



# MABFUEL - Marine Algae as Biomass for Biofuel

## Project Details

Funding Programme: 7th Framework Programme (FP7)  
 Sub-Programme: People  
 Funding Scheme: Industry-Academia Partnerships and Pathways (IAPP)  
 Project Duration: 48 Months (2008-2012)  
 Total Project Value: €1.4m  
 EU Grant-Aid: €1.4m  
 Funding to Ireland: €1m  
 Website: not currently available



## Project Description

The main aim of this project is to investigate the feasibility of using algae (micro and/or macro) as a feedstock for producing bio-fuels in Ireland and Turkey. The yield of oil from algae is estimated to be 7 to 31 times greater than the next best crop (oil of palm) and micro-algae, in particular, have much faster growth-rates than terrestrial crops. As terrestrial contributions are greatly limited by the finite area of land available under any culture method, it is essential that the potential of the marine environment as a source of biomass for bio-fuel production is realised.

The Mabfuel project will review the global state-of-the-art in the extraction of biofuel products from algae with a focus on species, methodologies, yield and culture methods for algal feedstocks. Practical research and technology transfer will focus on developing optimal methods to extract oil from algal biomass and on intensive large-scale culture methods for micro-algal species in indoor and outdoor facilities. The project will also assess environmental, social and economic risks and benefits of the bio-fuel products developed. This will include an economic model for viable, industrial-scale production and identification of knowledge gaps and commercialisation pathways.

<b>Project Partners</b>	
Project Coordinator	Daithi O'Murchu Marine Research Station, Ireland
Ireland	Green Biofuels Ireland Ltd Dundalk Institute of Technology
UK	Queen's University Belfast Dolphin Sea Vegetables
Turkey	Gaziantep University Ege University

<b>Irish Partners</b>
Dr. Julie Maguire Daithi O'Murchu Marine Research Station, Bantry, Co. Cork, Ireland
Tel: +353 27 61276 E: julie.maguire@dommrc.ie