



United States Department of Agriculture

January 5, 2004

Research, Education and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

SUBJECT: **Biobased Solutions, FY-02 Farm Bill**

TO: Location Coordinators  
Laboratory/Center Directors

FROM: C. A. Onstad  
Area Director

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (FSRIA) launches a new Biobased Products Initiative. The FSRIA provides for development of a preferred procurement program for biobased products under which federal agencies are required to purchase biobased products.

There are tremendous opportunities at each location to introduce environmentally friendly products into our daily operations. The following is a list of **Selected Opportunities** for the Southern Plains Area to participate in:

**Selected Opportunities for Biobased Products**

- ▶ Biodiesel
- ▶ Carpet
- ▶ Paint
- ▶ Building/Structure - Renovation Materials
- ▶ Cleaning Materials
- ▶ Oil Spill Kits (JWOD)
- ▶ Lubes and Fluids
- ▶ Hand Cleaners
- ▶ Universal Tractor Fluids
- ▶ Solvents

To assist you in this initiative, I have enclosed a video and information for you to become familiar with and to share with your staffs. Please review these packages and incorporate the **Selected Opportunities for Biobased Products** that are appropriate for your location. The video highlights the successful use of biobased products at the Beltsville Center. It's amazing what can be accomplished!

I want to emphasize that we will all benefit now and from years to come by converting to environmentally friendly products. I am excited about this initiative because it promotes agriculture and the use of agricultural products while improving our environment and helping our farmers. I strongly encourage you to begin having your locations use biobased products on a routine basis.

I want to hear about your success stories! In the meantime, we will provide additional information and guidance as we get it. For questions please contact Mike Downing at 979/260-9446. You may also want to visit the following website: [www.biobased.ocs.usda.gov/public/index.cfm](http://www.biobased.ocs.usda.gov/public/index.cfm)

Enclosures

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