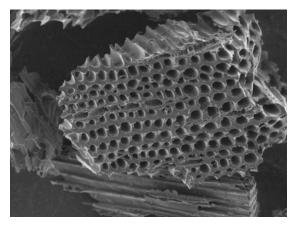
SCALING UP BIOCHAR: RIGHT BIOCHAR SOURCE

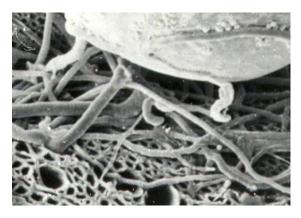
Biochar Products, Qualities, Production, and Use





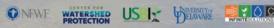
COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE October 25, 2023





Tom Miles **Executive Director US Biochar Initiative**











ABOUT USBI

USBI is a not-for-profit organization promoting

the sustainable production and use of biochar

through research, policy, technology & doing it!

Established 2009



In-field Workshops



Trade shows & Conferences





Online Producers Directory



Equipment & Technology Development

Activities:

North America Conferences, Workshops, Demos, Fact Sheets, Newsletter, Website, Provider Directory, Social Media, Biochar Advocacy, Referrals, Forestry Partner, Technical Advisory Team, Research, Outreach & Education, biochar.groups.io



biochar-us.org/biochar-crop-application-guidelines





2024 North American Biochar Conference

FEBRUARY 12-15, 2024

SAFE Convention Center Sacramento, California, USA





US BIOCHAR INITIATIVE

BIOCHAR-US.ORG

BIOCHAR GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURE APPLICATIONS

Practical insights for applying biochar to annual and perennial crops





A sustainable soil amendment that:14

- builds soil organic carbon and soil health
- increases crop yields and soil moisture
- improves nutrient retention
- boosts microbial activity
- · alleviates compaction
- reduces soil acidity
- · sequesters carbon





Learning Center

Biochar 2024 Feb 12-15, 2024 Sacramento, California 4





Right Biochar Source

Sources

- Local
- Available
- Waste

Feedstocks

- Wood
- Ag Pits, Nuts, Shells
- Litters
- Manures

Quality

- Analysis
- Needs

Process

- Feedstock
- Temperature
- Residence Time

Objectives

- Filtration
- Infiltration, Aggregation
- Water retention
- Nutrient Use
- Organic matter
- pH
- Carbon
- Soil Health



WHAT IS BIOCHAR?

- Granular black carbon, like charcoal
- Produced via pyrolysis: heating without oxygen
- Resistant to decay for 100's 1,000's years
- Multiple beneficial environment applications such as stormwater filtration
- When produced from waste biomass it can be part of an approach to:
 - Produce renewable biomass energy
 - Remove carbon from the atmosphere
 - Create valuable environmental and agriculture materials

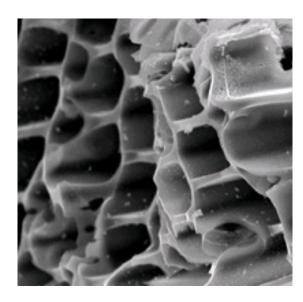




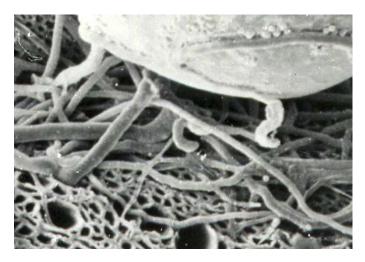
USBI – Scaling Up Biochar – Right Biochar Source – October 2023

What Biochar Qualities Do You Need?

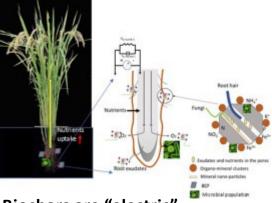
Biochars are fine-grained, highly porous charcoals that help soils retain nutrients and water. International Biochar Initiative



Collins 2009



Mycorrhizal fungal hyphae growing from spore base invade large charcoal pores Ogawa 2004



Biochars are "electric"

Biochar-based fertilizer redox potential, eH Chew et al. 2020 bit.ly/30TQnlB



BIOCHAR CHARACTERISTICS Physical Properties

Highly porous; surface area up to 500 m²/g

Three distinct pore types:

External pores: Dependent on particle size

Macropores: Dependent on feedstock

• 10-100 μm range for wood biochars

Micropores: Dependent on production

- 1-10 nm range = 10-100 water molecules!
- Majority of surface area with high potential sorption



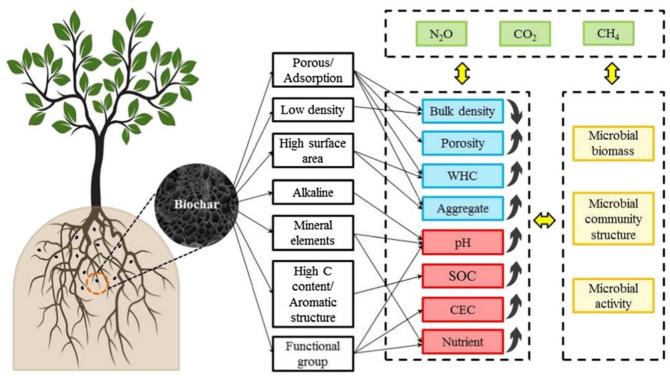
Myles Gray



USBI - Scaling Up Biochar - Right Biochar Source - October 2023

Conceptual scheme for the effects of biochar application on the soil physical, chemical, and microbial properties and greenhouse gas emissions in forest

ecosystems



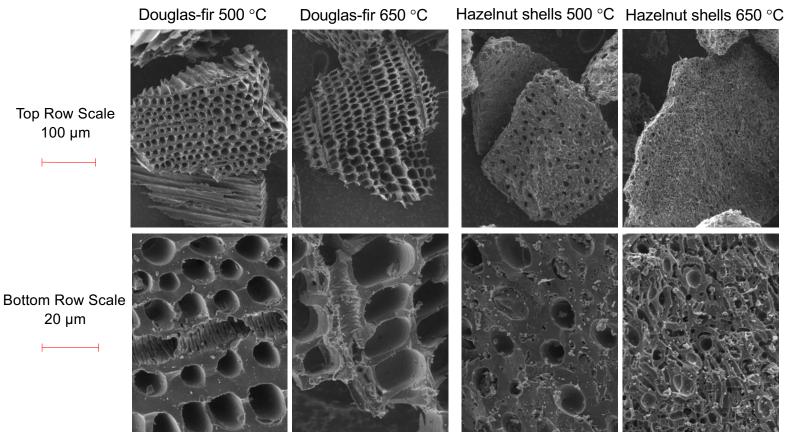
WHC = water holding capacity SOC = soil organic carbon CEC = cation exchange capacity

Li et al. 2018. Effects of biochar application in forest ecosystems on soil properties and greenhouse gas emissions: a review. *Journal of Soils and Sediments* 18: 546–563.



9

BIOCHAR IS NOT CREATED EQUAL Properties depend on feedstock and production process





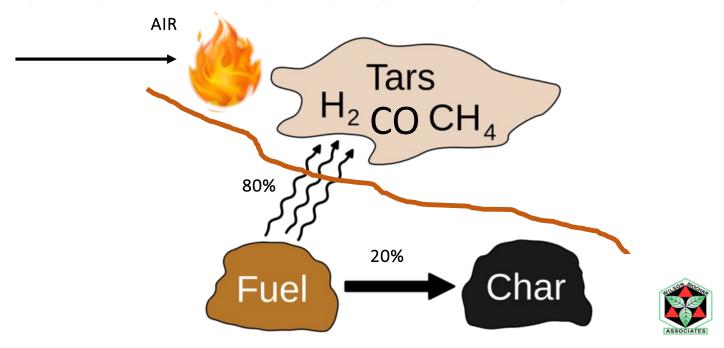
Myles Gray

USBI - Scaling Up Biochar - Right Biochar Source - October 2023

HOW BIOCHARS ARE MADE:

Heat Converts Solids to Gas Leaving Char

Pyro-lysis: from pyro (fire) and lysis (separation)



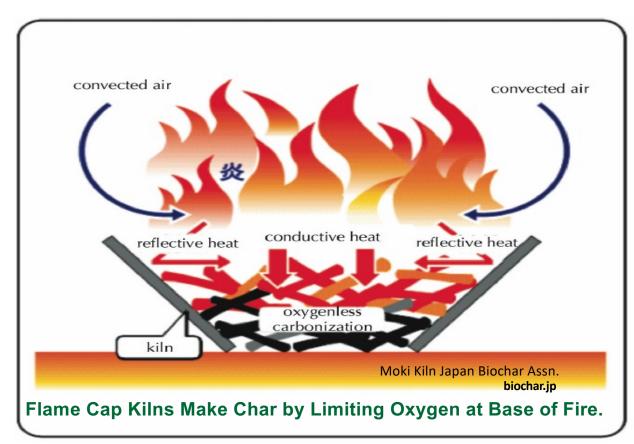


Radiant flames heat solid wood to make gas

and char.



Photo: wilsonbiochar.com















Biochar properties: Process conditions

(Peak temperature)

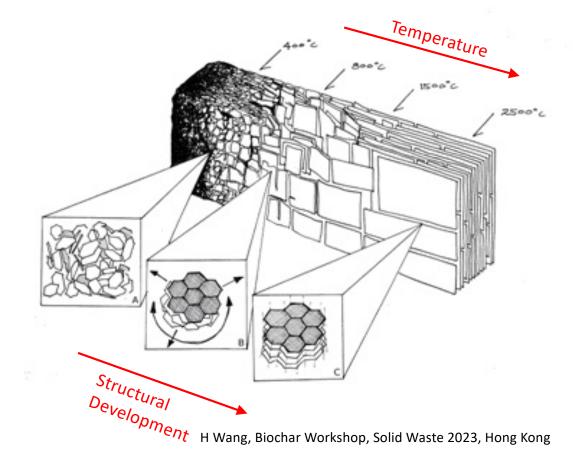
As temperature increases:

➤ Biochar yield decreases

> Fixed carbon increases

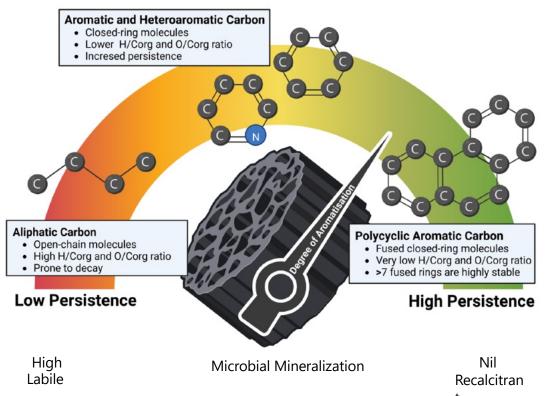
➤ Surface area increases

>Ash content increases





Processes Determine Biochar's Persistence

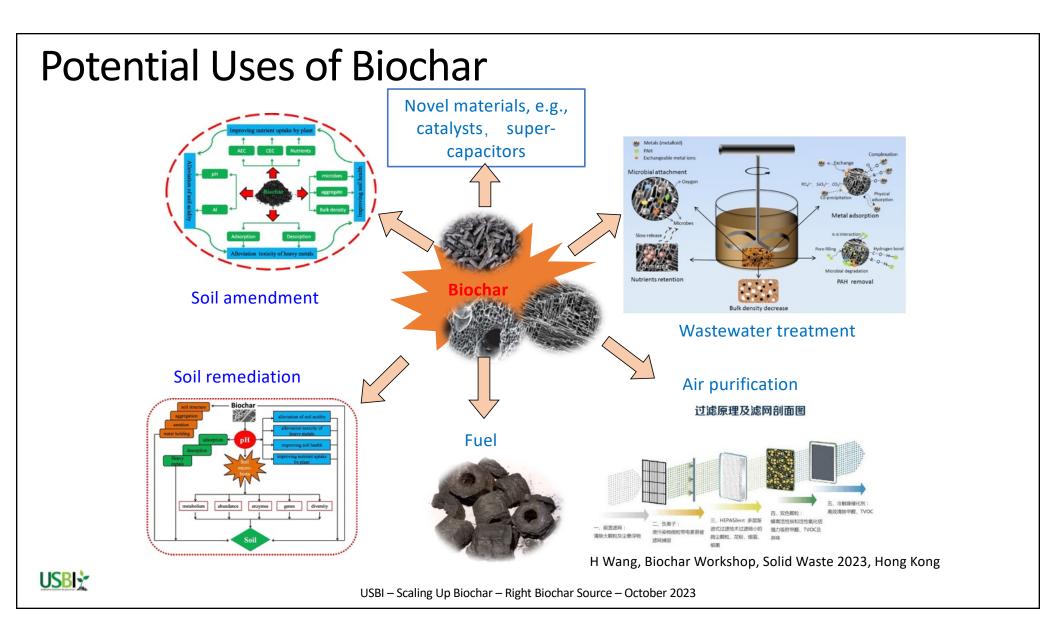


- (1) Schmidt HP, Abiven S, Hageman N, Meyer zu Drewer J: Permanence of soil applied biochar. An executive summary for Global Biochar Carbon Sink certification, the Biochar Journal 2022, Arbaz, Switzerland, www.biochar-journal.org/en/ct/109, pp 69-74
- (2) Peterson, H.I., Lassen, L., Rudra, A., Nguyen, L.X., Do, P.T.M., Sanei, H.: Carbon stability and morphotype composition of biochars from feedstock in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam, International Journal of Coal Geology, April 4, 2023, 104233.

Using Organic geochemistry and petrology methodologies determine that biochar:

- With increasing temp., carbon increase, H/C & O/C decrease
- At 500°C+ 97% TOC is almost infinitely geochemically stable lasting 1000 years or longer
- Limited semi persistent carbon (SPC) has been found to last 50 to 100 years.





No Smoke. Healthy Crops. Healthy Animals. Happy Farmers. "Biochar Is A Farmer's Best Friend"





Sr. Miriam Paulette with biochar from flame cap pit at the Carmelite Monastery in Zomba, Malawi.

Metal cover to quench char.



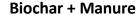
Training to make biochar in flame cap pit kiln. No smoke.





Warm Heart Worldwide Malawi

Kenya: Trainer
Everline with
bumper sorghum
crop.



Everline's corn with biochar + manure

VS

Her poor harvest with commercial fertilizer.

warmheartworldwide.org/biochar-africa





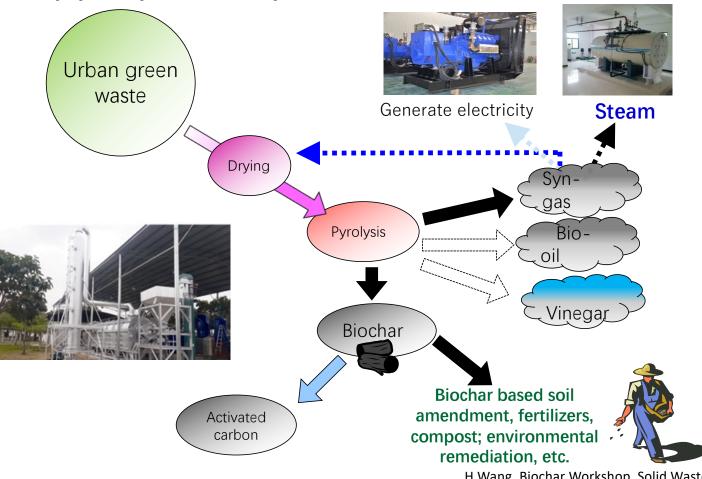


Warm Heart Worldwide, Kenya

2021 During pandemic 7500 smallholders trained by other biochar users.



Biomass pyrolysis and products





H Wang, Biochar Workshop, Solid Waste 2023, Hong Kong

Biochars are Handed in Bulk and Processed for Different Forms and Qualities for Different Uses: Size, Densify, Bag, Liquify



















Biochar Properties Influence Storage and Transport Feedstock-Particle Size-Moisture-Ash

Туре	Size	Range mm	Moisture %	Carbon %	Ash %	Density Lb/CY
Fine	3mm	0.5-4	6%	82%	8%	270
Fine	3mm	0.5-4	35%	82%	8%	284
Mixed Granular	4-150 mesh	0.1-5	67%	78%	14%	464
Dry Powder	<40 Mesh	.00503	2.5%	94%	6%	678
Power Plant Ash	40-5 mesh	0.1-4	18%	14%	78%	788
Power Plant Carbon	40-2.5 mesh	.1-8	4%	50%	25%	234

Fine



Dry Powder



Biochar Solutions LLC



BIOCHAR QUALITY Complies with Environmental and Soil Requirements

Lab ID. Number

Sample ID:

SOFTWOOD BIOCHAR 01 XXXXXX-01

Physical

Chemical

Environmental

	Lab ID. Number.			
General Pro	perties	Result	Units	Method
Moisture (as received)		65.5	% wet wt.	Α
Bulk Density		6.6	lb/cu ft (dry)	
Organic Carl	oon	87.5	%	В
Hydrogen/Ca	arbon (H:Corg)	0.21	Molar Ratio	В
pH value		8.87	units	С
Electrical Co	nductivity	0.985	dS/m	C
Liming (as-CaCO3)		7.3	% CaCO3	1
Carbonates (as-CaCO3)		2.2	% CaCO3	J
Butane Act.		10.0	g/100g dry	G
Surface Area Correlation		451	m²/g	G
Particle Size	Distribution	Result	Units	Method
< 0.5 mm	ı	13.1	%	F
0.5 - 1 mm	1	17.4	%	F
1 - 2 mm	1	32.9	%	F
2 - 4 mm	1	34.5	%	F
4 - 8 mm	1	2.0	%	F
8 - 16 mm	1	0.0	%	F
16 - 25 mm	1	0.0	%	F
25 - 50 mm	1	0.0	%	F
> 50 mm	n	0.0	%	F
Primary Nutrients		Result	Units	Method
Nitrogen	N	0.72	%	E
Phosphorus	P	0.07	%	E
Potassium	K	0.74	%	В
Secondary I	Nutrients	Result	Units	Method
Calcium	Ca	7410	mg/kg	E
Magnesium	Mg	972	mg/kg	E
Sulfur	S	211	mg/kg	E

Proximate A	nalysis	Result	Units		Method
Carbon	С	87.8	%		В
Hydrogen	H	1.56	%		В
Nitrogen	N	0.72	%		В
Sulfur	S	0.02	%		E
Oxygen	0	5.3	%		Calc
Ash	Ash	4.6	%		A
100000		100.0	% Total		
EPA 503 Met	als	Result	Units	MRL	Method
Arsenic	As	0.62	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Cadmium	Cd	ND	mg/kg	0.18	Н
Chromium	Cr	39.9	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Cobalt	Co	1.4	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Lead	Pb	0.83	mg/kg	0.18	H
Mercury	Hg	ND	mg/kg	0.001	K
Molybdenum	Mo	0.48	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Nickel	Ni	19.9	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Selenium	Se	ND	mg/kg	0.90	H
Zinc	Zn	13.6	mg/kg	0.90	Н
Other Elements		Result	Units	MRL	Method
Sodium	Na	553	mg/kg	451	E
Chlorine	CI	442	mg/kg	20	D
Aluminum	Al	901	mg/kg	45.1	E
Trace Nutrients		Result	Units	MRL	Method
Copper	Cu	7.8	mg/kg	0.45	Н
Zinc	Zn	13.6	mg/kg	0.90	Н
Iron	Fe	1307	mg/kg	22.5	E
Manganese	Mn	190	mg/kg	0.45	н
Boron	В	18.9	mg/kg	4.5	Н

Method A ASTM D1762-84

B Dry Combustion - LECO

C TMECC (2001) 4.10 & 4.11, 1:20 dilution

D 1:20 dilution, Ion Chromatography

E EPA3050B/EPA 6010

F ASTM D 2862 Granular

* "ND" stands for "not detected" which means the result is below the Method Reporting Limit (MRL).

G Surface area correlation based on 'Analytical Options for Biochar Adsorption... (McLaughlin et al, 2012)

H EPA3050B/EPA 6020

I AOAC 955.01

Provimate Analysis Result Units

J ASTM D 4373

K EPA 7471

Analyst: XXXX

Pacific Biochar

USBI Factsheet:

Coming Soon!

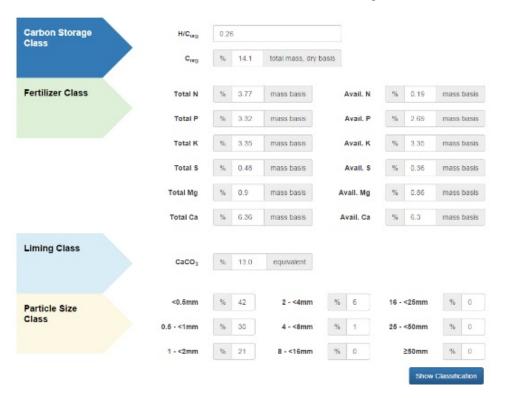
for updates.

Interpreting Biochar Analysis

Sign up for USBI newsletter

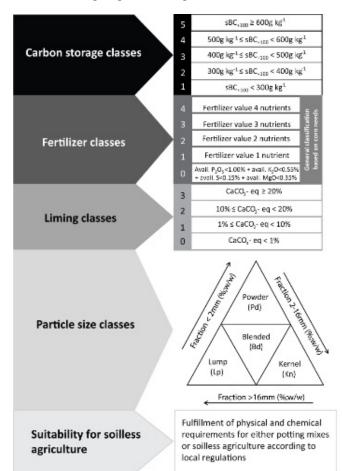


Biochar Qualities Help Determine Appropriate Use



IBI Classification Tool www.biochar-international.org/classification_tool
IBI Classification Webinar Jan 30, 2017 www.biochar-international.org/node/8730







Standards, Specifications, Certifications

IBI Certification

Safe for use in soil - Non toxic **Stable** (Carbon enriched for lost C)

≥10%, ≥30%, ≥60% Carbon

H:C ratio < 0.7 (stability)

Sustainable Carbon smart

European Biochar Standards (2015)

World Biochar Certificate (2023)

(Basis for carbon dioxide removal credits, feeding biochar, soil and non soil uses)

Australia New Zealand Biochar Industry Group (ANZBIG)

AAPFCO Association of American Plant Food Control Officials

biochar definition (2016)

OMRI Organic Materials Review Institute

International Biochar Initiative Std. Ver 2.0 http://biochar-international.org















States Follow AAPFCO Biochar Definition (2016)

Biochar - is a solid material obtained from thermochemical conversion of biomass in an oxygen-limited environment (pyrolysis) containing at least 60% carbon. Feedstocks may be composed of crop residue, wood or other forest waste, and animal manures. Materials transported in salt water, painted, or treated with preservatives are not permitted. When listing biochar in an ingredient statement, the feedstock shall be designated by prefixing the term biochar with the feedstock from which it was produced; i.e. poultry litter biochar, green waste biochar, papermill biochar, etc. When more than one feedstock is involved, all feedstocks greater than 10% of the total volume are to be listed by decreasing volume. Their uses include soil amendments.

State regulating the sales and distribution of soil amendments includes:

Arkansas	Illinois	Mississippi	Ohio (ag use only)	Utah
California	Iowa	Montana	Oregon	West Virginia
Colorado	Kansas	Nebraska	Pennsylvania	Wisconsin
Connecticut	Maine	New Jersey	Rhode Island	Wyoming
Delaware	Maryland	New Mexico	South Carolina	
Florida	Massachusetts	North Carolina	South Dakota	
Georgia	Michigan	North Dakota	Tennessee	
Idaho	Minnesota	Oklahoma	Virginia	



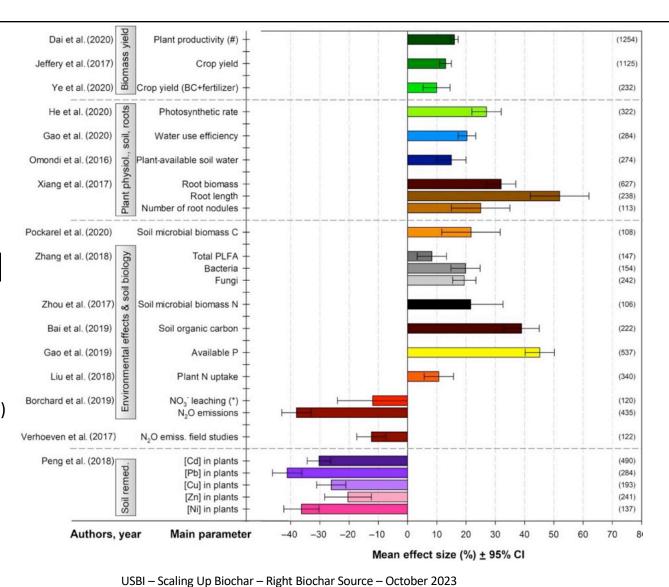


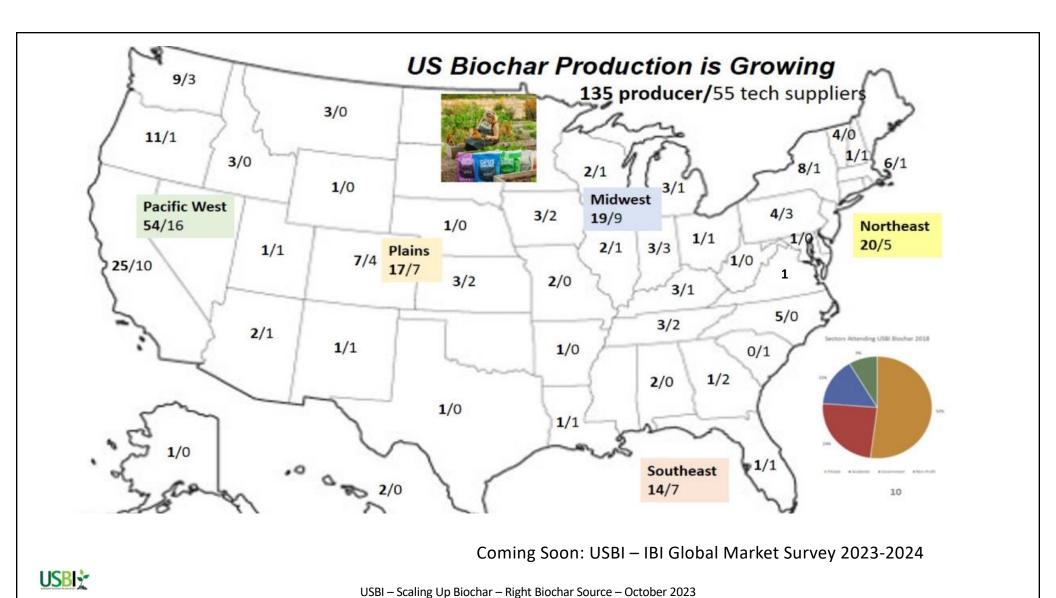
Biochar Labelling Guidance Document, USBI 2019



Biochar Benefits from 26 Reviewed Meta-Analyses (Schmidt et. al. 2021)

USBI





BIOCHARS ARE MADE FOR DIFFERENT MARKETS



Soil Health: Agriculture, Retail Garden, Landscape, Turf, Trees, Orchards, Vineyards,

Horticulture

Biochar, Compost, Composted biochar (5%-20% biochar)

Animal bedding, litter, feed trials

Biochar-Based Fertilizers (15%-25% biochar)

Biotic Soil Amendments (biochar + organics+ minerals and biologicals)

Granulated and liquid products for seeding, foliar sprays (extracts)

Micro/nano carbons, nanofertilizers





Glanris





Environment, Remediation, Erosion Control

Revegetation, Biosolids, Urban Soils, Erosion Control, Wetlands, Odor, Waste,

Remediation Persistent Herbicides (USCC), PFOS/PFAS



Water quality Stormwater filtration, water treatment

- functionalized chars, 3d aerogels, antibiotics



Forestry

Wildfire fuel reduction, Reforestation, Range Improvement

Growing media for nursery and out planting

Revegetation, Reclamation of mines and degraded land



Carbon, Renewable Energy Offsets, and Non-Soil Products

Carbon markets, building products, odor control, batteries







USBI – Scaling Up Biochar – Right Biochar Source – October 2023

Retail Garden, Horticultural, Landscape and Fertilizer Products and Bagged and Palletized



Rexius/OpusGrows www.opusgrows.com



Kellogg Garden Products www.kellogggarden.com



15-10-10 Biochar Compound Fertilizer

Others: Sustane Organic + Biochar, Mirimichi Green CarbonizPn Turf Enhancer, Engineered Biocarbon, Wakefield Biochar Soil Conditioner . . .

See: Role of biochar as an additive in organic waste composting. Miguel A. Sanchez-Monedero, Cayulela, M.L. Roig, A., Jindo, K., Mondini, C & Bolan, N. (2018) Bioresource Technology, 247-1155-164



Biochars Complement Beneficial Supplements



American Biochar Company VITAL Blend Soil Amendment, Activated BioChar charged with freshwater-sourced Humate ambiochar.com/products



The Andersons® Humic DG Granular Soil Conditioner (Humic Acid) with Biochar - Humic DG CharX andersonshumates.com/products/#HumicDG



Granulated Biochar Seedballs Aid Aerial Seeding for Green Carbon Cover in Africa, Australia and America



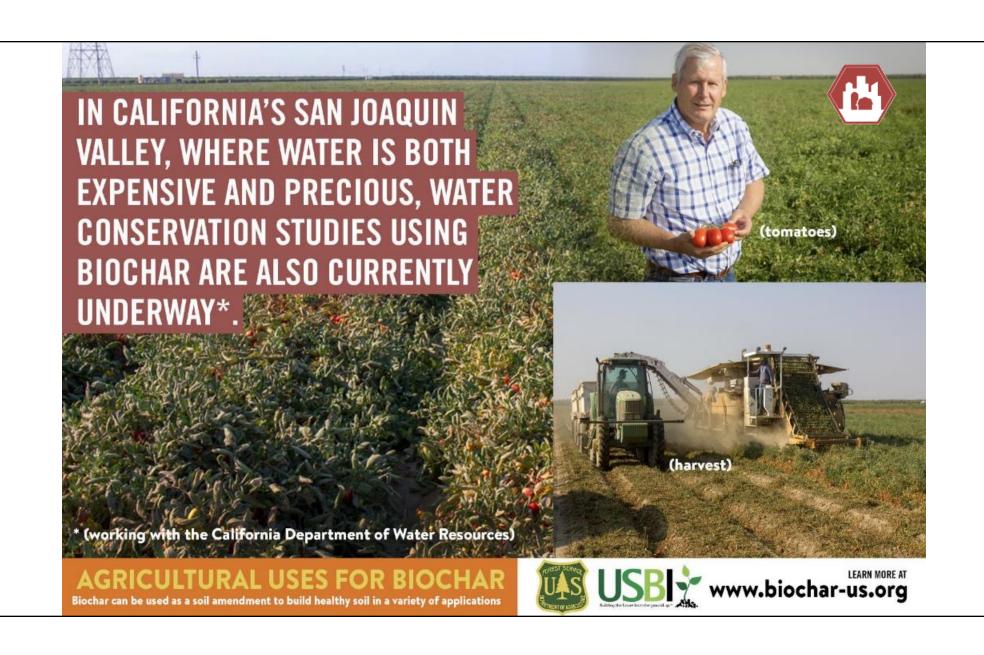
Seedballs Kenya seedballskenya.com



Airseed Technologies airseedtech.com







Produced in Mobile, Modular, & Industrial Systems



"Ring of Fire"
Wilsonbiochar.com



Carbonator 6050 tigercat.com



ARTIchar artichar.com



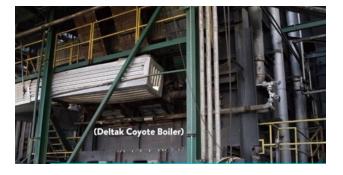
Pyreg 500 Pyreg.de



CharBoss airburners.com



Biomacon Biomacon.com



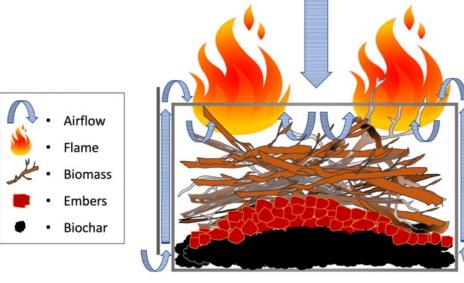
Oregon Biochar Solutions Chardirect.com

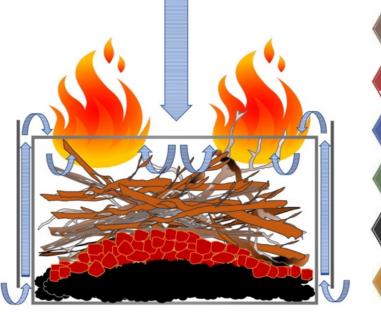


SIMPLE KILNS USED FOR HANDPILES









Wood 5.6 CY/kiln 2 CY biochar in 4-5 hours 1-2 people

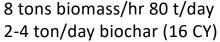
wilsonbiochar.com

Ring of Fire Kiln®



Making Biochar: Air Curtain Burners Reduce Volume Recover Biochar and Energy





Cooperative Research and Development Agreement with US Forest Service for continuous biochar recovery

















Air Curtain Burner 100-1000 kWe



ONSITE PRODUCTION: Curtain of air burns gases. Biochar withdrawn continuously through exit grate.



Air Burners Inc.- USFS Cooperative Research and Development Agreement



7 CY Chamber

4' x 4' x 12'



Mobile Carbonizers Reduce Residue Volume and Recover Biochar



Convert residues, land clearing, road construction wood to biochar for direct use on site.

www.roi-equipment.com



Mobile Carbonizers Recover Biochar from Forest Fuels and Urban Wood: Biochar Shipped in Bag or Bulk



















Biomass Boilers Carry Biochars in Exhaust

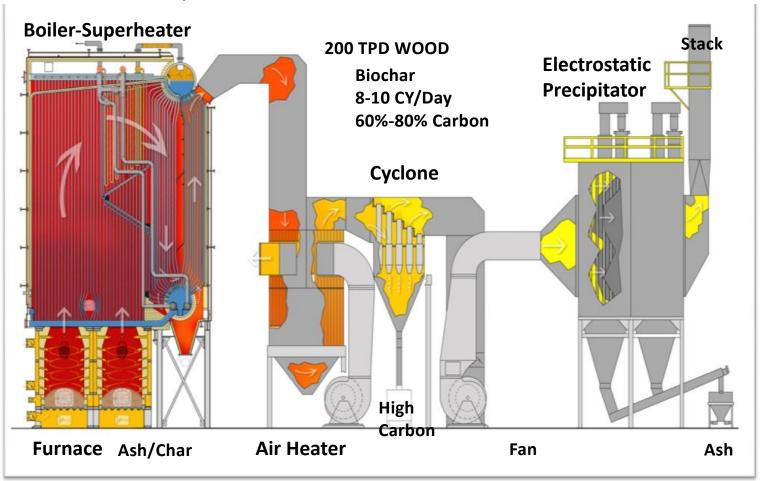






Photo: Capital Press **Freres Lumber**

Source: Wellons, Inc. www.wellonsusa.com





USBI – Scaling Up Biochar – Right Biochar Source – October 2023

96 Ag and Wood Biomass Plants 27 Million Tons per year -> 3,200 MW

Туре	No.	MWe	MMTPY dry
Biomass Plants	159	5,583	45
Ag Waste	6	203	2
Wood	90	3,036	24
MSW	66	2,346	19
Industry			70

U.S. Biomass Power Plants biomassmagazine.com, EIA





Integrated Modular Pyrolysis Systems: Heat and Biochar — BET, ARTiChar















BET

biomass energy techniques. com

ARTi

ARTi.com











Small Industrial Gasifiers Produce Heat and Biochar



Earthcare LLC
earthcarellc.com
2.5 tph fuel
Wood, Manure, Litters,

Gasification, Heat



Ecoremedy
Fluid Lift Gasification
ecoremedyllc.com

Wood, Manure, Digestate, Biosolids, Heat





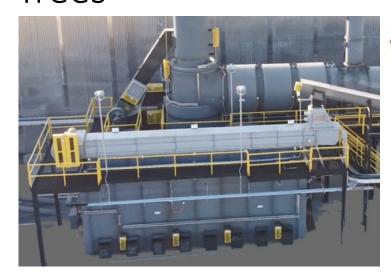








Green Sawdust Gasifier Chars Enhance Turf and Trees



KDS Systems Green Sawdust Gasifier heats Lumber Dry Kilns www.kdskilns.com
3-5 tph fuel input, .25-0.4 t/hr biochar

Biochar co-product refined for landscaping









Liquid or granular biotic soil amendment for golf and turf (LESCO CarbonPro lesco.com)



CarbonPro www.lesco.com/products/carbonpro

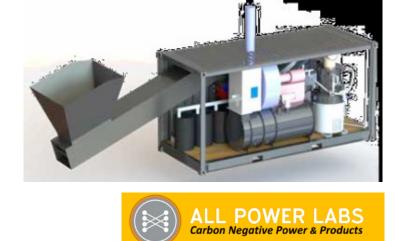
Deeper stronger roots
Improved greening
Improved Soil and Seed Establishment
Increased Nutrient Uptake and
Efficiency
Reduced Water Requirements
Targeted Benefits



Small Scale Gasifiers for Combined Heat & Biochar



Phoenix Energy
California
2 MWe + Biochar
Eqtec.com gasifier
phoenixenergy.net















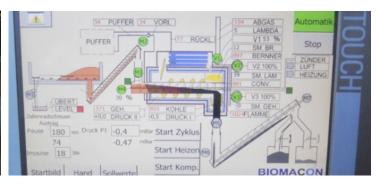




Small Scale: Urban Combined Heat & Biochar







500 KW, + 45 kg/hr biochar





Char used in structured soil







Gasifier-Boiler 1200 kW + 709 kg/hr biochar



Auen Pflege Dienst – Flaach Reference Project ("Small")





- Customer: Auen Pflege Dienst AG (CH)
- Equipment: Biomacon C400-I
- Commissioning: 2019
- Feedstock: Natural wood (forest and landscape management)
- Energy utilization: Feeding up to 400 kWth into the local district heating network and an own district heating network for industry
- Biochar production: up to 360 t/yr of Biochar

biochar-industry.com



Innovative Producers: Qualterra



Washington:

Qualterra, Pullman – <u>Qualterraag.com</u>

- •Molecular Plant Testing
- •Clean Plant Propagation
- **•Biomass Processing & Carbon Regeneration**



Qualterra BPU at Vaagen Timbers, Colville





Equipment manufacturers Examples for industrial equipment producing Biochar













PYREG

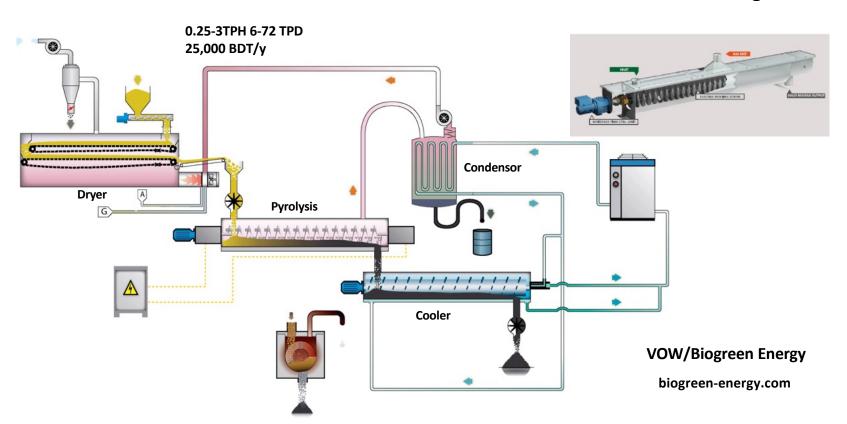
biochar-industry.com





Pyrolyze Chipped Wood to Heat, Biochar, and Oil

VOW ASA/Biogreen Energy

















Small Scale Gasification

Low Capacity

- 300 kg/hr feedstock
- 80-100 kg/hr biochar

Simple Operation

Automated control

Heat Recovery

Hot air or hot water

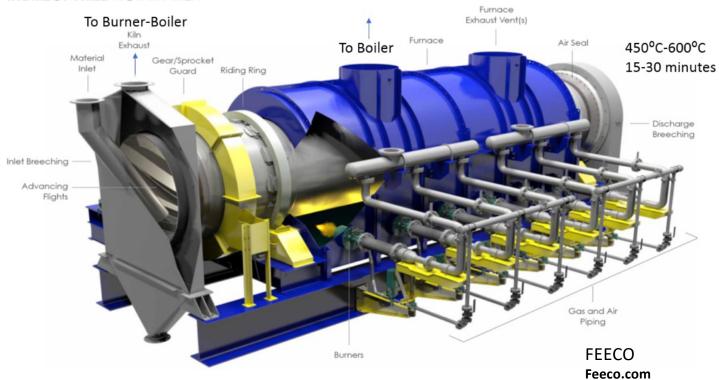
Appliedgaia.com





Rotary Kiln Heats Biomass in Rotating Drum Using Pyrolysis or Auxiliary Gas 48-144 t/d

INDIRECT-FIRED ROTARY KILN





Rotary Kiln Pyrolysis





Char Technologies chartechnologies.com



Rotary Kiln Heats Biomass in Rotating Drum Using Pyrolysis or Auxiliary Gas 48-144 t/d



















Urban Wood Gasified to Heat, Biochar (for Compost)































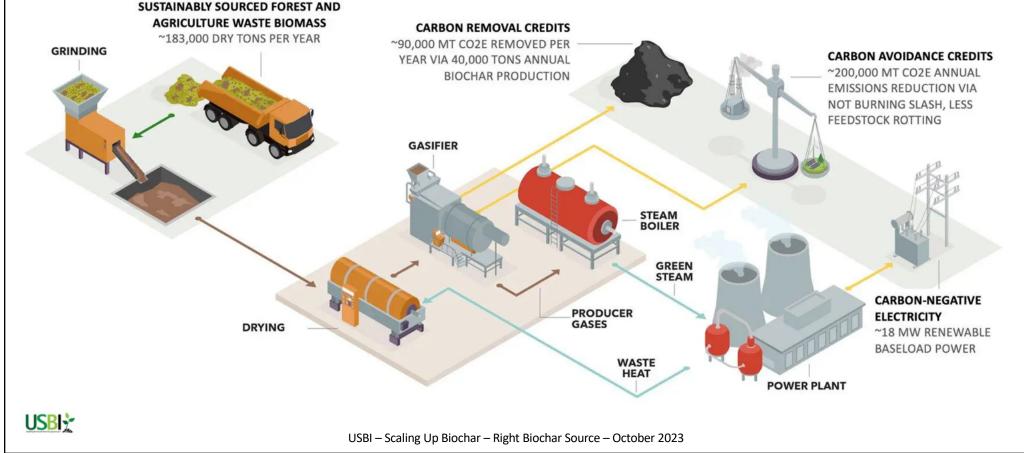


Innovative Producers: Myno Carbon

Washington: Myno Carbon, Kettle Falls







Wood Gasifier: Biochar, Steam and Power (7 MWe)



Waste Wood Heats Kansas Ethanol Plant













ICMinc.com



Using Biochar: Biochars are Delivered in Bulk





80 CY 8-10 t











2 CY 400 lb dry

- **➤** High carbon
- **➤ Low Volatiles**
- > Low Ash
- > Low Fines
- Good Flowability

Oregon Biochar Solutions www.chardirect.com





Biochars are Delivered in Bulk Bags



Bulk bag spout top & bottom



Step deck flatbed truck loaded with 19 pallets of 4 yards 76 cubic yards of biochar on board.

Biochar Solutions LTD.



FROM FACTORY TO USE











Increased Use of Biochars in Urban Soil Repair

Compaction, drainage, aggregation, filtration

























Courtesy Ecotone ecotoneinc.com



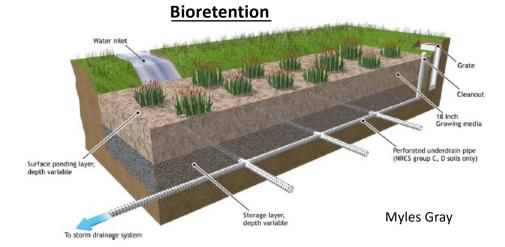


GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE Hydrology, Pollutant Removal, & Co-Benefits

Vegetated Filter Strip



Green Infrastructure BMPs are vegetated treatment systems that harness plants and sandy soil to manage hydrology and remove pollutants



PROS	CONS
Good pollutant removal	Larger footprint
Infiltration to mitigate hydromodification	Can initially export pollutants
Co-benefits	Often high maintenance cost



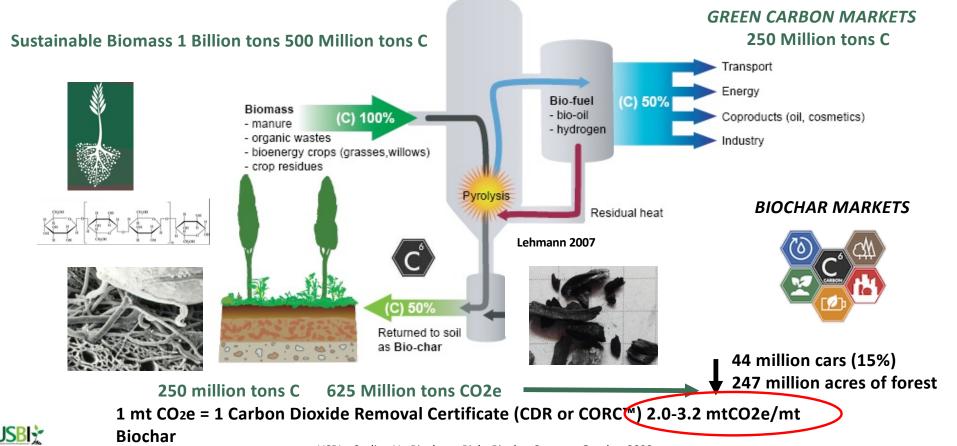
USBI – Scaling Up Biochar – Right Biochar Source – October 2023







SCALE UP CLIMATE RESILIENCE: Make Renewable Energy, Sequester Carbon, Increase Soil Carbon



USBI

USBI – Scaling Up Biochar – Right Biochar Source – October 2023

New climate friendly technologies

convert low-value wood waste to biochar
reduce urban waste, wildfire risk and
facilitate biochar applications.





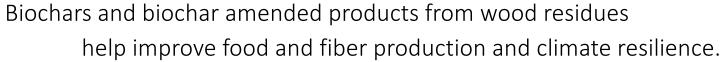
Carbon Markets fund increased biochar production reduce costs





USDA and States create tools and opportunities to increase Soil Carbon and improve Water Quality and Soil Health











Thank you!

Scaling Up Biochar October 25, 2023

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Learning Center & Fact Sheets

