

Our Mission

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

MN Renewable Energy Roundtable explores maritime biofuel markets



Minnesota agriculture could play a key role in supplying lower-carbon fuels to the global shipping industry. On Dec. 16, AURI will host the 2026 Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable at the Machine Shop in Minneapolis. Industry leaders will explore opportunities for ethanol, biodiesel, renewable natural gas, hydrogen, ammonia, and methanol, along with infrastructure needs, supply chain challenges, and practical next steps. Attend in person or virtually to gain insights into Minnesota's bioeconomy and emerging maritime markets.

[Register today](#)

AURI shares 3 new food ingredient resources



A promising ingredient or food product takes more than a good idea to reach customers. AURI helps Minnesota producers and food businesses test ingredient performance, work through processing and food safety challenges, and identify practical paths to market. Its team connects technical expertise with business insight, helping companies decide what to do next, whether they're developing a product or preparing to scale. Have a question? AURI's free, twice-monthly virtual "Office Hours" offers also offer an easy place to start.

Interested in learning more? Explore these resources that identify common industry challenges and their solutions and let AURI help you along your journey:

[Driving Ingredient Innovation Across the Value Chain](#)

[Transform Emerging Ingredient Opportunities into Market-Ready Solutions](#)

Virtual Office Hours

Report explores industrial hemp for diversifying animal feed ingredients



Could industrial hemp help build a more resilient animal-feed system? A new report prepared by AURI for the MBOLD Coalition explores hemp seed meal's nutritional value, sustainability potential, and path to market. The findings point to laying hens as the strongest near-term opportunity, while identifying hurdles involving cost, regulation, and further feeding research. See where hemp shows promise, and what must happen next, for this emerging crop to earn a place in livestock diets at commercial scale.

[Read the report](#)

**AURI leaders bring expertise to Food.
Ag. Ideas conference and AgriGrowth
Fall Summit**

FOOD. AG. IDEAS

FOOD. AG. IDEAS

FOOD. AG. IDEAS

FOOD. AG. IDEAS

FOOD. AG. IDEAS

NATURALLY MN

OCT 26-27 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN

AURI leaders will help shape conversations about Minnesota's food and agriculture economy at two key October events.

AURI's Executive Director Shannon Schlecht and Senior Director of Business Development and Commercialization Jen Wagner-Lahr will moderate discussions at Food. Ag. Ideas on Oct. 27 in Minneapolis. On Oct. 28, Brad Matuska, AURI's Business Development Director of Biomass Feedstocks, will join the **"Unleashing Minnesota's Biofuel Potential"** panel at Minnesota AgriGrowth's Fall Summit in Prior Lake, where AURI is a partner organization. He will be joined by AURI client Eugene Alvey, CEO, Swinergy.

Both events bring industry leaders together to explore innovation, collaboration, and opportunities for growth. Join the conversations and connect with others advancing Minnesota agriculture.

[Register for Food. Ag. Ideas.](#)

[Register AgriGrowth's Fall Summit](#)

**HempCoat one of Minnesota's
"coolest things"**



HempCoat is revolutionizing drywall construction, so it's only fitting it was selected to compete in the [Minnesota Chamber of Commerce's Coolest Thing Made in Minnesota contest](#).

The contest highlights innovative products made across the state. The ultimate winner will be announced October 6.

AURI is working with Evolve Technologies on the hemp fiber-based wall coating, which creates a new market opportunity for hemp. According to the company, HempCoat eliminates the need for drywall tape, potentially reducing labor by up to 30%. It has also earned a fire-rating certification.

[Learn more](#)

AURI in the News

[Marshall Independent/Marshall, MN](#)

Upcoming **AURI Events**

December 16, 2026

[Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable](#)

Machine Shop, Minneapolis

[Register here](#)

Industry/Partner Events

October 26-27, 2026

Food. Ag. Ideas

Machine Shop, Minneapolis

[Register here](#)

October 28, 2026

Minnesota AgriGrowth's Fall Summit

Mystic Lake Center

[Register here](#)



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 MN's Ag 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, 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:](#)

Paul Wright, Wright Farms

Wright Farms' Paul Wright shares the challenges of growing aronia berries and how a University of Minnesota partnership turned the unique crop into award-winning ice cream.



Listen & Subscribe



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email & social marketing for free!