

National Renewable Energy Laboratory

[About GIS](#)[About the Map Server](#)[Index of Maps](#)[Index of GIS Data](#)**Mac users:**

Please note that this map program works best with Microsoft Internet Explorer.

Biomass and Biofuels

This map provides county-level estimates of biomass resources available for biofuels production or biomass power stations. The map includes only those resources available from crop and forest residues. It does not include managed crop or forest resources, or urban residues.

The biomass resource data were derived from several sources. One of the sources was an NREL contracted study of crop residue for 36 eastern states. The data are based on a three-year average of corn and wheat residue available for energy, taking into account tillage practices rainfall erosion deterrence. The units for the original data were in dry tons per county. These were converted to total kilowatts per county by assuming that one dry ton is equivalent to 1100 kw-hr/yr at a 65% plant capacity factor and a 35% plant conversion efficiency. This study only included the eastern 36 states where data was available. For a few of these 36 states, county level data were missing for a few counties. The report is in draft form, titled "Corn Stover and Wheat Straw Removal Analysis" by Richard G. Nelson.

The forest residue data were derived from the forest inventory and analysis unit of the USDA forest service [Timber Product Output Database Retrieval System Web site](#). The data used from this site were county level data for the conterminous United States. The 1996 data included were logging and mill residues, and other removals (pre-commercial thinnings, land clearing, timber stand improvements, etc.). The logging residue and other removals data were converted into potential kilowatts per county from thousand cubic feet. This was done by assuming that one thousand cubic feet of residue is equivalent to 14 dry tons, and a dry ton is equivalent to 1100 kw-hr/yr at a 65% plant capacity factor and a 35% plant conversion efficiency. The mill residue was converted directly from thousand dry tons into potential kilowatts per county.

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