



Nestlé Good food, Good life

# Nutritional Benefits, Texture & Purposeful Processing for Plant-Based Products

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# Business relevance for protein diversification at Nestlé

- Plant-based products as a key driver for reducing our carbon footprint



## TRANSFORMING OUR PRODUCT PORTFOLIO

Using our R&D experience and resources, we are accelerating innovation and making our portfolio fit for the future.

Trends show growing consumer demand for low-carbon products such as plant-based foods and drinks.

Our core strategy is in line with this shift and that means engaging the one billion consumers a day who buy our products by offering more foods and beverages that are good for them and good for the planet.



21 Nestlé's Net Zero Roadmap

# Achieving successful plant protein choice



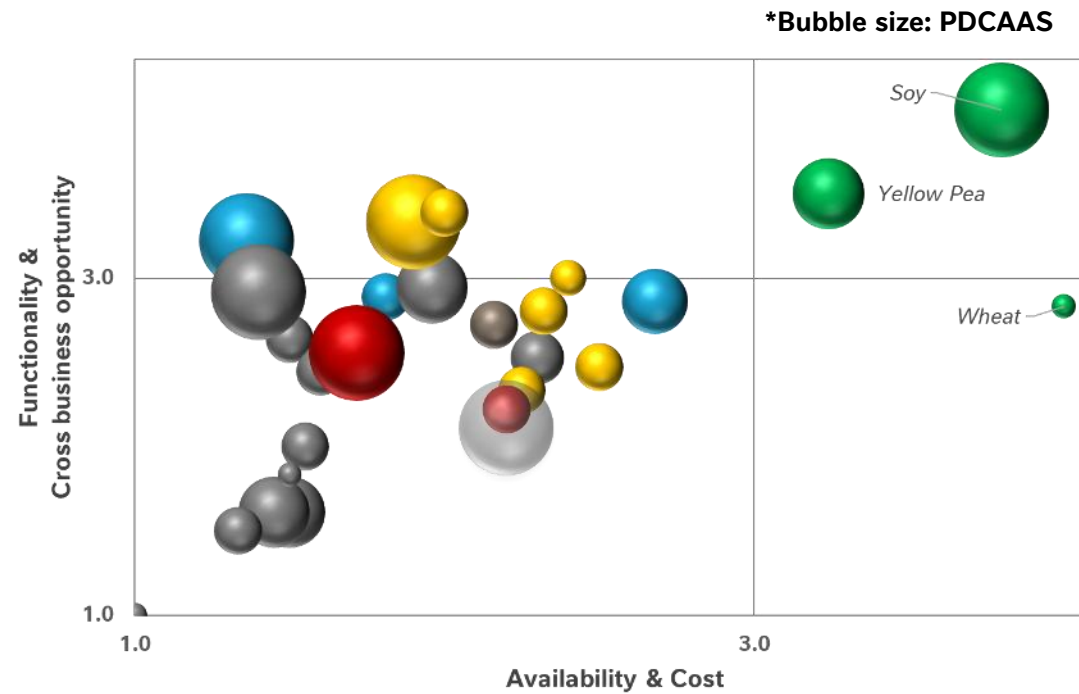
- Combination of nutritional, technological & sustainability needs as well as consumer centricity



- ✓ Protein content & quality
- ▲ Nutrition & claims
- ⊕ Allergenicity, intolerance
- 👤 Consumer perception
- 🌍 Source (geographic, commercial)
- 📖 Historical use
- 🏆 Certifications
- 🛒 Availability
- 📋 Safety
- 🏛️ Regulatory
- ⚙️ Functionality
- 👁️ Familiarity with use
- 💰 Cost
- 👃 Aroma, flavor, texture, mouthfeel, color

# Nestlé is building on strong protein R&D scientific & technical expertise

- R&D Protein Scientific Network supports decision making based on objective dataset



## Current sources



Wanasundara et al. (2024). *Functionality of Plant Proteins: Properties, Methods of assessment, Modifications and Applications*. Academic Press/AOCS



# Achieving consumer preference for plant proteins

- Excelling across different attributes relevant for purchase decision



**Superior environmental footprint, e.g. reduce carbon footprint, avoid overfishing, protect animal welfare**



**Taste & Aroma**

**Recognizable ingredients**

**Nutrition**



**Affordability**

# Nestlé product portfolio enables various formats and reaching multiple geographies and consumer categories

- Ambient formats enable reach in geographies with limited cold chain and high demand for affordable nutrition



Chilled



Frozen



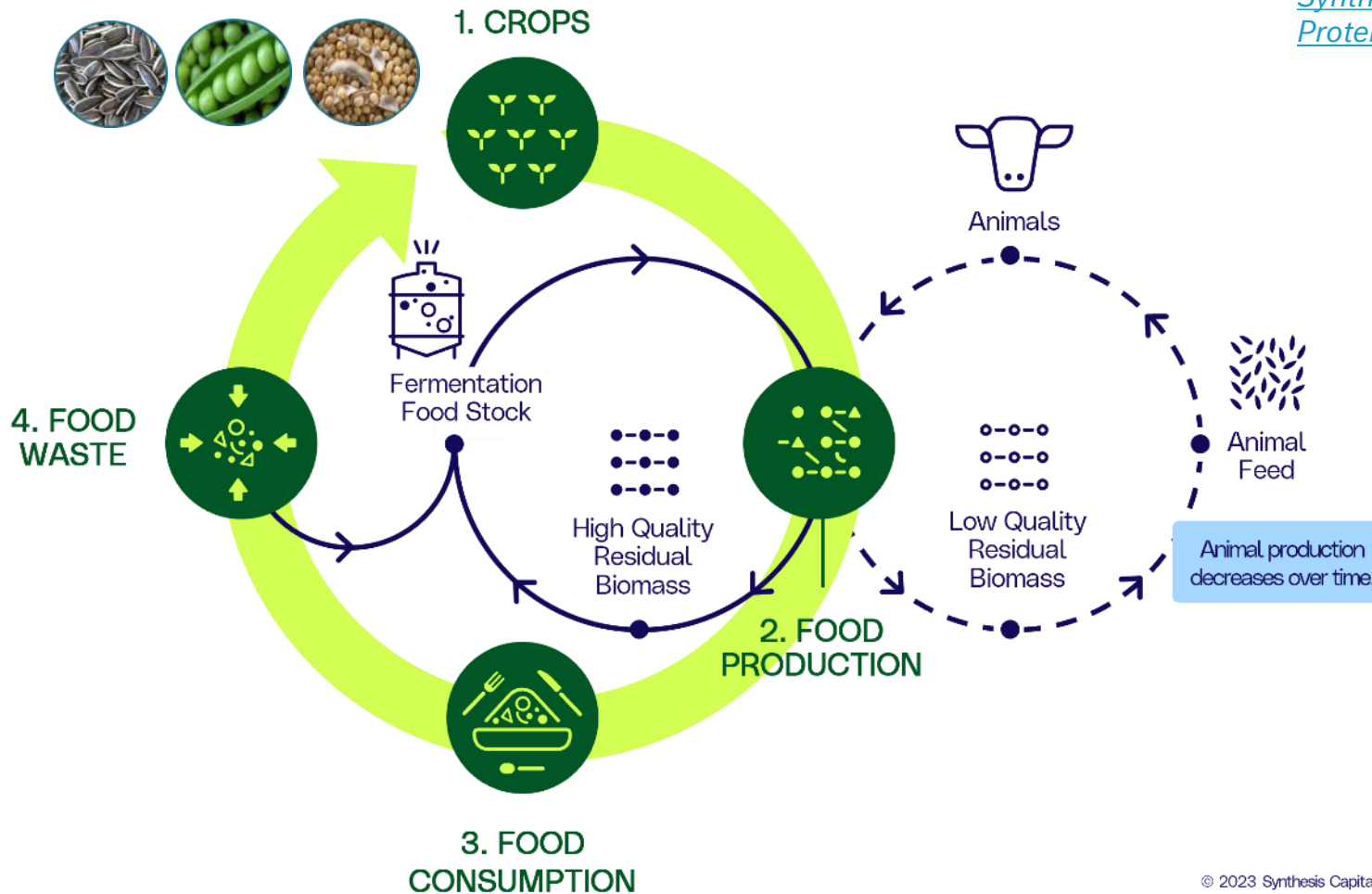
Ambient

# Multiple Nestlé expertises are combined to deliver plant-based innovations



# Processing of plant-based raw materials is increasing their nutritional and functional quality

*Synthesis Capital | From Linear to Circular: How Alternative Proteins...*



- Plant raw materials: key building blocks in global food & feed systems
- Crop processing: creation of high value nutrient streams

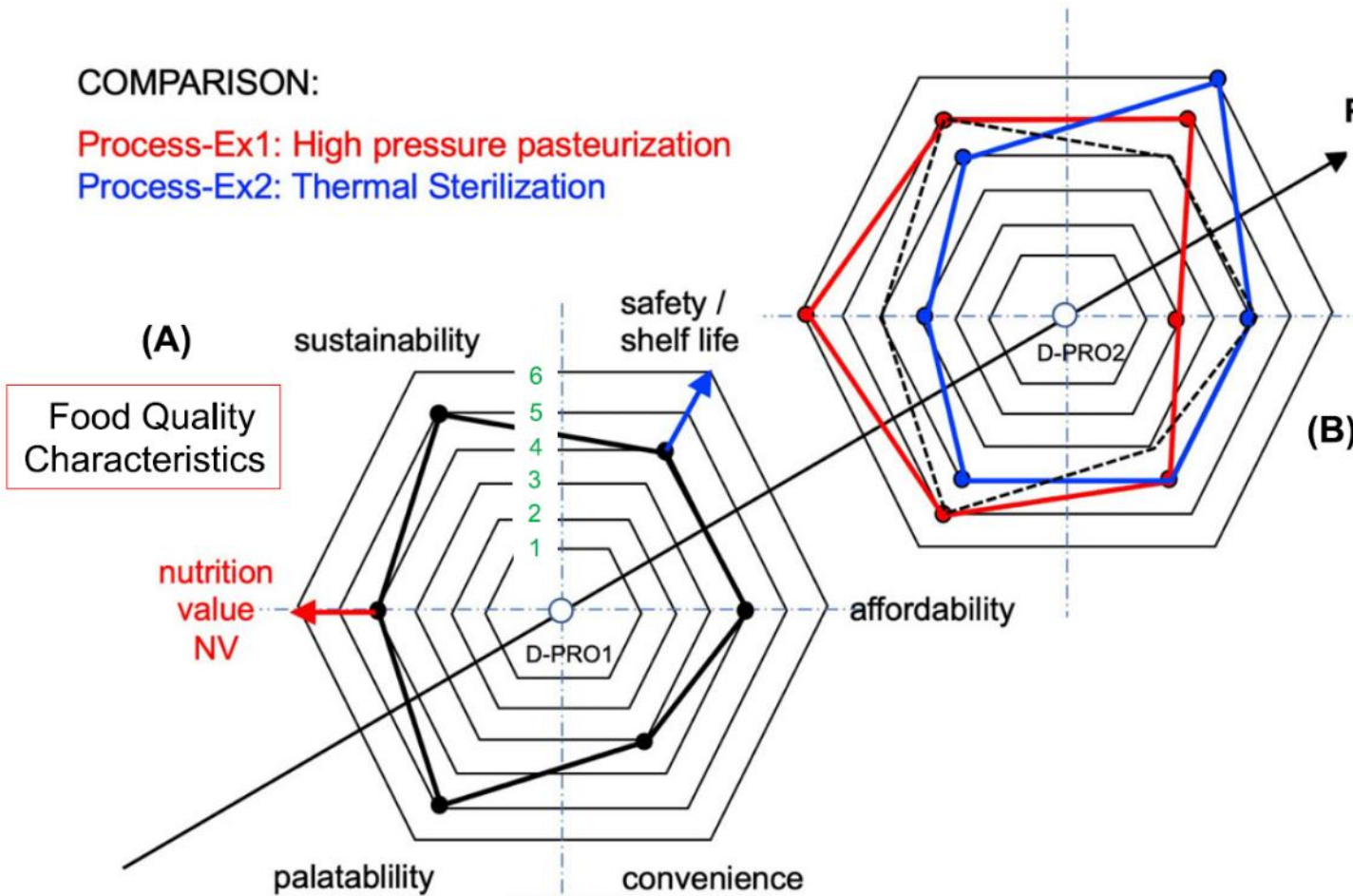
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# Smart selection of processing delivers multiple benefits in food products

COMPARISON:

Process-Ex1: High pressure pasteurization

Process-Ex2: Thermal Sterilization



- Processing: flexible toolbox for triggering quality characteristics of food products
- Smart processing combination: optimizing product benefits for a given cost target & manufacturing capacity

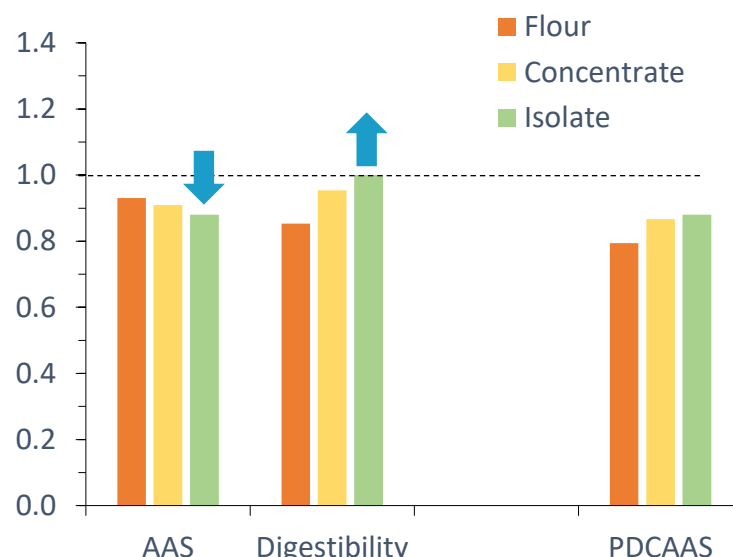
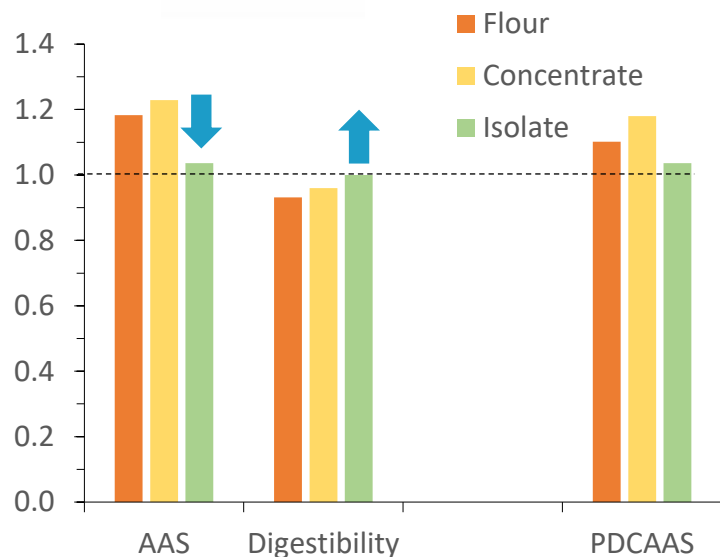
# Protein source & refinement level drive protein quality in plant-based materials



SOY



PEA



- AAS (Amino Acid Score) reduced by refinement level: loss of some essential amino acids during extraction
- Digestibility\* increased by refinement level: removal non-protein components and/or antinutritional factors

2013 FAO Reference pattern older children, adolescents & adults

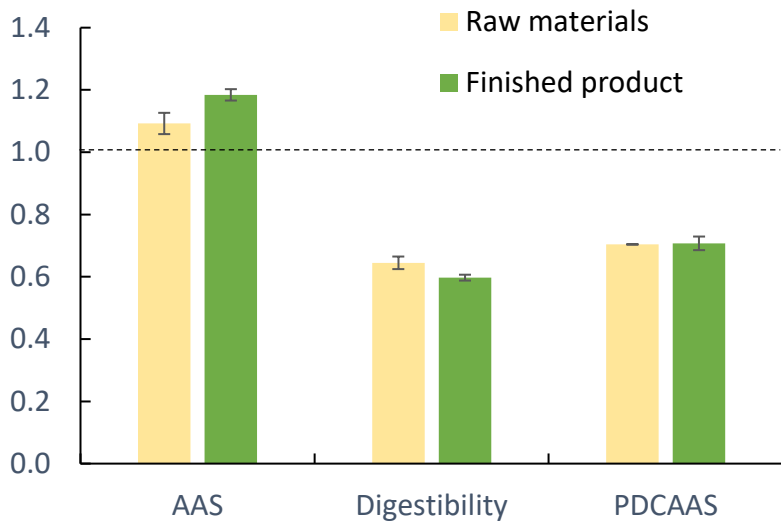
\*Digestibility data determined in vitro by Megazyme kit  
 PDCAAS: Protein Digestibility Corrected Amino Acid Score

# Protein quality is impacted by the formulation and/or the process in final products



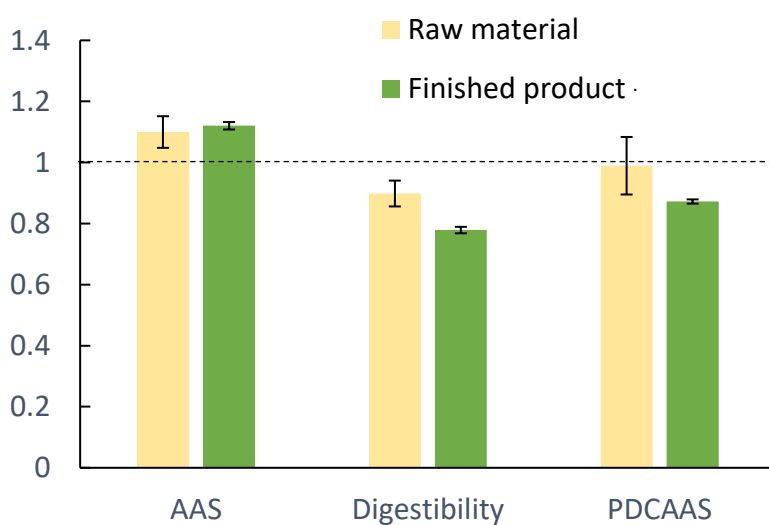
## Falafel

Chickpea-based



## Sensational Burger

Soy-based



➤ Falafel: PDCAAS driven by digestibility\* of whole chickpea

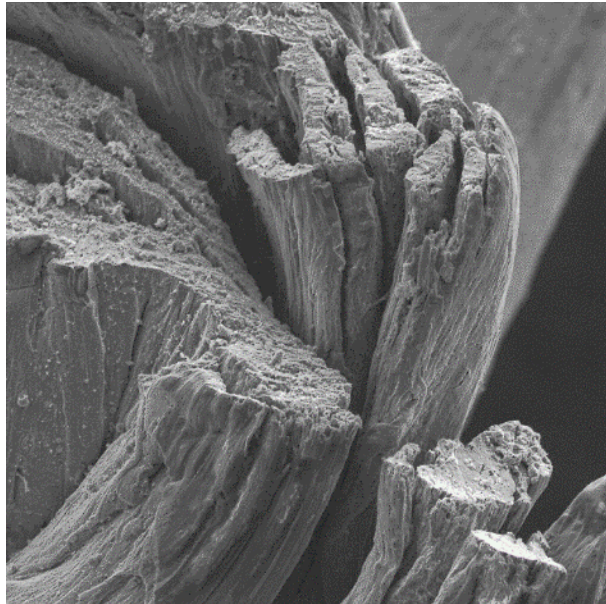
➤ Plant-based burger: PDCAAS driven by digestibility\* of soy ingredient & formulation (e.g. aroma, fibers)

*\*Digestibility data determined in vitro by internal digestion model based on Infogest*

2013 FAO Reference pattern older children, adolescents & adults

# Texture design in plant-based fish alternative

- Wet extrusion expertise of plant proteins allows differentiating structure and texture with few ingredients



*Wet extruded plant protein fibers*



*Cross-sectional structure of an extruded soy protein fibre by X-ray tomography*



**Taste & Aroma**

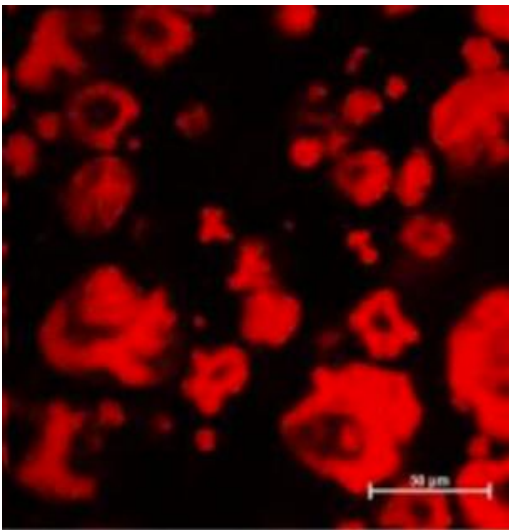
**Recognizable ingredients**  
pea, wheat

**Nutrition**  
high in protein and fiber,  
omega-3 rapeseed oil

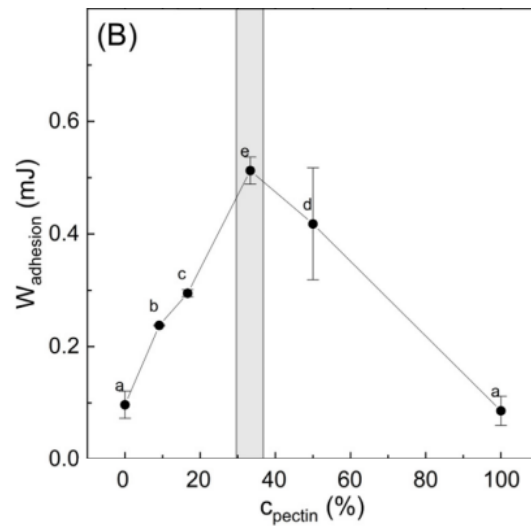
**Sustainable**

# Texture design in veggie plant-based products

- Binding systems expertise using protein and polysaccharide blends enables developing nutritious and tasty veggie products



*Pea protein/apple pectin complexes*



*Adhesion properties of pea protein/apple pectin complexes*



**Taste & Aroma**

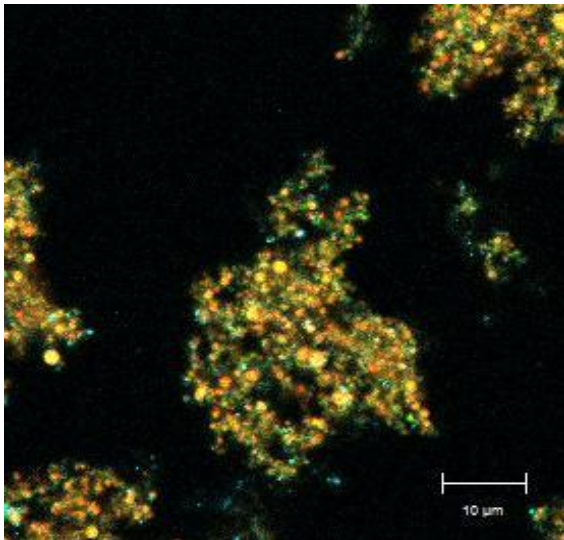
**Recognizable ingredients**  
spinach, rice, wheat flour

**Nutrition**  
high in protein and fiber

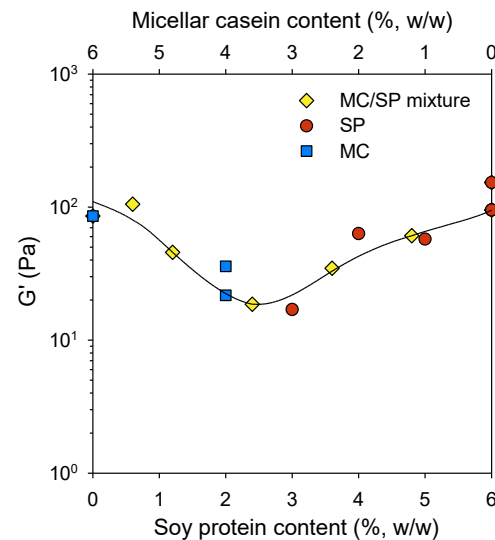
**Sustainable**

# Taste and texture design in dairy/plant protein hybrids

- Protein blending expertise coupled with enzyme technology enables combination of dairy and plant proteins, resulting in nutritious and affordable beverages



Casein micelles/soy protein aggregates



Elastic modulus of casein micelles/soy protein mixtures



**Taste & Aroma**

**Affordable**



**Nutrition**  
high in protein and fiber, fortified with vitamins and minerals

**Sustainable**

# Take home messages

- For plant-based foods, it is important to consider protein quality and diversity, relevant micronutrient fortification and the sensory experience as consumer benefits,
- New technologies and innovations based on combinatorial expertise are key enablers to deliver on nutrient density and reduced environmental impact.



# Acknowledgements

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