Could vertical farming revolutionize agriculture?

Plenty is no ordinary farm.

Instead of growing greens outdoors, the farm grows its food on glowing, LED-lit 20-foot-tall towers inside a former electronics distribution center in South San Francisco. The towers don't require pesticides or even natural sunlight.

The technique is called indoor vertical farming, a type of agriculture in which food grows on trays or hanging modules in a climate-controlled, indoor facility. The process could one day upend the world of agriculture, because it means certain types of food could be produced year round, anywhere, in a small space.

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Some experts say the funding could help the indoor farming industry as a whole. Dickson Despommier, a professor of microbiology and public health at Columbia University, told [Business Insider] the investment will make indoor agriculture even more commonplace, and encourage other [venture capitalists] to fund vertical farm companies.

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Vertical farming has attracted increasing interest from venture capitalists in recent years. Founded in 2004, vertical farming company <u>AeroFarms is growing</u> dozens of varieties of greens in nine warehouses (the largest at 69,000 square feet) in New Jersey, and has raised \$95.8 million to date. Another startup, called <u>Bowery</u>, <u>has raised \$20 million</u> since its early 2017 launch.

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion and analysis. Read full, original post: Investors are sinking hundreds of millions into a technology that could revolutionize the way we eat