

Neste wants to turn home-cooked hams and turkeys into renewable diesel

Following a project in Finland to use the fat of home-cooked Christmas hams to produce renewable diesel, Neste looks at using Thanksgiving food extras.

Over each Thanksgiving season, 46 million turkeys are eaten in the United States. If the waste fat from baking the turkeys in the oven were collected, it could be processed and turned into renewable diesel, according to Neste.

Last Christmas, 145,000 Finnish households collected the excess fat from their home-cooked Christmas hams. The collected waste fat was recycled and processed into renewable diesel by the world's leading renewable fuels company Neste. The amount of processed Neste MY Renewable Diesel was enough for a car to drive 400,000 miles.

3,000 times around the globe with Thanksgiving turkey fat?

The waste fat contained in an average-sized ham produces enough fuel for a 1.8-mile drive in a regular car. If all Thanksgiving turkey waste fat in the United States were turned into renewable diesel, it would be enough for a car to drive a whopping 92 million miles. That means more than 3,000 times around the globe.

By producing Neste MY Renewable Diesel from waste fat, the fuel's carbon footprint can be reduced by up to 80% when compared to conventional fossil diesel.

"We are constantly on the lookout for new renewable raw materials that we can turn into low-emission fuels. Our goal with this campaign in Finland is to bring the idea of circular economy closer to consumers, encourage recycling and environmental consciousness, and of course spread some holiday cheer," says Kaisa Lipponen, Director, Corporate Communications and Brand Marketing at Neste Corporation.

The From Fat to Fuel campaign in Finland is a cooperative project initiated by the Chemical Industry Federation of Finland. The purpose of the campaign is to bring the circular economy closer to consumers by putting it into practice in a very concrete way.