



FAARM The Future of Advanced Agricultural Research in Minnesota

Minnesota is poised to lead

For generations, agriculture and food systems have been at the heart of Minnesota, fueling our state’s economy and providing nourishment worldwide. They are imperative to our continued growth and success.

Today, our farmers and food and agriculture industry operate in a world that is increasingly fast-paced and driven by rapidly advancing technology. They face extraordinary environmental challenges to sustainably feed a growing population as our climate continues to change and we pursue scientific solutions to adapt.

Now is the time for transformation

Together, we have the distinct opportunity to seize this critical moment to **make Minnesota the global leader in advancing food and agriculture research, education, and outreach** with FAARM.



FOOD AND AGRICULTURE IN MINNESOTA:

\$112 billion

annual economic impact from Minnesota’s food and agricultural sector



30%
of state’s workforce



51%
of state’s land

\$17 billion
annual agricultural sales 

FAARM for the future

As part of a public-private partnership, CFANS, in collaboration with Riverland Community College in Austin, Minnesota, is working to develop a first-of-its-kind integrated advanced agriculture and food systems research and innovation complex – a centralized location for applied scientific research and hands-on learning.

FAARM’s Vision:

To be the world’s most integrated, advanced food and agricultural complex with a “one health” approach, a nexus for pioneering research, and a convening space for the public, universities, the private sector, and government.

Sources:
State of Minnesota, Department of Agriculture, Department of Labor and Industry, Board of Water and Soil Resources
AgriGrowth, 2020 Economic Contribution Report

Integrated innovation and instruction

Situated on several hundred acres of fields and land and composed of state-of-the-art facilities in Mower County, **the complex will catapult Minnesota and propel its leading research portfolio** for years to come by:

- Studying and advancing every element of the health intersections between people, animals, crops, plants, soil, water, and environment.
- Bringing researchers, instructors, and industry together to focus on all aspects of agriculture and food systems.



Growing rural economies and workforce development

Through a collaboration with Riverland Community College, the complex will provide a range of educational offerings for learners of all ages, from K-12 to post-secondary technical and associate degrees, to baccalaureate and graduate degrees, and outreach education to the broader public.

FAARM is a bold initiative that will support and strengthen Minnesota agriculture and expand, develop, and retain agricultural and food system talent in rural communities and agribusiness. This collaboration will **open the doors of access and opportunity to broaden Minnesota's workforce** and shape the next generation of researchers, existing and emerging farmers, and entrepreneurs who will solve the world's grand challenges.

Visionary technology

Genomics. Microbiology. Artificial intelligence. Robotics. Big data.

FAARM will be at the forefront of these and other emerging game-changing disciplines that are transforming how we produce food and protect the environment every step of the supply chain – from raising livestock and planting seeds to placing meals on tables worldwide.

The FAARM complex will serve as

a Minnesota catalyst for research, innovation, and economic development

that will nourish a growing global population and the environment that sustains us.



For 170 years, the U of M has been dedicated to agricultural and food systems research designed to help farmers and Minnesota succeed. CFANS works side-by-side with crop and livestock farmers, delivering unique research that improves production and benefits the environment here and around the globe.