

**The topic of the May CBES Forum is “Growing and Harvesting Switchgrass for Ethanol Production in Tennessee” presented by Ken Goddard.**

**Ken Goddard** is UT’s Extension Biofuels Specialist and is presently focused on assisting farmers with the establishment of switchgrass as a dedicated energy crop. The Initiative’s partnership between Genera Energy and DDCE has completed construction of a research refinery in Vonore, TN which will convert cellulosic biomass to ethanol. The cellulosic bio-refinery is the first of its kind in the US. It is exciting to introduce a new alternative crop in TN and in the Southeast that has so much potential. Switchgrass and the process of converting cellulose into ethanol (potentially) can do more for this nation’s economy since the mechanical revolution. Within three years 5100 acres of switchgrass has been established on 61 farms in the Valley Region of East TN.