



Company Profile

The Energy Crop Company

Ceres is a leading developer of dedicated energy crops that:

- increase biomass yields
- reduce ag inputs
- grow on marginal land
- have improved plant composition for biofuels and biopower

Crop Development

Switchgrass

Sorghum

Miscanthus

Energycane

Short-Rotation Woody Crops

Blade Energy Crops

Ceres markets its first energy crops, switchgrass and high-biomass sorghum, under its Blade Energy Crops label (www.BladeEnergy.com).

Seed sales began Dec 2008.

Traits We License & Royalties

Many of the same traits that benefit energy crops also benefit food and fiber crops. Ceres develops and supplies traits and technology to other organizations.

History

Founded in 1997 as a genomics research firm, Ceres has been applying the technology used in the Human Genome Project to plants.

Research

Ceres is one of the world's leading plant genomics firm, with a proprietary collection of more than 70,000 genes from numerous plant species.

Genomics & Model Systems

Our research starts by sequencing plant DNA, discovering genes and their function, and determining their potential use. This knowledge can be applied to both marker-assisted plant breeding and biotech trait development in energy, food and fiber crops.

Compositional Analytics

We study plant composition and metabolism to improve fuel yields and facilitate refining, among other areas. Plant-based products are also being evaluated.

Marker-Assisted Breeding

Ceres has discovered thousands of naturally occurring markers in plant DNA. They allow plant breeders to track traits in large populations of plants. This speeds product development and allows us to work with complex traits in a simple, efficient way.

Biotechnology

We add new traits, maximize a plant's own potential, or "turn off" traits. Gene promoters allow us to target where traits are expressed, and under what conditions.

Traits

Ceres has discovered genes that: boost biomass yields, reduce nitrogen applications, and increase tolerance to drought, cold or salt.

Collaborations

Chinese Academy of Ag Sciences
National Renewable Energy Lab
Oregon State University
Monsanto
Samuel R. Noble Foundation
South Dakota State University
U.S. Department of Agriculture
University of Arizona
University of California
University of Cambridge
University of Warwick

Intellectual Property

Ceres has exclusive rights to over 40 issued U.S. and foreign patents, and has about 300 U.S. and foreign patent applications pending.

Ownership

Ceres is a privately held company.

Leadership

Chairman: Walter De Logi
Pres. & CEO: Richard Hamilton
CSO: Richard Flavell, FRS, CBE

Employees

120 full-time employees, including many leading experts in plant science, genetics, computational biology & biochemistry.

Headquarters

Thousand Oaks, California, USA

Website

www.ceres.net