

Andalusian researchers generate bio plastic with red crab waste

LOCATION: Isla Mayor (Seville)

DURATION: 1'42"

SUMMARY: The red crab has become one of the pillars of the economy of the Andalusian area of the Low Guadalquivir. 4 million kilograms are captured in Spain every year generating a huge amount of waste. But now researchers of the University of Seville have managed to produce bio plastic with proteins obtained from this waste. It is a biodegradable material that in the future could be used to make packages and cases of all kind.

VTR

This researcher of the University of Seville is testing the resistance of a piece of plastic. An ecological material, biodegradable and innovative as it is made out of animal proteins, specifically...

From this animal... the red crab.

Capturing and processing them is the main pillar of the economy of this area of Andalusia.

NICOLÁS ROUX
Deputy Director ALFOCAN

"We are talking about 3 million kilograms that come from Andalusia."

4 million kilograms are captured in Spain every year, 75% of them is the paddy fields of the Guadalquivir River in Andalusia. But this industry generates a huge amount of waste.

MANUEL FÉLIX
Researcher at the University of Seville

"Something that starts being a problem, why not turning it into a potential benefit?"

With their shells they obtain this protein concentrate which is used to produce this bioplastic, a material to make...

ANTONIO GUERRERO
Head of the research

"Pen caps, mobile pieces, cases of all kind, certain packages, it could also work."

For the moment this research is still in an experimental phase. We will have to wait until this patric arrives to the market. A product that is twice ecological because it is biodegradable and made out of waste.

MANUEL FÉLIX
Researcher at the University of Seville

"Our resources are limited; so if population is growing and resources are the same, we have to work to use those resources the best way possible."

They are working on it, and in discovering the new possibilities that this organic plastic has to offer.

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