

# Making a difference

NDSU EXTENSION SERVICE

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

## The Bio-Industry Summit “Future of the Bio-Industry: Feed, Fuel, Heal and Build the World”

### The Situation

There was an expressed need to explore trends and activities shaping global demand for products and technologies derived from biological and agricultural sources. A committee of about 15 industry leaders was formed to assist with assessing the need for an educational event and to assist with identifying appropriate topics and speakers.

### Extension Response

A Summit was organized that focused on four Bio-Industries - Biotechnology, Bio-energy, Life Sciences and Bio-materials - which have significant economic development implications for our region to Feed, Fuel, Heal, and Build the world. The Summit illuminated the opportunities for the Bio-Industry, explored the innovative work being done at the university level and showcased bio-industry business successes. It also featured valuable opportunities for networking and explored how organic based technology can be an economic driver in the region. The Summit Agenda included time for participants to view some 15 posters showing research and programs being conducted by North Dakota State University and the University of North Dakota. Speaker presentations from the Future of the Bio-Industry Summit can be viewed and downloaded from <http://www.theresearchcorridor.com/bioindustrysummit/presentations>.

### Presentations included:

Bioenergy and Renewable Strategy,  
Beth Calabotta, Monsanto,  
State of the Bio-Industry  
Dr. Cathy Enright, Executive VP for Food and  
Agriculture at the Biotechnology Industry  
Organization  
BioBased Product Potential  
Sandra Broekema, Great River Energy  
Spectrum of Products from Corn  
Niel Doty, ND Corn Utilization Council  
Economical Potential of Ethanol Derivatives and  
other Biochemicals  
Edward Glatzer - IHS Chemical

### Evaluating Product Opportunities

Dr. Marvin Duncan, former USDA Office of Chief Economist

### Homegrown Companies: Strategies for Success

Andrea Holl Pfennig, Department of Commerce  
Chad Ulven, c2renew Corporation - Bio-Materials  
Richard Glynn, Avianax, LLC- Life Sciences  
Mack Traynor, Ultragreen - Bio-Materials

### Advancing the Biochemical Industry

Brendan Jordan - Great Plains Institute

### Research Activities: The Economic Engine to a Thriving Bio-Industry

Dale Zetocha, NDSU  
Michael Moore, UND

### Impacts

Just over 100 people from industry, organizations, agencies and university faculty and graduate students attended the summit. Participants rated the eventual benefit or value of the summit 7.8 on a scale of 1-9 with 9 being great and 1 being little. The benefits that they obtained or expect to obtain included knowledge – 87%, contacts – 74%, and business and research collaboration – 42%.

Media coverage included an Associated Press article on Avianax that has led to over 100 media interviews. Additional media coverage included the Farm and Ranch Guide, AgWeek, SF Gate (San Francisco Chronicle), WDAY TV and Valley News Live.

### Feedback

Numerous extremely positive comments were received and people expressed a desire for another conference.

### Contact

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