

Research Activities of Biomass Technology Research Center, AIST

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Research activities of newly established BTRC(Biomass Technology Research Center, AIST) are reviewed in terms of the priority projects on ethanol fermentation from woody biomass through mechanochemical and/or hydrothermal refining pretreatments, BTL(biomass to liquids) by clean gasification, F-T synthesis and catalytic upgrading reactions, and the evaluation of total biomass system by simulation. Especially, feasible utilization technologies of woody biomass resources are most important projects from the viewpoints of CO₂ reduction, because their amounts are abundant in Japan and Asian countries, and the woody biomass resources not only contribute to the substitution of fossil fuels such as coal and crude oil, but also considerably reduce the CO₂ emission due to their carbon neutrality and deliberate plantation for their sustainable utilization.