

2022 Think Big Award

The Think Big Award recognizes an up-and-coming entrepreneur who has displayed extraordinary potential on their entrepreneurial journey. This award is given to an individual who not only develops their own business ideas, but encourages others to participate in the entrepreneurial ecosystem in Iowa.

Jackson Kimle



Midland Co. is a seafood company using sustainable, environmentally friendly methods to raise shrimp for Midwestern customers. Their goal is to utilize a business model that has worked well for family farms in the poultry and swine space and apply that to shrimp production. The vision is to provide farmers with an opportunity to diversify their operations and possibly provide an opportunity for the children of Iowa farmers to come back to the family farm. Their recirculating aquaculture system technology results in zero wastewater from the facility which benefits both the grower (lower costs) and the environment.

Jackson Kimle participated in Iowa State University's Agricultural Entrepreneurship Initiative and ISU Startup Factory programs which has resulted in a successful startup. Jackson has been working with the SBDC center at Iowa State University since June of 2019 when they were interested in applying for funding from the Wellmark Community Venture Capital Fund. They were successful in receiving funding from this program which was used to leverage private equity funding to build their demonstration farm in Story City.

In late 2020, he re-branded the business "Midland Company" and has plans to develop turnkey operations that throughout the Midwest.

Jackson has and continues to demonstrate his entrepreneurial spirit and determination. Midland Company will create opportunities for other agricultural entrepreneurs and be a leader in diversifying Iowa's agricultural industry.

LEARN MORE ABOUT MIDLAND CO.

<https://www.midlandseafood.com/>

