

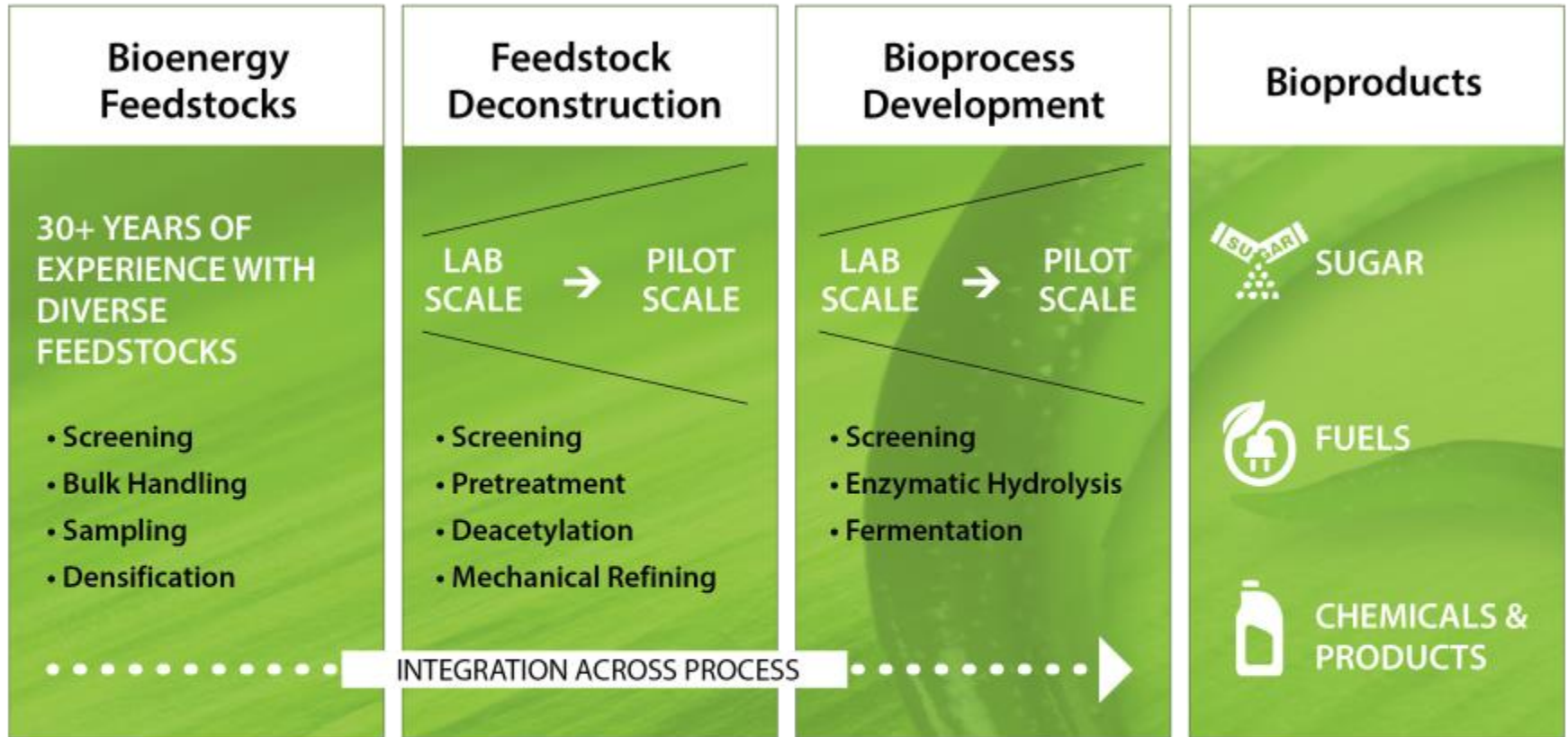


# The Challenge of Cellulose

**Justin B. Sluiter**

National Renewable Energy Laboratory  
Golden, Colorado

# Analytical Support of Gen 2.0 Biofuels



## ANALYTICAL

- Compositional Analysis
- On-Line and At-Line Characterization
- Techno-Economic Analysis

# Cell wall structure

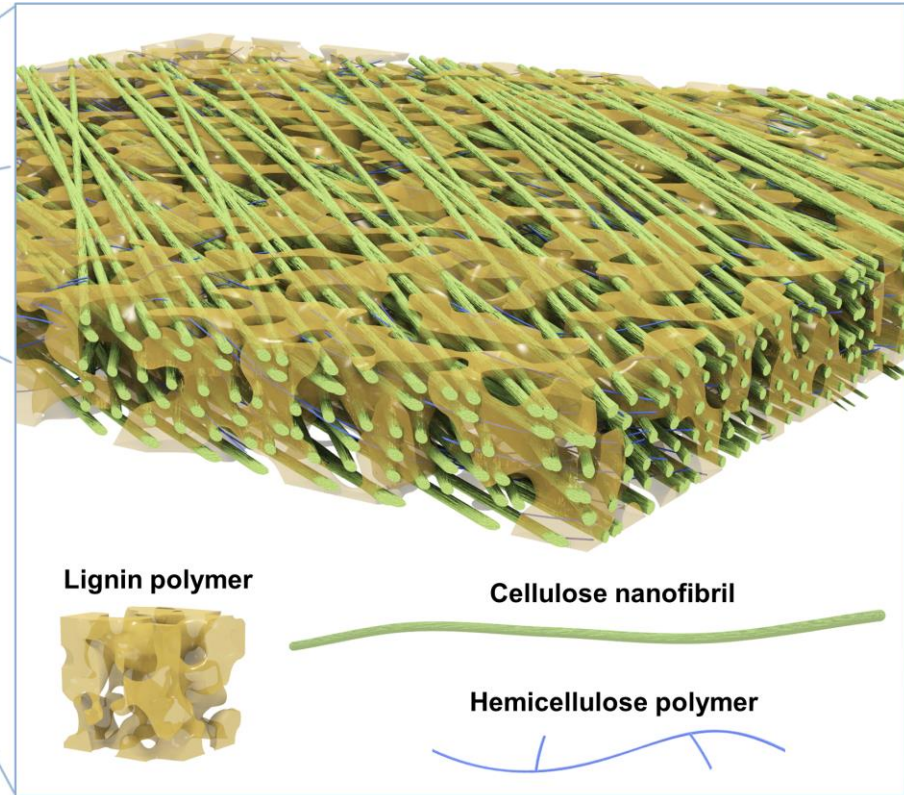
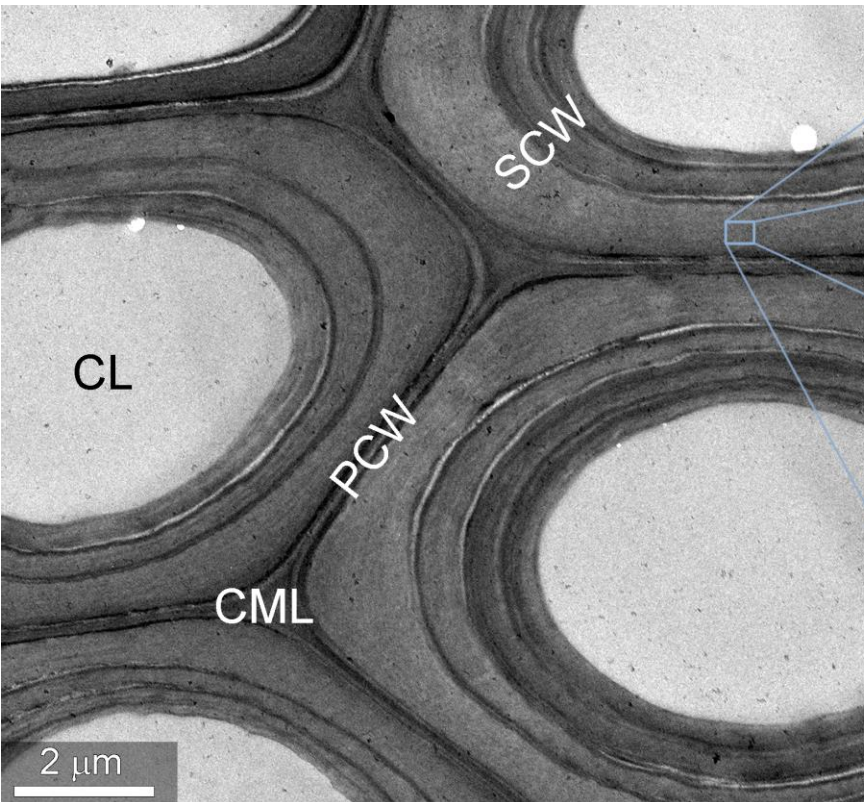
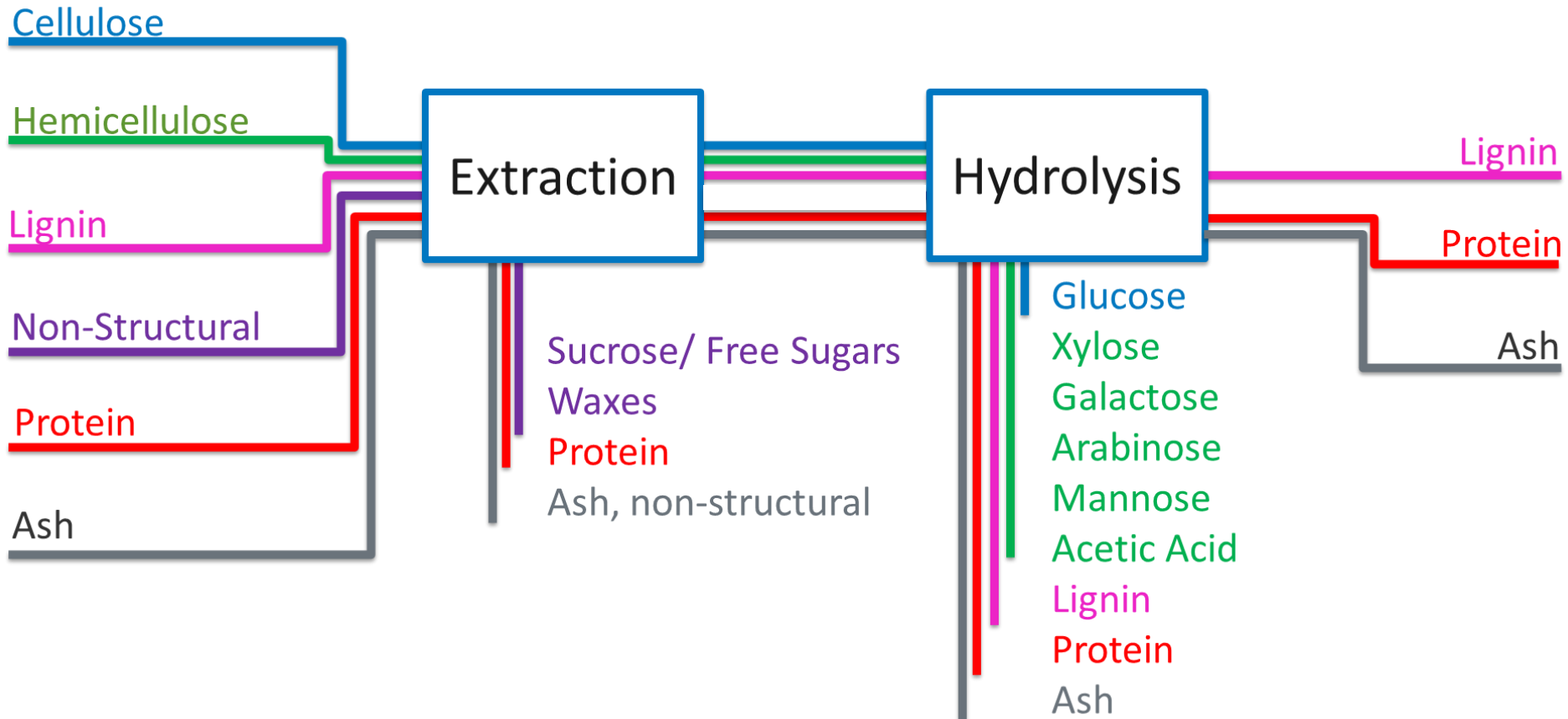


Image: P. Ciesielski, NREL

# Component Flow During Acid Hydrolysis



# NREL LAPs



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Laboratory Analytical  
Procedures

Biomass Compositional  
Analysis

Bio-Oil Analysis

Microalgae Compositional  
Analysis

## Biomass Compositional Analysis Laboratory Procedures

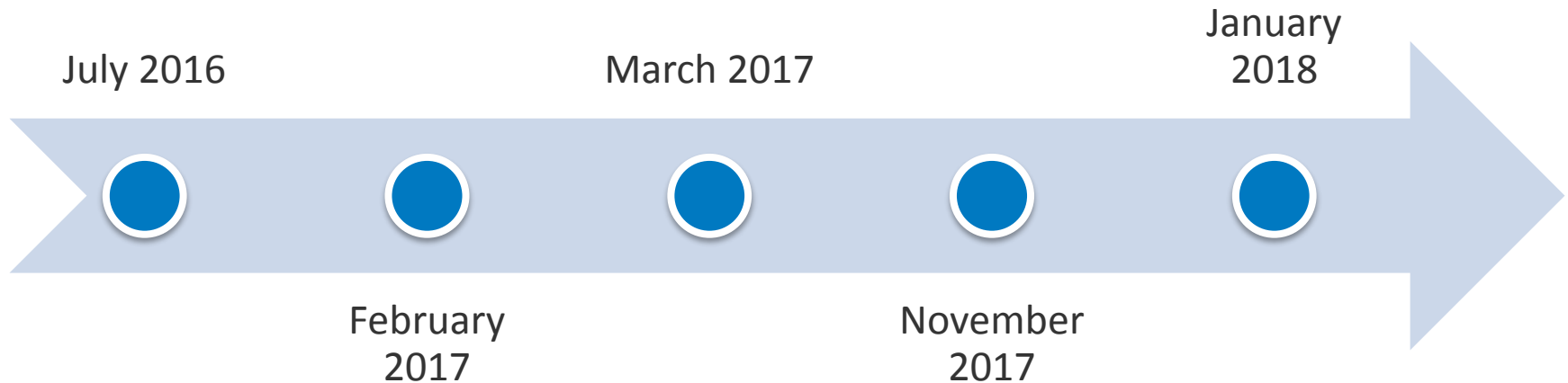
NREL develops laboratory analytical procedures (LAPs) for standard biomass analysis. These procedures help scientists and analysts understand more about the chemical composition of raw biomass feedstocks and process intermediates for conversion to biofuels.

[View Publications](#)

In FY17 the website recorded over 10,000 unique site visits, and over 8,000 unique LAP downloads.

# EPA RIN Pathway Certification

In the summer of 2016, I participated in my first RIN pathway evaluation and four more up until 2018.

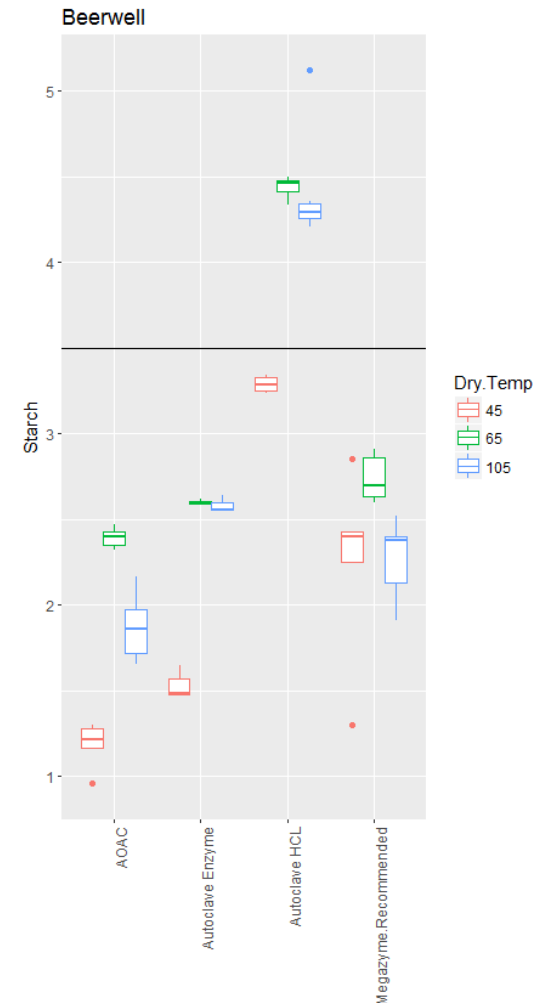
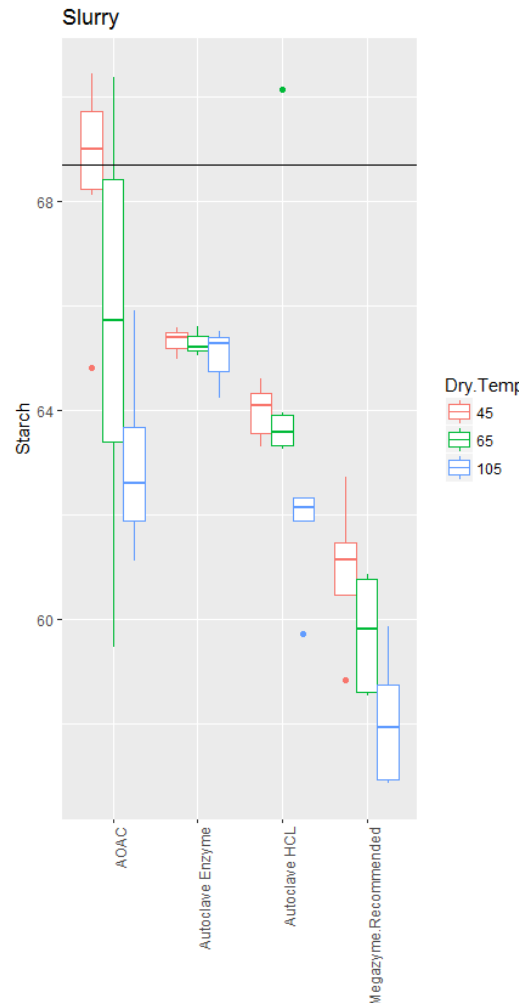


Since then NREL has stopped evaluating methods and shifted to method development to assist the industry.

# The Importance of Starch Methods

2017

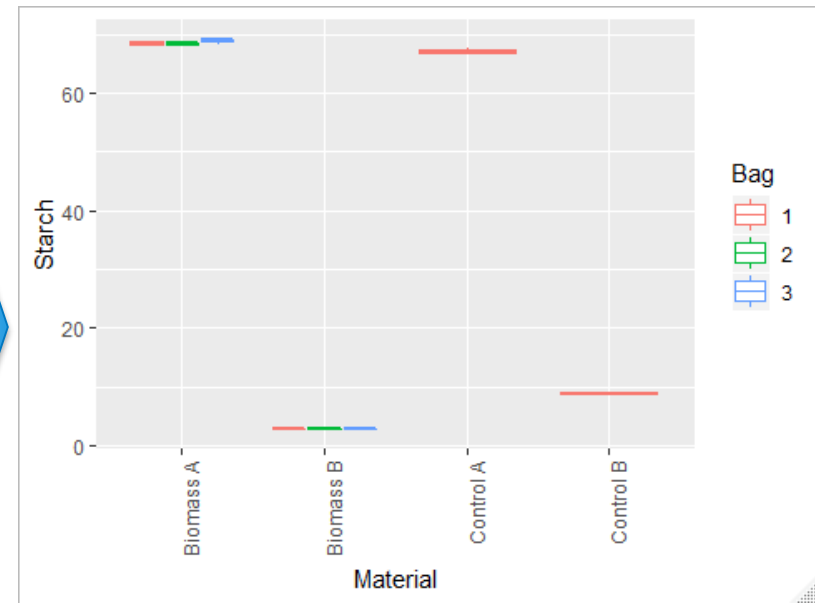
In collaboration with ICM, NREL studied the effect of varying starch assays and drying temperatures on the quantified starch.



# Development of Reference Materials

# 2017

In August, NREL engaged with NIST to begin development of the reference materials.



NREL is “Lab #5” in the NIST study

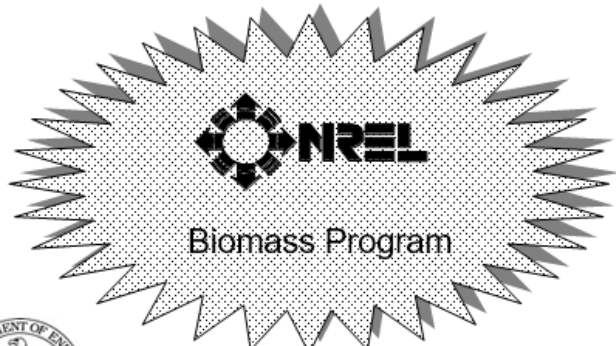




# New Starch LAP

# 2019

To properly quantify the starch in the NIST reference materials, NREL developed a new LAP for starch analysis

- Conforms to AOAC 996.11
- Recommends minor changes of equipment.

  	
<b>Biomass Analysis Technology Team</b> <b>Laboratory Analytical Procedure</b>	
<b>Version 2019</b>	
<b>Procedure Title: Determination of Starch in Solid Biomass Samples by HPLC</b>	
<b>Primary Author(s):</b> Michelle Reed, Courtney Payne, Justin Sluiter, <b>Contributing Authors:</b>	<b>Date:</b> 6/22/19
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	<b>SUPERSEDES:</b>

# EPA guidance document

In May 2019, EPA released ***Guidance on Qualifying an Analytical Method for Determining the Cellulosic Converted Fraction of Corn Kernel Fiber*** with metrics for analytical precision and accuracy.



<https://www.epa.gov/renewable-fuel-standard-program/guidance-qualifying-analytical-method-determining-cellulosic>

13 pp, 726 K, EPA-420-B-19-022

# EPA-DOE Partnership

At the June 2019 ASTM conference in Denver, EPA announced a partnership with DOE/NREL to develop a publicly available analytical method capable of meeting the guidance from EPA.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Energy Efficiency &  
Renewable Energy

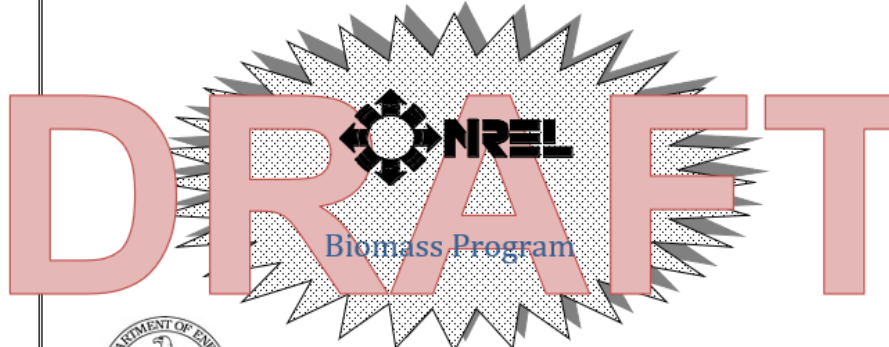


BIOENERGY TECHNOLOGIES OFFICE



NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

In 2018 we developed a DRAFT LAP for “*Determination of Cellulose Content in High Starch Containing Feedstocks*”.

It is not validated.

 <b>DRAFT</b>	
	
<b>Biomass Analysis Technology Team</b> <b>Laboratory Analytical Procedure</b>	
Version ____	
<b>Procedure Title: Determination of Cellulosic Carbohydrate Content in High Starch Containing Feedstocks</b>	
<b>Primary Author(s):</b> Justin Sluiter <b>Contributing Authors:</b> Courtney Payne, Ryan Ness, Brittany Thornton, Michelle Nolker, Alexa Schwartz	<b>Date:</b> _____
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	<b>SUPERSEDES:</b>

# New Cellulosic Method Development

## Method Optimization

Winter 2019

- Based on the “*Determination of Cellulose Content in High Starch Containing Feedstocks*”.

## 1. Training and Round Robin

Winter/Spring 2020

- Training DOE laboratory Scientists to perform the LAP
- Performing the round robin on appropriate reference materials

## 1. Collating the Data

Spring 2020

- With the help of NIST so that the reference material can have a cellulose value added to the certificate

## Preparing and Releasing the Report

Summer 2020

- First given to EPA
- Then report and method released to Industry

Thank You

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# Carbohydrate Analysis Flow Corn Fiber

