



## ***Early-bird registration deadline nears for Bioeconomy conference***

**OAK BROOK, IL.** January 23, 2008: Early-bird registration ends Monday, Jan. 28, for the Feb. 12-13 conference, *Transition to a Bioeconomy: Integration of Agricultural and Energy Systems*. The conference will be at the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel.

A collaboration of Farm Foundation and USDA, this conference examines the integration of agriculture and energy systems over the next decade. This includes farming systems, markets for by- and co-products, potential impacts of the bioeconomy on animal agriculture, energy efficiency and biotechnology. New farming and energy systems which may be needed to support the cellulosic industry will also be examined.

Early-bird registration of \$200 is available only until Monday, Jan. 28. After that date, registration will be \$230. A special conference rate of \$129 per night is available at the Westin for reservations made by Friday, Jan. 25. Contact the Westin Atlanta Airport Hotel at (404) 762-7676, or (888) 627-7211.

The continuing growth of the biofuels industry is fueling a transition to a bioeconomy, with significant implications for U.S. agriculture, the food system, rural communities and the global economy. "As biofuels become more firmly rooted in the domestic and global economy, it is important to understand the integration of agricultural and energy systems," says Farm Foundation Vice President Steve Halbbrook. "The objective applied economic analysis presented at this conference will enrich the information base for leaders in industry, government, rural communities and academia as they address critical issues related to the bioeconomy."

This conference is targeted to producers, processors, input suppliers, community leaders, government agency representatives, commodity group leaders and academics. Detailed program information, as well as registration and hotel information, is available at the Farm Foundation Web site, [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org).

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