

## Our Mission

Accelerate the agricultural economy by empowering expanded uses and markets of agriculturally derived products

## AURI launches website to better serve MN's ag innovators



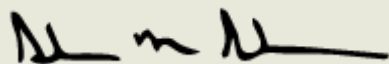
*Dear AURI partner,*

*I'm pleased to announce the launch of our updated website, designed to better connect agricultural innovators with the tools, expertise, and ingenuity needed to move ideas forward and positively impact Minnesota's ag and food sectors.*

*The updated site features a cleaner, more intuitive structure, making it easier to explore AURI's services, industry solutions, research reports, events, success stories, and insights. Visitors can quickly learn how to engage with AURI and discover how we support expanding market opportunities in food, biobased products, biogas, and coproducts. Visitors also can see how AURI's work generates measurable impact across Minnesota's agriculture economy and AURI's value proposition.*

*We put a lot of thought into our new site, and how we can make it easier for ag and food innovators to collaborate, work with us, and access the unique services we provide to develop ag-based products and expand value-added markets.*

*With improved navigation and a stronger focus on outcomes, I hope the new site will serve as a more useful hub for entrepreneurs, businesses, producers, researchers, and partners working to turn agricultural innovation into real-world commercial outcomes.*



**Shannon Schlecht**  
Executive Director

[Visit our site](#)

## **AURI, MN Soybean to host soy rejuvenation demonstration**



AURI and the Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council (MSR&PC) will host an event on Tuesday, July 21, in Breezy Point, Minnesota, to demonstrate the environmental and biobased benefits of applying a soy-based asphalt shingle rejuvenate product to extend the life of roof shingles.

According to research done by The Ohio State University, more than 13 million tons of asphalt roof shingles in the U.S. wind up in landfills each year.

Recycling asphalt shingles is only partially effective because it is difficult to separate non-recyclable materials, such as wood and nails, during the process.

At this event, AURI, MSR&PC, and Roof Maxx of Grand Rapids, Minnesota, will discuss the environmental advantages of using a soy methyl ester emulsion (SMEE) on asphalt roof shingles. The soy oil-based rejuvenator product has been shown to effectively extend the life of shingles. The three organizations will also conduct a demonstration of the SMEE application and provide information on roofing rejuvenates on commercial products and opportunities for increased use of soy in Minnesota.

To register, email Ashley Harguth, [aharguth@auri.org](mailto:aharguth@auri.org).

[Read more](#)

## New translated One-Point Lessons



AURI's food One-Point Lessons are now available in multiple languages, making practical food business guidance more accessible to Minnesota's growing community of entrepreneurs. These concise resources cover key topics, such as packaged meat products, school nutrition programs, acidified foods, labeling requirements, food preservation, recipe formulation, and UPC/barcode basics.

Lessons are currently available in **English, Spanish, Somali,** and **Hmong**, helping food makers better understand requirements as they launch, grow, and scale their businesses with confidence.

[Learn more](#)

## AURI is hiring!



Lead high-impact bioindustrial projects from concept to implementation while building the partnerships that drive innovation across Minnesota. Bring your talent for navigating complexity, aligning diverse stakeholders, and delivering meaningful results as AURI's **Bioindustrial Director, Programs**.

[Apply now](#)

## AURI in the News

[Red River Farm Network](#)

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### *Upcoming* **AURI Events**

**July 21, 2026**

[Soy-Based Roof Rejuvenation Application Demonstration,](#)  
[Beezy Point Resort](#)

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*Did you miss an event?*  
**We have you covered.**

Visit and [Subscribe to AURI's YouTube channel](#) to view more on-demand videos from AURI's Fields of Innovation events, UnTapped, Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable, and more!

[Check out our latest webinar](#)

*Why Minnesota's Agricultural Industry Has a Stake in  
Maritime Decarbonization Through Renewable Fuels*

**Watch Past Webinars**



## *Ag Innovation News*

The newspaper is designed to make research and technical information easy to read and enjoyable for the average user. From an initial subscription list of 4,000, it has grown to reach more than 12,000 print and online readers every quarter, covering AURI's work in the development of new food products, renewable energy, biobased products and new uses for agricultural coproducts.

Subscribe Today



## *Ag Innovation News*

# PODCAST

Ag Innovation News podcast features Jamie Dickerman of Red River Farm Network having in-depth conversations with some of the brightest minds and most recognizable personalities in Minnesota's value-added agriculture ecosystem.

[Check out our latest podcast:](#)

AURI's unique collaboration with Target +  
AURI's inaugural Untapped event!



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Agricultural Utilization Research Institute | 510 County Road 71 Suite 120 |  
Crookston, MN 56716-0599 US

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