AgroSpectrum ASIA
Envisaging Future | Updating Present

The US feedstock industry will gain momentum with the launch of a cornfeedstock production unit and a transparent supply chain

11 July 2025 | News

QIRA is derived from annually renewable crops and serves as an impactful alternative to a fossil-derived equivalent

QIRA is derived from annually renewable crops and serves as an impactful alternative to a fossil-derived equivalent

Qore, a joint venture of Minnesota-based Cargill and Germany-based HELM, is officially starting production ofÂ QIRAÂ®, the worldâ??s first large-scale 1,4-butanediol (BDO) made from locally grown **dent corn.** QIRA is derived from annually renewable crops and serves as an impactful alternative to a fossil-derived equivalent used in the manufacture of consumer goods.

A grand opening event, scheduled for July 22, 2025, will celebrate the completion of the $300-million facility and the official start of QIRA production. The event will include elected officials, Iowa farmers, interactive exhibits, and a panel discussion with company employees, executives, and QIRA customers.

The **new facility is set to produce 66,000 metric tons of QIRA, using corn grown primarily within 100 miles of the site** As the worldâ??s largest facility of its kind, it marks a major step forward in meeting global demand for more sustainable materials in everyday consumer products.

â??Qore is able to leverage the deep agricultural network and world-class fermentation technology expertise from Cargill and HELMâ??s global market reach to bring QIRA to life,â?• said Jon Veldhouse, CEO of Qore. â??By providing a reliable, renewable, and transparent feedstock, QIRA helps global manufacturers and brands implement identical materials that reduce reliance on oversea supply chains, bringing more transparency to their product portfolios.â?•

At the heart of the environmental benefits are Iowa farmers who apply regenerative agriculture practices for growing dent corn. These practices are a holistic and inclusive approach to land management, meant to restore soil and ecosystem health. The proximity of the feedstock enables greater traceability and transparency throughout the supply chain.

Versatile Applications for a Range of Industries

QIRAÂ®,Â anÂ identicalÂ replacementÂ forÂ fossil-
derivedÂ BDO,Â isÂ revolutionizingÂ multipleÂ industriesÂ byÂ seamlesslyÂ integratingÂ intoÂ manufacturingÂ processes.Â InÂ fash
basedÂ plasticsÂ derivedÂ fromÂ petroleumÂ andÂ coal,Â offeringÂ aÂ moreÂ eco-
friendlyÂ solution.Â ThisÂ versatileÂ innovationÂ isÂ pavingÂ theÂ wayÂ forÂ aÂ moreÂ sustainableÂ futureÂ acrossÂ diverseÂ secto

"By offering a bio-based alternative to fossil-based feedstock, we are empowering brands to reduce their environmental impact and respond to consumer demands for transparency, more sustainable, high-performing products," said Steve Kuiper, a fourth-generation Iowa farmer. â??Our community is proud to play a vital role in making everyday products more sustainable.â?•