



Microorganisms to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables, legumes as plant-based protein, and circular algae: the winning solutions of the FoodTech Startup Forum

Foodimental, The Good Pulse Company and Mediterranean Algae recognized as the most innovative startups at the competition organized by Expo FoodTech 2025 in collaboration with LaSalle Technova Barcelona

Madrid, May 21, 2025. [Food 4 Future – Expo FoodTech 2025](#), the major technology trade show for the food industry held in Bilbao from May 13 to 15, once again showcased emerging talent through a new edition of the **FoodTech Startup Forum**. Nearly 60 startups took part in the final stage of this well-established event, now a key date on the calendar for the entrepreneurial ecosystem. The forum spotlighted disruptive solutions addressing the major challenges of today's food system, from sustainability to digital transformation.

Organized in collaboration with LaSalle Technova Barcelona, the **FoodTech Startup Forum** brought together some of the most innovative startups on the scene, alongside business leaders, investors, entrepreneurs, and potential partners from across the food industry. The event also provided a valuable opportunity to generate synergies, foster collaboration, and share a common vision for the future among key players in the food and beverage sector. In this context, three companies were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the transformation of an increasingly tech-driven, efficient, and sustainable industry.

The first prize was awarded to **Foodimental** for its significant efforts in reducing food waste and improving the efficiency of the agri-food chain. Its innovative solution, EverFresh, uses beneficial microorganisms to extend the shelf life of fruits and vegetables by up to twice as long, without the need for pesticides or harsh chemicals.

The Good Pulse Company received the second prize at the **FoodTech Startup Forum**. The company develops sustainable ingredients and legume-based proteins to produce tasty and nutritious cheeses with a smaller environmental footprint than other alternatives.

Mediterranean Algae completed the list of award-winning startups with its natural dietary supplement made from algae, offering multiple benefits for metabolic health. Through an innovative upcycling technology that repurposes Mediterranean algae, the startup creates sustainable ingredients that promote the circular economy and contribute to marine ecosystem preservation.

For its 2025 edition, the event received **over 200 applications**, with **60 selected to present their projects at Expo FoodTech**—highlighting the strong potential of emerging talent in reshaping the food sector toward a more sustainable and innovative future.



About Food 4 Future – Expo FoodTech (May 13th-15th, 2025, BEC-Bilbao, Spain): is the innovation event for professionals from the entire food industry value chain. For three days, Food 4 Future - Expo FoodTech will bring together, at Bilbao Exhibition Centre (BEC), more than 8,000 food industry professionals and 250 exhibiting firms to present the latest solutions in foodtech, robotics and automation, processing and packaging machinery for the different segments of the food industry, as well as food safety and food science. In addition, it will host the Food 4 Future World Summit, the largest European congress in which to discover the latest trends, success stories and tools to transform the food and beverage industry from more than 450 international experts. Food 4 Future - Expo FoodTech is organized by NEBEXT and AZTI. This year, Food 4 Future - Expo FoodTech 2025 will be held simultaneously with [Pick&Pack for Food Industry](#), the only event in Spain specialized in packaging and logistics solutions for the food industry.

About Pick&Pack for Food Industry (May 13-15, 2025 | Bilbao Exhibition Centre): is an event organized by [NEBEXT](#), a company specialized in professional events focused on innovation and technology transfer, such as [HIP](#), [Digital Enterprise Show](#), [Rebuild](#), [Tourism Innovation Summit](#) or [Advanced Factories](#). Pick&Pack is a boutique innovation event for industrial leaders and SMEs in the food industry looking for solutions in logistics, intralogistics and packaging. As part of the summit, the Packaging & Logistics 4.0 Congress, dedicated to packaging, will be held. Pick & Pack 2025 will be held simultaneously with Food 4 Future - Expo FoodTech, the international innovation event for the food and beverage industry.