



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RODALE INSTITUTE AND GREENWAVE LAUNCH GROUNDBREAKING  
THREE-YEAR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP**

*Leader In Regenerative Organic Agriculture Will Work with Innovative Ocean Nonprofit to Integrate Ocean Farming and Land Farming for Enhanced Agroecosystem Resilience*

**Kutztown, Pa. — March 4, 2025**— [Rodale Institute](#) and [GreenWave](#) are excited to announce a new collaborative project designed to integrate regenerative ocean farming and land farming, marking a significant step forward in agroecosystem management. This three-year research initiative will explore the use of biostimulants derived from ocean farming to enhance soil health and crop productivity, aligning with Rodale Institute’s mission to advance regenerative organic agriculture and promote the health of both soil and ocean ecosystems.

The project will focus on testing a biostimulant derived from ocean-produced kelp. This organic product is rich in trace elements, minerals, and amino acids in a naturally chelated form, designed to enhance soil microbial activity and improve plant resilience. The goal is to evaluate the biostimulant’s potential to support soil health, improve climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, and optimize crop performance—specifically for lettuce and sweet pepper.

“For centuries, farmers have turned to the ocean to restore soil health. Today, we’re reviving that tradition to tackle modern challenges,” said Bren Smith, Co-Founder of GreenWave. “We’re honored to partner with the cutting-edge researchers at Rodale Institute to explore how kelp biostimulants can help land farmers withstand drought and heat and rebuild soil health. This collaboration is a crucial step in bridging land and ocean agriculture for more resilient, sustainable food systems.”

While the immediate focus of this project is on evaluating the effects of the biostimulant, the partnership also lays the groundwork for broader, long-term research. Future trials could explore the full potential of ocean-derived products to address global challenges such as climate change, soil degradation, and food security.

“This collaboration with GreenWave is a crucial step toward understanding the connections between the health of our soils and the health of our oceans,” said Jeff Tkach, CEO of Rodale Institute. “We are excited to see the impact of these innovative biostimulants on soil health and crop productivity. This project could be the starting point for long-term research that will help us develop regenerative, holistic solutions for farmers.”

The project will be carried out under the supervision of Dr. Dinesh Panday, Rodale Institute's Soil Scientist, who will serve as the principal investigator of the project. In addition to the research objectives, the project will include an outreach component designed to disseminate findings to

regenerative organic farmers, supporting them in adopting sustainable soil and nutrient management practices. The outreach will help farmers understand the benefits of integrating ocean-derived products into their systems, as well as provide practical guidance on applying biostimulants to enhance productivity and soil health.

“We are confident that this project will provide valuable insights into how ocean and land farming can work together to build more resilient food systems,” said Dr. Arash Ghale, Director of Research Growth at Rodale Institute. “By focusing on crop performance, soil health, and nutrient cycling, we hope to offer farmers tools that can help them increase productivity while improving the environmental sustainability of their practices.”

The collaborative research will also help build a foundation for future studies on the role of ocean-farmed biostimulants in climate change adaptation, soil regeneration, and food system sustainability. Through this partnership, GreenWave and Rodale Institute aim to pave the way for long-term trials that could lead to transformative solutions for agriculture and ocean conservation.

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## **ABOUT RODALE INSTITUTE**

*Rodale Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to growing the regenerative organic agriculture movement through rigorous research, farmer training, and education. The Institute’s groundbreaking science and direct farmer support programs serve as a catalyst for change in farming and food production worldwide. Over its 77-year history, Rodale Institute has proven that organic farming is not only viable but essential to humanity’s survival. More information can be found at [www.rodaleinstitute.org](http://www.rodaleinstitute.org).*

## **ABOUT GREENWAVE**

*GreenWave works to replicate and scale regenerative ocean farming—a zero-input, polyculture seaweed, and shellfish farming model that breathes life back into our oceans. By leveraging a mix of farmer-forward training and support, infrastructure, and market development, GreenWave partners with coastal communities across North America and beyond to create a blue economy that ensures we can all make a living on a living planet. [www.greenwave.org](http://www.greenwave.org)*

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