



# AGRICUS ROBOTICS™

REVOLUTIONISING FARMING

# Our Vision

To provide high quality robotic harvesting to the mushroom industry

Mushroom-harvesting robot is among innovations from new agri-tech partnership



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Technology

## Ceres Agri-Tech Funding Mushroom Hunting Robots

□ nicolaskross · 9 hours ago



News Energy & environment Robotics

### Ceres Agri-Tech to fund mushroom picking robots

26th October 2021 10:33 am

Ceres Agri-Tech, a partnership between five UK universities and three agricultural research institutes, has revealed that a mushroom picking robot will be among its supported innovations.



# The Challenge

- Fresh mushrooms for retail are handpicked
  - Delicate and easily bruised
- Grow in complex overlapping clusters
  - Closed cap, button and flats vary in size and shape
- Picking affects overall yields
- Produced in challenging environments
  - Bed systems up to 5m high with restricted height clearance



# Labour Crisis

- Mushroom industry facing a serious labour shortage
- Exacerbated by Brexit and COVID-19
  - > 4,000 people required everyday
  - labour accounts for 75% of harvesting costs
  - employment costs are rising
  - demanding work in challenging environments
  - takes up to 6 months to train a picker



Robotic crop harvesting technology offers a step change in labour productivity and security



# Agaricus Robotics Technology

- Our offer
  - Whole crop harvesting
  - Pick challenging dense clusters
  - Closed cap, button and flats
  - No damage or bruising
- Benefits to growers
  - De-risk labour availability
  - Known productivity rates
  - Optimised picking
  - Reduced wastage
  - Compatible with current bed systems



*Patent Pending*



# Agaricus in Action



# The Team

CEO



**Dr Louise Sutherland**

Director of Ceres  
Cambridge Enterprise  
20 years experience in the  
Fresh Produce Sector

CTO, Founder



**Dr Bashir Al-Diri,**

Associate Professor,  
University of Lincoln  
Expert in computer vision,  
AI, machine learning

Director



**Dr Iain Thomas**

Head of Life Science,  
Cambridge Enterprise  
Expertise in  
commercializing IP, starting  
spin-outs, board  
membership

Director



**Prof Andrew Hunter**

Deputy Vice Chancellor,  
University of Lincoln  
Expertise in computer  
vision, AI, former founder  
and CEO of software  
company

# Agaricus Robotic Summary

## **Innovative**

Intelligent harvesting robot able to pick whole crops of fresh mushrooms including dense clusters

## **Help the labour crisis**

Dependable robotic harvesting: derisking labour availability and productivity

## **Contact Us**

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