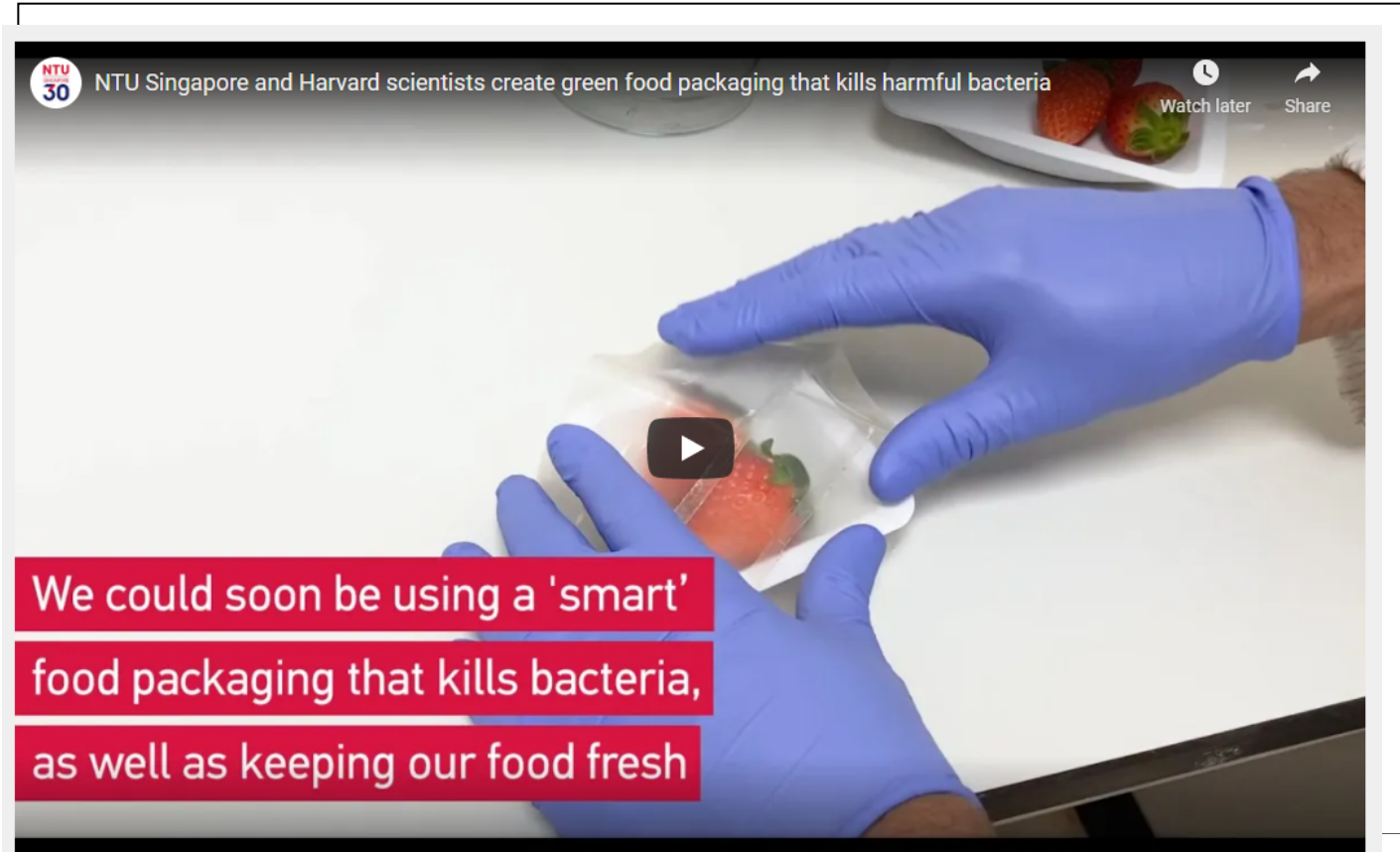


# Antibacterial Biodegradable Packaging



## This Plastic-Like Packaging Keeps Food Fresher for Longer

Laura McQuarrie — January 6, 2022 — Lifestyle

References: [ntu.edu.sg](https://ntu.edu.sg) & [designtaxi](https://www.designtaxi.com)



Scientists from Singapore's Nanyang Technological University and the United States' Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health developed a plastic-like packaging solution that's biodegradable and beneficial for its antibacterial properties. The material is made from a protein from corn (called zein,) as well as starch and other natural biopolymers. The packaging invention also includes compounds from oil like thyme, plus citric acid sourced from citrus fruits.

This durable, biodegradable and bacteria-killing packaging solution is useful for keeping food fresher for longer—strawberries were kept fresh for a full week before developing mold. As part of lab tests, results showed that the packaging is capable of reacting to enzymes from potentially harmful bacteria.