



Introduction to

Biomass Utilization Technology for Rural Development

SEARCA PROFESSORIAL CHAIR LECTURE BY:

Dr Nakorn Tippayawong

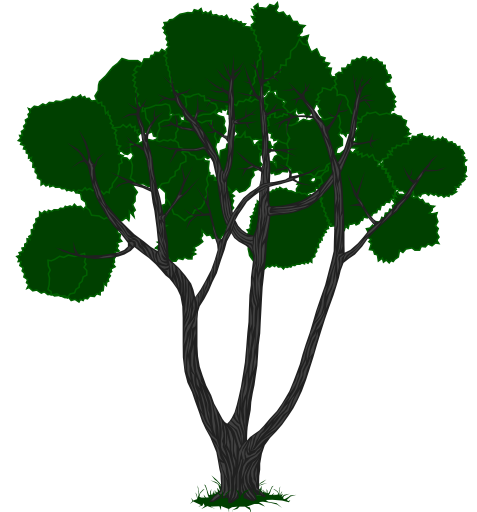
Department of Mechanical Engineering,

Chiang Mai University, Chiang Mai, 50200 Thailand



Overview of Presentation

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Biomass energy
- ❖ Conversion processes
 - * Physical
 - * Thermochemical
- ❖ Technology demonstration

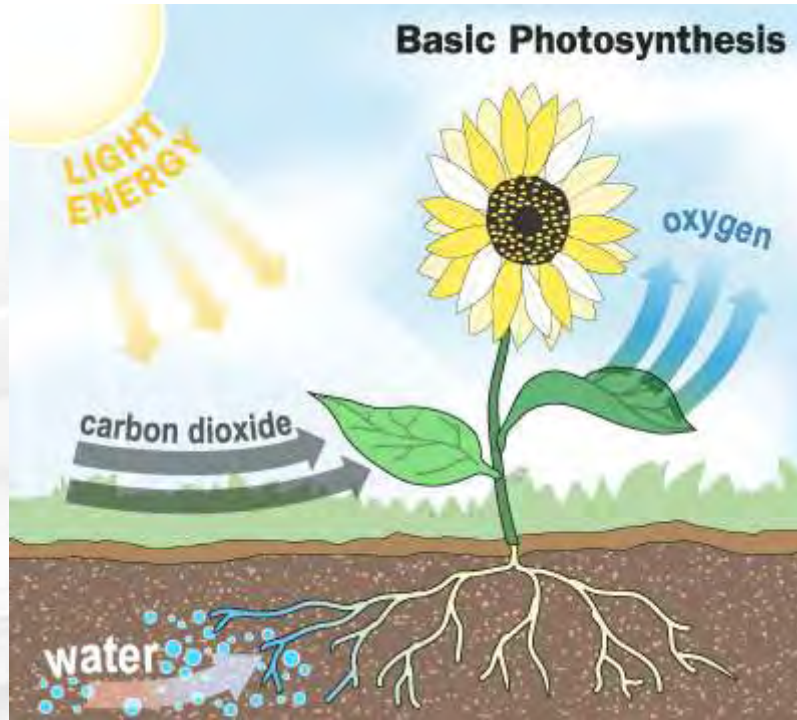




INTRODUCTION



Transitions



Source of energy, chemicals, and materials for **Humankind** from the past to the future

Biomass → Fossil fuels → Biomass !



Biomass

A stored source of solar energy collected by plants via photosynthesis. Organic materials of recent biological origin, renewable, natural resources

Bioenergy

Conversion of the chemical energy of the biorenewable resource into heat and power

Biobased products

Fuels, chemicals, and natural fibers derived from biorenewable resources



Return to Bioenergy & Biobased Products



Improved Environmental Quality

(Local, regional, global impacts)

Concerns over National Security

(Energy crisis, scarcity, high petroleum price)

Excess Agricultural Production

(self-sufficiency, stability of agriculture)

Importance of Rural Development

(repopulation, employment, social cohesion, improved economic development, transportation, quality of life)





Biomass sources

from (1) Nature, (2) Community, (3) Industry



Woods

- Wood chips, sawdust
- Wood waste

Weeds

Algae

Municipal solid waste

Agricultural residues

- Corn stover
- Rice husks, straw
- Sugarcane bagasse
- Cassava rhizome
- Palm shells
- Animal waste

Energy crops

- Hybrid poplar
- Switchgrass
- Willow
- Bamboo
- Eucalyptus

Oil bearing biomass



Biomass for Energy



Cassava



Sugar cane



Wood chip



Rice husk



Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF)



Palm



Corn cob



Composition of Biomass

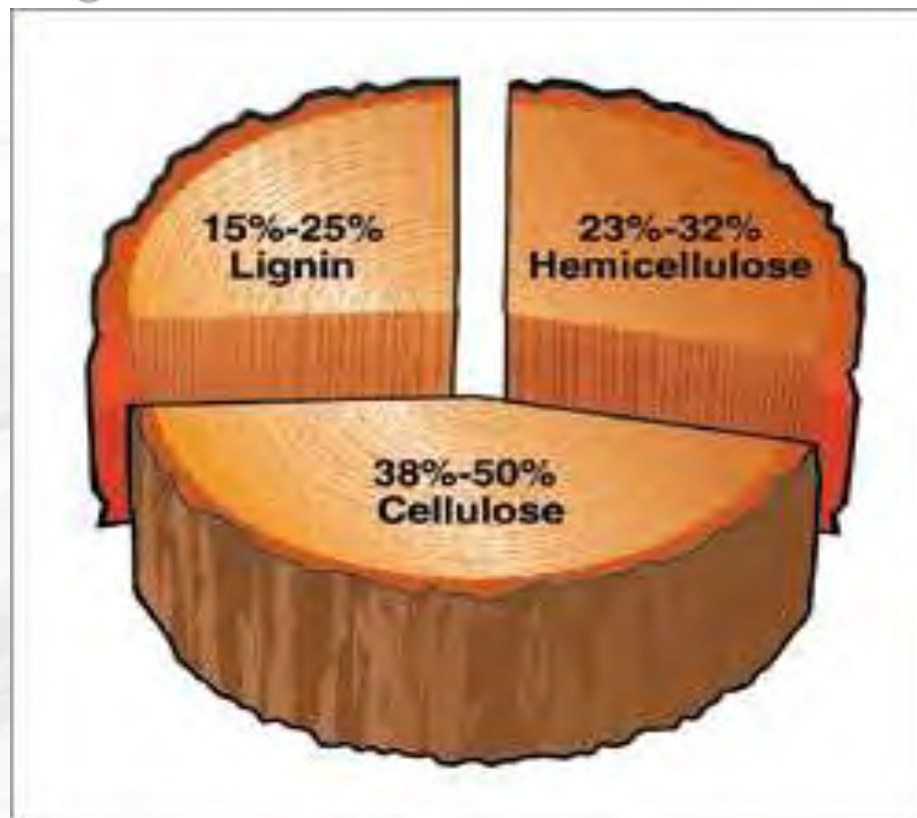
Elemental composition

Oxygen	30 – 40%
Carbon	30 – 60%
Hydrogen	5 – 6%

Proximate analysis

Fixed carbon
Ash
Volatile matter
Moisture

Lignocellulosic material

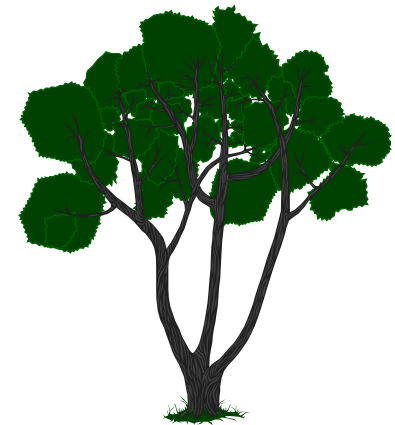




Challenges in using Biomass

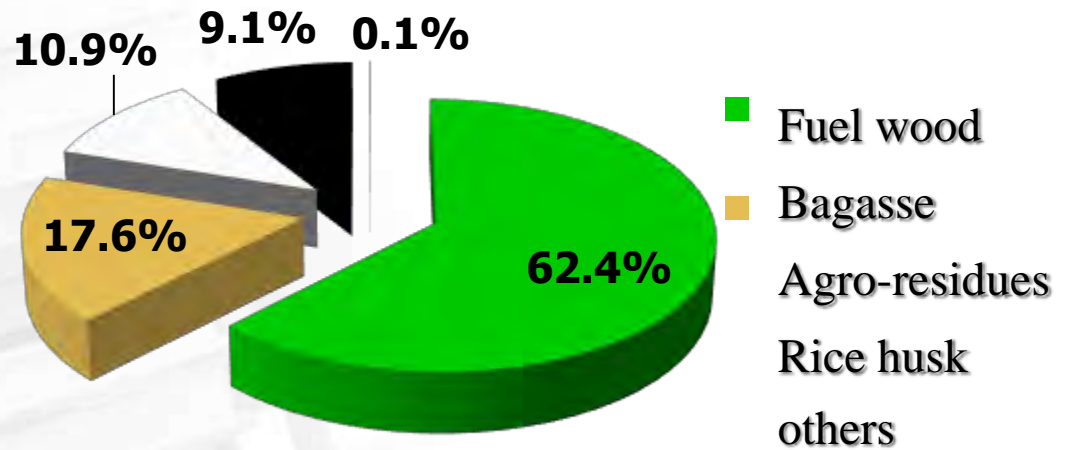
Most biorenewable resources are solid materials of low bulk density, high moisture content, low heating value

- ❖ difficulty in handling, and transport
- ❖ reduced performance





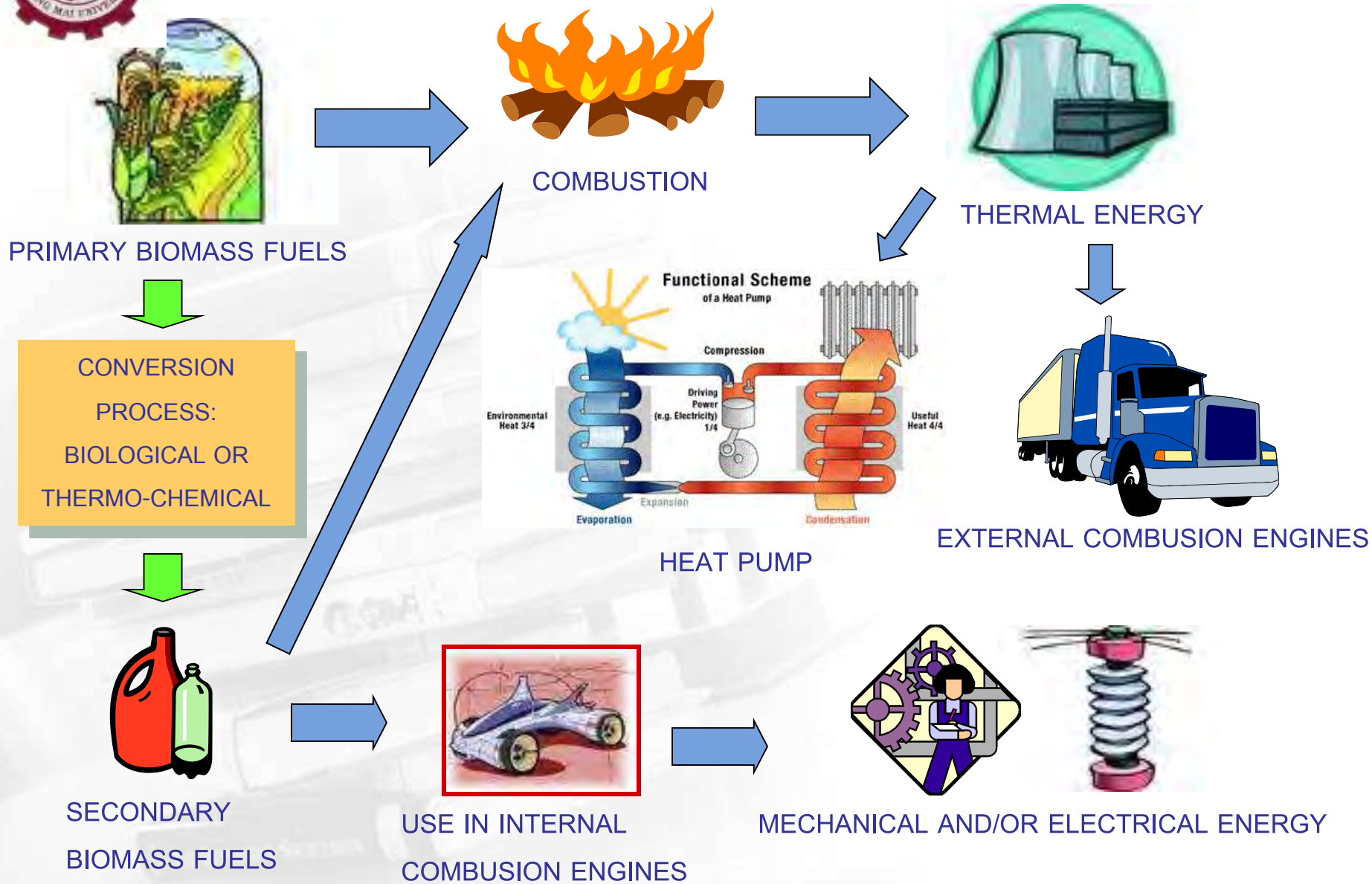
Pattern of Biomass Use in Thailand – year 2007



Accounted for only 18% of total commercial energy use !



Pathways for Biomass Energy Use





CONVERSION PROCESS



Biomass Conversion

Physical conversion

Sorting, Drying, Size reduction
Densification

- RDF
- Briquette

Thermochemical conversion

Combustion
Pyrolysis & Carbonization
Gasification
F-T synthesis

- Heat, Work, Electricity
- Bio-oil, Charcoal
- Producer gas
- Synthetic oils



PHYSICAL CONVERSION

- **RDF**
- **Densified Fuels**



Municipal Solid Wastes

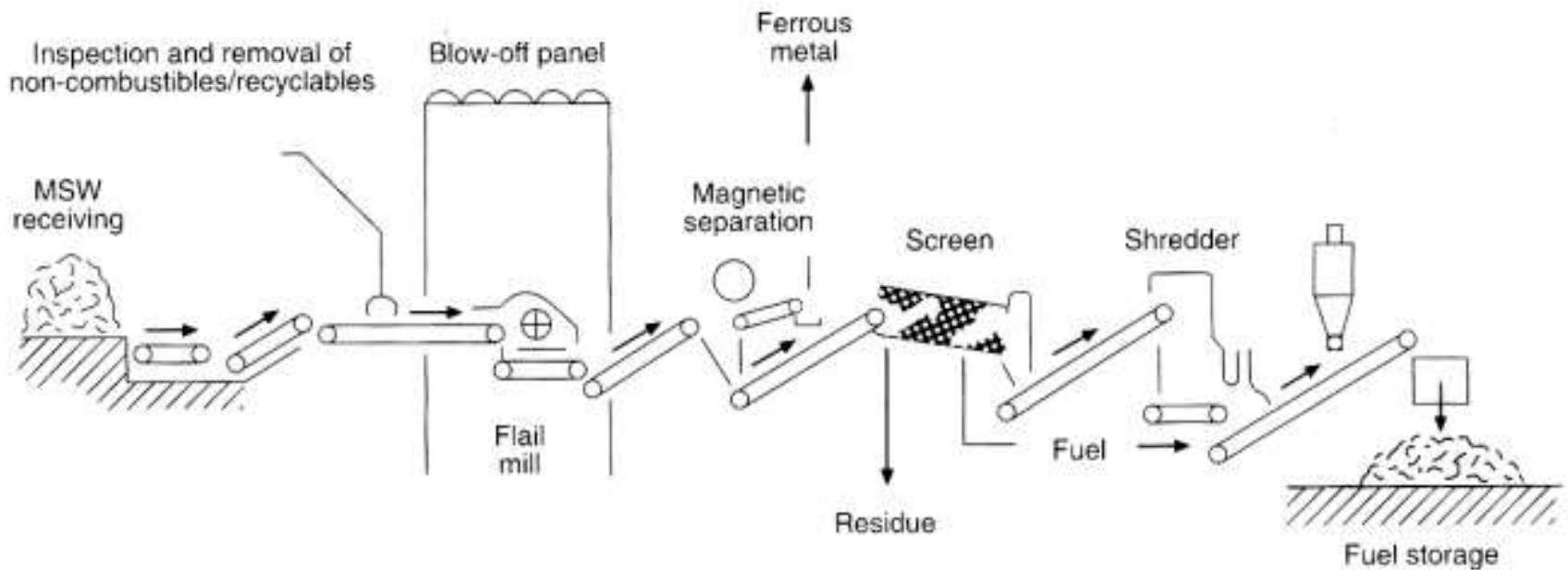
Solid wastes contain various materials, combustible and non-combustible

Table 1
Contents of municipal solid waste (wt% of total)
collected in Chiang Mai in the year 2002

Component	Lower limit	Upper limit
Food waste	20.0	50.0
Paper waste	5.1	17.8
Plastic waste	6.2	13.8
Glass	2.0	15.0
Metals	0.9	2.5
Leather and rubber	1.0	13.0
Textile	1.0	3.0
Wood	1.2	11.9
Ceramic and stones	0.5	6.7
Other	1.0	6.6



Refuse Derived Fuels





Densification

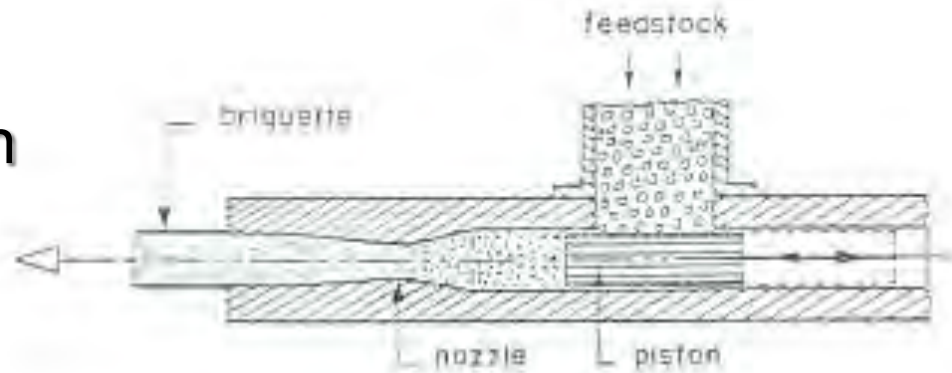
- ✓ **Improved effective bulk density**
- ✓ **Regular shape**
- ✓ **Ease of handling and loading**
- ✓ **Homogeneous composition**
- ✓ **Higher energy per volume**
- ✓ **Dust and odours are minimized**



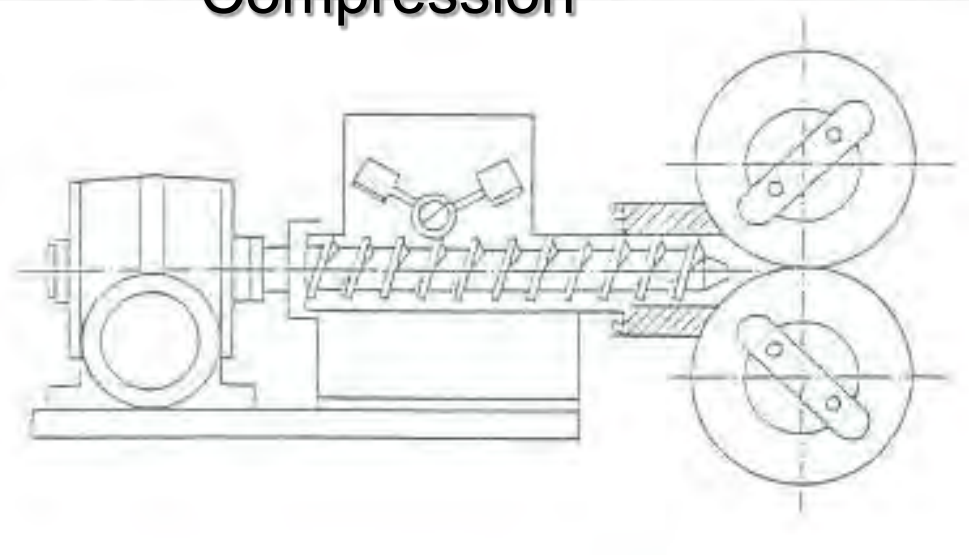


Densifier

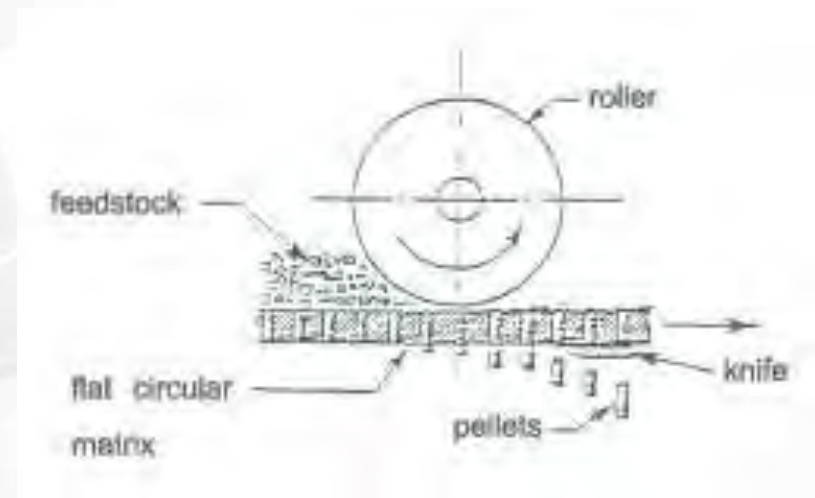
Extrusion



Compression



Pelletisation





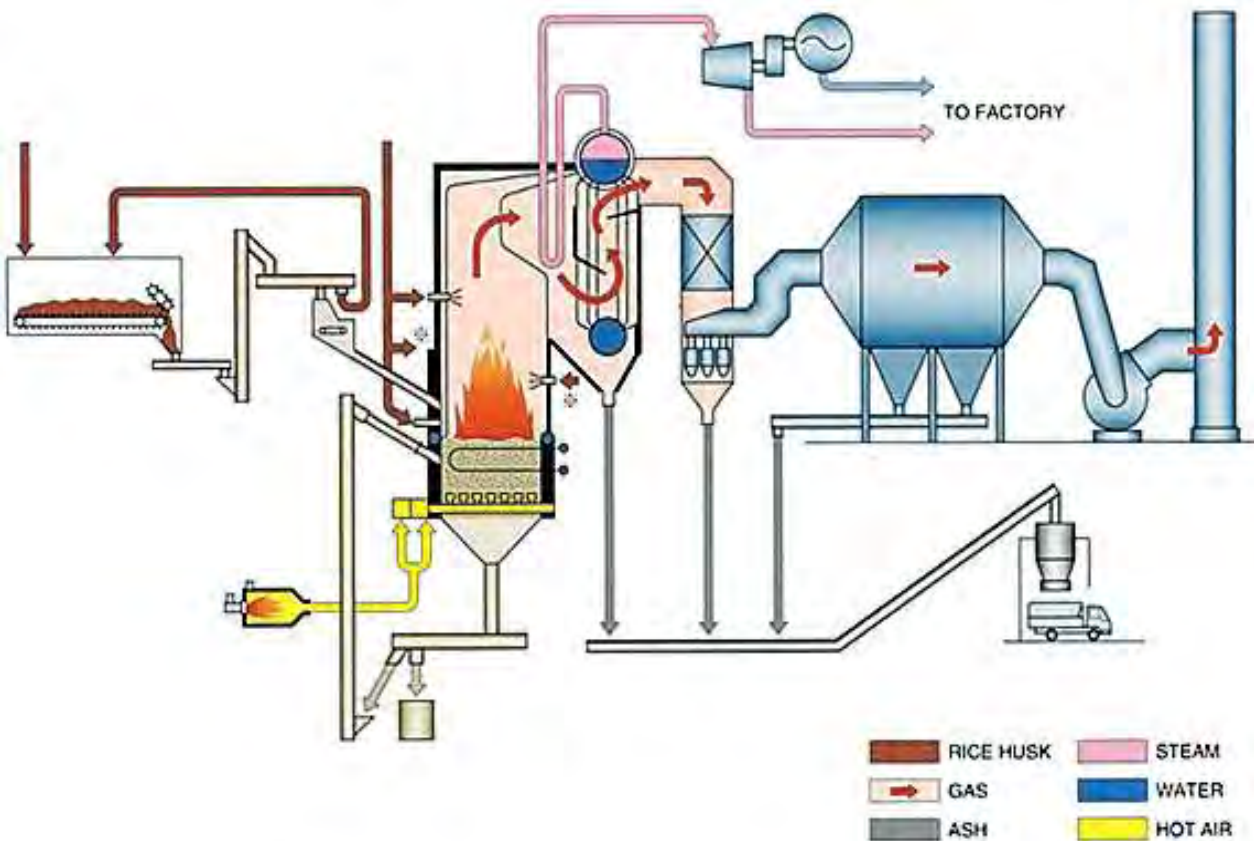
THERMOCHEMICAL CONVERSION

- **Combustion**
- **Pyrolysis, Carbonization**
- **Gasification**



Combustion

- ❖ Biomass combustion provides basic energy for cooking and heating in rural households, and for production processes in a variety of traditional industries



- ❖ Direct combustion using biomass to produce steam and electricity in agro-industrial process



Pyrolysis

Thermal decomposition of organic compounds in the absence of oxygen to produce liquids, gases and solids.

Liquids → Bio-oils, Bio-crude oils, Pyrolysis liquids

Gases → Synthetic gases (CO, CO₂, HCs, H₂)

Solids → Char



Factors Affecting Pyrolysis Process

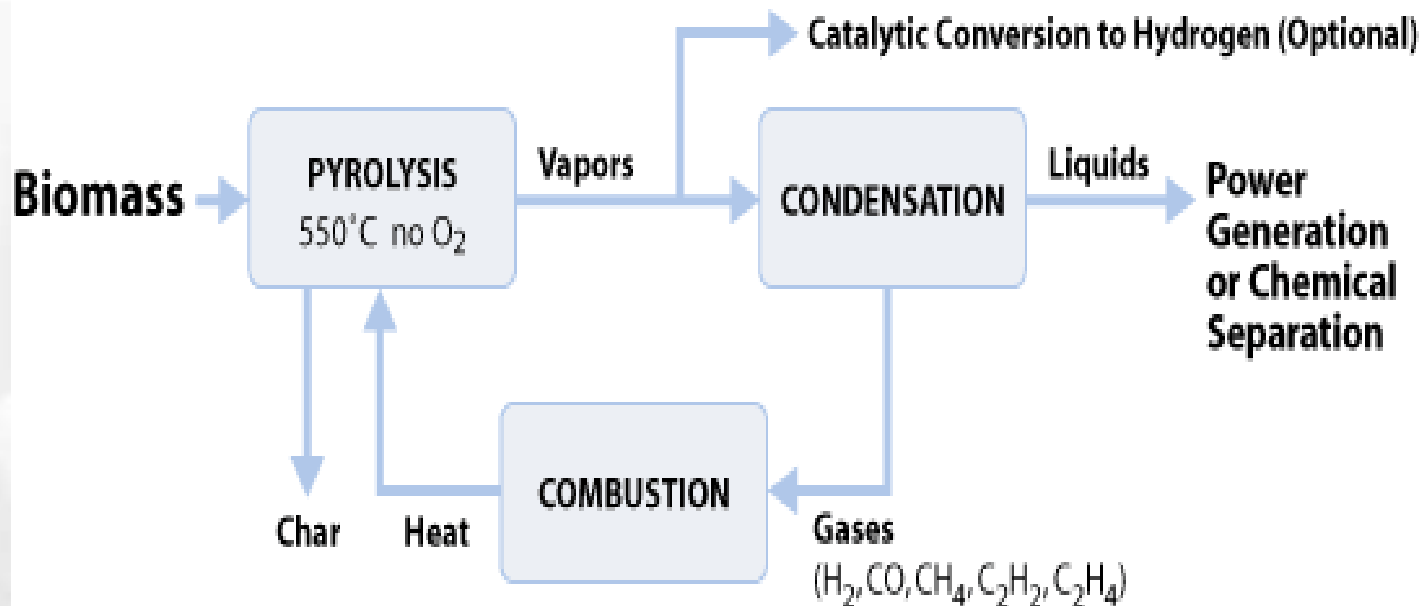
- ❖ Heating rate, heat source
- ❖ Reaction temperature
- ❖ Residence time
- ❖ Pretreatment (drying, size reduction)
- ❖ Secondary cracking
- ❖ Vapor cooling, liquid collection
- ❖ Char and ash separation



Pyrolysis oils, Bio-oils

High liquid yield is possible at short residence time (0.5-2 s) and moderate temperatures (400-600°C)

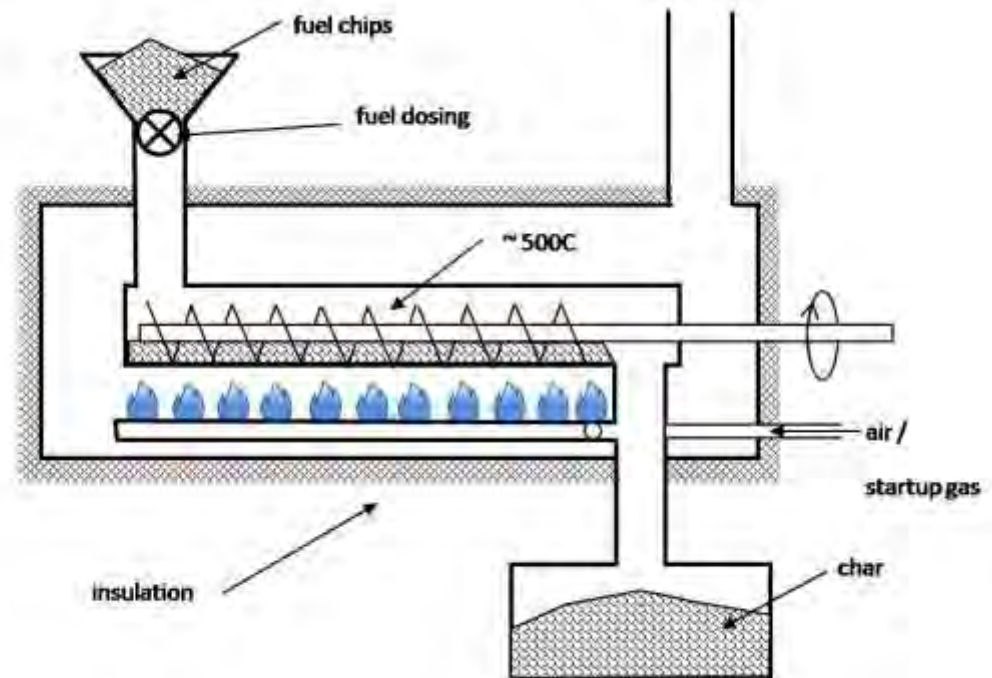
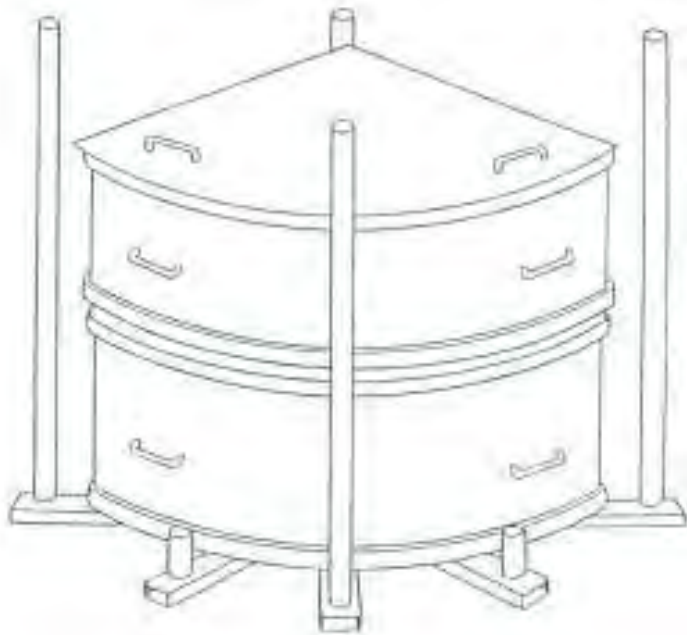
Biomass Liquefaction via Pyrolysis





Carbonization

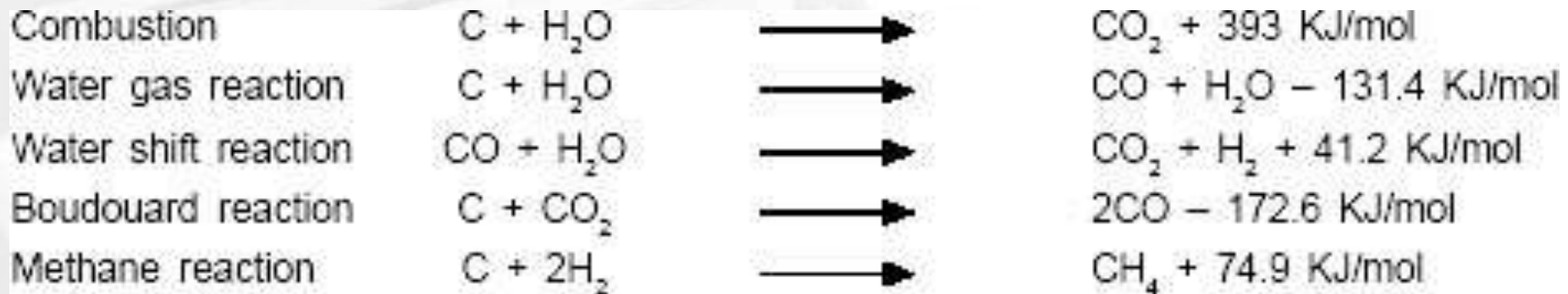
Slow thermal treatment of biomass in the absence of oxygen, converted into low volatile, charcoal





Gasification

A high temperature (750-900°C) conversion of solid, carbonaceous fuels into flammable gas mixtures. This gas is known as producer gas or synthetic gases, consisting of CO, H₂, CH₄, CO₂, and N₂

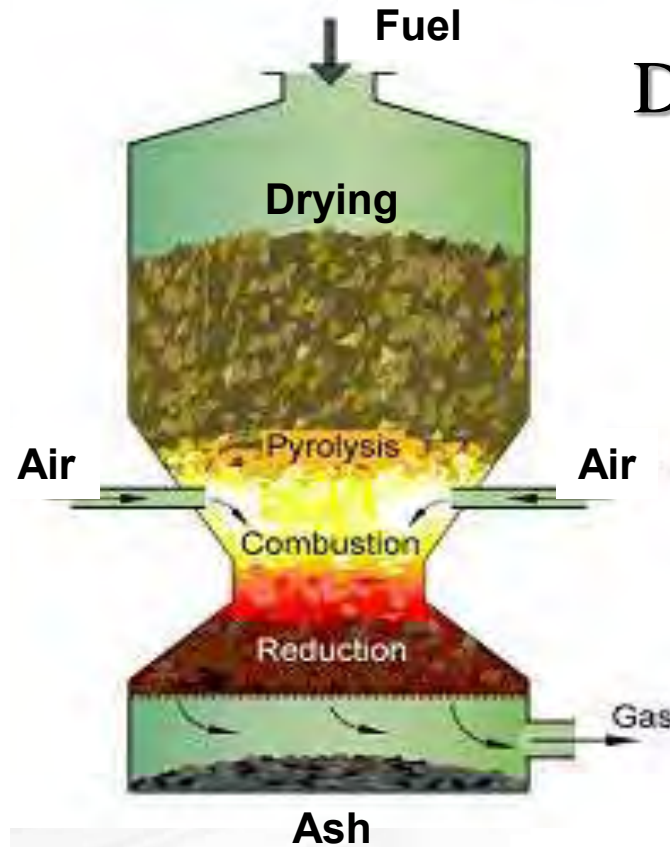
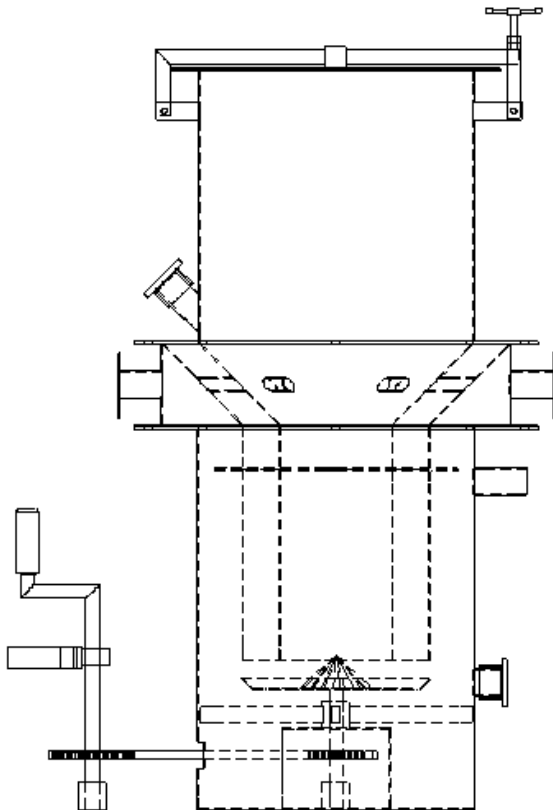




Gasifier

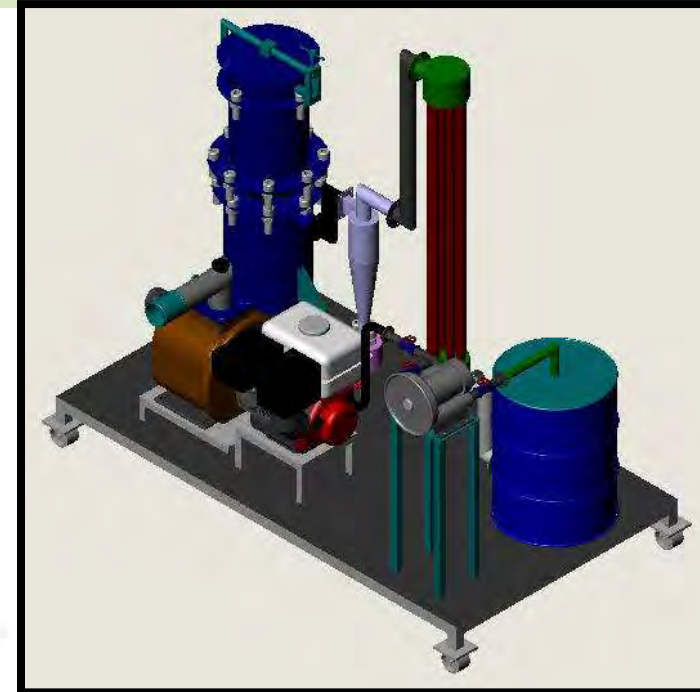
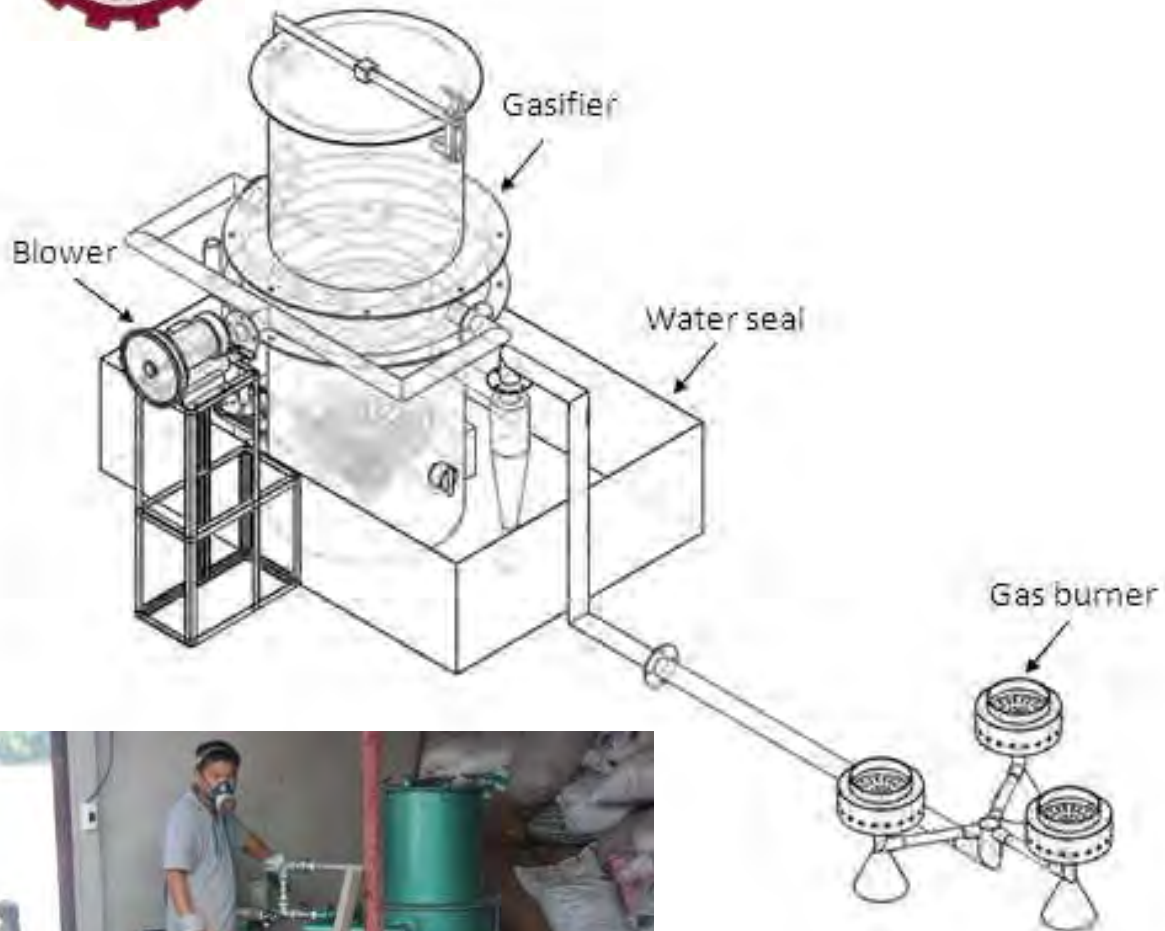
Downdraft Gasifier

1. **Drying zone**
2. **Pyrolysis zone**
3. **Combustion zone**
4. **Reduction zone**





Application of Producer Gas



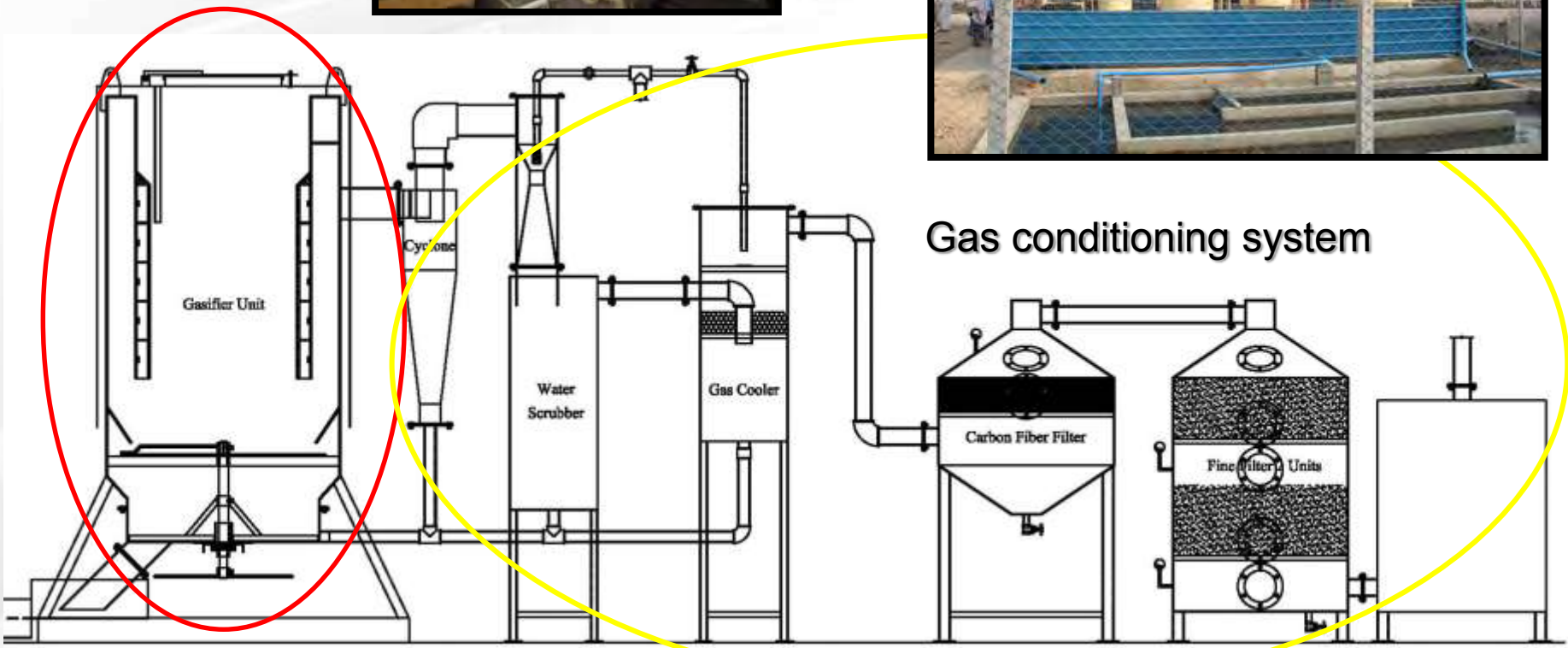
Gasifier – engine system





Small Power Plant

Reactor





Further Readings

เทคโนโลยีการแปรรูปภาพ
ชีวมวล

รศ.ดร. นคร ทิพย์วงศ์





Further Readings

- ✓ Drapcho, C. M., Nhuan, N. P., Walker, T. H. (2008) *Biofuels Engineering Process Technology*, McGraw-Hill, New York.
- ✓ Graziani, M., Fornasiero, P. (2007) *Renewable Resources and Renewable Energy, a Global Challenge*, CRC Press, Boca Raton.
- ✓ Brown, R. C. (2003) *Biorenewable Resources: Engineering New Products from Agriculture*, Blackwell Publishing, Ames.
- ✓ Klass, D. L. (1998) *Biomass for Renewable Energy, Fuels, and Chemicals*, Academic Press, San Diego.
- ✓ Wereko-Brobby, C., Hagen, E. B. (1996) *Biomass Conversion and Technology*, John Wiley & Sons, Chichester.
- ✓ Wayman, M., Parekh, S. (1990) *Biotechnology of Biomass Conversion: Fuels and Chemicals from Renewable Resources*, Open University Press, Philadelphia.



IMΦ

Thank you
for your attention !

