

## FEATURE



*'Alginates: Polysaccharides with a Colourful Future'*  
by Antonio Lourenco and  
Laura Gómez-Mascaraque.



*'Barley in Summer'*  
by Evelyn Zuniga.



*'Grazing Working Group'*  
by Michelle Liddane.



*'Fight against Blight'*  
by Dheeraj Rathore.



*'Fly Agaric'*  
by Ian Short.



*'Glowing Oats'*  
by Dheeraj Rathore.

# Visions of research and innovation

Once again, the winners of the Teagasc Vision of Research and Innovation image competition have produced a stunning selection of images.

The Teagasc Vision of Research and Innovation image competition entered its third year in 2018. The competition opened in May 2018 and closed on September 28. It was judged by a panel comprising Mark Moore (Teagasc, editor of *Today's Farm*), John Beeching (University of Bath, UK), and Marie Christie (Teagasc Corporate Web Editor).

### Winners

The winners of the 2018 Vision of Research and Innovation image competition were announced on December 6, and the 12 winning images featured in a 2019 calendar delivered to Teagasc centres and offices before Christmas. The winning images were:

- *'The Gruesome Guest'* by Shafique Matin;
- *'Alginates: Polysaccharides with a Colourful Future'* by Antonio Lourenco and Laura Gómez-Mascaraque;
- *'Top Dips for Mastitis Control'* by Sarah Fitzpatrick;
- *'Playtime!'* by Jen-Yun Chou;
- *'Grazing Working Group'* by Michelle Liddane;
- *'Glowing Oats'* by Dheeraj Rathore;
- *'Barley in Summer'* by Evelyn Zuniga;
- *'Happy & Healthy'* by Emer Kennedy;
- *'Fly Agaric'* by Ian Short;
- *'Fight against Blight'* by Dheeraj Rathore;



'Happy & Healthy'  
by Emer Kennedy.



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'Veteran Oak'  
by Ian Short.



'Playtime!'  
by Jen-Yun Chou.



'The Gruesome Guest'  
by Shafique Matin.



'Top Dips for  
Mastitis Control'  
by Sarah Fitzpatrick.



'Microstructured  
Ingredients' by Laura  
Gómez-Mascaraque  
and André Brodkorb

- 'Microstructured Ingredients' by Laura Gómez-Mascaraque and André Brodkorb; and,
- 'Veteran Oak' by Ian Short.

The overall winner was Shafique Matin. Shafique's image, 'The Gruesome Guest', features a *Cordyceps* fungus invading its insect host, observed during his work on the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine-funded IDEAL-HNV project. The IDEAL-HNV project brings together researchers from Teagasc and IT Sligo to identify and describe high nature value (HNV) farmland in the Irish context. HNV farmland is extensively managed farmland with high biodiversity. HNV farms are mostly found in areas where natural constraints prevent intensification, and supporting this type of farmland helps to maintain biodiversity, sustain rural communities, and promote water, air and soil quality. EU member states are required to identify areas with HNV farming practices and support them through Rural Development Programmes (<https://idealhvn.wordpress.com/>). Dr Frank O'Mara, Teagasc's Director of Research, thanked the judges for their careful deliberation in selecting the winning images and congratulated all of the entrants for the extremely high standard of images submitted. Prints of selected images from the Vision of Research and Innovation image competition over the last three years will

feature in an exhibition to be held in the Department of Agriculture, Kildare Street, in spring 2019. The next Vision of Research and Innovation image competition launches in Spring 2019 and will close in September.

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