

# Ecosystem services of poplar at long-term phytoremediation sites in the Midwest and Southeast, United States

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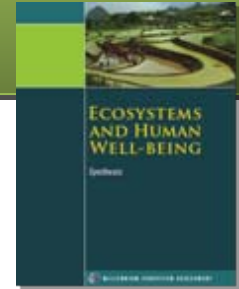
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# Ecosystem Services

“The benefits people obtain from ecosystems”

(Source: <http://www.greenfacts.org/glossary/def/ecosystem-services.htm>)



Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA). 2005. Ecosystems and Human Well-Being: Synthesis. Island Press, Washington. 155pp.

## Cultural Services

The nonmaterial benefits obtained from ecosystems (e.g., values)



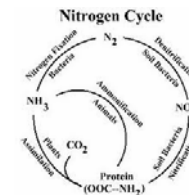
Spiritual



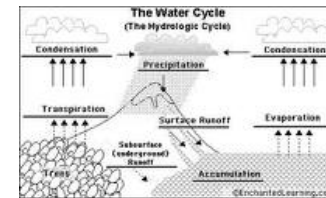
Educational

## Supporting Services

The natural processes that maintain the other ecosystem services



Nitrogen



Water

## Provisioning Services

The goods or products obtained from ecosystems



Freshwater



Biomass

## Regulating Services

The benefits obtained from an ecosystem's control of natural processes



Erosion Control



Soil Quality

# Ecosystem Services

## Provisioning Services Aboveground Biomass



## Regulating Services Aboveground Carbon Sequestration





# Phyto Processes



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Development of short-rotation willow coppice systems for environmental purposes in Sweden

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Phytovolatilization

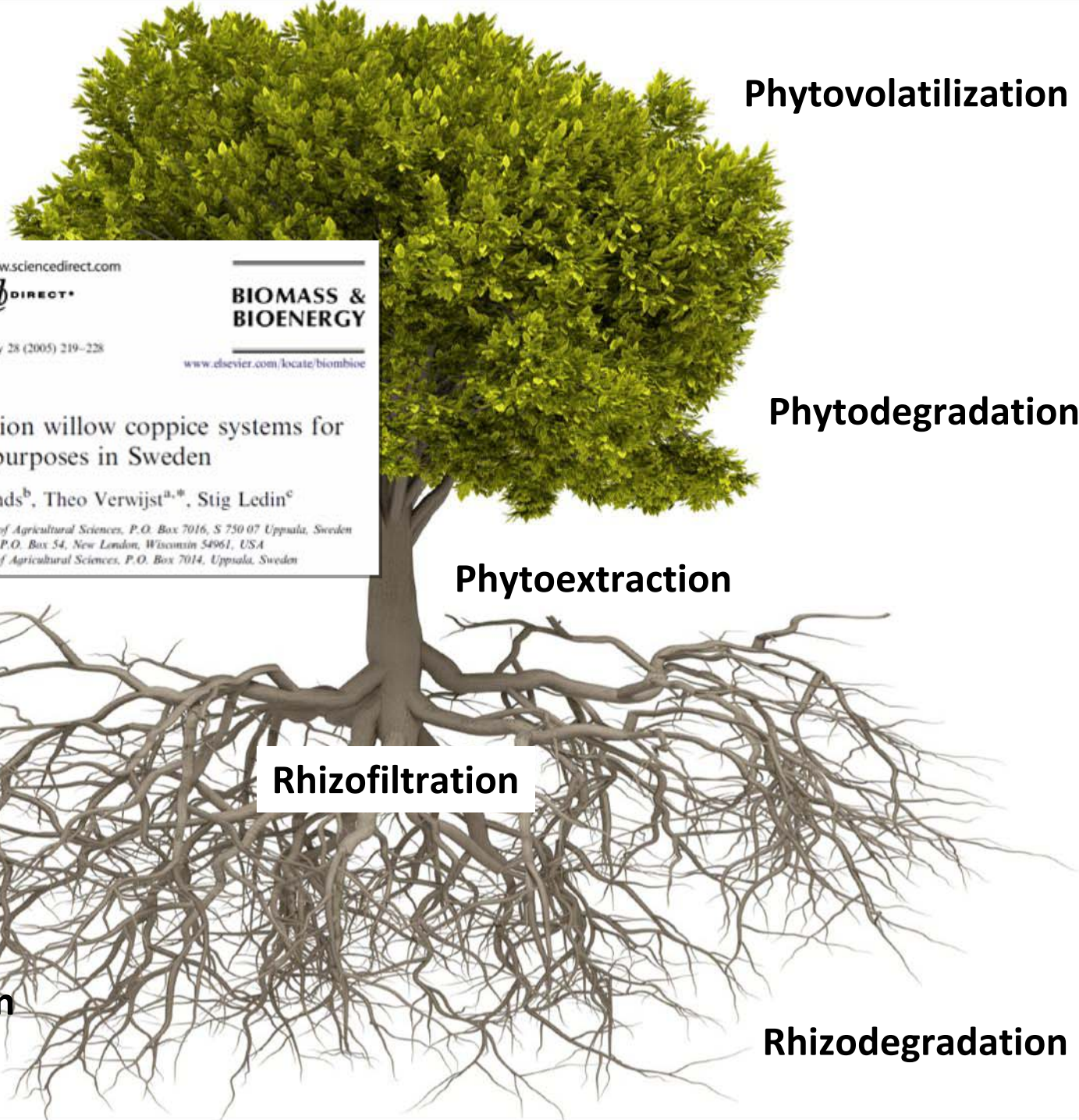
Phytodegradation

Phytoextraction

Rhizofiltration

Phytostabilization

Rhizodegradation



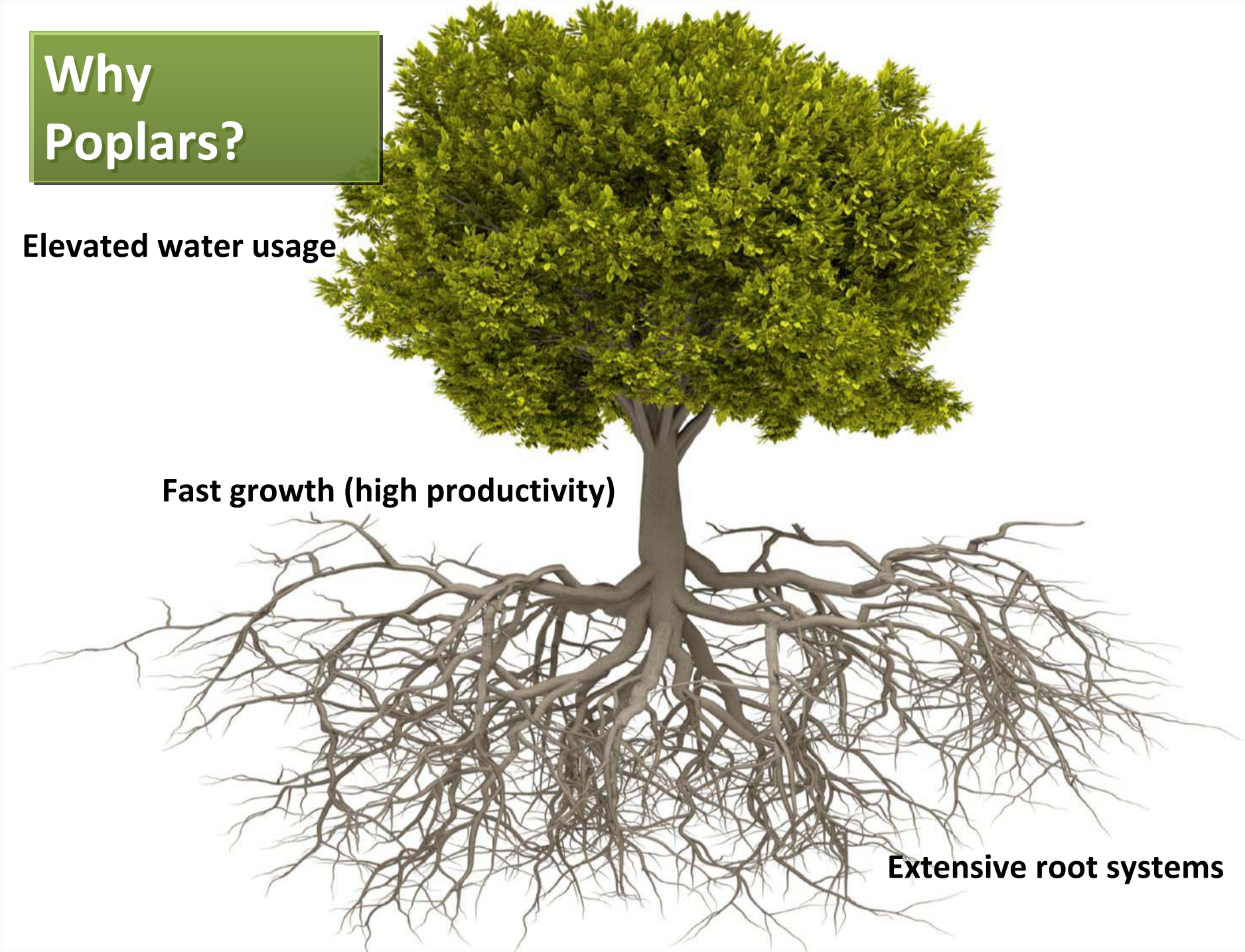


# Why Poplars?

**Elevated water usage**

**Fast growth (high productivity)**

**Extensive root systems**









# Rationale



# Objectives



- ❑ One of the most challenging responsibilities for phytoremediation applications is the commitment & ability to continue measurements & monitoring throughout the rotation
- ❑ To address this need, our objectives were to evaluate differences in aboveground biomass & carbon sequestration potential of hybrid poplars grown at long-term phytoremediation sites in the Midwest & Southeast, United States



**Rhinelander Municipal Landfill**  
Rhinelander, WI  
13.5 yrs old



**Oneida County Landfill**  
Rhinelander, WI  
12.5 yrs old



**Industrial Brownfield**  
LaSalle, IL  
10 yrs old



# Phytoremediation Sites

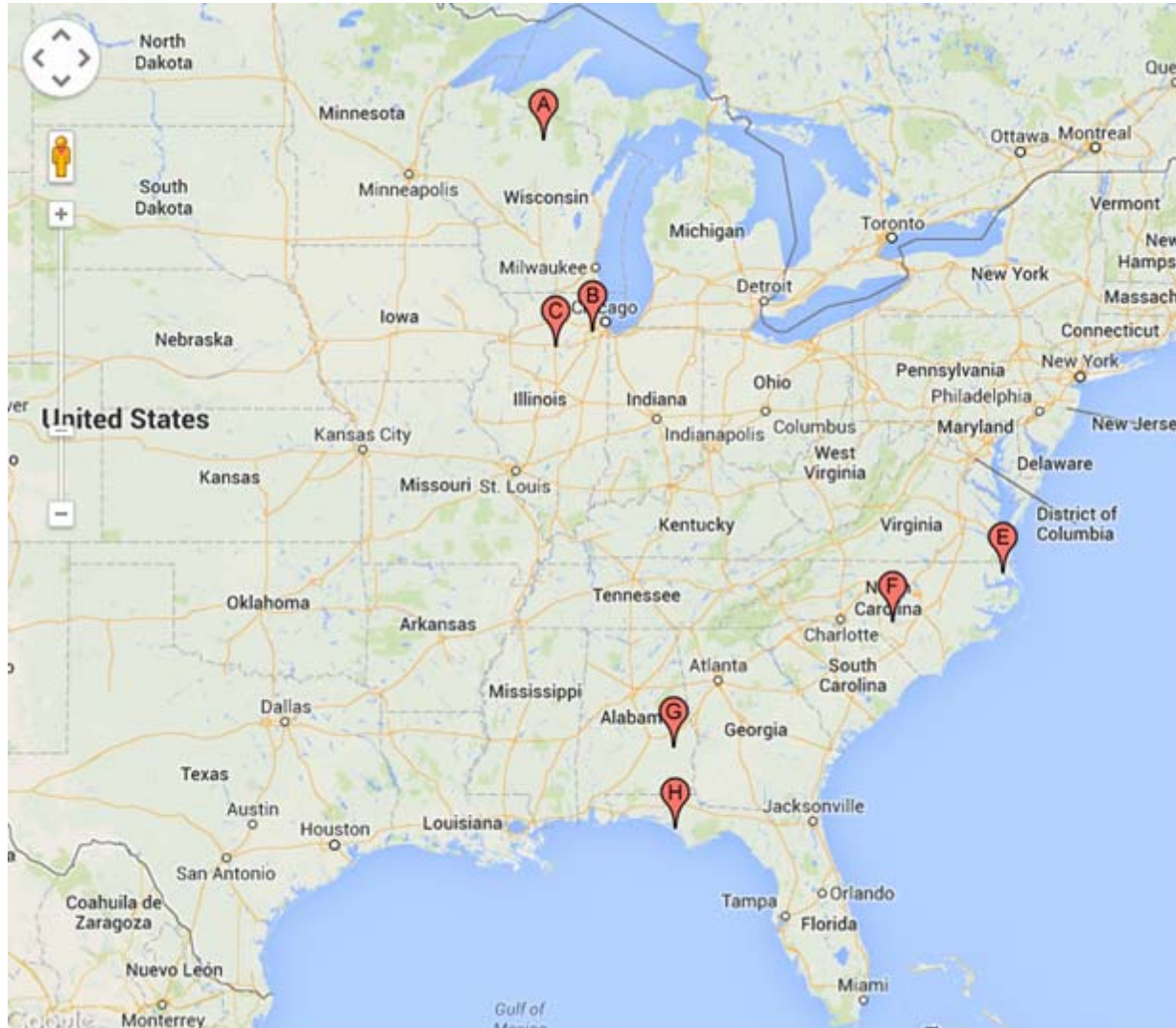


Site	# Plantings	Lat. (°N)	Long. (°W)	Avg. Summer Temp. (°C)	Avg. Annual Precip. (mm)
A: Rhinelander, WI	4	45.63	89.48	18.2	675
B: Lemont, IL	1	41.60	88.08	22.3	1018
C: LaSalle, IL	2	41.35	89.11	22.3	964
D: Midwest	1	--	--	22.7	946
E: Elizabeth City, NC	3	36.31	76.21	25.2	1183
F: Aberdeen, NC	1	34.99	79.22	25.3	1182
G: Union Springs, AL	1	32.01	85.75	25.9	1408
H: Panama City, FL	1	30.21	85.68	27.7	1551
I: Northeast NC	1	--	--	25.3	1125

×9

×15

# Phytoremediation Sites





Planting	Issue	Stocking (trees/ha)	Year Planted	Age (yr)	# Clones	# Trees
A1: Rhinelander Landfill (I)	Nitrates	1076	1999	14.5	2	165
A2: Rhinelander Landfill (II)	Nitrates	1076	2000	13.5	1	200
A3: Oneida Co. Landfill (I)	Salts in leachate	1789	2005	8.0	1	123
A4: Oneida Co. Landfill (II)	Fiber cake recycling	1076	2001	12.5	2	531
B1: Argonne National Lab	VOCs, tritium	434	1999	14.0	1	179
C1: Industrial Brownfield (I)	TCE, PCE	1328	2002	11.0	19	144
C2: Industrial Brownfield (II)	TCE, PCE	2691	2002	11.0	8	68
D1: Ag Production Facility	Salts, metals, nitrates	1681	2002	11.0	34	359
E1: US Coast Guard Base (I)	Petroleum hydrocarbons	1111	2006	6.0	4	99
E2: US Coast Guard Base (II)	Petroleum hydrocarbons	1111	2007	5.0	4	263
E3: US Coast Guard Base (III)	Petroleum hydrocarbons	2500	2007	5.0	4	1637
F1: Industrial Brownfield	DDT, lindane	2315	1998	15.0	2	178
G1: Industrial Brownfield	Misc. organics	4310	2008	5.0	6	101
H1: Industrial Brownfield	Arsenic	1346	2008	5.4	15	135
I1: Hog Lagoon	Nitrates	1795	2003	10.0	×54	180

<b>Genomic group (×10)</b>	<b>Clone(s)</b>
<i>P. deltoides</i> 'D'	7300501; 8000105; 91.05.02; 220-5; 252-4; 42-7; 51-5; 3-1; Ohio Red; D121; D123; D124; 79-4; 90- 3; 92-4; 93-6; 94-4; 100-3; 115-1; 119-6; 147-1; 189-4; 72C-2; Ken8; S13C20; S7C1
<i>P. deltoides</i> × <i>P. deltoides</i> 'DD'	80X01107; 80X00601; 80X01015; ISU.25-4; ISU.25-12; ISU.25-21; ISU.25-35; ISU.25-R2; ISU.25-R4; ISU.25-R5; 119.16
<i>P. deltoides</i> × <i>P. nigra</i> 'DN'	DN5; DN21; DN31; DN34; DN182; OP-367; I4551
<i>P. nigra</i> × <i>P. maximowiczii</i> 'NM'	NM2; NM6
<i>P. trichocarpa</i> × <i>P. deltoides</i> 'TD'	15-29; 49-177
( <i>P. trichocarpa</i> × <i>P. deltoides</i> ) × <i>P. deltoides</i> 'TDD'	NC13992
<i>P. maximowiczii</i> × <i>P. trichocarpa</i> 'MT'	NE41
<i>P. charkowiensis</i> × <i>P. cv incrassata</i> 'CI'	NE308
<i>P. deltoides</i> × <i>P. maximowiczii</i> 'DM'	DM115; Belgian25; 313.23
<i>P. alba</i> × <i>P. grandidentata</i> 'AG'	Crandon

Authorities for the aforementioned species are: *P. alba* L.; *P. charkowiensis* R.I. Schrod.; *P. deltoides* Bartr. ex Marsh; *P. grandidentata* Michx.; *P. incrassata* Dode; *P. maximowiczii* A. Henry; *P. nigra* L.; *P. trichocarpa* Torr. & Gray.



# Data Collection



- ❑ Measured diameter at breast height (DBH) at each site
- ❑ Estimated individual-tree, aboveground dry biomass ( $a \times \text{dbh}^b$ )
- ❑ Estimated mean carbon concentration (watch Headlee et al. after break)

Genomic Group(s)	Equation #	a	b	R <sup>2</sup>	Carbon (%)
D, DD	1	0.2257	2.0145	0.87	46.85
DN	2	0.0962	2.3537	0.91	47.31
NM	3	0.1445	2.2061	0.73	47.71
TD, TDD	4	0.3795	1.7762	0.69	47.48
AG, CI, DM, MT	5	0.0901	2.3441	0.86	47.28

- ❑ Integrated biomass, carbon, stocking, & age

- ❑ Final data: DBH (cm)

Biomass<sub>MAI</sub> (Mg ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>)

Carbon<sub>MAI</sub> (Mg C ha<sup>-1</sup> yr<sup>-1</sup>)



# Case Studies



Planting	DBH (cm)	Biomass <sub>MAI</sub> (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Carbon <sub>MAI</sub> (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> )
A1: Rhinelander Landfill (I)	15.3 ± 0.4	5.0 ± 0.2	2.4 ± 0.1
A2: Rhinelander Landfill (II)	14.0 ± 0.3	4.4 ± 0.2	2.1 ± 0.1
A3: Oneida Co. Landfill (I)	13.7 ± 0.3	11.2 ± 0.5	5.3 ± 0.3
A4: Oneida Co. Landfill (II)	19.0 ± 0.3	9.4 ± 0.3	4.5 ± 0.1
<del>B1: Argonne National Lab</del>	<del>23.3 ± 0.6</del>	<del>5.4 ± 0.2</del>	<del>2.5 ± 0.1</del>
<b>C1: Industrial Brownfield (I)</b>	<b>16.1 ± 0.6</b>	<b>9.3 ± 0.6</b>	<b>4.4 ± 0.3</b>
<b>C2: Industrial Brownfield (II)</b>	<b>10.8 ± 0.4</b>	<b>7.3 ± 0.6</b>	<b>3.4 ± 0.3</b>
D1: Ag Production Facility	19.6 ± 0.3	15.5 ± 0.4	7.3 ± 0.2
<del>E1: US Coast Guard Base (I)</del>	<del>6.8 ± 0.4</del>	<del>2.4 ± 0.2</del>	<del>1.2 ± 0.1</del>
<b>E2: US Coast Guard Base (II)</b>	<b>4.5 ± 0.2</b>	<b>1.3 ± 0.1</b>	<b>0.6 ± 0.1</b>
<b>E3: US Coast Guard Base (III)</b>	<b>4.3 ± 0.1</b>	<b>2.6 ± 0.1</b>	<b>1.3 ± 0.0</b>
F1: Industrial Brownfield	12.3 ± 0.2	5.3 ± 0.2	2.8 ± 0.1
G1: Industrial Brownfield	6.5 ± 0.4	11.2 ± 1.2	5.2 ± 0.6
<b>H1: Industrial Brownfield</b>	<b>7.0 ± 0.2</b>	<b>2.9 ± 0.1</b>	<b>1.4 ± 0.1</b>
I1: Hog Lagoon	12.5 ± 0.4	8.3 ± 0.6	3.9 ± 0.3



# Results



Planting			DBH	Biomass <sub>MAI</sub>	Carbon <sub>MAI</sub>
C1	Industrial Brownfield (I)	(LaSalle, IL)	<0.0001	0.0001	0.0001
E2	U.S. Coast Guard Base (II)	(Elizabeth City, NC)	0.0260	0.0048	0.0045
E3	U.S. Coast Guard Base (III)	(Elizabeth City, NC)	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
H1	Industrial Brownfield	(Panama City, FL)	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001
C2	Industrial Brownfield (II)	(LaSalle, IL)			
		Clone	0.0092	0.0132	0.0129
		System <sup>1</sup>	<0.0001	0.0057	0.0057
		Clone × System	0.4812	0.6061	0.6010

<sup>1</sup> Groundwater treatment units with trees grown in wells were compared to open-grown trees.

# LaSalle, IL

Industrial Brownfield (TCE, PCE)

2 Plantings

C1: open, 11 yrs, 19 clones

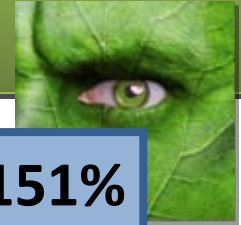
C2: GTU, 11 yrs, 8 clones



Planting	Clone	Treatment	DBH (cm)	Biomass <sub>MAI</sub> (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> )	Carbon <sub>MAI</sub> (Mg ha <sup>-1</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> )
C1, C2	2205	--	18.1 a	13.3 a	6.2 a
C1, C2	Crandon	--	17.5 ab	12.7 ab	6.0 ab
C1, C2	519	--	15.6 abc	9.7 abc	4.5 abcd
C1, C2	14551	--	14.2 bc	9.5 bc	4.5 abc
C1, C2	7300501	--	13.1 bc	8.5 bc	4.0 bcd
C1, C2	ISU.25-R4	--	10.9 B	7.4 B	3.5 cd
C1, C2			+ 64%	+ 45%	
C1, C2			DBH <sub>exp</sub> = 15.0		Biomass <sub>MAIexp</sub> = 11.6
C1			Open = + 19%		Open = - 8%
C2			GTU = - 27%		GTU = - 36%



# LaSalle, IL



**+ 34%**

**Crandon**



**15.2 cm**

**+ 83%**

**7300501**



**14.4 cm**

**+ 151%**

**220-5**



**13.7 cm**



**20.3 cm**



**26.3 cm**



**34.5 cm**

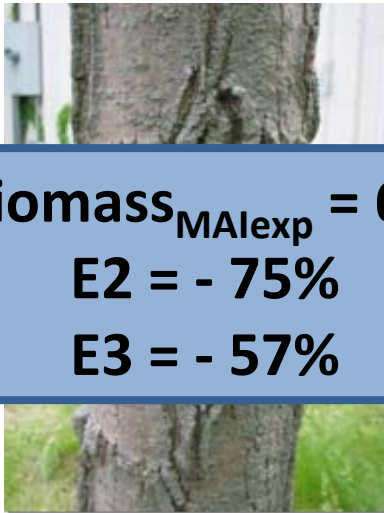
# Elizabeth City, NC



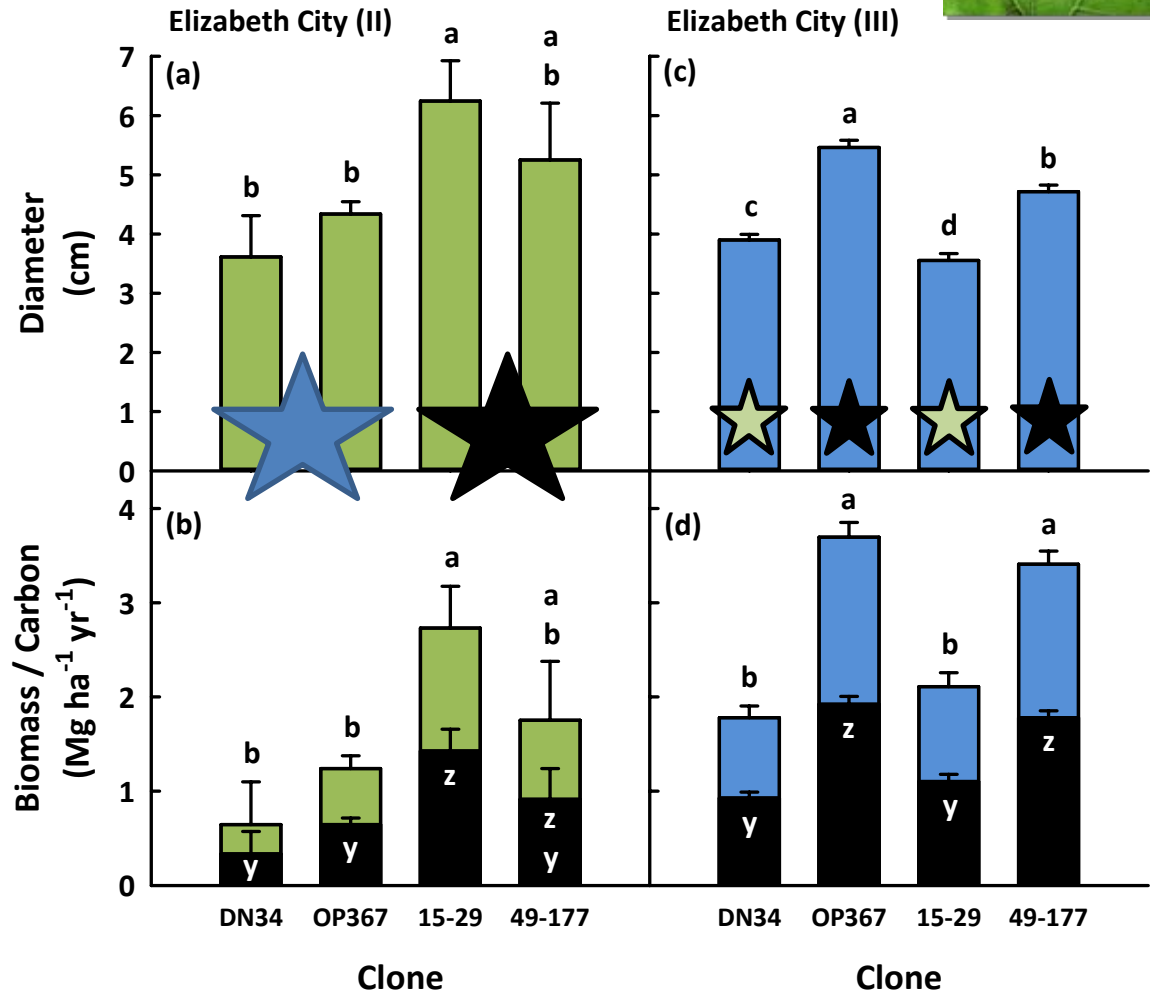
- ❑ US Coast Guard Base
- ❑ Petroleum Hydrocarbons
- ❑ 3 Plantings

E1: 6  
 E2: 5  
 E3: 5

**DBH<sub>exp</sub> = 8.1**  
**E2 = - 40%**  
**E3 = - 46%**



**Biomass<sub>MAlexp</sub> = 6.3**  
**E2 = - 75%**  
**E3 = - 57%**





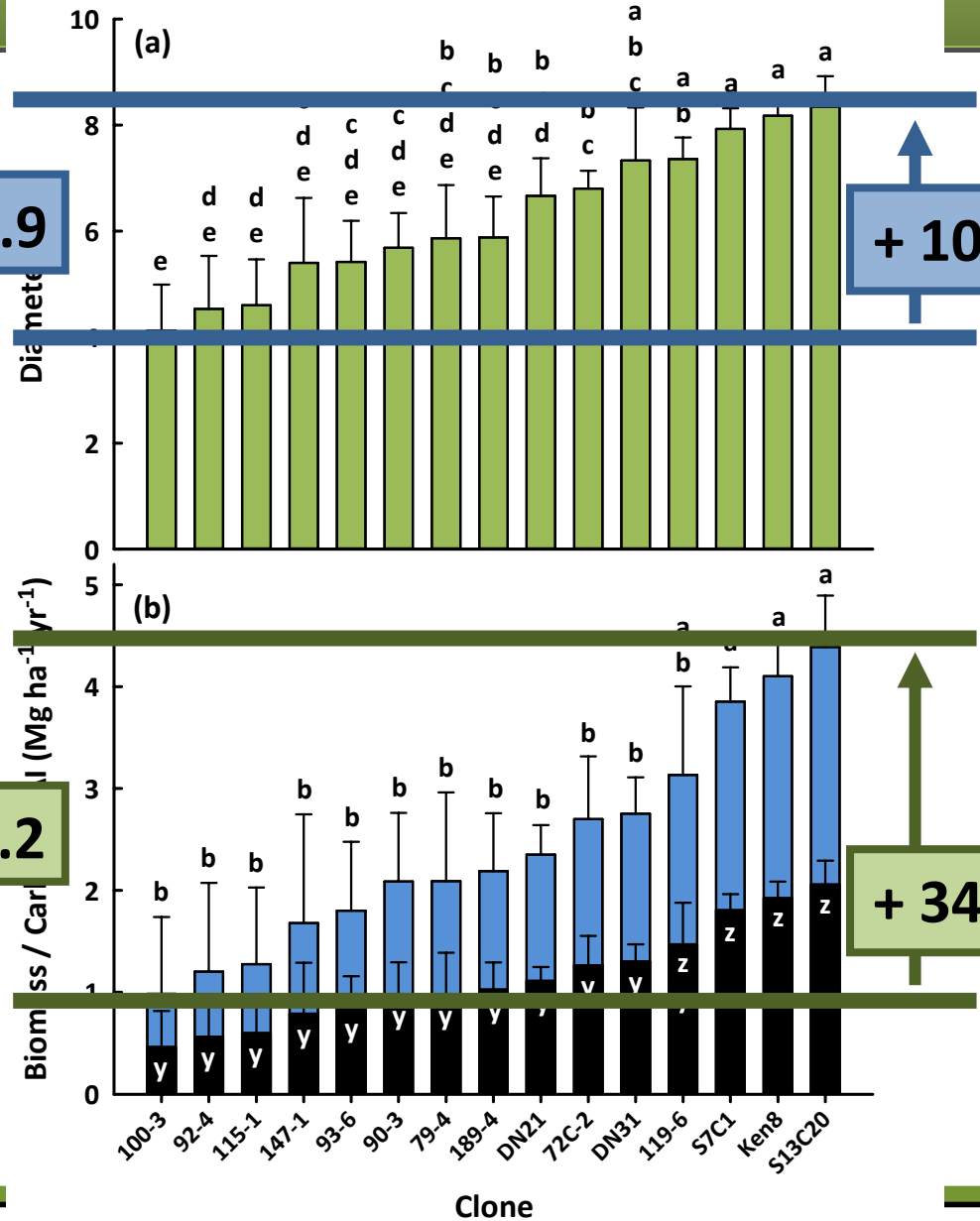
# Panama City, FL

- Industrial Brownfield
- Arsenic
- 1 Planting
- 5.4 yrs
- 15 Clones

**DBH<sub>exp</sub> = 8.9**



**Biomass<sub>MAIexp</sub> = 7.2**



# Conclusions



- ❑ In general, biomass & carbon of trees grown on liability sites were within the range of expected values, using production plantings as the control
- ❑ Specific genotype  $\times$  environment interactions resulted in similar (or greater) productivity from contaminated sites than production plantings
- ❑ Genotype selection is critical for success – using phyto-recurrent selection or other methods is essential for the provision of ecosystem services, especially biomass & carbon









# Thank you!

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