

BENEFITS OF WILLOW BIOMASS

Agricultural diversification to biomass crops such as willow can help address many environmental sustainability challenges and create economic opportunities.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

IMPROVED WATER QUALITY

Short Rotation Coppice (SRC) plantations can manage large volumes of dirty water and can remove significant quantities of nutrients and heavy metals. This helps prevent chemicals leaching into local water courses causing pollution and eutrophication.



RENEWABLE ENERGY

SRC willow contributes to renewable bio-energy.

BIODIVERSITY (SUCH AS WILDLIFE / NATURE)

Short Rotation Coppices and perennial energy crops significantly increase biodiversity in agricultural landscapes. Willow also supports huge numbers of local bird and insect life, and provides an early source of pollen for important pollinators.



EMISSION SAVINGS

Biomass, in this case 'agro-biomass', can significantly replace the consumption of fossil fuels and therefore contribute to reductions in GHG (greenhouse gas) emissions.

FLOOD PREVENTION

SRC willows can be adopted as part of 'natural flood retention measures', helping to 'slow the flow' of flood waters in upper catchments.



ECONOMIC BENEFITS



FARM DIVERSIFICATION

The launch of the Support Scheme for Renewable Heat (SSRH) has created the opportunity to grow the market for bioenergy.

EMPLOYMENT

New opportunities in farming, processing and technology application.

