

ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF ENERGY CROPS IN THE EU

THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE FARMER

Peter Soldatos

Agricultural University of Athens

Vasilis Lychnaras

Centre for Planning & Economic Research University of Catania

Calliope Panoutsou Imperial College, London *Salvatore L Cosentino*

18th European Biomass Conference & Exhibition, FROM RESEARCH TO INDUSTRY MARKETS – Lyon, 3-7 May, 2010



Economic viability of crops

Achieved if the return on investment realised is competitive with other job or investment opportunities which are open to the farmer at the present time and in the near future.

- Economic benefit
 - Sustained into the future











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Economic Viability of Energy Crops

- Energy crops are in general uneconomic without state support
- Rapeseed (DE) needs tax reliefs and/or duties on imports from competitors
- Miscanthus (UK) needs DEFRA grant, (40% on installation costs)



Important points in Econ. Analysis of RAPESEED

Starting in 2004, the German government exempted biofuels from taxes in a bid to reduce CO2 emissions—and introduced a raft of subsidies that sparked a rapid expansion of the biodiesel industry, the biggest in the world. Boosted by high oil prices, biodiesel sales in Germany rose to 2.8 million tons in 2006, accounting for almost 5 percent of the country's total transport fuel sales.

HBR

• 2004

- Biofuel tax relief
- Capacity built up
- 2006-7
 - Sales peak at 2.8 m tonnes pa
 - Production hits 2.9 m tonnes
- 2008
 - Biodiesel taxation @ 9 ¢/l
 - Production drops to 2.6 m tonnes
- 2010
 - Biodiesel taxation @ 18 ¢/l
 - Production drops to 2.2 m tonnes
 - Capacity 5 m tonnes pa !!!



Economic Viability of Energy Crops in the EU

Cultivation of renewable resources in Germany





Rapeseed Cultivation in Germany





Biodiesel Production Champions

- Germany looses top position in 2010
 - After many years of leadership in biodiesel production, Germany is now behind the USA and Argentina, who is developing into a world exporter.

ktonnes	2010	2009
USA	2,500	1,870
ARGENTINA	2,300	1,300
GERMANY	2,200	2,400
FRANCE	2,100	2,000



Rapeseed rotates with cereals. It will be cultivated only if it returns the same profitability

RAPESEED GERMANY	TOTAL	WHEAT	Figure 1: Equiprofit selling price combinations
Land Rent	197.00	197	273
Fertilisation	270.77	150	308 238 294 203
Harvesting	95.16	80	
Sowing	64.62	55	278 264 98
Spraying	26.16	40	
Tillage	149.75	150	251 28 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63 63
TOTAL	803.46	672	100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135
			Selling Price of Wheat (EUR/t)
TOTAL (€/tonne)	229.56	96	Profit/ha
Selling price (€/t)	270.00	110	
Profit (€/t)	40.44	14	
Profit (€/ha)	141.54	98	
Yield t/ha	3,5	7	

Econ	omic Viab	ility of E	Energy	Crops in t	he EU		12
Rapesee	ed yield (t/ha)	= 3.5		Wheat	yield (t/ha) =	7	
RAPESEED GERMANY	Energy	Labour	Land	Machinery	Raw Materials	TOTAL	WHEAT
Land Rent			197.00			197.00	197
Fertilisation	8.24	12.03		15.80	234.70	270.77	150
Harvesting	44.28	17.50		33.38		95.16	80
Sowing	5.17	4.38		10.07	45.00	64.62	55
Spraying	3.69	5.47		7.00	10.00	26.16	40
Tillage	87.33	31.73		30.69		149.75	150
TOTAL TOTAL	148.71	71.11	197.00	96.94	289.70	803.46	672
(€/tonne)	42.49	20.32	56.29	27.70	82.77	229.56	96
Selling price (€,	/t)					270.00	110
Profit (€/t)						40.44	14
Profit (€/ha)						141.54	98



Subsidy loss – End of season?

"More pure biodiesel would require a new network of petrol stations to be built and for car engines to be modified, and that doesn't make economic sense.

We would like to see the second generation biofuels developed as soon as possible."

Dunow,

Spokesperson for the German Environment Ministry

Tobias



Energy Balance Efficiency

- By the end of 2010
 - Biofuels must achieve a 35% reduction in GHG
 - RAPESEED meets the target
- From 2017 though it is expected that the EU will require a 50% energy balance efficiency
 - RAPESEED does not meet this higher target!



Miscanthus UK: Facts sheet

- About 6,000 ha
- Yields: From 10 to 25 tonnes /ha
- Sale price 50 60 eur/t
- Establishment cost up to 2000 eur
- Establishment Subsidy (DEFRA) up to 800 eur



Cost analysis of miscanthus cultivation

Average Yield (t/ha):	⁻ 14	Price (EUR): 50
	€/ha	Ann. Eq. 15yrs
Total establishment	1682.50	221.20
minus Grant	673.00	88.48
Net Investment Cost	1009.50	132.72
Recurring Costs	€/ha	Ann. Eq. 15yrs
Fertilization	109.35	109.35
Harvesting	161.05	161.05
Land Rent	175.80	175.80
Total (recurring)	446.20	446.20
Total cost before grant	667.40	
Total cost net of grant (€/ha)		578.92
Total cost before grant	47.67	
Total cost net of grant	(€/t)	41.35



Economic Viability of Energy Crops in the EU

MISCANTHUS - UK

Average Yield (t/ha): 1	4	Sale price (EUR):	50
Establishment Costs	€/ha	Ann. Eq. 10yrs	Ann. Eq. 15yrs
Tillage	166.13	27.04	21.84
Planting	1162.25	189.15	152.81
Fertilization	136.42	22.20	17.94
Spraying	41.90	6.82	5.51
Land Rent	175.80	28.61	23.11
Total establishment	1682.50	273.82	221.20
minus Grant	673.00	109.53	88.48
Net Investment Cost	1009.50	164.29	132.72
Recurring Costs	€/ha	Ann. Eq. 10yrs	Ann. Eq. 15yrs
Fertilization	109.35	109.35	109.35
Harvesting	161.05	161.05	161.05
Land Rent	175.80	175.80	175.80
Total (recurring)	446.20	446.20	446.20
Total cost before grant (€/ha)		720.02	667.40
Total cost net of grant (€/ha)		610.49	578.92
Total cost before grant (€/t)		51.43	47.67
Total cost net of grant (€/t)		43.61	41.35



Miscanthus in the UK can be a viable option

- High establishment cost and maturity in the 4th year
- Grant is around 800 EUR
 = 80 eur/yr
- It takes about 5 years to break even
- If initial investment is spread in 15 years, there is a margin of about 250 eur/yr



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