

Electronic Supplementary Information for:

**The Role of Vegetation in Bioretention for
Stormwater Treatment in the Built
Environment: Pollutant Removal, Hydrologic
Function, and Ancillary Benefits**

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Representative Vegetation Bioretention Design Resources

USA

Region	Resource Name	Author	Date Published/ Updated	URL
US Mid-Atlantic	Maryland Stormwater Design Manual	Maryland Department of the Environment	2009	http://www.mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/StormwaterManagementProgram/Pages/stormwater_design.aspx
US New England	Native Plants for New England Rain Gardens	University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services	2016	https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource005899_Rep8265.pdf
US Southeast	Plants for Rain Gardens Recommended for Southeastern North Carolina	North Carolina Cooperative Extension	Not dated	https://www.ces.ncsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Coastal-Plains-Plants.doc
US Upper Midwest	Plants for Stormwater Design: Species Selection for the Upper Midwest	Daniel Shaw, Rusty Schmidt, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency	2003	http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/stormwater/stormwater-management/plants-for-stormwater-design.html
US Midwest	Stormwater Management: Plant Selection for Rain Gardens in Nebraska	University of Nebraska–Lincoln	2007	http://extensionpublications.unl.edu/assets/pdf/g1759.pdf
US Southwest/arid regions	Plant Selection for Bioretention in the Arid West	Houdeshel, C.D. and Pomeroy, C.A.	2010	http://ascelibrary.org/doi/pdf/10.1061/41099(367)127
US Pacific Northwest/Canadian Southwest	Low Impact Development: Technical Guidance Manual for Puget	Washington State University Extension, Puget Sound Partnership	2012	http://www.psp.wa.gov/downloads/LID/2012_1221_LIDmanual_FINAL_secure.pdf

	Sound			
US central Californian coast	LID Plant Guidance for Bioretention	Central Coast Water Board, UC Davis LID Initiative	Not dated	http://ucanr.edu/sites/mgslo/files/147107.pdf
US Alaska	Green Infrastructure Project Guide for Fairbanks, Alaska	Fairbanks Green Infrastructure Group	2015	http://www.fairbankssoilwater.org/user-files/pdfs/GI_Manual_January2015.pdf
US Hawaii	Hawai'i Residential Rain Garden Manual	Hui o Ko'olaupoko	Not dated	http://www.huihawaii.org/uploads/1/6/6/3/16632890/raingardenmanual-web-res-smaller.pdf

Outside of the USA

Region	Resource Name	Author	Date Updated	URL
Australia	Vegetation Guidelines for Stormwater Biofilters in the South-West of Western Australia	Monash University Water for Liveability Centre	2014	http://www.sercul.org.au/docs/381_Biofilter_vegetation_guidelines_for_southwestWA.pdf
Singapore/Tropical Regions	A Selection of Plants for Bioretention Systems in the Tropics	Benjamin Loh	Not dated. Discusses study conducted 2010–2011.	http://www.cuge.com.sg/research/download.php?product=47
United Kingdom	(UK) Rain Garden Guide	Bob Bray, Gary Grant, Dusty Gedge, Lani Leuthvilay	Not dated	https://raingardens.info/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/UKRainGarden-Guide.pdf

Biomass Energy Production Calculations and Assumptions

Calculation Assumptions:

- 1.4 kg per m² per year yield of switchgrass biomass (converted from 6 tons per acre per year given in source)¹
- Bioretention area of 102 square meters²
- 1.6 x 10⁴ kJ per kg of switchgrass³
- Assuming one harvest per year
- 0.25 gallons of gas is used in a brushcutter for harvesting
- 15 miles total are needed to transport the biomass to the power plant
- Transportation to the power plant is in a dump truck that gets 5 miles per gallon
- Both the dump truck and brushcutter use E10 gasoline (*i.e.*, 10% ethanol)
- E10 gasoline generates 112,400 BTU/gallon (net)⁴

kJ Produced Per Year:

$$\frac{1.4 \text{ kg switchgrass biomass}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ yr}} \times 102 \text{ m}^2 \times \frac{1.6 \times 10^4 \text{ kJ}}{\text{kg switchgrass biomass}} = \frac{2.3 \times 10^6 \text{ kJ}}{\text{yr}}$$

kJ Used for Biomass Harvest and Transport:

Harvest:

$$0.25 \text{ gallons E10 gas} \times \frac{112,400 \text{ BTU}}{\text{gallon E10 gas}} \times \frac{1.06 \text{ kJ}}{1 \text{ BTU}} = 29,786 \text{ kJ}$$

Transport:

$$15 \text{ miles} \times \frac{\text{gallon E10 gas}}{5 \text{ miles}} \times \frac{112,400 \text{ BTU}}{\text{gallon E10 gas}} \times \frac{1.06 \text{ kJ}}{1 \text{ BTU}} = 357,432 \text{ kJ}$$

Total Harvest + Transport:

$$29,786 \text{ kJ} + 357,432 \text{ kJ} = 387,218 \text{ kJ}$$

Net Production per Year:

$$2.3 \times 10^6 \text{ kJ} - 387,218 \text{ kJ} = 1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ kJ}$$

Or

$$1.9 \times 10^6 \text{ kJ} \times \frac{1 \text{ kWh}}{3,600 \text{ kJ}} = 527 \text{ kWh}$$

Sources:

- (1) *Switchgrass for Biomass*; University of Kentucky College of Agriculture New Crop Opportunities Center; **2009**. [https://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage/switchgrass\(11-2009\)1.pdf](https://www.uky.edu/Ag/Forage/switchgrass(11-2009)1.pdf).
- (2) Muerdter, C.; Özkök, E.; Li, L.; Davis, A. P. Vegetation and Media Characteristics of an Effective Bioretention Cell. *J. Sustain. Water Built Environ.* **2016**, 2 (1), 4015008.
- (3) Sami, M.; Annamalai, K.; Woolridge, M. Co-firing of coal and biomass fuel blends. *Prog. Energy Combust. Sci.* **2001**, 27 (2), 171–214.
- (4) Oak Ridge National Laboratory. *Appendix B - Transportation Energy Data Book*; **2016**. http://cta.ornl.gov/data/appendix_b.shtml