

PRESS RELEASE - Toulouse, 14 December 2023

Robots serving agro-ecology are in the fields for the 8th edition of World FIRA

6-8 February 2024 in Toulouse/Auzeville-Tolosane (France)

The leading international event for agricultural robotics and autonomous solutions will open its eighth edition from 6 to 8 February at the Agrobiopole in Auzeville-Tolosane (31).

With robots now available for all sectors, World FIRA is a unique opportunity to discover robots with multiple functions in the field. There are also some major new features on the program: the 1st International Symposium on Agricultural Autonomy, the Hackathon of the "Grand Défi de la Robotique Agricole" and the World FIRA Awards 2024.

Field crops, vegetables, vineyards, orchards... to each his own robot!

The agricultural robotics market continues to expand, offering ever more autonomous solutions to the challenges of food sovereignty, labor shortages and ecological impact.

With over 600 robots in use in crop production in France in 2023 - there were only 100 in 2018 divided into 25 different models (Source: Observatoire des Usages Numériques en Agriculture 2023) and a global market expected to reach \$40.1 billion in 2028 (Source: ResearchAndMarkets.com), World FIRA offers participants the opportunity to come and discover them all in one place over three days.



Farmers' associations, chambers of agriculture, delegations of distributors and dealers, investors, journalists... from the four corners of Europe will come to appreciate a 2-hectare demo zone, as well as an exhibition area segmented by sectors.

Dozens of robot manufacturers will be on hand to present their latest advances, including: Yanmar, Agrointelli, Bluewhite, Continental, Crover, Naïo Technologies, EXXACT Robotics, Léger Innovation, SITIA, Odd.Bot, Osiris Agriculture, Pats, Robotic Perception, Slopehelper, Softirob, Ullmanna, Afara, Alpha unmanned systems, K.U.L.T., Pixelfarming, AgXeed, Stout, Aigro, AVL Motion, Nature Robots...

Exhibitors list

The 1st International Symposium on Agricultural Autonomy

As the event that brings together the agricultural robotics community on an international level, World FIRA is launching the First International Symposium on Agricultural Autonomy. On 8th February 2024, this forum for discussion and reflection will provide an insight into the challenges of autonomy in agricultural robotics and feedback from users on the ground: how governments, unions, and associations are working to provide the best regulatory framework for the development of agricultural robots.

The first edition of the International Agricultural Autonomy Symposium will be an opportunity to exchange ideas, share experiences and co-construct the next stages in the deployment of agricultural robots.

Co-organised with AXEMA and Grand Défi de la Robotique Agricole, three workshops will be held throughout the day to challenge manufacturers and legislators on the challenges ahead.

The World FIRA Awards 2024

Three categories rewarding the best robots and robot manufacturers will be announced at the World FIRA, on Thursday, 8 February at 12:15 pm:

- The "**Ag Robot of the Year**" farmers' choice: award for the best robot currently on the market, presented by Future Farming, and selected from the robots featured in the <u>Ag-Robot Buying Guide 2024</u>
- The "**Best Start-up**" investors' choice: prize for the most promising start-up in terms of investment, awarded by the jury of World FIRA investors (Capagro, Rabobank and Fulcrum Capital) following the pitch sessions on February 6 at 2:00 pm.
- The "**Best World FIRA Robot**" chosen by World FIRA 2024 participants: the robot exhibiting at World FIRA that received the most votes from participants in the online voting, awarded by World FIRA.

The Hackathon of the "Grand Défi de la Robotique Agricole"

As part of the Scientific Symposium organized for the 5th year by RobAgri and INRAE, the Grand Défi is launching its first hackathon at World FIRA.

The idea behind this hackathon? To create teams ahead of FIRA, who will come and work for several weeks to develop solutions for improving robotics safety (new detection approaches or challenging existing solutions).

Projects will be presented, and winners announced on Thursday, 8 February at World FIRA.

Further information and registration: world-fira.com

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