Lead Mycologist

**Esencia Foods** is Europe’s first company building fish and seafood alternatives based on mushroom mycelium, using solid-state fermentation.

**Our mission** is to foster the world’s transition to a sustainable seafood system - without asking consumers to compromise on taste, texture, or price.

**Our planet** cannot sustain our current food system; therefore, we believe in producing exceptional alternative seafood products to remove the current strain on our environment and ensure food security for our future ever-growing population.

We are looking for a **Lead Mycologist** to pioneer the development of our unique mycelium-based technology platform to re-invent the food system. **This is your opportunity to have an impact on our planet and experience a startup in its earliest days.**

**Role & Responsibilities**

- Discovery and characterization of new fungal strains with the potential to become alt-seafood
- Creating and developing multiple approaches to achieve novel mycelium textures
- Design and execution of experiments to optimize the substrate, inoculation, and mycelial growth.
- Develop methodologies to characterize mycelium biochemical, material, and nutritional properties
- Developing and executing RnD strategy plan as well as supporting strategic decisions
- Working closely with food scientists, fermentation and bioprocess engineers to translate lab discoveries into scalable technologies

**Qualifications**

- Degrees are great, relevant experience is better. This can come in the form of an MSc. +4 years experience or Ph.D. +1 year experience in Mycology, Biotechnology, or any relevant experience
- A positive attitude and an overflowing motivation
- Experience in working with strong aseptic conditions required for fungal mycology
- A track record of willingness to learn, adapt, get stuff done, and be proactive
- Excellent written and verbal skills in English

**Why join?**

- You will work directly with the founders: Bruno, the CTO, a unique mix between a PhD. in Biophysics from Max-Planck Institute and a Cook. Hendrik, the CEO, a former M&A consultant, and senior leader from a b2c unicorn. We will work together and take joint decisions.
- Trans-disciplinarity at its peak: we believe invention only happens when you connect dots that are seemingly far apart. Really far apart.
- A high-impact, ambitious startup environment with the ability to learn and grow alongside the company
- The opportunity to work on groundbreaking technology and make a true impact on the environment and our food system
- A fun, flexible, and rewarding environment where you can have the ability to thrive as a person

*Elon Musk did not fly to the moon before starting SpaceX. So, we encourage you to apply even if you feel you do not match all criteria perfectly. Many thanks!*