



Lavanya Bhandari

Ecoroots

Lavanya Bhandari is a scientist, entrepreneur, and the driving force behind Ecoroots, on a mission to replace plastic with fungi. With a background in food science and chemistry, Lavanya began her career at Kerry Foods, where she led multidisciplinary teams in launching new products from concept to shelf—gaining deep experience across R&D, technical, and process scale-up within FMCG companies.

But it was a chance discovery of mycelium—nature’s decomposer—that changed her path. Her journey with mycelium began not in a lab, but in her home—sparked by an article, not on mushrooms’, but rather, what lies beneath the soil. What started as bathroom/ kitchen-based-prototypes, quickly evolved into a bold vision: to transform waste into high-performance packaging and reshape the future of materials.

In just two years, Lavanya has developed a minimum viable product, refined proprietary recipes, built a pilot facility from scratch, launched a digital production platform, and secured early-stage customers. At the core of Ecoroots is a tech-enabled platform—enabling scalable, capital-light expansion. Ecoroots is now positioned at the intersection of biotechnology and advanced manufacturing, supplying industries with packaging that is biodegradable, durable, and cost-efficient.

Lavanya is currently closing Ecoroots’ seed round, with funding going toward scaling production and activating the company’s licensing model. Her goal is to make mycelium packaging the new standard—delivering performance, aesthetics, and circularity at scale.

Beyond building the business, Lavanya is passionate about supporting women in science and entrepreneurship, especially in sectors where sustainability and innovation intersect.

“We’re not just replacing plastic—we’re building a regenerative system where waste becomes value.”

www.ecoroot.co

