



Thomas HOFFMANN, Doctor of agricultural sciences, mechanical engineer

Leibniz Institute for Agricultural Engineering and Bioeconomy (ATB), Department Postharvest Technology.

Main activities and responsibilities: Head of the department Postharvest Technology, responsible scientist of the institute for the research field “Biobased Materials”, lecturer at the Humboldt-University of Berlin of the lesson “Provision and Utilization of Biomass”

Scientific research of the department comprise (1) harvest, preparation, and processing of fibre plants (hemp, flax), (2) production, harvest, and storage of poplar, willows, and black locust from short rotation coppices and storage of wood chips, (3) conversion of biomass to char by hydrothermal carbonisation, (4) development of energy-efficient and product-gentle drying processes for grain, forage, special crops, and non food products and (5) mathematical modelling and numerical simulation of drying process and particle flows.

The research projects range from lab scale basic studies to experiments in semi-technical scale and to development of machines and technical applications.

His previous work focussed on the development of rheological models for compression of wilted grass and maize in horizontal silos and the density measurement of ensiled material with gamma rays.