

# EFFICIENT BIOMASS LOGISTICS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

## CHALLENGES AND BEST PRACTISES

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*7 September 2023*



# BioFuel Region<sup>TM</sup>

– fuelling the bioeconomy and sustainable transports



BioFuel Region is a member owned non-profit organization working for a well-developed bioeconomy and a low carbon vehicle fleet by initiating, coordinating, and collaborating on project.

Area: 7\*Belgium (221 800 km<sup>2</sup>) 70 % Forest land

The aim is to further develop the region!

# ACTIONS LEADING THE WAY TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE, CIRCULAR BIOECONOMY EU BIOECONOMY STRATEGY

1. strengthen and scale-up the bio-based sectors, unlock investments and markets
2. deploy local bioeconomies rapidly across Europe;
3. understand the ecological boundaries of the bioeconomy.



# DIFFERENT BIOMASS CHALLENGES

- **Dedicated bio crops**

Optimized logistics not considering main product

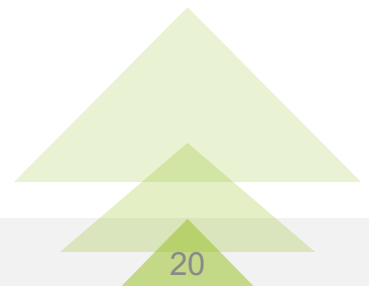
- **Forestry or agricultural by products**

Low biomass density over large geographical areas, Seasonality

- **Bioindustries by products**

Dependency on main products

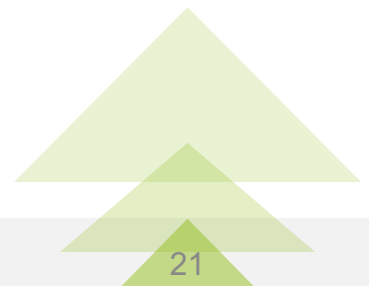
Byproduct logistics is secondary to main product



## COMMON CHALLENGES

*The costs of harvesting, transporting, storing and handling biomass are prime determinants of overall biorefining costs.*

*Thus, it is vitally important to develop local biomass supply systems that for long time can efficiently supply end-users with sufficient raw material that meets their specific quality and seasonal demands.*



# 20 YEARS HISTORY OF CROSS BORDER COOPERATION HIGHLY APPLIED RESEARCH ON BIOMASS LOGISTICS



2003 - 2004 Bioenergy from Forest

2005 - 2007 Bioenergy from Forest 2

2009 - 2012 Forest Power

2012 - 2014 [Forest Refine 2.5 M €](#)

2016 – 2019- [Bio Hub 2.3 M €](#)

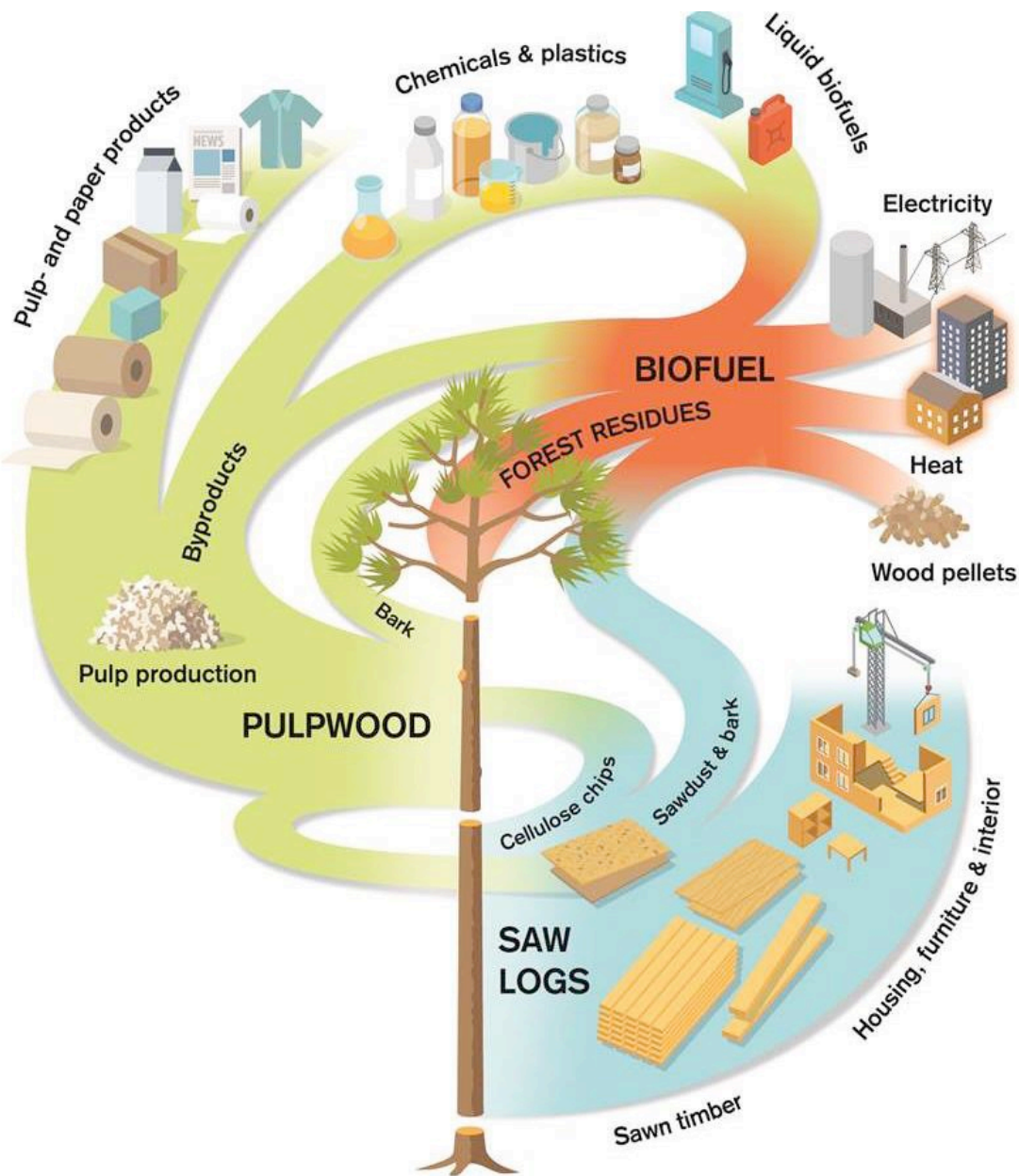
2021 – 2022 Added Value 0.6 M €



# FEEDSTOCK COSTS IS OFTEN NEGLECTED

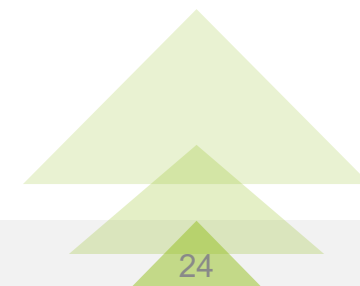
- People often make unrealistic optimistic assumptions about things like feedstock costs
- Raw material supply cost often represents >50% of the overall cost for refining
- To be competitive - more focus should be put on the feedstock instead of on the technology to process it





**DIFFERNT MATURITY OF THE VALUE CHAINS**  
In Sweden forest biomass has provided the basis for significant industrial activity for more than 150 years

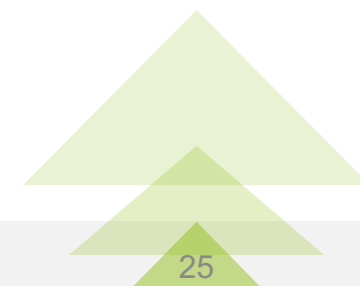
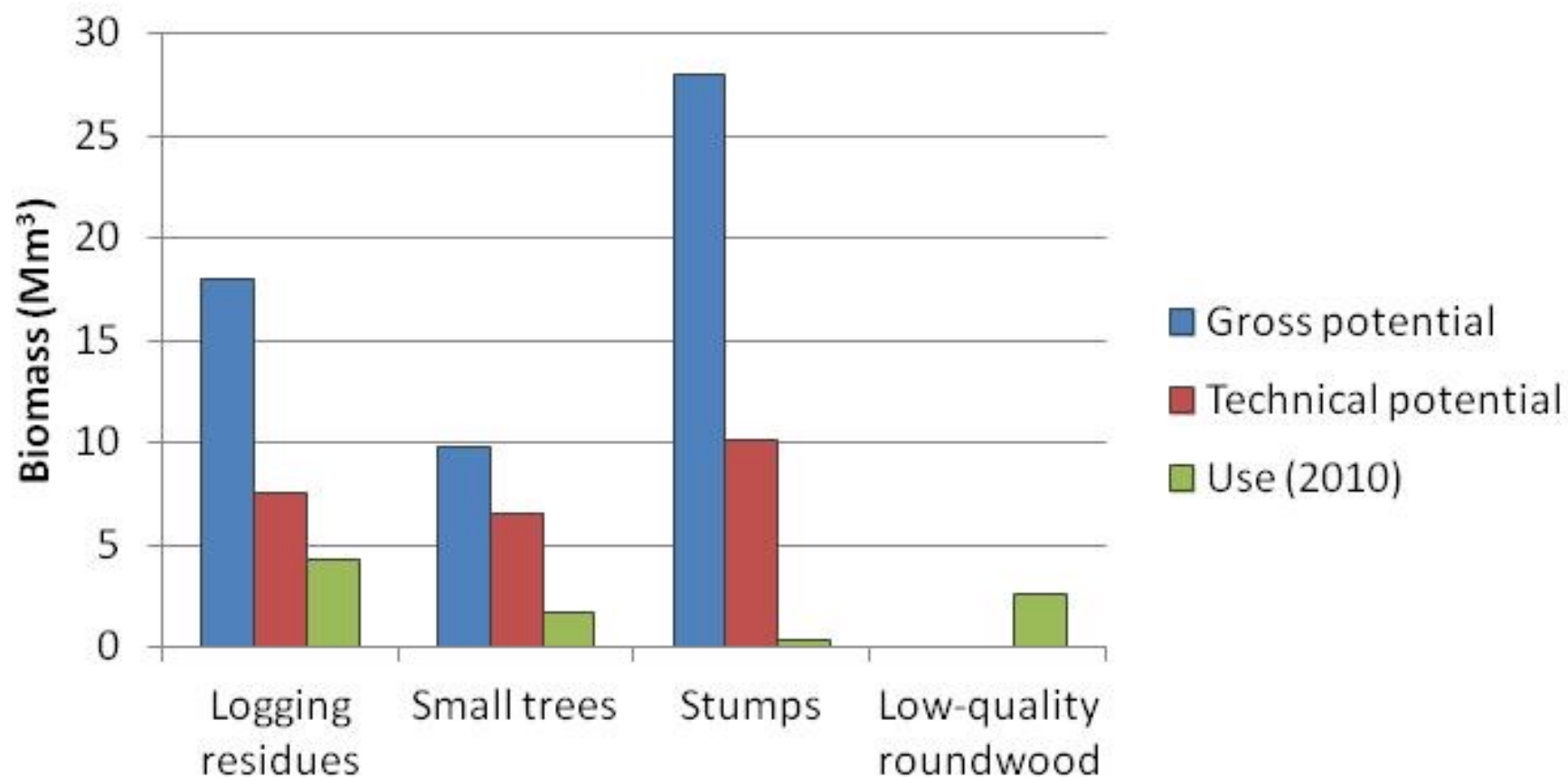
- Forest biomass value chain very well developed
- All infrastructure available (roads, machinery, know how)
- Add value in an existing value chain





# Annual Forest Biomass potential in Sweden

Actual use is often much smaller than gross potential



# SAWMILL BY PRODUCTS ARE PRODUCED AS A RESULT OF SAWMILL OPERATION **ALL THE YEAR AROUND**

Biomass availability is not seasonality,  
but demand is

**Sawdust** - 15% of the wood

Today used for pellet production and combustion

**Woodchips** – 25 % of the wood –

Today used by the pulp and paper industry

**Bark** – 10% of the wood – Today used for combustion



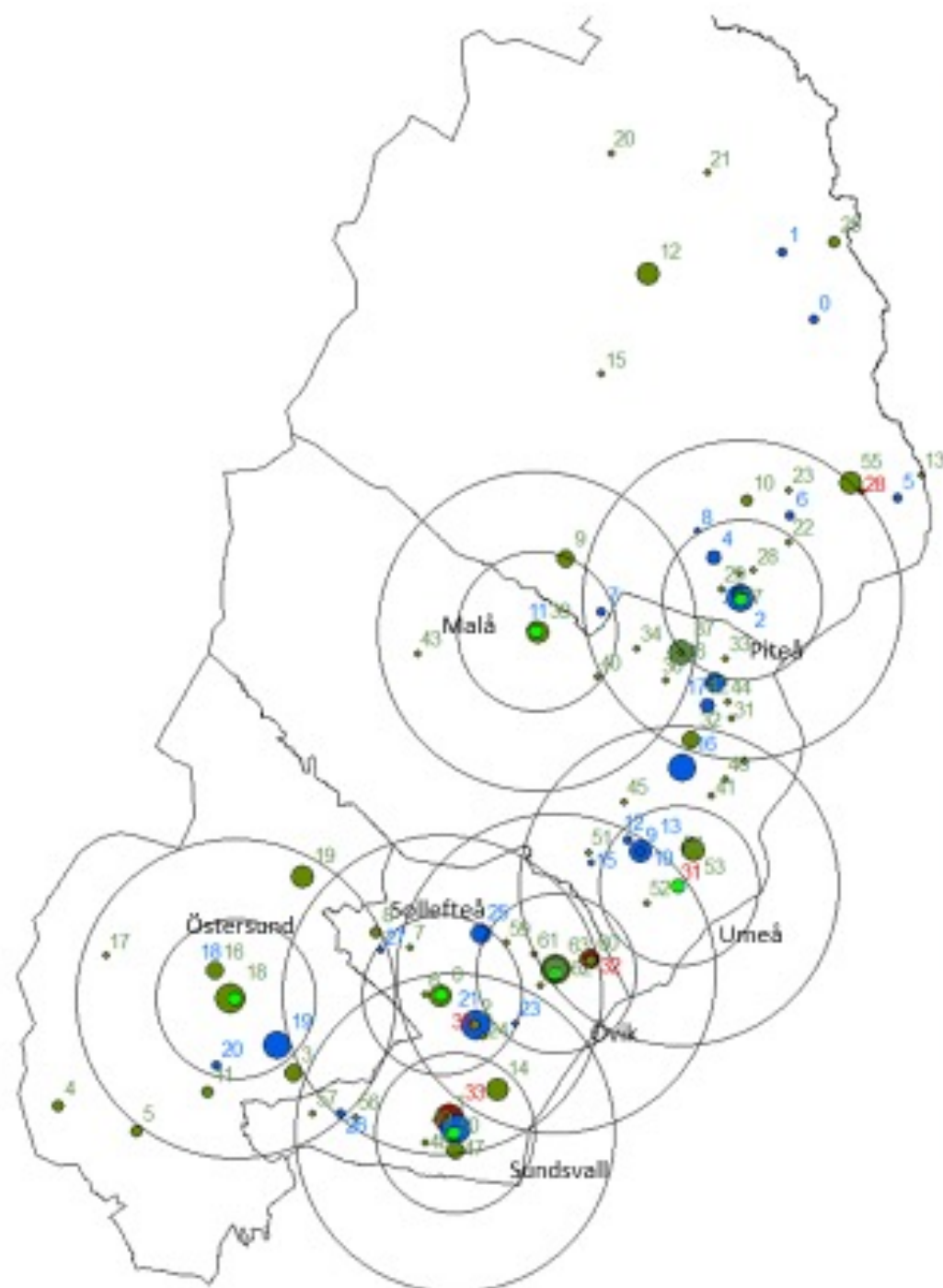
## 28 SAWMILLS IN NORTHERN SWEDEN

Location, owner, county, and production of  
sawn wood for the year 2019

2021- Large increase in price for sawn goods – increased output

Location	Owner	County	Production (m <sup>3</sup> sawn wood/ year)
Korplombolo	Jutos Timber	Norrbottnen	60 000
Tärendö	Krekula & Lauri	Norrbottnen	52 000
Piteå, Munksund	SCA Wood	Norrbottnen	420 000
Piteå, Lövhölmén	Stenvalls trä	Norrbottnen	140 000
Sikfors	Stenvalls trä	Norrbottnen	140 000
Seskarö	Stenvalls trä	Norrbottnen	0
Luleå, Öarna	Stenvalls trä	Norrbottnen	65 000
Glommerstråsk	Glommers Timber	Norrbottnen	50 000
Älvsbyn	Älvsbyhus	Norrbottnen	40 000
Brattby	Brattbysågverk	Västerbottnen	50 000
Rundvik	SCA Wood	Västerbottnen	315 000
Malå	Setra Tråvaror AB	Västerbottnen	210 000
Vännås	NK Lundströms	Västerbottnen	65 000
Såvar	Norra Skog	Västerbottnen	256 000
Kåge	Norra Skog	Västerbottnen	263 000
Agnås	Norra Skog	Västerbottnen	18 000
Bygdsiljum	Martinsson/Holmen	Västerbottnen	430 000
Kroksjön, Skellefteå	Martinsson/Holmen	Västerbottnen	117 000
Hissmofors	Norra Skog	Jämtland	120 000
Gällö	SCA Wood/Persson Invest	Jämtland	360 000
Svenstavig	Rödings Trå AB	Jämtland	78 000
Bollsta	SCA Wood	Västernorrland	550 000
Tunadal	SCA Wood	Västernorrland	550 000
Ullånger	MST Sågverk Ullånger AB	Västernorrland	35 000
Örnsköldsvik	Högland	Västernorrland	50 000
Anudsjö, Bredbyn	Högland	Västernorrland	190 000
Frånsta	Callans Trå AB	Västernorrland	85 000
Edsele	Edsele Såg AB	Västernorrland	28 000





### Heating plants

0	Adven Energiöningar AB	sollefå
1	Adven Energiöningar AB	Tindö
2	Adven Värme AB	Bolstavik
3	Adven Värme AB	Bräcke, Enyön
4	Adven Värme AB	Funkstalen
5	Adven Värme AB	Hede
6	Adven Värme AB	Långsala
7	Adven Värme AB	Hälsjöer
8	Adven Värme AB	Ramsjö
9	Arvidsjaur Energi AB	Arvidsjaur
10	Badens Energi AB	Baden
11	BTCA Energi AB	Berg
12	Gällivare Energi AB	Gällivare-Väimberget
13	Haparanta Värmeverk AB	Haparanta Residual
14	Härjedalen Energi & Värme AB	Härjedalen
15	Jokimäki Värmeverk AB	Jokimäki
16	Jämtkraft AB	Krokom
17	Jämtkraft AB	Åre
18	Jämtkraft AB	Årestrand
19	Jämtkraft Värme AB	Grönsund
20	Kiruna Kraft AB	Kiruna C
21	Kiruna Kraft AB	Vittangi
22	Luleå Energi AB	Luleå
23	Luleå Energi AB	Älsjö
24	Nevel AB	Kramfors
25	Pajala Värmeverk AB	Pajala
26	Piteå Energi AB	Hornjärden
27	Piteå Energi AB	Piteå
28	Piteå Energi AB	Nosvik
29	Piteå Energi AB	Sjöbjörns
30	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Bolmen
31	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Burså
32	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Burträsk
33	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Bycke
34	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Jön
35	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Kåge
36	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Litacken
37	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Lykköle
38	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Lövånger
39	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Malå
40	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Hornjö
41	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Nobersfors
42	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Skellefteå
43	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Storuman
44	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Urviken-Skelleftehamn
45	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Vindén
46	Skellefteå Kraft AB	Ärebo
47	Sundsvall Energi AB	Kivikölet
48	Sundsvall Energi AB	Marfors
49	Sundsvall Energi AB	Sundsvall
50	Sundsvall Energi AB	Tunadal
51	Umeå Energi AB	Årjuntun
52	Umeå Energi AB	Hömafors
53	Umeå Energi AB	Sävar
54	Umeå Energi AB	Umeå
55	Umeå Energi AB	Kalu
56	Vasa Värme Holding AB	Frånsta
57	Ångö Energi AB	Ångö
58	Övik Energi AB	Blåts
59	Övik Energi AB	Åredbyn
60	Övik Energi AB	Husum
61	Övik Energi AB	Holsten
62	Övik Energi AB	Proccolings
63	Övik Energi AB	Örnkäddavik

### Sawmills

0	Aspa Timber	Korpilampi
1	Erskola & Lauri	Tärendö
2	SCA Wood	Piteå, Munkund
3	Stavvalla Trä	Piteå, Lövholmen
4	Stavvalla Trä	Sickfors
5	Stavvalla Trä	Seskarö
6	Stavvalla Trä	Luleå, Öarna
7	Glimmer Timber	Glimmerträsk
8	Älvsbyhus	Älvsbyn
9	Brattvågverket	Brattby
10	SCA Wood	Kundvik
11	Setra Trävarer AB	Malå
12	NK Lundsbröns	Värmlö
13	Noma Skog	Sävar
14	Noma Skog	Kåge
15	Noma Skog	Ågnäs
16	Mattsson/Holmen	Bygdilum
17	Mattsson/Holmen	Kocksjön, Skellefteå
18	Noma Skog	Hömfors
19	SCA Wood/Henson Invest	Malå
20	Röda Trä AB	Svenstavik
21	SCA Wood	Sollita
22	SCA Wood	Tunedal
23	Värmlandskylvägen AB	Liljager
24	Högländ	Örnkäddavik
25	Högländ	Ånäsjö, Åredbyn
26	Gallens Trä AB	Frånsta
27	Scania Skog AB	Ådala

### Pulp and paper industries

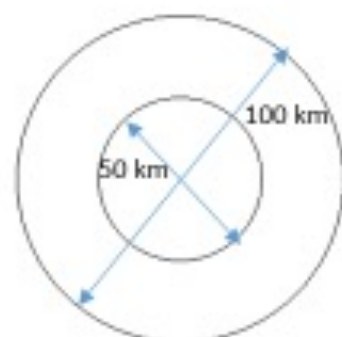
28	Bilvend Koronla	Production raw tonnes
29	snufft skapa	0 - 20000
30	SCA Munkund	20000 - 30000
31	SCA Örebro	30000 - 40000
32	Metall Board	
33	SCA Östans	
34	SCA Östiken	
35	Wald Östrik	
36	Aditya Birla	

### Consumption raw tonnes

0 - 1000
1000 - 6000
6000 - 15000
15000 - 50000
50000 - 100000
100000 - 150000

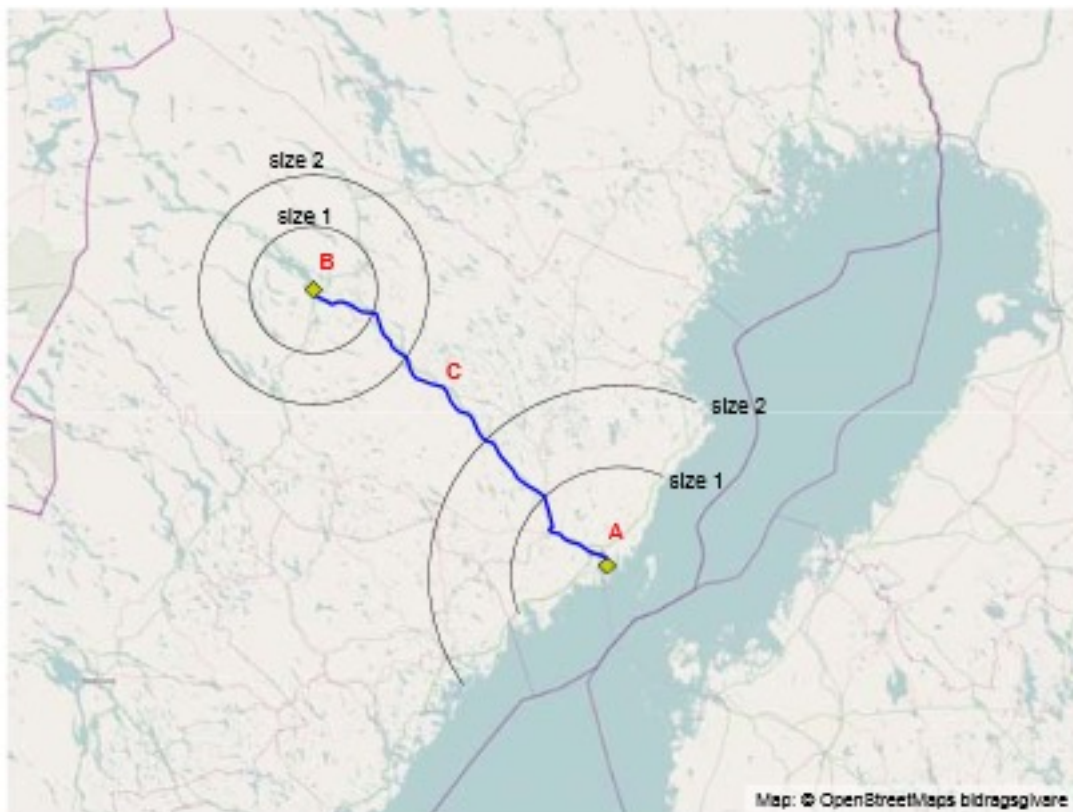
### Production raw tonnes

0 - 10000
10000 - 20000
20000 - 40000
40000 - 60000
60000 - 80000
80000 - 100000
100000 - 130000



## RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY TO BIOREFINERIES

- **Coastal** - Synergies and competition with existing biomass users. Proximity to harbour Import /Export
- **Inland** - Close to raw material - Raw material supply area full circle

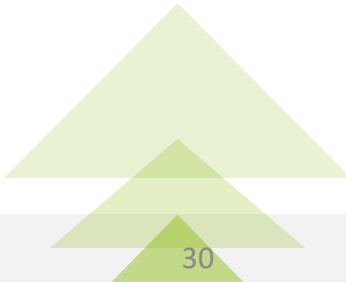
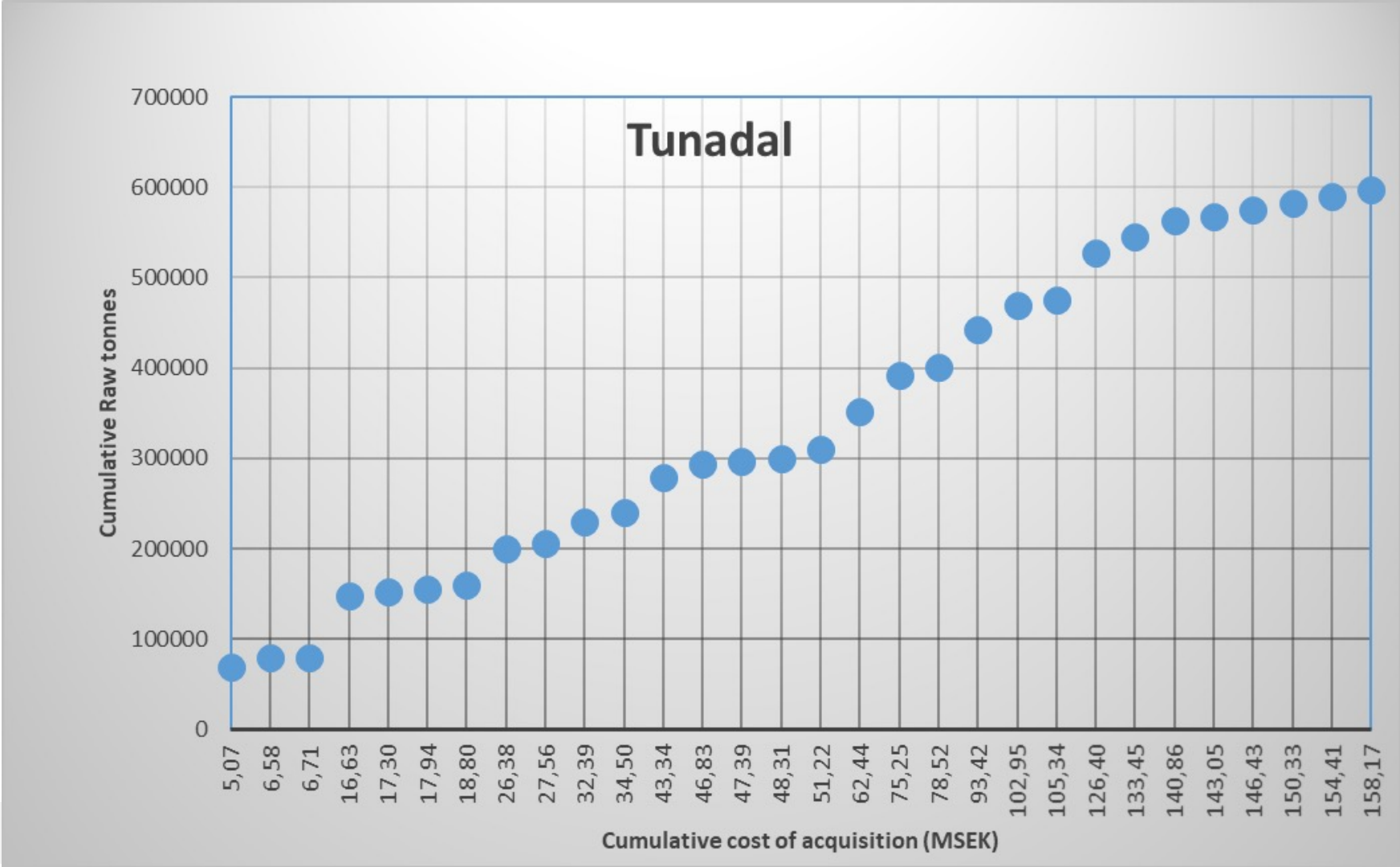


**Figure 1. Example of biorefinery locations and supply areas. A: Biorefinery on the coast with local supply, B: Inland biorefinery with local supply, C: Biorefinery on the coast with supply from an inland terminal. Supply area sizes are indicated for two different levels of feedstock requirements.**

# Marginal cost curves – Important tool for design of biorefinery

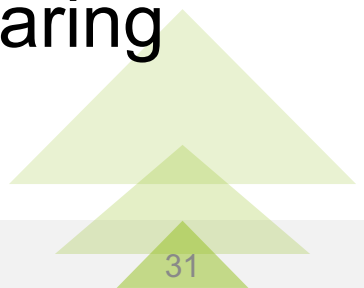
Biorefinery investments are often characterized by economics of scale

Raw material supply cost have negative economies of scale



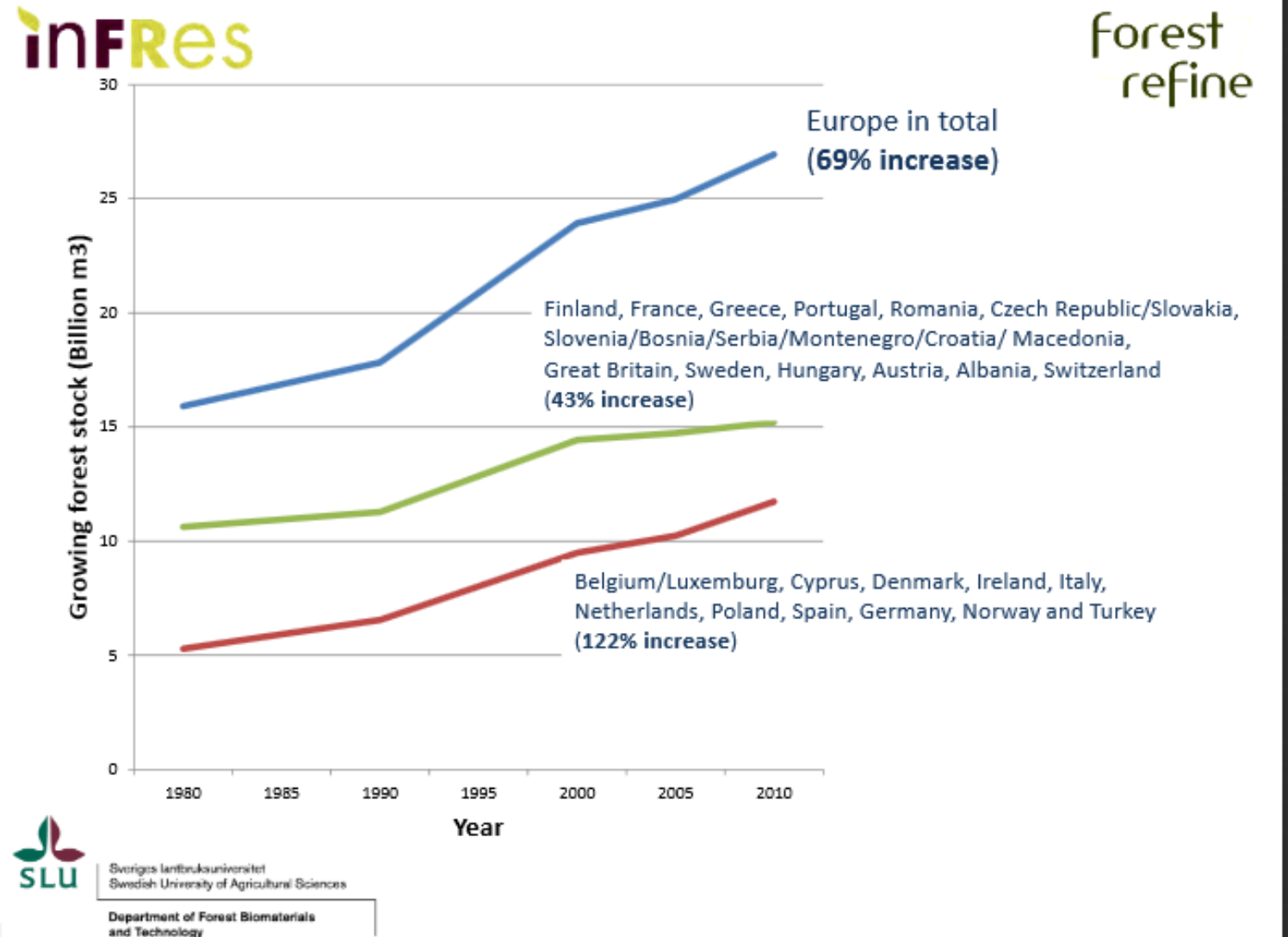
# BIOMASS POTENTIAL IS OFTEN DYNAMIC

- Innovations can be a driver for new products with higher value
- More effective and profitable biomass processing
  - End user can pay more
- Higher price gives incentives for primary producers to produce and sell more
- Improved biomass logistics can make more biomass economical available
- Dependency on business for main product - Risk/profit sharing



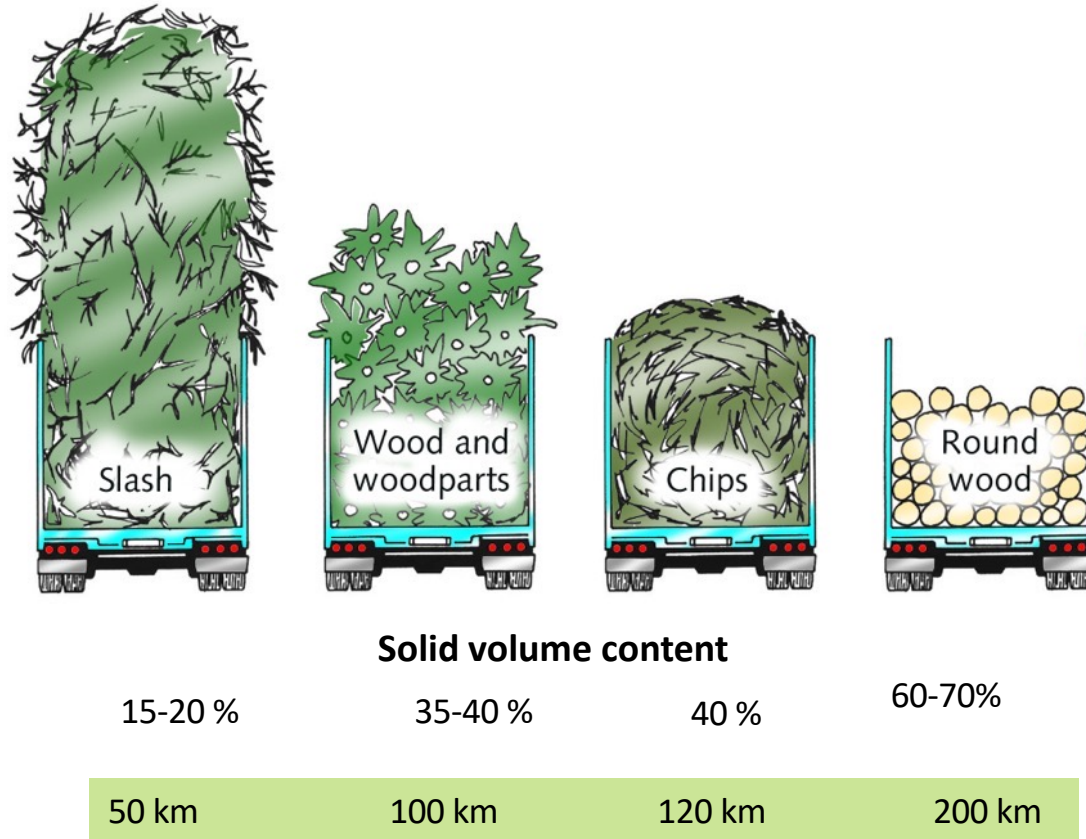
# The growing forest stock in EU is increasing

- Increased demand for biomass results in more biomass – not less
- It gives primary producers incentives to improve forest management to produce more





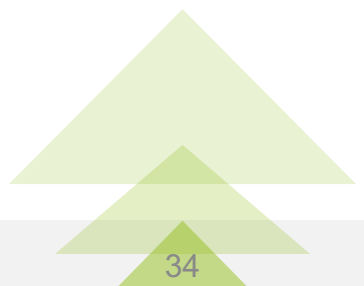
# THE COST FOR HARVEST, TRANSPORT, STORING AND HANDLING OF THE BIOMASS IS OF PRIME IMPORTANCE WHEN CALCULATING THE OVERALL COST FOR BIOREFINING





**Bulk Density**  
**110 - 150 kg/m<sup>3</sup>**

Bulk density of biomass is a major factor in determining the cost and logistics requirements of handling and moving biomass from farm to biorefinery.

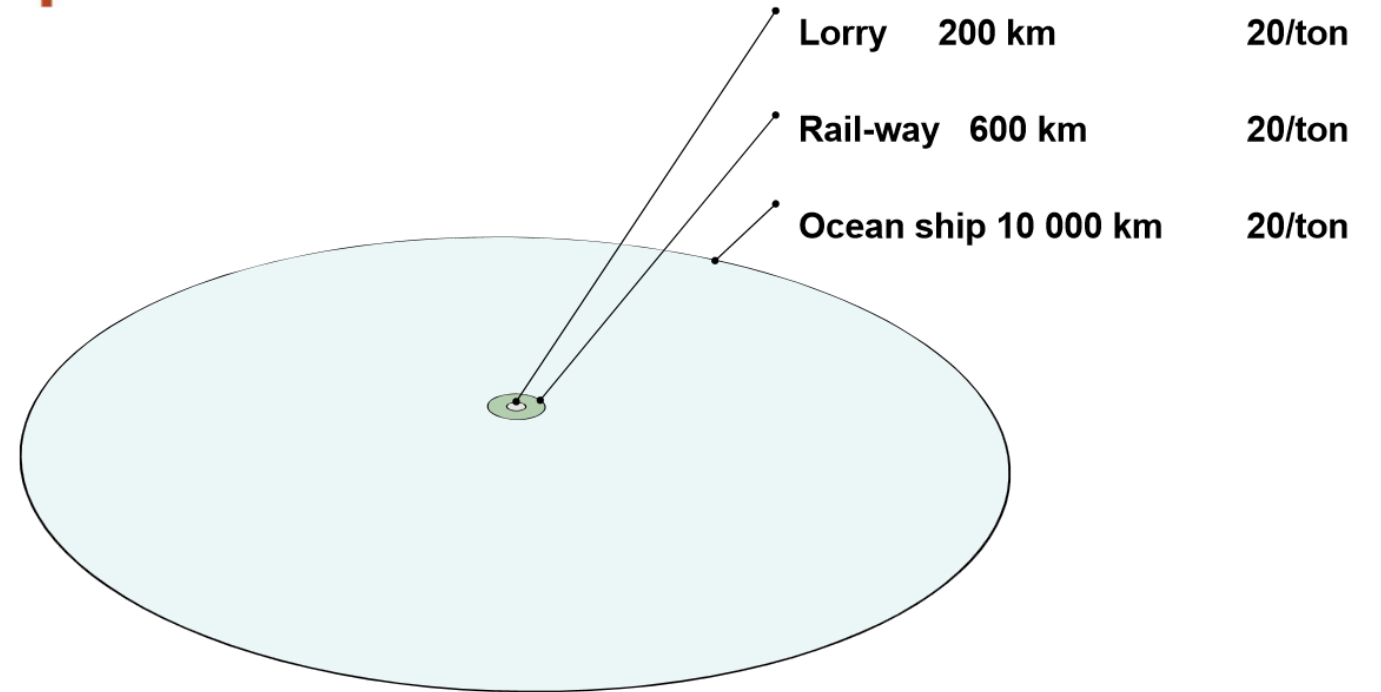




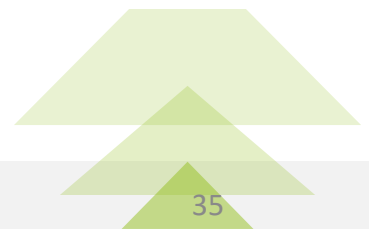
Tall Oil

## Transport Costs

(general example)



A specially designed rail solution with 26 cars with 3x60 m3 containers providing 4700 m3 loose per train set.



## LOADING/UNLOADING IS OFTEN COSTLY

Dependency between  
different machinery often  
causes waiting time

– Logistical hot systems  
are difficult to plan

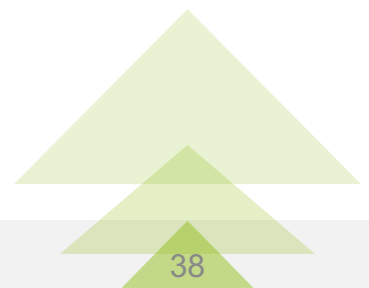


POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS  
SELF LOADING/  
UNLOADING

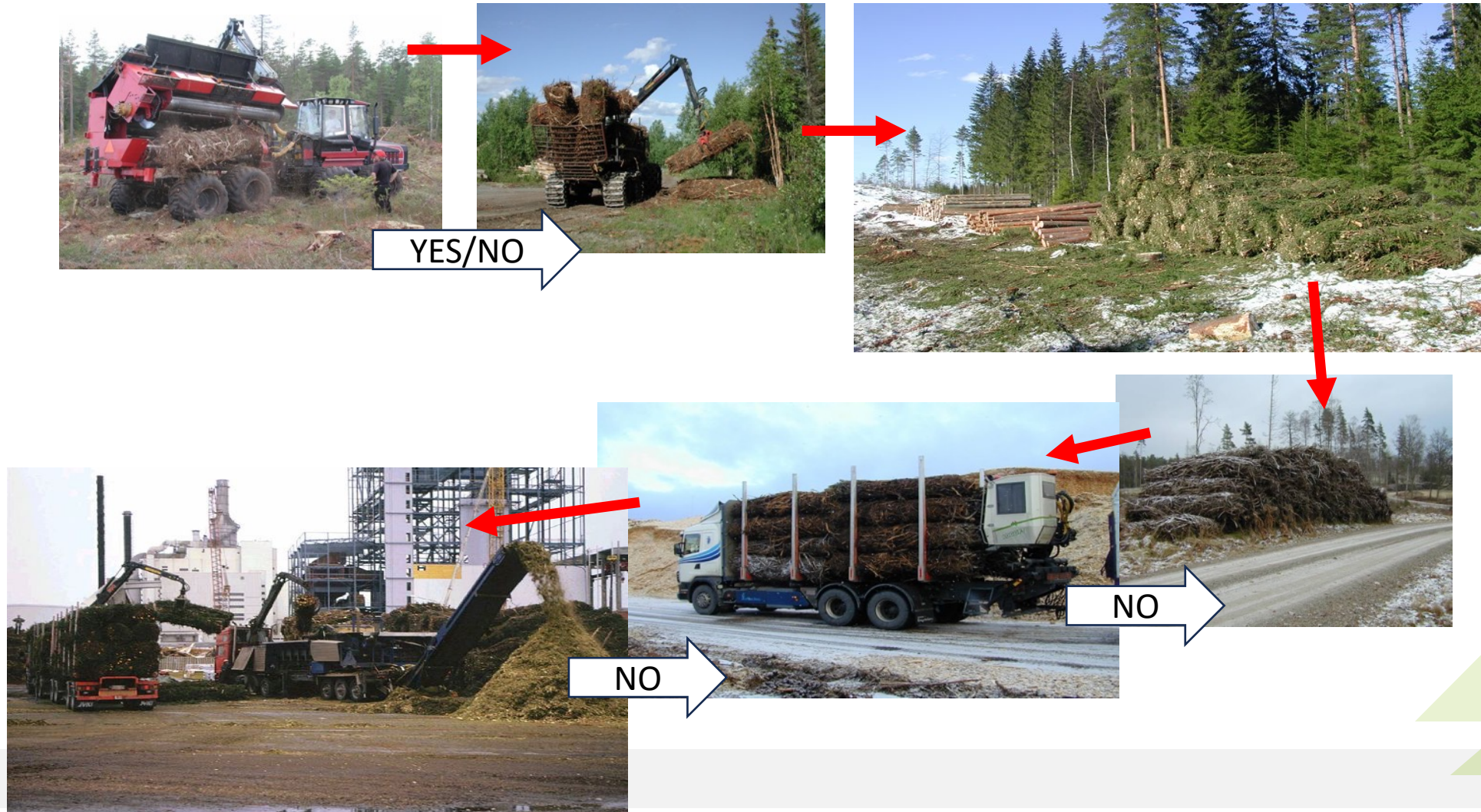


## INFORMATION FLOW BETWEEN DIFFERENT ACTORS

- Biomass logistics is often understood as a flow of biomass from the field to the end users
- Logistics is also a flow of information between different actors in the value chain
- Poor information flow can have a negative impact on feed stock cost and biomass quality
- Multi actor partnership



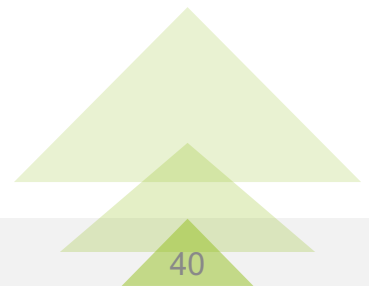
# Different actors are doing different things during different time of the year



## POOR ATTITUDE – POOR LOGISTICS

### Don't use the word waste!

- It has a negative impact on the work actors involved in the value chain are doing
  - It suggests that the biomass resource is for free
- To be fully involved - Primary producers also wants some income
- If you introduce a price – you can set quality requirements of the biomass resource





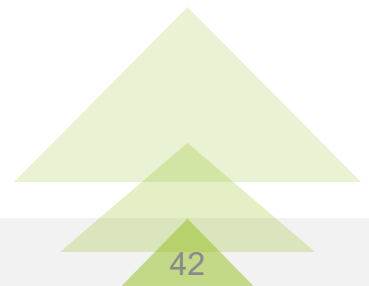
# QUALITY CONTROL OF BIOMASS IS DETERMINED BY END USERS DEMANDS

- Moisture content – Effects transport cost and storability
- Calorific value – If used as a fuel
- Contaminations –Content of specific compounds (eg sulphur alakali)
- Ash content - Process disturbing
- Particle size distribution – Feeding of the biomass and processing
- Freshness – Some chemicals are volatile and can be lost during handling and storage. Chipping/Crushing accelerates volatility



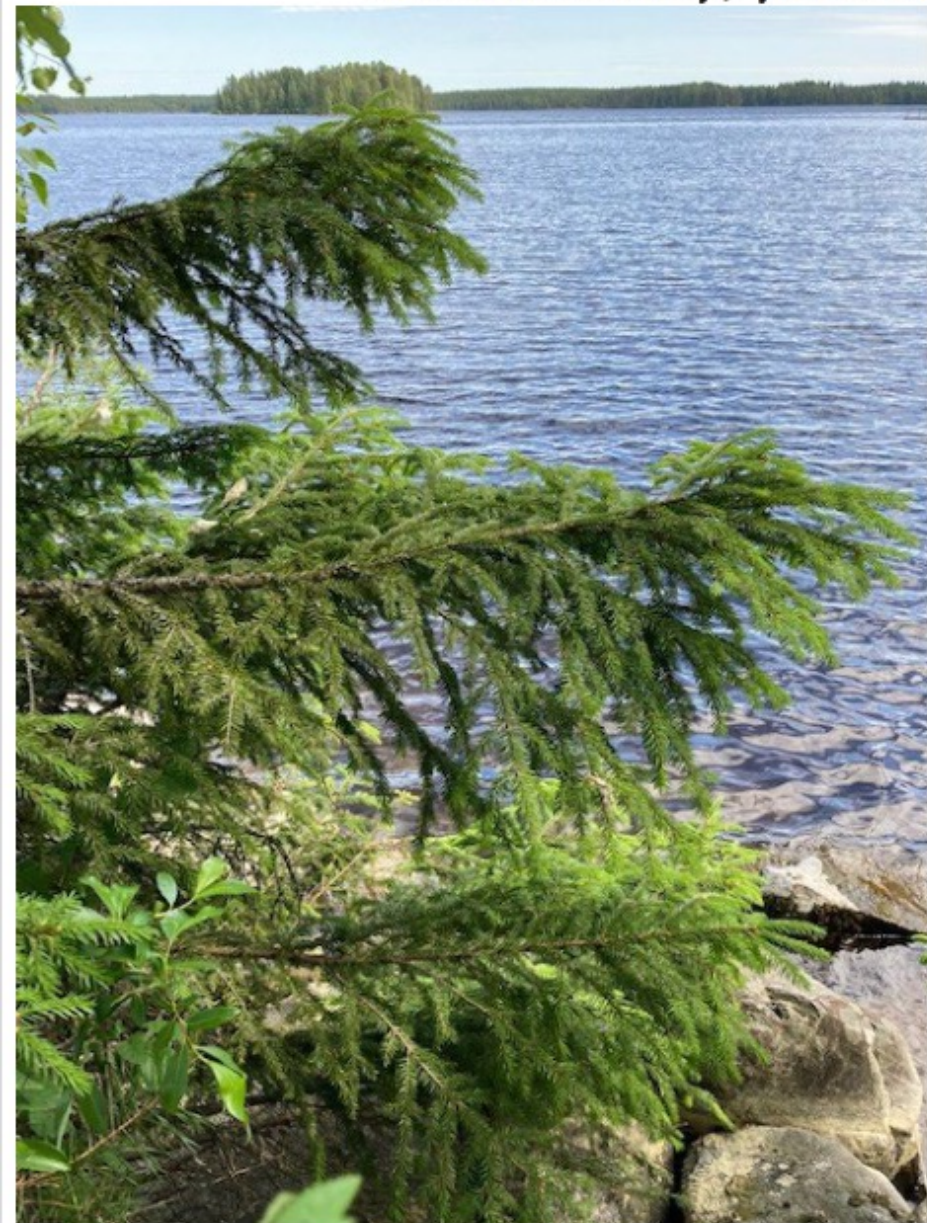
# PRODUCING MULTIPLE PRODUCTS

- By producing multiple products, a biorefinery can take advantage of the differences in the biomass feed stocks and maximize the value from the biomass feed stocks
- Big incomes can come from small volumes of high value chemicals
- What can you extract from your feedstock ?



# *Best sources of total polyphenolic concentrations in a spruce tree*

## *A case study; potential quantities of polyphenolics*



**Needles**, total phenolics 58 mg GAE/g (average 3 batches)  
37 kg in a tree

**Total phenolics in needles: 2 kg (based on mg GAE/g)**

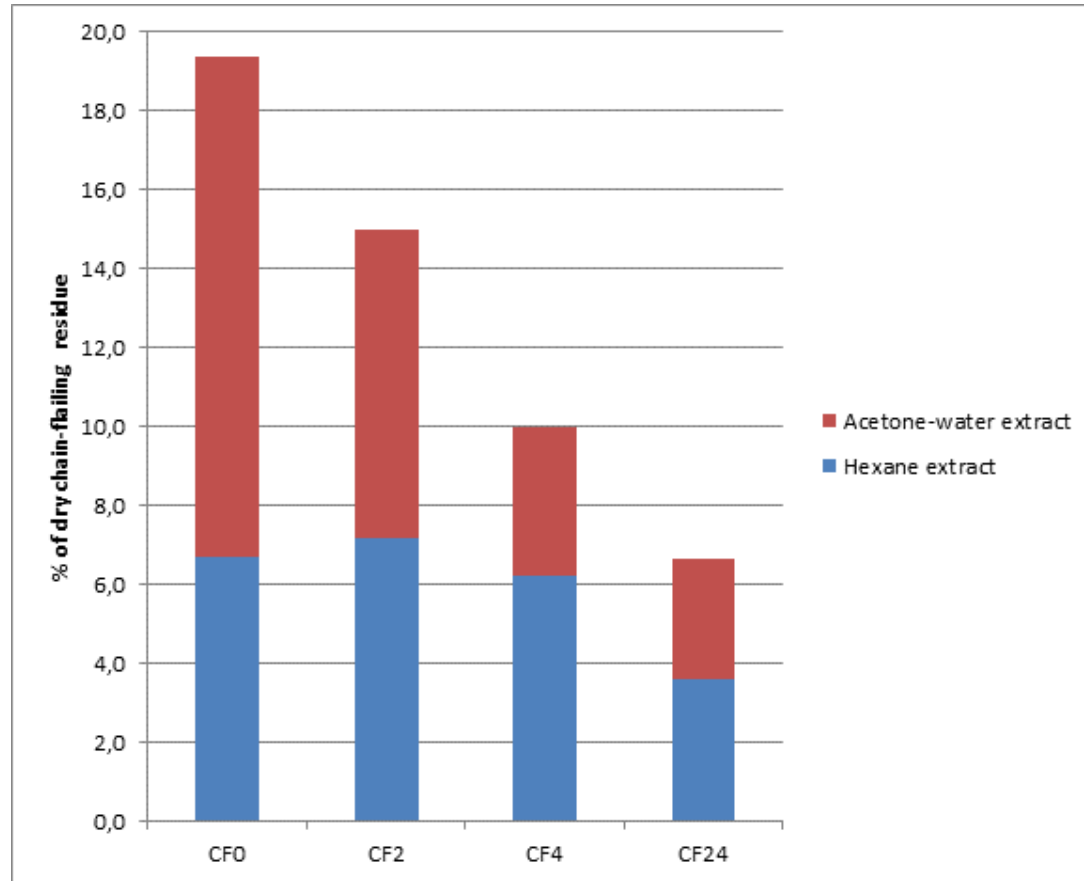
**Bark**, total phenolics 35 mg GAE/g (average 3 batches)  
29 kg in a tree

**Total phenolics in bark: 1 kg (based on mg GAE/g)**

**Branches**, total phenolics 7,5 mg GAE/g (average 3)  
69 kg in a tree

**Total phenolics in branches: 0,5 kg (based mg GAE/g)**

# EXTRACTIVES ARE QUICKLY LOST DURING STORAGE



Extractive content analyzed after 0,2,4 and 24 weeks of storage

High temperatures, sunlight and chipping/crushing will increase losses

Conclusion – Biomass must be delivered quickly to industry for refining



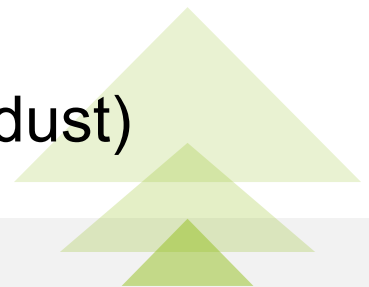
# KNOWLEDGE GAP - MISMATCH BETWEEN END USERS QUALITY DEMAND AND WHAT IS AVAILABLE

## Biomass properties

- Outspread (expensive to harvest and transport) – seasonality
- Wet and bulky
- Complex and varied quality
  
- High ash and alkali
  
- Varied particle size distribution

## End users' quality demand

- Cheap and a warehous
- Dry and densified
- Well defined quality
  
- Low ash and alkali
  
- Even particle size ( sawdust)



# SOLUTION BIOHUB

- A business centre, BioHub, which delivers the right assortment to the right place at the right price

