Consider Corn Challenge V Winner – Terragia

Terragia has been recognized for its groundbreaking work in biological conversion of corn biomass into renewable fuels and value-added products as a winner (1 of 3) of the "Consider Corn Challenge V." The competition, hosted by the National Corn Growers Association, celebrates technologies that expand the use and market potential of U.S. corn — a vital and versatile feedstock for the growing biobased economy.

Building on research from Dartmouth's Thayer School of Engineering through support from the DOE's Center for Bioenergy Innovation, USDA, NSF, and private investors, Terragia harnesses engineered thermophilic anaerobic bacteria for one-step consolidated bioprocessing of cellulosic biomass. This approach eliminates costly pretreatment and added enzymes, unlocking new efficiency in converting corn fiber and stover into valuable bioenergy products.

Terragia's first application of this innovative technology focuses on fermentation of stillage from ethanol production, offering ethanol producers the potential for a 10% increase in ethanol yield, higher-protein Dried Distillers Grains with Solubles (DDGS), more corn oil, and up to $80 million in additional annual revenue for a 105-million-gallon-per-year plant.

Terragia's mission is to partner with producers and agricultural communities to co-locate bioenergy technologies at existing facilities, driving rural economic growth and supporting a more sustainable, circular bioeconomy.

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