May 27, 2025
Public Relations and Investor Relations Department
Oji Holdings Corporation
https://www.ojiholdings.co.jp

Regarding the Biochar Demonstration Test in the Forests Owned by QPFL in Vietnam

～Soil Improvement and CO_2 Reduction Using Biochar Derived from Unutilized Bark～

Oji Holdings Corporation (CEO: Hiroyuki Isono, Headquarters: Chuo-ku, Tokyo) will jointly conduct a demonstration test with Tromso Co., Ltd. (CEO: Masaaki Uesugi, Headquarters: Onomichi City, Hiroshima Prefecture) in Vietnam. The test will involve the application of biochar, derived from unutilized bark of plantation trees, in the Acacia plantation forests owned by our group company, QPFL, in Vietnam.

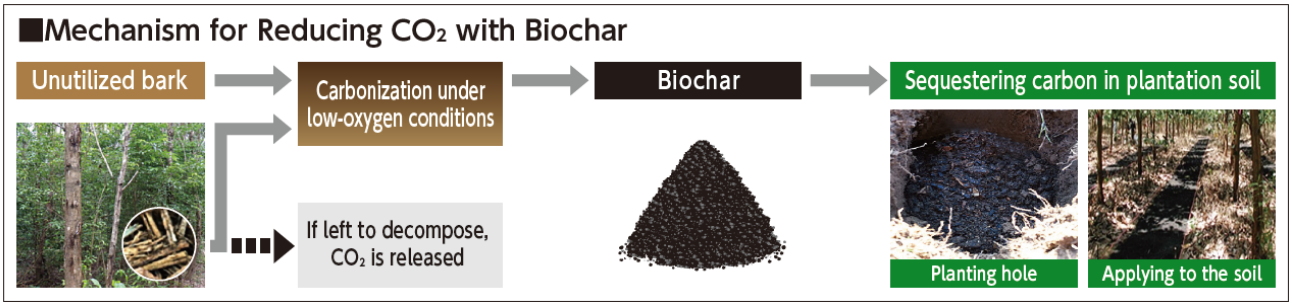
Biochar is a type of charcoal produced by heating biomass such as unutilized bark, bamboo, and straw at high temperatures under low oxygen conditions, without combustion. While plants absorb CO_2 during their growth, if left to decompose after they die, they release the once-fixed CO_2 back into the atmosphere. However, by converting plants into biochar, carbon can be sequestered for extended periods⋆, thereby reducing CO_2 in the atmosphere.

This technology is gaining attention as a negative emission technology (NETs)⋆⋆ that contributes to the mitigation of global warming. European countries, in particular, are actively supporting the dissemination of biochar through policy measures. In addition to reducing CO_2, biochar also improves soil water retention and aeration, promoting plant growth, and is therefore expected to be effective as a soil amendment.

In this demonstration test, Tromso Co., Ltd. will produce biochar using bark from Acacia and other trees, which has been unutilized until now, generated at a sawmill in Binh Dinh Province, Vietnam. Subsequently, QPFL will apply the biochar to a portion (approximately 6 hectares) of its Acacia plantation. The test will evaluate the effects of the biochar on soil improvement, tree growth, and carbon sequestration. The test is scheduled to be conducted in the fiscal years 2025 and 2026. While the use of biochar in agriculture has been advancing, its application in forestry has been limited.

We will continue to engage in initiatives that contribute to forest cultivation and decarbonization both domestically and internationally.

⋆ A technology that reduces atmospheric carbon dioxide by mixing biochar into the soil, thereby sequestering carbon in the soil for extended periods.
⋆⋆ A collective term for technologies that capture and remove greenhouse gases accumulated in the atmosphere, and one of the effective methods to achieve carbon neutrality. Efforts are spreading globally,particularly in Europe (EU), the United Kingdom, and the United States, to promote widespread adoption.



Contact

Innovation Promotion Division , Strategic Planning Dept.Oji Holdings Corporation
TEL : +81-3-6625-0175 E-mail:inv@oji-gr.com
Public Relations and Investor Relations Dept.
Corporate Governance Division, Oji Holdings Corporation
TEL : +81-3-3563-4523 E-mail:oji-holdings@oji-gr.com