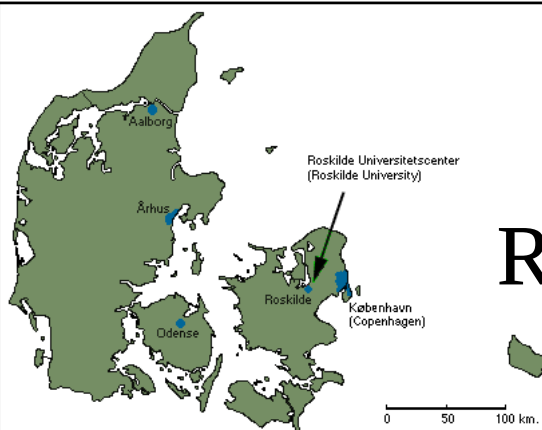


Dansk forskning om biokol

(hnie@ruc.dk)

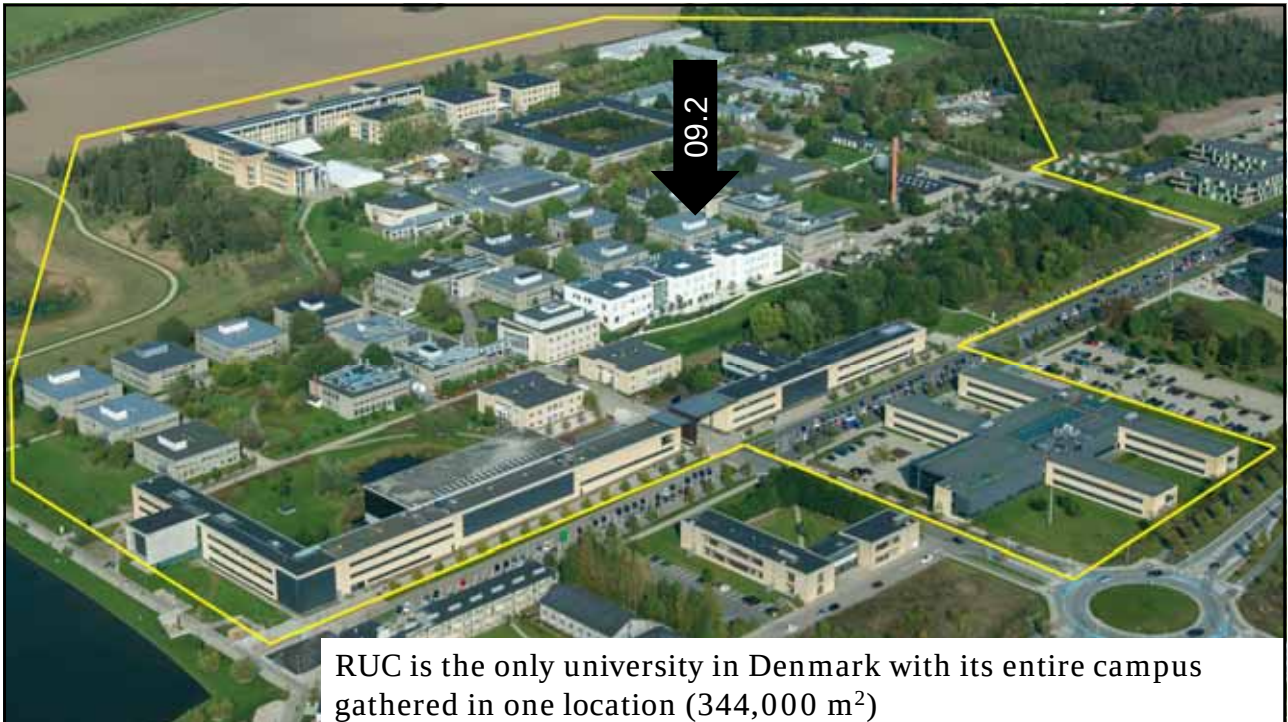
Department of Environmental, Social and Spatial Change



Roskilde University

"In tranquillo mors, in fluctu vita"
"In stillness death, in movement life"









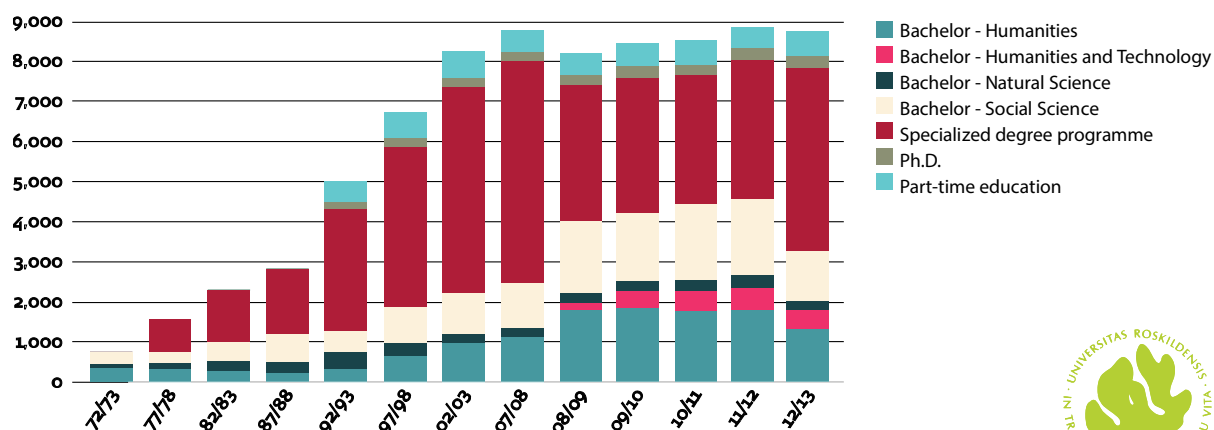
Learning and education

- Interdisciplinarity
 - Problem orientation project work in groups
 - Close linkage of theory and practice
-
- Bachelor degree, master degree, doctoral programme
 - Continuing education: Master and diploma programme
 - Summer school, FabLab and courses



Number of Students

1972 - 2013



Projects

2008-2011: BioChar: Sustainable co-production of pyrolysis bio-oil. DTU Globalisation money

2010-2013: Biochar: climate saving soils. The Interreg IVB North Sea Region Programme

2012-2015: Biochar as option for sustainable resource management. EU COST Action TD1107

2012-2016: Combined soil carbon sequestration and crop nutrient supply. Villum Fonden

2012-2016: Fuel-flexible, efficient and sustainable low temperature biomass gasification. EUDP

2014-2017: Microbial biofertilizers for enhanced crop availability of phosphorus pools in soil and waste. DSF



Partnere



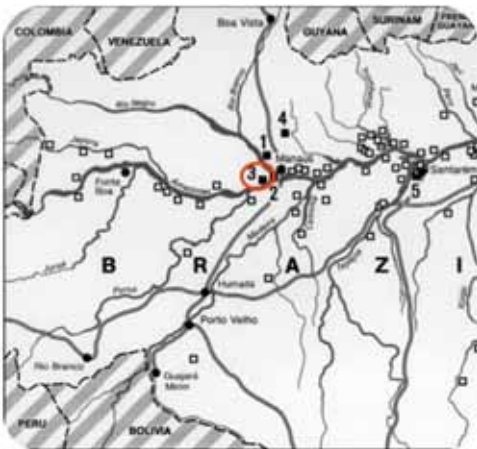
Danmarks
Tekniske
Universitet



KØBENHAVNS
UNIVERSITET



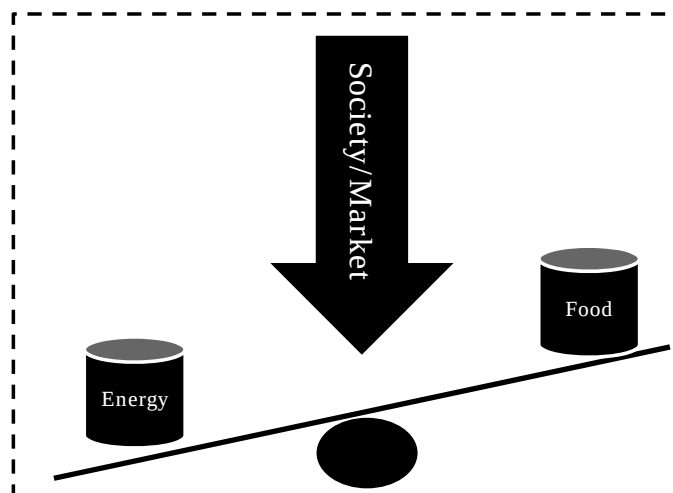
Terra Preta soils of Amazonas



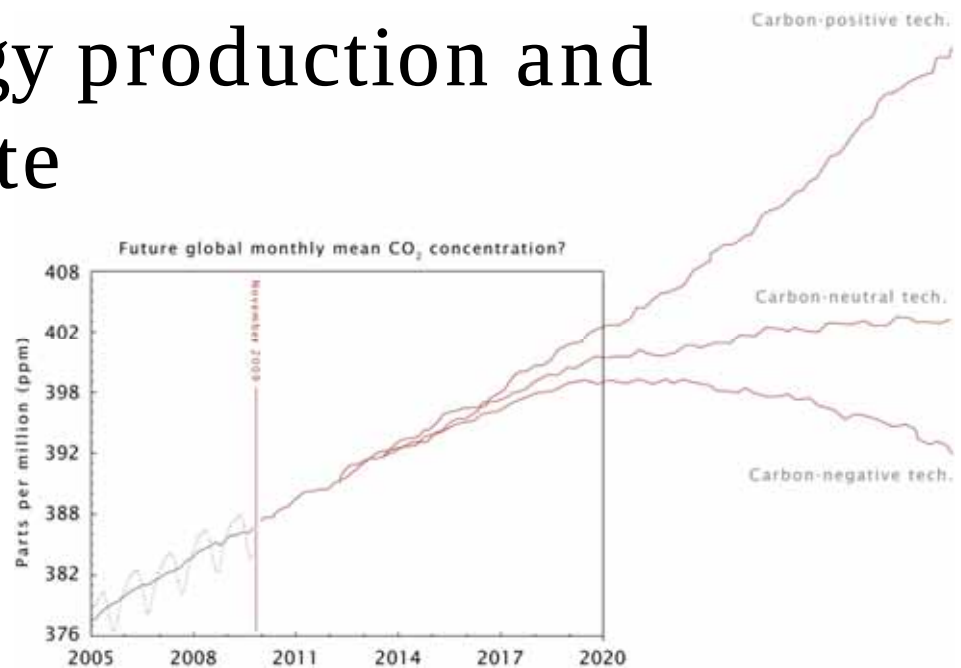


Objective

Climate mitigation



Energy production and climate



Biochar and crops

Table 1 Relation between charcoal amendments to soil and crop response

Treatment	Amendment (Mg ha ⁻¹)	Biomass production (%)	Plant height (%)	Root biomass (%)	Shoot biomass (%)	Plant type	Soil type	Reference
Control	—	100	100	—	—	Bauhinia wood	Alfisol/Ustisol	Chidumayo (1994)
Charcoal	Unknown	113	124	—	—	Bauhinia wood	Alfisol/Ustisol	
Control	—	100	—	—	—	Soybean	Volcanic ash soil, loam	Kishimoto and Sugimura (1985)
Charcoal	0.5	151	—	—	—	Soybean	Volcanic ash soil, loam	Iswaran et al. (1980)
Charcoal	5.0	63	—	—	—	Soybean	Volcanic ash soil, loam	Kishimoto and Sugimura (1985)
Charcoal	15.0	29	—	—	—	Soybean	Volcanic ash soil, loam	
Control	—	100	—	—	—	Pea	Dehli soil	Iswaran et al. (1980)
Charcoal	0.5	160	—	—	—	Pea	Dehli soil	
Control	—	100	—	—	—	Moong	Dehli soil	
Charcoal	0.5	122	—	—	—	Moong	Dehli soil	
Control	—	100	—	100	—	Cowpea	Xanthic Ferralsol	Glaser et al. (2002a, 2002b)
Charcoal	33.6	127	—	—	—	Oats	Sand	
Charcoal	67.2	120	—	—	—	Rice	Xanthic Ferralsol	
Charcoal	67.2	150	—	140	—	Cowpea	Xanthic Ferralsol	
Charcoal	135.2	200	—	190	—	Cowpea	Xanthic Ferralsol	
Control	—	100	100	100	100	Maize	Alfisol	Mbagwu and Piccolo (1997)
Coal humic acid	0.2	118	114	122	114	Maize	Alfisol	
Coal humic acid	2.0	176	145	186	166	Maize	Alfisol	
Coal humic acid	20.0	132	125	144	120	Maize	Alfisol	
Control	—	100	100	100	100	Maize	Inceptisol	
Coal humic acid	0.2	125	119	122	127	Maize	Inceptisol	
Coal humic acid	2.0	186	148	198	173	Maize	Inceptisol	
Coal humic acid	20.0	139	131	147	130	Maize	Inceptisol	
Control	—	100	100	100	—	Sugi trees	Clay loam	Kishimoto and Sugimura (1985)
Wood charcoal	0.5	249	126	130	—	Sugi trees	Clay loam	
Bark charcoal	0.5	324	132	115	—	Sugi trees	Clay loam	
Activated charcoal	0.5	244	135	136	—	Sugi trees	Clay loam	

From Zweiten et al. 2010

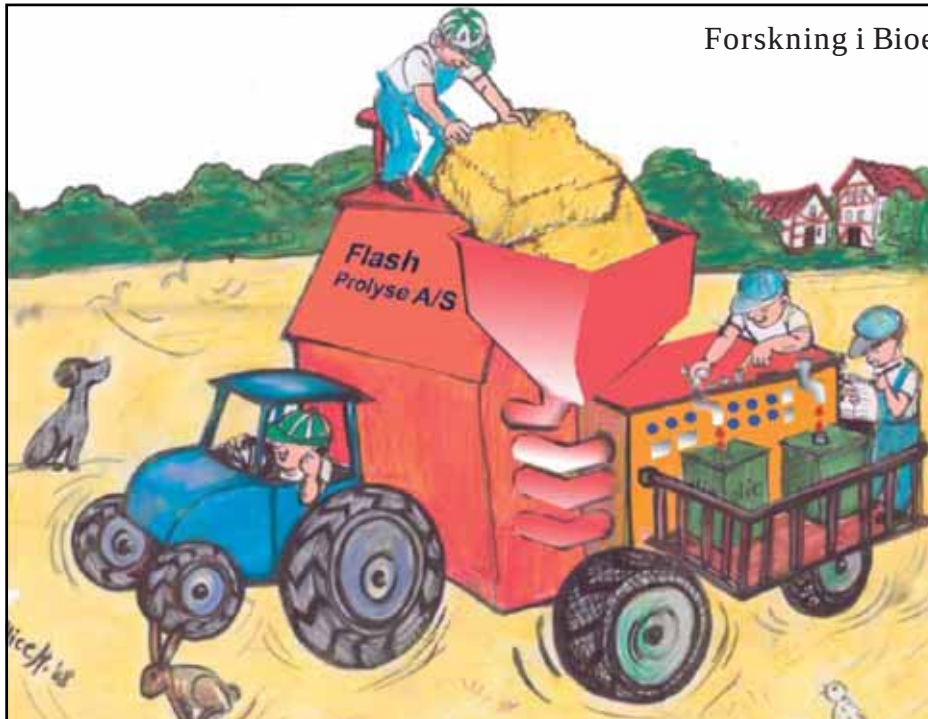


Clear advantages!?!☺



“I believe **biochar** helps protect and build the structure of my soil especially when you water as much as I do.”

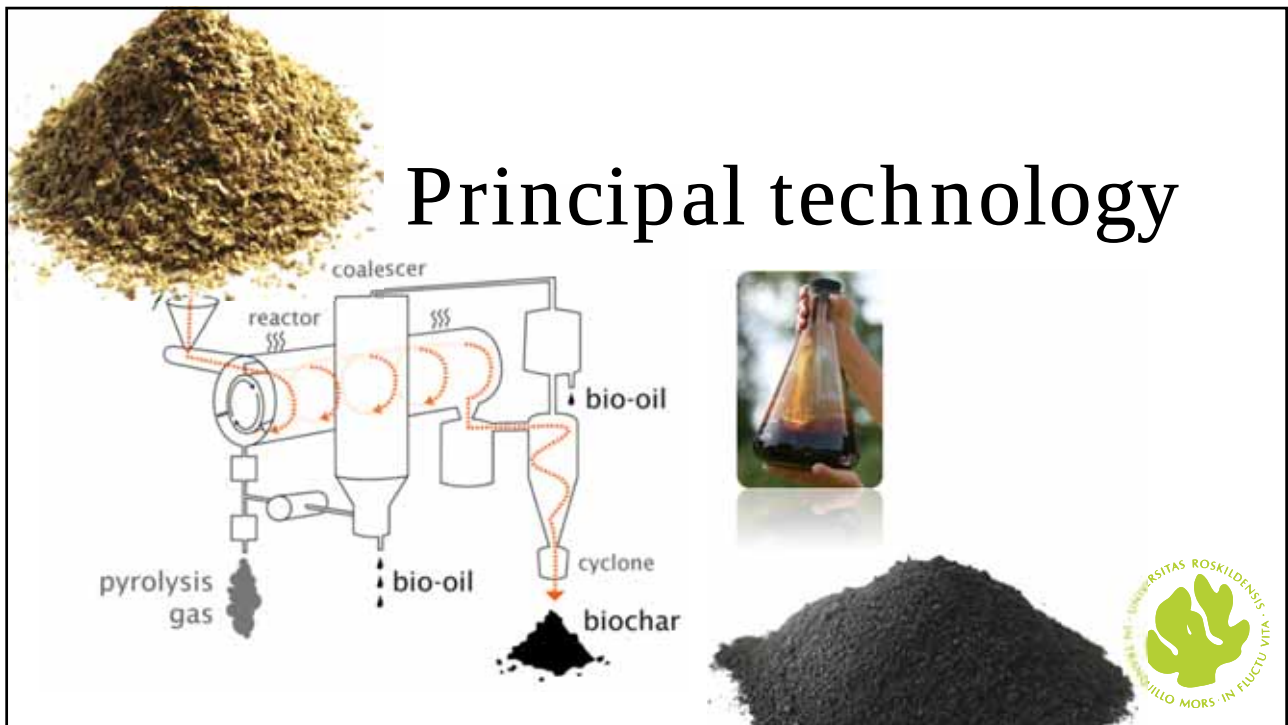
Jeff Joliet, Illinois, 2010



Forskning i Bioenergi nr. 24 • juni 2008







© Fast pyrolysis

- Heating (300-600°C) without oxygen.
- Fast heating rate.

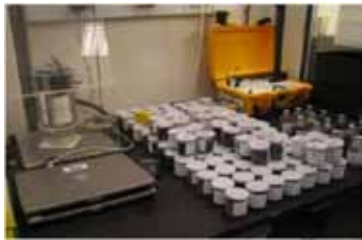
Source: Arendt, Unpubl.

DTU

200 kg hour⁻¹

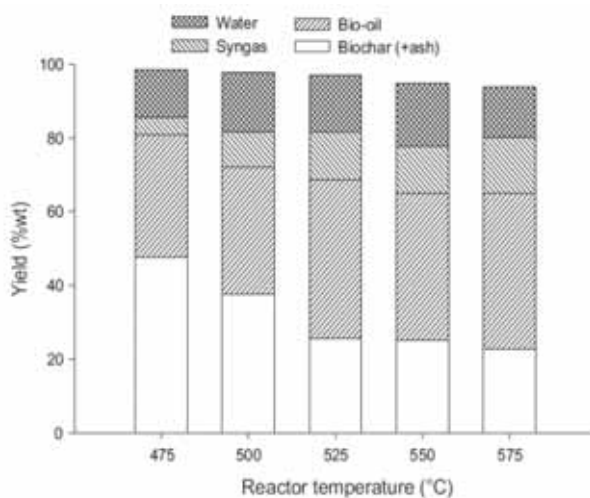
TRANQUILLO MORS IN FLUCTU VITILLO

Lab and semi-field experiments



Source: Bruun et al. 2011, 2012a; 2012b

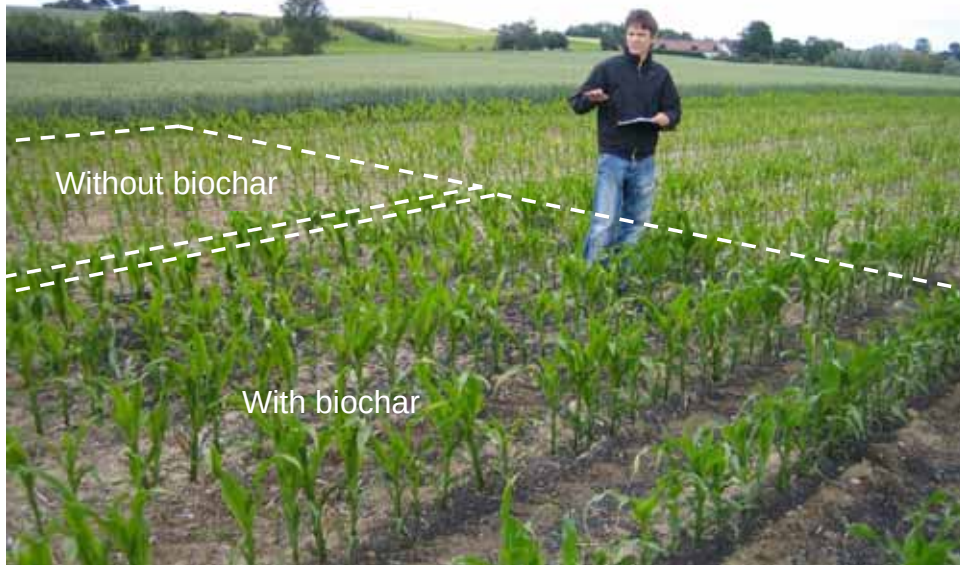
Biochar is not just biochar



PCR Temp °C	Biochar	
	Yield ^a g C kg ⁻¹ C	Stability ^b % of wt
475	550	65.6
500	464	82.7
525	329	92.4
550	316	95
575	291	97



Farmer attitude



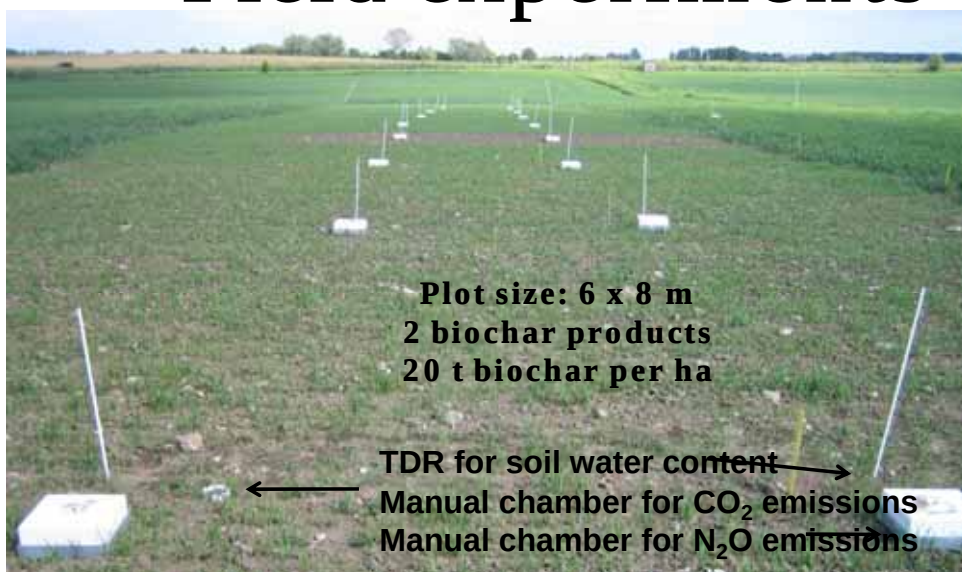
Farmer cooperation



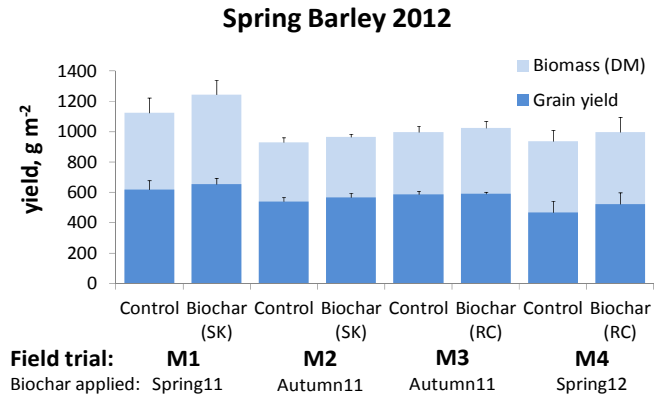
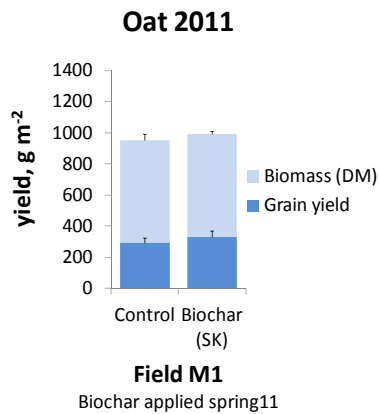
Field application



Field experiments



Crop yields



Source: Bruun, unpubl.



Set the scene – *in Denmark*

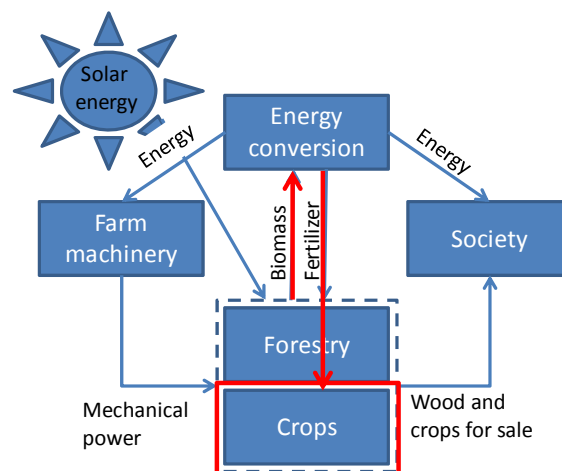
- A. 1.2 - 1.7 mill. tons straw year⁻¹ used for energy
- B. Recycling of phosphorus (80% 2018)

- Energy companies; waste material (not resources)
- Farmers; new markets

- a) Price of straw does not cover the cost of handling
- b) Concerns about sewage sludge soil application



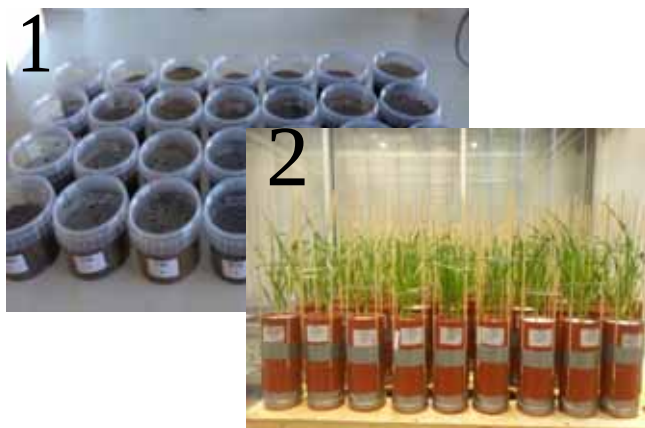
Across sector integration



“We are not going to give away our straw for bioenergy
– it is too valuable for the cropping system”



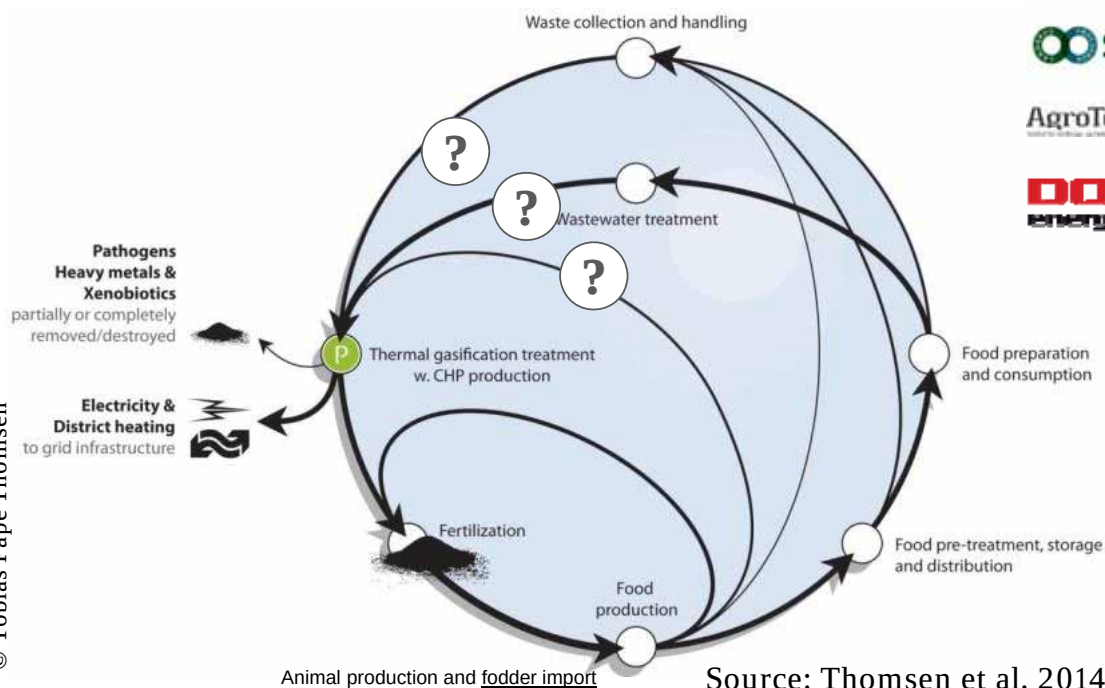
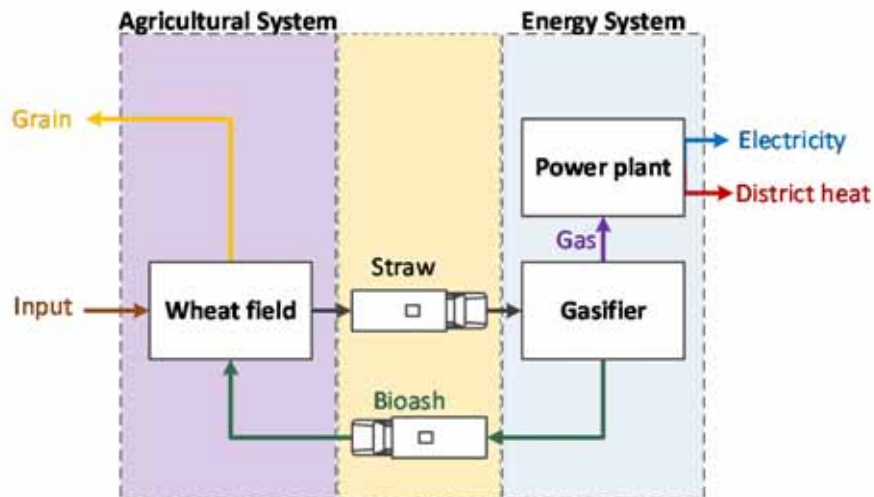
Mechanistic understanding and recommendations



Source: Hansen et al. 2014, 2015

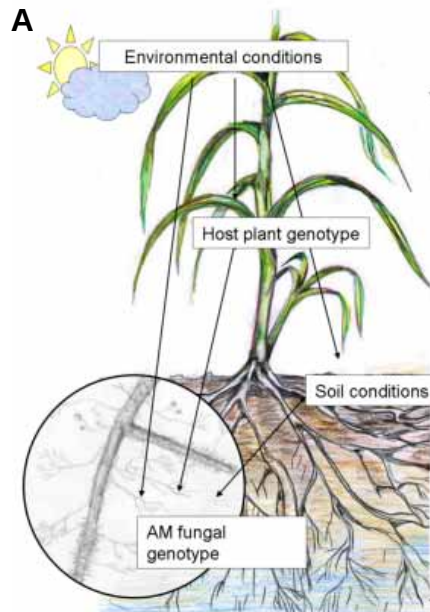
Source: Sigurjonsson et al. Unpubl.

Whole system analyses (LCA)



Source: Thomsen et al. 2014, unpubl.

Phosphorous Solubilizing Microorganisms (PSM)



Source: Raymond et al. unpubl.



Promising but maybe not convincing

- Renewable fertilizer
- Straw K; sewage sludge P (KPC)
- Liming agent
- No harmful soil effects (living soils)
- Soil carbon benefits difficult to show – longer term
- Demand-driven farmer involvement required

