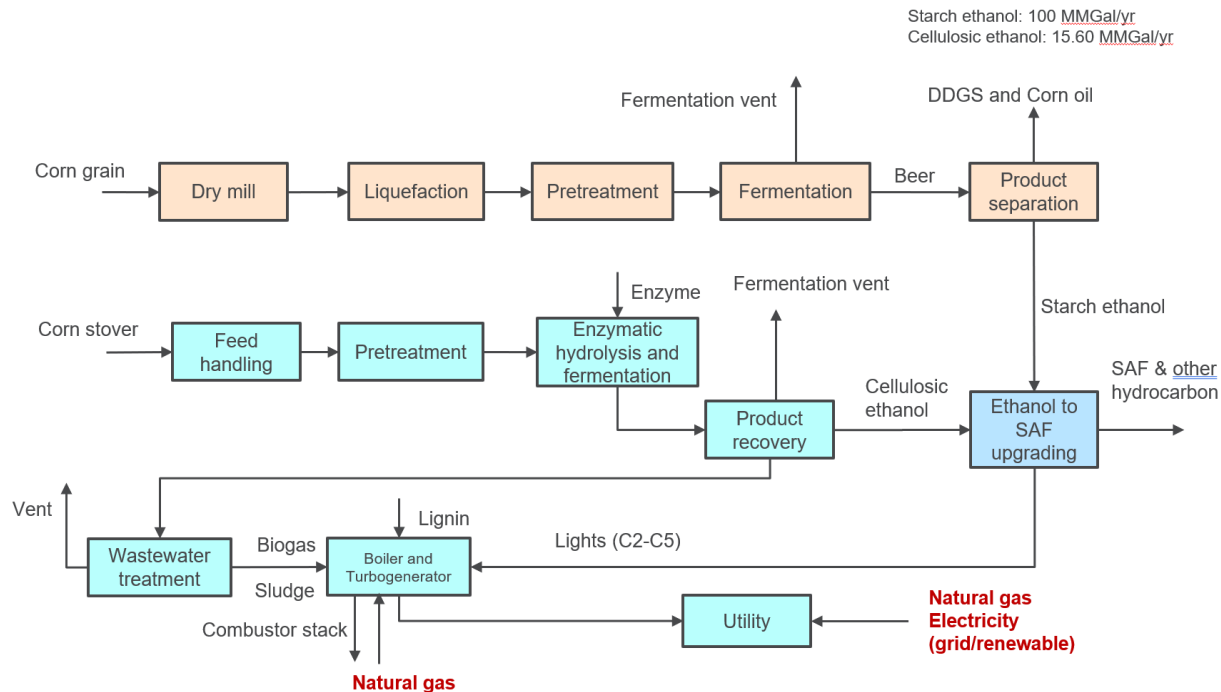
## Adding Pathways and Identifying Opportunities to Reduce Emissions



# Ethanol-to-Jet

## From first- and second-generation ethanol

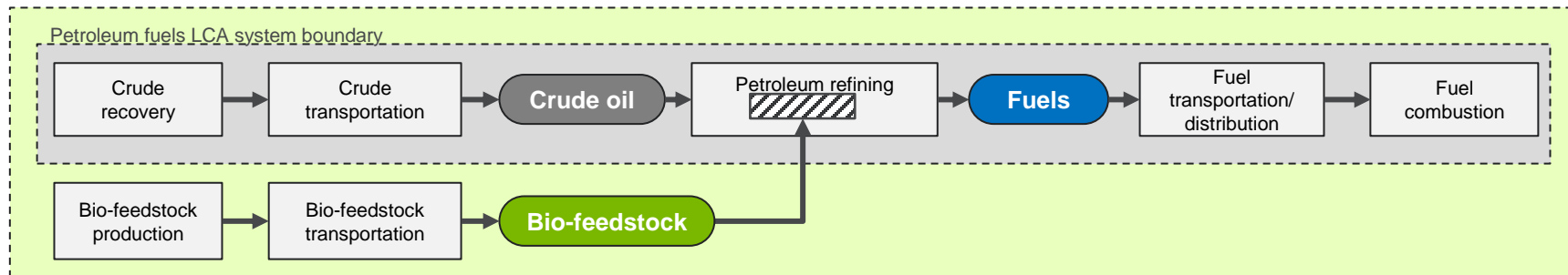
- Ongoing, completion spring 2023
- Corn grain and corn stover ethanol-to-jet pathways
- Comparing stand-alone and integrated (corn grain + corn stover) system designs
- Evaluating measures for deep decarbonization of the ethanol-to-jet pathway.
  - NG to biomass/RNG
  - Renewable electricity
  - Low carbon farming



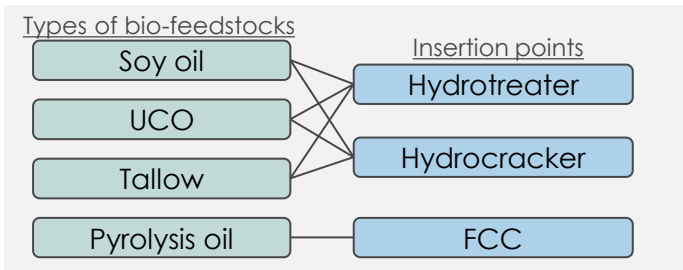
# Refinery Biomass Co-Processing

## New GREET module based on collaboration with ExxonMobil

Soy oil, used cooking oil, tallow, and pyrolysis oil inserted into hydrotreater, hydrocracker, and fluid catalytic cracker



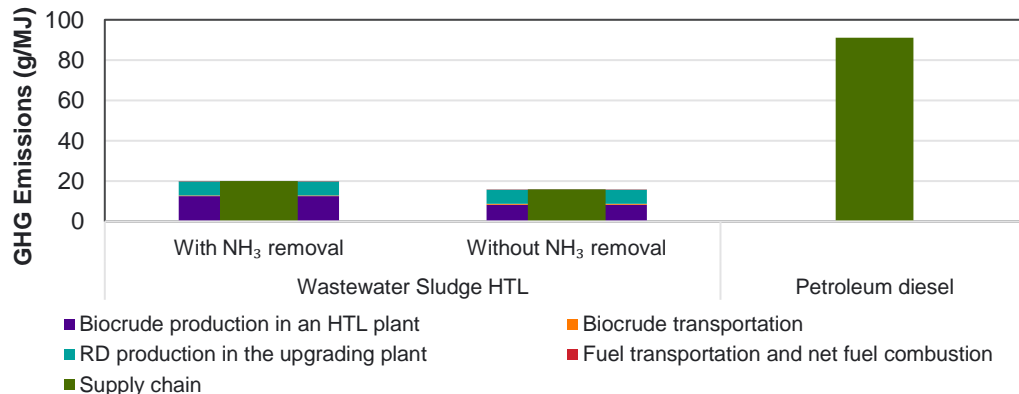
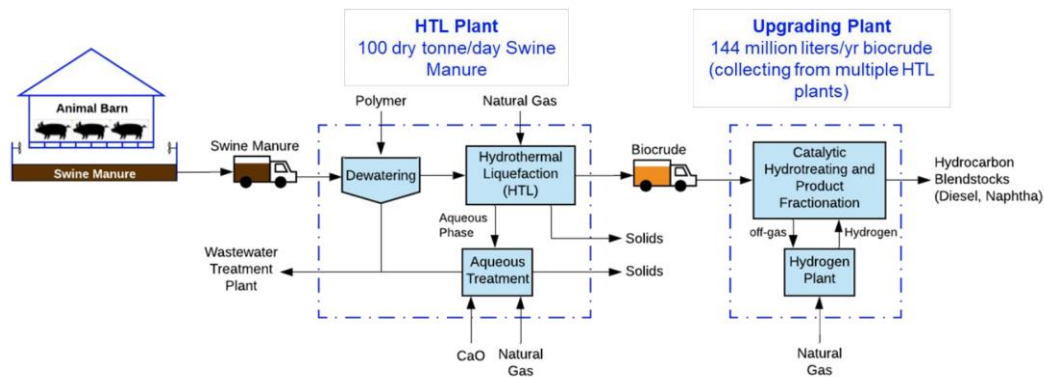
Co-processed fuels LCA system boundary



# Hydrothermal Liquefaction

High temperature, high pressure conversion of wet feedstocks to biocrude

- HTL biocrude is hydroprocessed to produce hydrocarbon fuels.
- Various feedstocks:
  - Algae (*Algae* tab)
  - Wastewater sludge (*RNG* tab)
  - Animal manure (*RNG* tab)



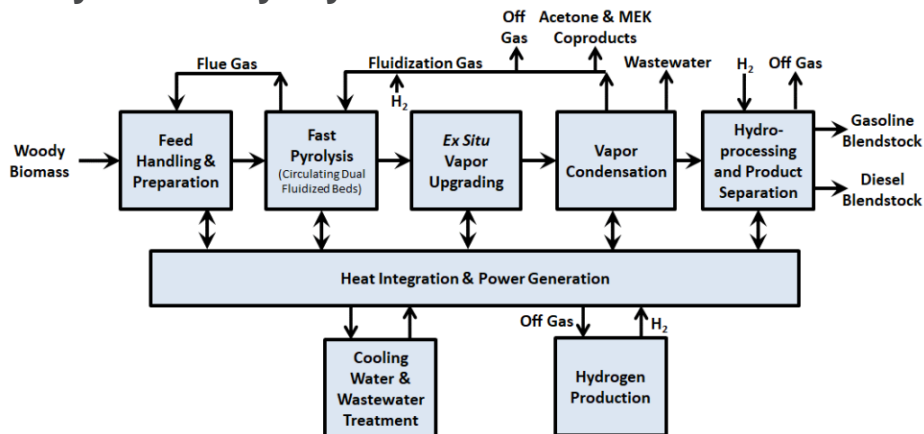
# Pyrolysis and Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis Pathways

## Conversion of woody and herbaceous feedstocks

### Catalytic Fast Pyrolysis

#### ■ Pyrolysis

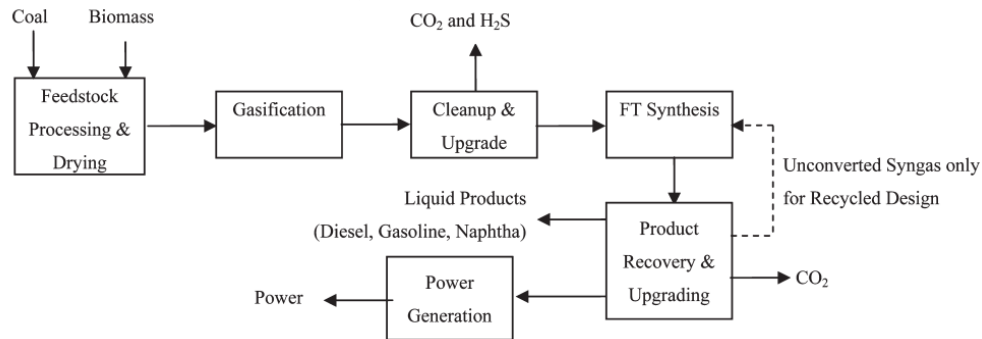
- GREET includes conventional, fast, and catalytic fast pyrolysis.
- Pyrolysis pathways using a variety of wood and herbaceous biomass.
- Pyrolysis oil is hydroprocessed to produce hydrocarbon fuels.



#### ■ Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

- Hydrocarbon fuels via gasification to Fischer-Tropsch synthesis.
- FT pathways using various biomass as well as natural gas, coal, or blends.
- FT pathways with  $CO_2$  capture and sequestration.

### Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis

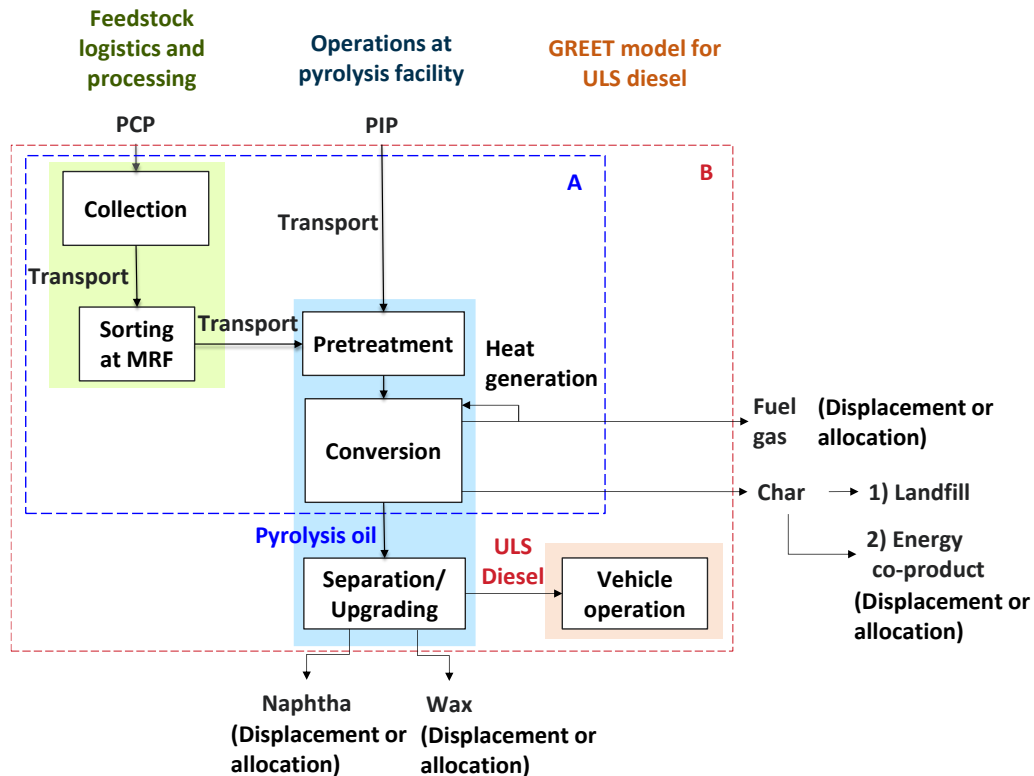




# Pyrolysis Pathways

## Conversion of post-use non-recycled plastics to fuel

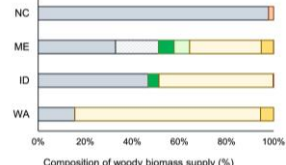
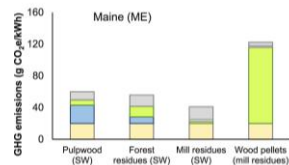
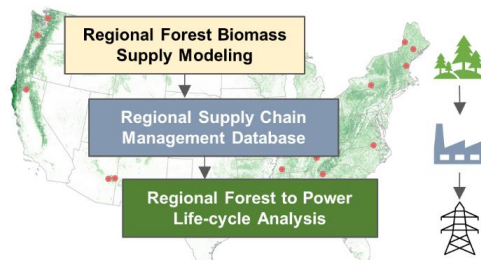
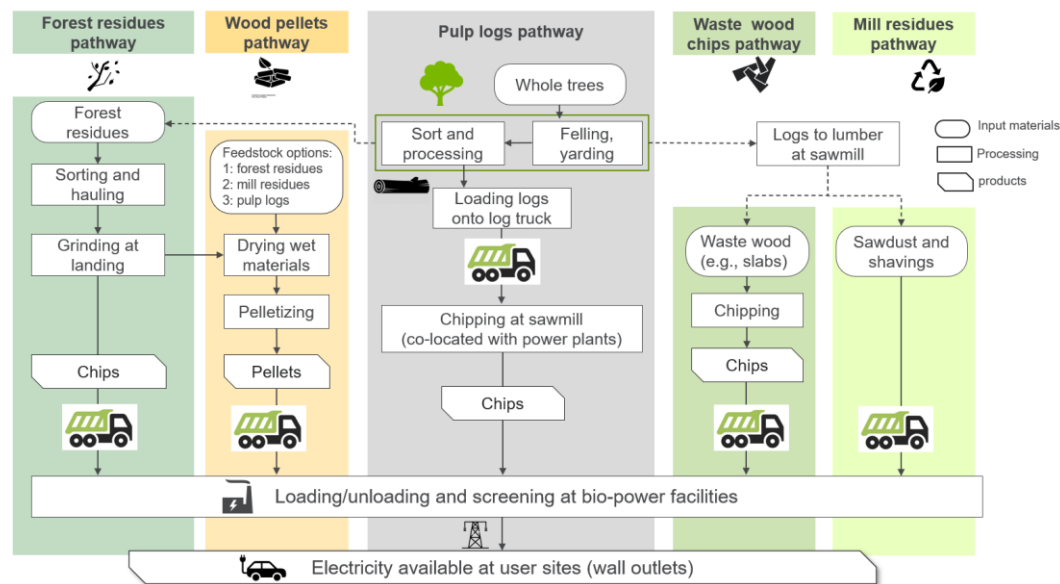
- Recently updated post-use non-recycled plastic-to-fuel pathway via pyrolysis
- Collected industry data through partnership with the American Chemistry Council
- Production of pyrolysis oil intermediate and ultra-low sulfur diesel fuel



# Bio-Electricity

## New bio-electricity module added from GREET 2021

- Bio-electricity from forest residues
- Results for 11 U.S. states
- Feedstock quantities, types, and composition by state based on economic modeling considering multi-sector interactions



# Summary

- The GREET Model includes the full life cycle of many bioenergy feedstocks, conversion technologies, and end use fuels.
- Bioenergy and bioproduct pathways in GREET are regularly updated and expanded with support from our long-term sponsors BETO, ARPA-E, and USDA.
- Recent updates include corn ethanol, soy biodiesel, soy renewable diesel, and renewable natural gas, as well as new advanced pathways (waste feedstocks, cellulosic feedstocks, CCS/CCUS, non-recycled plastic)
- Publications, documentation, and models available at <https://greet.es.anl.gov/>

# Thank you!



<https://greet.es.anl.gov/>  
[greet@anl.gov](mailto:greet@anl.gov)

## GREET Bioenergy Contributors

Michael Wang

Troy Hawkins

Hao Cai

Amgad Elgowainy

Thathiana Benavides

Peter Chen

Taemin Kim

Hoyoung Kwon

Uisung Lee

Yuan Li

Xinyu Liu

Zifeng Lu

Farhad Masum

Doris Oke

Longwen Ou

Tuhin Poddar

Udayan Singh

Pingping Sun

Yixuan Wang

May Wu

Hui Xu

Jingyi Zhang