



Affiliate Annual Report for Calendar Year 2025

(Complete Attachment B to be considered for one or more 2026 Affiliate Awards.)

To maintain compliance with IAFP Constitution and Bylaws, Affiliates must return this completed report. Please send by email to Susan Smith at: ssmith@foodprotection.org.

Please return the following items **electronically** by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026** (late reports will not be considered for awards):

REQUIRED:

- ☐ This completed form (*in English*).
- ☐ Your Association's list of current term officers (complete Attachment A).

OPTIONAL:

- ☐ Attachment B: Completion required **only** if your Association requests to be considered for one or more Affiliate Awards.
- ☐ IAFP accepts **all** Affiliate Annual Reports electronically, including those vying for one or more of the Affiliate Awards. *Affiliates seeking to present the highest quality visual presentation are encouraged to present their Annual Report in the highest quality possible for review by the Selection Committee. To avoid errors and omissions, please limit your submission to ONE email with all attachments.*
- ☐ Digital photos (with names and descriptions) to appear in the *Affiliate View* quarterly newsletter.

Colombian Association of Food Science and Technology (ACTA)

1. Your Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council and Contact

Enter in the fields below the information requested for your Association's official Delegate to the IAFP Affiliate Council and your official Contact for IAFP correspondence. **Delegate must be an IAFP Member.**

Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council

Name of Official Delegate Edna Liliana Peralta Baquero.

Address 1: Calle 106 No. 49B - 22

Address 2

City, State ZIP Country Bogotá D.C.

Phone Number: 319.2053476

Email address: acta@acta.org.co

IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Official Contact for IAFP Correspondence (indicate “same” if person also serves as Delegate)

Name of official Contact for IAFP Correspondence: Same.

Address 1

Address 2

City, State ZIP Country

Phone Number

Email address

IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☐

2. Membership List

- a. Indicate the current total number of members in your Association: 89
- b. How many NEW members joined your Association in 2025? 23

3. Meetings: Annual Meeting/Conference, Educational, Workshops, Webinars, etc.

- a. On what date(s) was your most recent general membership or major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference) during the past year? Please list number of attendees.

October 23–25, 2025 – CONACTA 2025 (International Congress of Food Science and Technology – FoodTech), Bogotá, Colombia – 312 attendees

- b. Please provide the date(s) and location of your next scheduled major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference):

June 2026 – SINIA: Simposio de Ingredientes y Aditivos Alimentarios – Virtual – Colombia (Exact dates to be announced)

- c. List all other general membership meetings held in 2025 (excluding board meetings). Include title, dates and attendance numbers.

Webinar: Auditing Testing and Calibration Laboratories	February 13, 2025 – Virtual – 248 attendees
Course: Nutritional Labeling and Front-of-Pack Labeling Regulations	March 28–29, 2025 – Virtual – 32 attendees
Course: Sensory Evaluation – Fundamentals and Applications	May 20–23, 2025 – Virtual – 18 attendees
Listerias sin Fronteras – Surveillance, Prevention and Control	June 5, 2025 – Bogotá, Colombia – 186 attendees
Course: Development of Nutritional Tables and Regulatory Calculations	June 13–14, 2025 – Virtual – 32 attendees
Webinar: Risk Management in Food Service Operations (with Diversey)	August 28, 2025 – Virtual – 313 attendees
Course: Applied Sensometrics in Sensory Evaluation	September 9–12, 2025 – Virtual – 23 attendees

Webinar: Café con ACTA – Tools for Food Safety Risk Management Systematization	September 18, 2025 – Virtual – 68 attendees
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4. Awards and Scholarships

a. List members honored with an award from your Association and/or IAFP during 2025. Include name of award and qualification for award.

María Cristina Prieto	TuVI Award – Awarded in recognition of outstanding lifetime contribution, leadership and commitment to food safety in Colombia.
Licet Vanessa Durango Castilla	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Graduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in graduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Deivis Enrique Lujan Rhenals	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Graduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in graduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Fabian Alberto Ortega Quintana	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Graduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in graduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Enay De Jesus Salcedo Salazar	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Graduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in graduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Lopez Molinello Alfredo	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Undergraduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in undergraduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Lena Prieto	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Undergraduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in undergraduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Ismael Enrique Povea Garcerant	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Undergraduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in undergraduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.
Santiago Saenz	Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Award (Undergraduate Category) – Awarded for excellence in undergraduate research in Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, and Food Safety.

b. List scholarships awarded during 2025; include recipient and qualification for scholarship.

None	None
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5. Web Communication

Please be sure to keep the IAFP office on your mailing list for newsletters, email, and other communications to your general membership.

Please provide your existing Affiliate's Web site address AND date last updated:

<https://www.acta.org.co> – Last updated: October 2025

Did you launch a new Affiliate Web site in 2025? Y ☐ N ☒

Attachment A (completion required)

Association Officers List

*Provide the contact information requested below for all current officers of your Association. **Please indicate if each officer is an IAFP Member (reminder: Your President and Delegate are required to be IAFP Members).** The information you provide here is published on our website and in select membership materials. The information may be typed in the fields below or may be sent to our office by email, fax or regular mail.*

Indicate the term dates (e.g., 2025–2026) for your current Executive Board:
2025 – 2027

President:

Edna Liliana Peralta Baquero:
Calle 106 No. 49B - 22:
Bogotá D.C., Colombia
+57 319 2053476
presidente@acta.org.co
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Vice President

Magda Ivon Pinzon
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IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☐

Secretary

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IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Treasurer

Nixy Tatiana Parada Bermudez
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IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Executive Director

Luisa Fernanda Rivera Criollo
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Bogotá D.C., Colombia
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coordproyectos@acta.org.co
IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Before continuing, please check one of the boxes below:

☐ **CHECK HERE and return electronically by 3/3/26 IF YOUR AFFILIATE REQUESTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ONE OR MORE 2026 AFFILIATE AWARDS. (You are required to complete Attachment B.)**

☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOUR AFFILIATE DOES NOT WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A 2026 AWARD. (You are done! It is not necessary to complete Attachment B.)**

Attachment B (optional)

Affiliate Award Considerations

*To be considered for one or more of the five Affiliate Awards to be presented at IAFP 2026, Affiliates are **required** to check the box next to the award(s) for which you wish to be considered and provide the related criteria (in English). (REMINDER: Please confirm IAFP Membership of your Affiliate President and Delegate **before** completing Attachment B to avoid award disqualification.)*

☒ **Affiliate Membership Achievement Award**

How did your Affiliate grow **AND** retain members during the past year? Please provide details on:

- how new members were recruited throughout the year;
- the number of new members joining the Affiliate;
- the percent of increase in membership from 2025 to 2026;
- specific efforts on how you retained existing members; and
- other methods related to helping grow and maintain your membership.

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

In 2025, the Colombian Association of Food Science and Technology (ACTA) implemented a comprehensive membership recruitment and retention strategy that resulted in measurable growth and strengthened institutional stability.

At the beginning of the reporting period (March 2025), ACTA had 78 active members. By March 2026, membership increased to 89 active members, reflecting a net growth of 14.1%. During 2025, 23 new members joined the Association.

Recruitment efforts were strategically integrated into ACTA's academic and technical programming. Throughout the year, promotional membership discounts were offered during different enrollment periods to attract new professionals, students, and companies. A major driver of new memberships was CONACTA 2025 (International Congress of Food Science and Technology – FoodTech). The event offered exclusive member benefits, including preferential registration rates, differentiated pricing, and eligibility to participate in the Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Awards. Additionally, special invitations were extended to strategic participants and collaborators, further strengthening engagement and conversion to membership.

Retention was addressed through proactive renewal strategies. At the end of 2025, ACTA launched a renewal campaign allowing members to renew their 2026 membership at 2025 rates, encouraging early renewal and reinforcing member loyalty. This approach emphasized value continuity rather than reactive retention.

Continuous technical programming—including CONACTA 2025 (312 attendees), specialized workshops, webinars, and professional courses generating over 1,100 participations in 2025—strengthened the value proposition of membership and contributed directly to both recruitment and renewal success.

Through coordinated incentives, event-based recruitment, exclusive member benefits, and strategic renewal campaigns, ACTA achieved sustainable membership growth and enhanced member engagement throughout 2025.

☒ **Affiliate Communication Award**

How did your Affiliate communicate information to your Members during the past year? Please provide a description of the types of communication sent to your general membership and include samples with your Annual Report. Samples can be printed copies/screen shots of blast emails, website (include frequency of updating), electronic/print newsletters, brochures, etc., along with respective dates sent. If available, provide how effective specific communication was toward meeting your goals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

In 2025, the Colombian Association of Food Science and Technology (ACTA) delivered a comprehensive and high-impact educational program addressing emerging and priority topics in food science, food safety, and food technology.

All educational activities were designed and coordinated directly by ACTA, in collaboration with strategic partners when appropriate. Specialized courses were developed with both ACTA professionals and allied organizations, including technical partnerships such as ACAB for sensory evaluation training. All paid courses included formal certification of participation, reinforcing professional development and technical credibility.

During 2025, ACTA organized:

- CONACTA 2025 – International Congress of Food Science and Technology (FoodTech) (312 attendees)
- Four specialized professional courses
- Three technical webinars
- One in-person technical seminar (“Listerias sin Fronteras” – 186 attendees)

In total, ACTA generated over 1,100 participations across all educational activities in 2025.

CONACTA 2025 represented a major educational milestone, structured around three thematic tracks addressing innovation and emerging technologies: Startup & FoodTech, Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Food Industry and Food Safety, and Foodomics and Functional Foods. The Congress included international participation from four foreign speakers representing Mexico, Spain, and Argentina, strengthening global knowledge exchange and regional collaboration.

The Association ensured that its educational programming responded to regulatory updates, technological transformation, digitalization in food systems, and advanced sensory science applications. Courses covered nutritional labeling regulations, regulatory calculations, sensory evaluation, and applied sensometrics, aligning directly with current industry and regulatory needs.

Additionally, the Congress celebrated ACTA’s 50th anniversary and included academic award recognitions, reinforcing the integration of research excellence and professional education.

Through structured program design, international collaboration, formal certification processes, and high participation levels, ACTA demonstrated sustained leadership in advancing education in food science and technology throughout 2025.

☒ **Affiliate Education Award**

What types of food safety education program(s) did your Affiliate provide to its members during the past year? Provide the following details on all technical meetings, educational conferences, webinars, workshops, classes, and other methods pertinent to the interests of the membership:

- Background;
- Objectives;
- Agenda;
- Target audience;
- Dates held; and
- Numbers of attendees.

Describe any awards provided to students or young professionals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

Background

In 2025, ACTA developed a structured educational program aligned with regulatory updates, technological transformation in food systems, digitalization, advanced sensory science, and innovation in food technology. The Association focused on strengthening professional competencies in food safety, food science, and emerging technologies.

Objectives

The educational program aimed to:

- Provide updated regulatory and technical knowledge to professionals in the food sector.
- Promote innovation through topics such as Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Foodomics.
- Strengthen professional certification and continuing education.
- Foster academic excellence and international knowledge exchange.

Agenda

The 2025 educational program included:

CONACTA 2025 – International Congress of Food Science and Technology (FoodTech), structured in three thematic tracks:

- Startup & FoodTech
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Food Industry and Food Safety
- Foodomics and Functional Foods

Four specialized professional courses (nutritional labeling regulations, regulatory calculations, sensory evaluation, applied sensometrics).

Three technical webinars addressing laboratory auditing, food service risk management, and food safety systematization.

One in-person technical seminar: “Listerias sin Fronteras – Surveillance, Prevention and Control.”

All paid courses included formal certification of participation.

Target Audience

The program targeted food industry professionals, regulatory specialists, researchers, academic institutions, graduate and undergraduate students, and companies in the food sector.

Dates Held

Educational activities were conducted between February and October 2025, with CONACTA 2025 held October 23–25, 2025, in Bogotá, Colombia.

Numbers of Attendees

In total, ACTA generated over 1,100 participations in 2025, including:

- CONACTA 2025: 312 attendees
- Listerias sin Fronteras: 186 attendees
- Three webinars: 629 total participants
- Four professional courses: 105 participants

ACTA also included four international speakers from Mexico, Spain, and Argentina, strengthening international collaboration.

☒ **Best Overall Affiliate Meeting Award**

Did your Affiliate hold an outstanding food protection meeting (not sponsored/co-sponsored by IAFP*) which you consider 'over and above' those normally held? If so, provide the following details, if applicable, on what led to a highly successful meeting:

- Type of meeting and the value it brought to Affiliate Members/attendees (does not need to be your Annual Meeting);

CONACTA 2025 was ACTA's flagship International Congress of Food Science and Technology (FoodTech), held October 23–25, 2025, in Bogotá, Colombia. The meeting provided high-level technical education, innovation exposure, academic recognition, and networking opportunities for professionals, students, researchers, and industry leaders. Exclusive member registration rates and award eligibility added significant value for Affiliate members.

- Objective for the meeting (if relevant);

The objective of CONACTA 2025 was to address emerging technological trends in food systems, promote innovation and digital transformation in food science, strengthen food safety knowledge, and foster collaboration between academia, industry, and international experts.

- Activities/Topics (e.g., poster competition, vendor tech talks; a printed copy of the agenda may be included with your award application);

The Congress was structured around three thematic tracks:

- Startup & FoodTech
- Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Food Industry and Food Safety
- Foodomics and Functional Foods

Additional activities included:

- Academic award ceremonies (Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Awards)
- The TuVI Lifetime Achievement Award
- Commercial exhibition
- Networking sessions
- Celebration of ACTA's 50th Anniversary with a formal cocktail event

- Numbers of attendees:

Total attendance: 312 participants

- 57 ACTA members
- 185 students
- 59 invited non-members
- 11 independent professionals

- Audience participation (through roundtable discussions, exercises, etc.);

The Congress encouraged active audience participation through Q&A sessions with speakers, networking interactions between academia and industry representatives, and engagement with exhibitors and sponsors during the commercial exhibition area. These activities facilitated dialogue, knowledge exchange, and professional collaboration among participants.

- Student involvement;

Students represented a significant portion of attendees (185 participants). The Congress included academic recognition awards and facilitated interaction between students, researchers, and industry representatives.

- Partners (e.g., other associations or affiliates);

CONACTA 2025 involved collaboration with academic institutions and industry stakeholders. International speakers from Mexico, Spain, and Argentina contributed to the program.

- Speakers and their affiliations (if available);

CONACTA 2025 featured a distinguished group of national and international speakers from

academia, industry, and regulatory institutions. International speakers included Beatriz Romanos (Spain), founder of TechFood Magazine; Joaquín Nava (Mexico), Director General of Grupo Delcen; Carolina Motto (Argentina), specialist in food allergen management; and Juan Vilches (Mexico), President of the IFT Mexico Section and CEO of Food Innovation Studio.

National speakers represented leading organizations such as the National Food and Drug Surveillance Institute (INVIMA), Grupo Nutresa, Alpina, and the National Association of Industrialists (ANDI), as well as universities and research institutions.

- Sponsors;

The Congress had 16 sponsors and exhibitors, including major companies such as Larkin, Alpina, PANDAID, BioMérieux, and DIAQUIM.

- Engagement of attendees with exhibitors;

A commercial exhibition area facilitated direct interaction between attendees and industry partners, promoting technology transfer and professional networking.

- Diversity of meeting participants (range of sectors represented, e.g., students, academia, extension, government, NGO, industry representatives, etc.), which can be broken down into services (e.g., retail, education, research, manufacturing, etc., if available); and Participants represented academia, research institutions, food manufacturing companies, regulatory professionals, students, and independent consultants, reflecting strong sector diversity.

- Other information (e.g., whether the meeting included a celebration of a milestone Affiliate anniversary and related activities).

CONACTA 2025 marked ACTA's 50th Anniversary, incorporating a commemorative celebration and two major award recognitions, reinforcing institutional legacy and professional excellence.

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

**Does not include funds provided under the IAFP Executive Board Speaker/Expanded Speaker Program*

☐ C.B. Shogren Memorial Award

NOTE: Applying for the Shogren Memorial Award does not automatically include your application for any of the other Affiliate awards. If applying for this award, you must apply separately for one or more of the other Affiliate awards which may have contributed toward meeting the criteria of the Shogren Award. (Note: Your Affiliate is not required to win one of the other Affiliate awards.)

How did your Affiliate demonstrate exceptional overall achievement during the past year in promoting the mission of IAFP (*“To provide food safety professionals worldwide with a forum to exchange information on protecting the food supply”*)? The judges will also consider how the Affiliate has demonstrated its commitment to food safety over the years. “Overall achievement” should encompass at least several of the following activities/accomplishments of your Affiliate:

- Exceptional achievement in membership;

During the reporting period, the Colombian Association of Food Science and Technology (ACTA) demonstrated significant membership growth and engagement. Membership increased from 78 active members in March 2025 to 89 members in March 2026, representing a net growth of 14.1%. During 2025, 23 new members joined the Association. Recruitment strategies included promotional membership discounts throughout the year and targeted recruitment during major events such as CONACTA 2025. Additional incentives included exclusive member registration rates, eligibility to participate in academic awards, and invitations to networking activities. ACTA also implemented a renewal campaign at the end of 2025 that allowed members to renew their 2026 membership at 2025 rates, encouraging early renewal and strengthening member loyalty.

- Types and effectiveness of communication and education;

ACTA implemented an extensive professional education program addressing emerging topics in food science, food safety, and food technology. During 2025, the Association organized one international congress (CONACTA 2025), four professional training courses, three technical webinars, and one in-person technical seminar, generating more than 1,100 participations from professionals, students, and industry representatives. Topics included food labeling regulations, regulatory calculations, sensory evaluation, applied sensometrics, food safety risk management, and innovation in food systems. Educational activities were delivered through virtual synchronous training, webinars, and in-person events, ensuring accessibility and broad participation from across the country.

- Awards and scholarships presented;

ACTA promotes academic excellence and professional recognition through national awards. During CONACTA 2025, two major awards were presented. The TuVI Award (Toda una Vida en Inocuidad) recognized outstanding lifetime contributions to food safety and professional leadership in Colombia. Additionally, the Alpina–ACTA 50 Years Academic Awards recognized the best undergraduate and graduate research projects in the fields of food science, nutrition, and food safety. A total of 51 academic works were submitted by universities across Colombia, and eight winning projects were awarded in undergraduate and graduate categories.

- Attendance numbers at meetings;

ACTA organized several technical and educational meetings throughout 2025. The Association's flagship event, CONACTA 2025 (International Congress of Food Science and Technology – FoodTech), held October 23–25, 2025 in Bogotá, Colombia, gathered 312 participants. Additional activities included three webinars with 248, 313, and 68 participants respectively, an in-person seminar titled “Listerias sin Fronteras” with 186 attendees, and four professional training courses with participation ranging from 18 to 32 attendees per course. In total, ACTA's educational and technical activities generated more than 1,100 participations during the year.

- Collaboration with other professional organizations;

ACTA strengthened collaboration with academic institutions, industry partners, and professional organizations to support technical education and knowledge exchange. Several educational activities were developed with strategic partners such as ACAB for sensory evaluation training and industry partners including Diversey and bioMérieux for specialized technical seminars and webinars. These collaborations expanded the reach of ACTA's technical programming and promoted interdisciplinary engagement among academia, industry, and regulatory stakeholders.

- Whether the Affiliate has been considered for and/or won other Affiliate awards in the past;

ACTA previously received recognition from IAFP through the Affiliate Education Award in 2010, highlighting the Association's longstanding commitment to professional training and knowledge dissemination in food safety and food science.

- Involvement in the IAFP Affiliate Council Meeting (e.g., participation at the Affiliate Council Meeting held during the IAFP Annual Meeting and in online Affiliate Council meetings throughout the year; submissions to the *Affiliate View* newsletter, sharing Affiliate Council information with Affiliate members); and

ACTA actively participates in the IAFP Affiliate Council through its official delegate. Participation includes attendance and engagement in Affiliate Council communications and activities, ensuring that relevant information from IAFP is shared with ACTA members and incorporated into the Association's professional initiatives.

- Other pertinent information.

In 2025, ACTA celebrated its 50th anniversary as Colombia's leading professional association dedicated to food science and food safety. This milestone was highlighted during CONACTA 2025 through a commemorative reception and special recognition awards. The anniversary celebration reinforced ACTA's longstanding commitment to strengthening the professional community, promoting scientific advancement, and supporting collaboration between academia, industry, and government institutions in the food sector.

While not a requirement, strong consideration will be given to an Affiliate whose officers (beyond the requirement for the President and Delegate) are also IAFP Members. Provide a description and include any supporting documents. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use separate pages if necessary; please limit your explanation to 1,000 words or less in 12-point type.



NIVERSIDAD DE
LA SALLE

Nuestro Ganador en la
categoría de pregrado es...



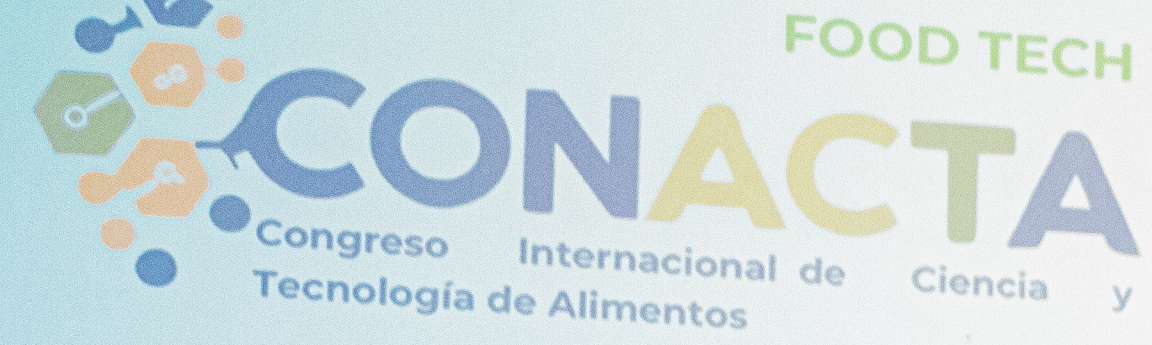


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Historia

