

# Algae-Based Biofuel From Fish

September 1 2009, by Miranda Marquit

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Image source: ValleyFoods.je

Right now, when biofuel is produced using algae, cultures are grown and then processed into fuel. But the process is expensive and difficult. Now a company in Texas, LiveFuels, Inc., hopes that it will be able to change all that. The idea is to create a biofuel based on the oils from the fish that eat the algae.

LiveFuels plans to make use of natural food chains in order to get biofuels. [Gas 2.0 reports](#) on the facilities used by the Brownsville company:

*The company-who develops renewable algae-based biofuels-has a test facility in Brownsville, TX. At the location they have 45 acres of open saltwater ponds which will be used for optimizing the algal production....*

*LiveFuels plans to grow a mix of regional species in low-cost, open-water systems. The algae will be "harvested" with filter-feeding [fish](#) and other aquatic herbivores.*

The idea is that the fish can harvest the [algae](#), grazing on it, and then those fish can in turn be processed for the biofuel base. This is a different approach from current algae-based biofuel processes that may have some merit. After all, something similar is being done in Greenland, where sharks caught in fishing nets [are being processed as biofuel](#).

It will be interesting to see whether this process saves on costs and creates a more cost-efficient biofuel.

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